



**Economic and Social Council**

Distr.  
GENERAL

E/1980/6/Add.14  
27 January 1981  
ENGLISH  
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

---

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON  
ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS

Reports submitted in accordance with Council resolution  
1988 (LX) by States Parties to the Covenant concerning  
rights covered by articles 10 to 12

IRAQ

[21 February 1980]

Iraq acceded to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in accordance with Legislative Act No. 193 of 1970 and the Covenant came into force for Iraq on 26 March 1976 under the terms of article 27 of the Covenant. Since the revolution of 17 July 1968, Iraq has been actively promoting not only human rights but also economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights within its territory as part of its socialist endeavours in accordance with the ideology of the Arab Socialist Baath Party which regards both types of human rights as intrinsically interlinked. Iraq has shown great concern for economic, social and cultural rights as a prerequisite for the exercise of civil and political rights in the developing countries and has given equal attention to civil and political rights.

Before entering into details on the legislative and administrative application of articles 10 to 12 of the Covenant forming the subject of the present report, it should be pointed out that Iraq is applying all the provisions of the Covenant and any review of the application of these articles should therefore be viewed in the context of the provisions of parts I and II of the Covenant, that is, articles 1 to 5.

Article 1. The right of peoples to self-determination

As one of the original States signatory to the Charter of the United Nations, Iraq has always adhered to the spirit and the lofty principles contained in the provisions of the Charter and, primarily, the right of all peoples to self-determination as stipulated in paragraph 2 of Article 1 thereof. In the context of international relations, Iraq regards the right of self-determination as an

imperative principle which must be respected and observed by all members of the international community and any acts in violation of this principle must be regarded as wrongful. Iraq's commitment to this principle has often been expressed in the positions and courses of action adopted by the country at the international level and during meetings of international bodies. Iraq's firm stand on the question of Palestine, which is the central issue of prime concern to the Arabs, derives from national and humanitarian considerations based on the natural right of peoples to free self-determination. The establishment of the Zionist entity in occupied Palestine constitutes a flagrant violation not only of this right but also of all values and norms. Iraq has also stood beside, established friendly relations with, and supported all colonized peoples in their just struggle for independence and liberation. Iraq is helping and supporting all the liberation movements throughout the world, especially in Africa, some of whose peoples are still suffering from the colonial domination and inhuman practices in which the odious racist régimes in southern Africa are engaged. At the United Nations, its specialized agencies and other international conferences and meetings, the positions adopted by Iraq are consistently in support of the right of peoples to self-determination and the free pursuit of their economic, social and cultural development. Moreover, Iraq has always supported the establishment of a new international economic order which would guarantee the rights and the progress of the developing countries.

Since, under the terms of Act No. 142 of 1974, the political report of the Arab Socialist Baath Party constitutes a guide-line for the work of Iraqi institutions and ministries, that report discussed national and democratic objectives and emphasized the need to achieve the political, economic and ideological aims of political independence without which the national will of an independent country cannot be completely free. The report referred to the extreme importance of the aim of economic independence in both the Arab revolutionary movement and the revolutionary movement in the third world in view of the fact that the colonial countries, which have been forced by the peoples' liberation struggle to abandon the old forms of colonialism, have long since followed the lead of American imperialism in redirecting their attention to the economic exploitation of other peoples' weakness, backwardness, disunity and increasing need for commodities. In this way the colonial countries have, to a large extent, been able to rob peoples of their national will and divest their newly acquired political independence of its true meaning. The political report also indicated that the decisive battle for the achievement of Iraq's economic independence, and the consequent strengthening of its political independence and the liberation of its national will from all constraints, is a battle to free oil resources from the yoke of imperialist, monopolist companies and to obtain full control over the planning, production and marketing of those resources. Unless this battle is waged, Iraq will remain subject to imperialist economic domination and any progress which it might achieve would be partial, insecure and limited to other fields. Iraq's triumphant advances in this connexion are commendable.

First of all, the promulgation of Act No. 80 of 1961 limited the concession areas of all oil companies operating in Iraq at that time, namely the Iraq Petroleum Company (IPC), the Mosul Petroleum Company (MPC) and the Basrah Petroleum Company (BPC) (art. 2), and stipulated that other areas would be free

/...

from all the rights enjoyed by those companies (art. 4). In 1967, the National Oil Company was established under the terms of Act No. 123 of 1967 to undertake national oil development. Since natural resources and, in particular, oil and hydrocarbons are subject to depletion and exhaustion, and in view of the importance of these resources for the national economy and for ensuring an appropriate standard of living for the people, Act No. 229 of 1970 was promulgated for the conservation of oil resources.

This Act confirmed State ownership of the country's natural resources with a view to the conservation and preservation of oil resources for future generations and their continued utilization on a proper scientific basis.

However, the event with which the country crowned its struggle in this respect was the nationalization decision. Act No. 69 of 1972, promulgated on 1 June 1972, provided for the nationalization of the operations of the Iraq Petroleum Company in the areas which had been allocated to the company under the terms of Act No. 80 of 1961, mentioned above. It stipulated that the ownership of all installations and existing rights pertaining to those operations would revert to the State. Under the same Act (art. 3), the State undertook, in return, to compensate the nationalized company for its property, rights and assets. On 28 February 1973, Iraq signed an agreement with all the oil companies under which a final settlement was reached on all outstanding matters concerning the claims and liabilities of both parties. That agreement was ratified by Act No. 28 of 1973. The political report rightly asserted that Iraq's nationalization decision heralded the beginning of a new international phase which set the stage for radical changes in the balance of world power in favour of the peoples' liberation movement. Under the terms of Acts Nos. 70, 90 and 101 of 1973, Iraq completed the process of nationalizing oil company operations with the nationalization of the Basrah Petroleum Company shares owned by the American companies Standard Oil of New Jersey (Exxon) and Mobil Oil Corporation, the Royal Dutch Shell Company and the Participations and Explorations Corporation (property of the Gulbenkian Foundation). Under article 3 of each of these Acts, the State undertook to pay compensation for the property, rights and assets of the companies whose shares had been nationalized. The remaining shares which had been issued in the operations of the Basrah Petroleum Company were nationalized under the terms of Act No. 200 of 1975 in which the State also undertook to pay compensation for property, rights and assets which had been taken over (art. 2).

It should be noted that Iraq's exercise of its right to control its natural resources was intended to promote over-all development by providing sufficient funds to enable the State to secure the full rights of its citizens and, in particular, their economic, social and cultural rights which require the allocation of substantial amounts in the general budget.

#### Article 2. Application of the Covenant without discrimination

The basic principle is that contained in article 19 of the Constitution, paragraph (a) of which stipulates that citizens are equal before the law, without distinction of race, ethnic affiliation, language, social origin or religion.

Paragraph (b) guarantees equal opportunities for all citizens within the limits of the law. Iraq's international commitments confirm this principle and the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide was signed and ratified by Act No. 11 of 1958. The International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination was signed and ratified by Act No. 135 of 1969. The International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid was also ratified by Act No. 92 of 1975.

Although it is a developing country, Iraq has gone to great lengths in recognizing the economic rights of non-nationals and the following important points should be borne in mind:

(a) The rights specified in articles 11 and 12 of the Covenant are guaranteed to all legal residents of Iraq, whether Iraqi or non-Iraqi;

(b) The rights specified in articles 6, 7 and 9 are guaranteed to all Iraqi citizens and Arab nationals without any distinction.

Relations with non-Arabs are governed by individual or collective contracts of employment without prejudice to international labour agreements or the provisions of the Covenant.

### Article 3. Equal rights of men and women

In addition to the provisions of article 19 (see above), paragraph (b) of article 30 of the Constitution stipulates that equality in appointment to the public service is guaranteed by law.

The political report also stressed the need for efforts to provide education and equal employment opportunities for women, to ensure their equality with men in legal matters, to put a decisive end to attitudes and practices deriving from outdated concepts of the role of women and to exert the utmost endeavour in various activities, sectors and fields with a view to accelerating the process of female emancipation so that women can take their natural place in society. The act concerning the reform of the legal system also provided for non-discrimination between men and women in public service and guaranteed appropriate working conditions for female employees with children.

In connexion with the practical application of these general principles, it should be noted that the provisions of many legislative acts have guaranteed equal enjoyment by men and women of all the human rights proclaimed in the Covenant. Such acts include the Civil Service Amendment Act (No. 24 of 1960) and the Employment Act (No. 151 of 1970), both of which guaranteed that men and women should enjoy equal rights and obligations with regard to work and employment. Act No. 191 of 1975 provided for equality between men and women in the enjoyment of financial rights and privileges and female employees of the State are thereby entitled to cost-of-living allowances in the same way as their husbands. For purposes of the Income Tax Act, women are regarded as resident tax payers in their

own right and they enjoy the tax-free allowance granted to them before marriage (arts. 1 and 2). Sons and daughters with pension entitlements enjoy the pension rights reverting to them from one or both of their parents (art. 3). In the field of education, Act No. 153 of 1971 concerning the eradication of illiteracy was promulgated with a view to the eradication of illiteracy among male and female adults so that they can become enlightened citizens capable of participating in the economic, social and political development of their community. The Compulsory Education Act (No. 118 of 1976) was based on the principles contained in the political report which called for an immediate start to be made on the formulation of a plan to make education compulsory at the primary stage and, subsequently, at the intermediate stage. Under this Act, primary education became both free and compulsory for all children, both male and female, reaching the age of six years at the start of the school year and the State is obliged to provide all the facilities required in this respect. The endeavours exerted by the political leadership with a view to the achievement of Arab and national objectives culminated in the promulgation of Act No. 92 of 1978 (concerning the comprehensive campaign for the compulsory eradication of illiteracy). Under this Act, any citizen over 25 and under 45 years old who has not reached the standard of proficiency in reading and writing is regarded as illiterate. Such citizens, both men and women, are obliged to participate in the campaign and defaulters are subject to penalties such as disqualification from promotion, wage increments and credit facilities etc. Act No. 131 of 1977 gave women the opportunity to serve in the army since it permitted their appointment as commissioned officers if they are holders of first-class university degrees from a medical, dental pharmaceutical or nursing college and as warrant officers or non-commissioned officers in the army medical corps if they are holders of a diploma from a recognized nursing school or training course or of a technical or professional nursing qualification. The Personal Status Act (No. 188 of 1959) provided for equality between husband and wife in the marriage contract, while the second Amendment Act (No. 21 of 1978) provided for their equality in the right to file for divorce on any of the grounds specified in the Act, such as maltreatment, marital infidelity, being under age or being forced into marriage. The wife was given the right to file for divorce on certain legal grounds including imprisonment of the husband for a period in excess of three years, desertion of the wife by the husband and the husband's illness, sterility or refusal to support his wife. Amendment No. 72 of 1977 to the Civil Service Act permitted husbands to join their wives on sabbatical leave in the same way as wives are permitted to join their husbands in similar circumstances.

Article 4. Limitations imposed on the application of articles 10 to 12

No legislative, administrative or judicial limitations are imposed on the application of articles 10 to 12. On the contrary, Iraq is endeavouring to promote the exercise of the rights specified in these articles by removing all obstacles hindering their full enjoyment within the limits stipulated in the Covenant.

Application of articles 10 to 12 of the Covenant

Article 10. Protection of the family, mothers and children

Protection of the family

Under the Constitution the State is obliged to protect and support the family. Article 11 of the Constitution stipulates that the family is the nucleus of society and the State is responsible for its protection and support and also for maternity and child care.

Measures to ensure the freedom of both marriage partners

Iraqi law recognizes the right of men and women to marry and establish a family. This recognition is clearly evident in the texts of the Personal Status Act (No. 188 of 1959) and its amendments contained in Acts No. 11 of 1963 and No. 21 of 1978 which do not deny this right to either men or women. Article 3 of the said Act defines marriage as a legal contract between a man and a woman for the purpose of establishing a union in which they will live together and bear children. In stipulating the conditions of eligibility, article 6 of the Act states that full eligibility for marriage requires that both spouses should be of sound mind and not less than 18 years old. However, the law does permit marriage in the case of persons who have reached the age of 15, subject to the consent of their guardian (father) and permission from a magistrate. The law makes this concession in deference to social circumstances in the country, especially in rural areas, and with a view to minimizing the number of cases in which marriage takes place outside the courts. Article 8 states that if a person who has reached the age of 15 years files a marriage application, the magistrate shall permit the marriage if he is satisfied with regard to the applicant's eligibility and physical capacity and if the applicant's legal guardian has given his consent. If the guardian refuses consent, the magistrate shall request him to give such consent within a specified period and, if the guardian does not object, or if his objection is unworthy of consideration, the magistrate shall permit the marriage.

The law explicitly requires the full and free consent of both parties to the marriage, failing which the marriage cannot be contracted. Article 4 of the Personal Status Act states that marriage is contracted through an offer - by word of mouth or in some other acceptable manner - made by one of the contracting parties and acceptance on the part of the other, in whose place a proxy may act. Paragraph 11 of Article 6 of the said Act stipulates that the marriage contract cannot be concluded if any of the following conditions for its conclusion or validity are not met: that the offer and acceptance should take place at a single session; that each of the contracting parties should hear the words of the other and understand that the intention is the conclusion of a marriage contract; and that the acceptance should correspond to the offer. Through the stipulation of full and free consent by both parties to the marriage contract, the provisions of article 9 of the second amendment (Act No. 21 of 1978) are in full conformity and harmony with the spirit and rationale of the law in stipulating the followings:

(a) No relative or other person shall compel any person, male or female, to marry without their consent. The conclusion of a marriage contract under compulsion shall be regarded as null and void, provided that it has not been consummated. Furthermore, no relative or other person shall have the right to prevent the marriage of any person who is eligible for marriage under the provisions of this Act;

(b) Any violation of the provisions of paragraph 1 of this article shall be punishable by detention for a period not exceeding three years and/or a fine if the offender is a full blood relative. However, if the offender does not fall within this category, the penalty shall be imprisonment for a period not exceeding 10 years or detention for a period not exceeding three years;

(c) The Shariah court or the civil court, which must notify the investigating authorities so that the latter may initiate legal proceedings against violators of the provisions of paragraph 1 of this article, may detain such violators in order to ensure that they appear before the said authorities. Any person who is subjected to coercion or constraint in regard to marriage may apply directly to the investigating authorities in this respect.

Furthermore, under article 376 of the Penal Code, any person who enters into a marriage with full knowledge of its invalidity by virtue of any religious or legislative provisions and any person who arranges such a contract with full knowledge of the invalidity of the marriage is punished by detention or imprisonment for a period not exceeding seven years; the penalty is imprisonment for a period not exceeding 10 years if the husband, as the guilty party, concealed the facts from his wife or consummated his marriage with her on the basis of the invalid contract.

#### Measures aimed at helping with the establishment of the family

Iraq has exerted great endeavours to protect the family by ensuring appropriate conditions for its establishment and subsequently protecting it from disintegration. The measures adopted to assist with the establishment of the family and to encourage marriage may be listed as follows:

##### (a) Marriage loans

Revolutionary Command Council Decision No. 157 of 12 November 1979 stipulates that every person attached to government service or to the socialist or mixed sectors shall, on the occasion of his marriage, be granted an advance equivalent to his nominal salary for 20 months in the case of a civil servant or, in the case of an insured worker, equivalent to his gross pay for 15 months from a minimum amount of 500 dinars up to a maximum of 1,000 dinars free of interest.

The advance is granted either to the husband or to the wife, in accordance with their wishes, if both are employed in government departments.

It is paid to the wife if the husband is not employed in any of the above-mentioned departments or institutions.

The advance is payable to persons marrying for the first time and also to widowed persons who subsequently remarry.

The advance is deducted in monthly instalments over a period of five years beginning five years after the date on which the advance is received.

In the event of children being born to the person receiving the advance, the birth of each child exempts that person from one entire annual instalment, twins being regarded as two separate births.

Under the terms of Revolutionary Command Council Decision No. 1518 of 12 November 1979, military personnel are entitled to similar advances amounting to 1,500 dinars for officers and 1,000 dinars for enlisted personnel under the same terms as those mentioned above.

(b) Facilities granted by housing co-operatives for the purpose of providing accommodation for married couples

These, together with the facilities and loans granted by banks for the purpose of family housing, will be discussed in detail below, in connexion with article 11 of the Covenant.

Measures aimed at the welfare, consolidation and protection of the family

(a) Tax exemptions are granted to married couples, as are tax reductions on the birth of children in accordance with the provisions of the Income Tax Act (No. 95 of 1959) and its subsequent amendments. Act No. 191 of 1975 guaranteed equality of financial rights and privileges between men and women so that women employed by the State became entitled to cost-of-living allowances in the same way as their husbands. For the purposes of the Income Tax Act, women are regarded as resident taxpayers in their own right and they enjoy the tax-free allowance granted to them before their marriage, that is, if both the husband and the wife are working, the law allows them to enjoy the tax-free allowances granted to each one of them individually;

(b) With a view to protecting the family from disintegration, the Civil Service Amendment Act (No. 72 of 1977) stipulated that the husband may join his wife on sabbatical leave in the same way as the wife may join her husband on sabbatical leave;

(c) Family allowances are granted to civil servants and workers in the public and socialist sector at the rate of 2 dinars for the wife and 2 dinars for each child (1 Iraqi dinar is equivalent to \$3.3778);

(d) The establishment of nurseries in factories, farms and departments in which female staff and employees are working, in accordance with the Nursery Act (No. 42 of 1977).

The protection of mothers

(a) Iraq devotes special care to mothers who are regarded as the kingpin of the family and the corner-stone in the upbringing of future generations. The protection of mothers was incorporated in the Constitution, article 11 of which provides for the welfare of mothers and children and for the protection of the family;

(b) Pre-natal and post-natal medical care is provided for both mother and child. Maternity and children's hospitals, social security hospitals and all other medical and health care institutions, including the medicines and the surgical operations which they provide, are free and maternity and child care centres distribute milk and food for children;

(c) Working mothers and mothers employed in government service enjoy special protection under Iraqi legislation, as shown below.

Working mothers

Article 48 of Act No. 39 of 1971 concerning pensions and social security for workers specifies the maternity care, assistance and leave entitlements of working women during pregnancy and child-birth as follows:

(a) At the first sign of pregnancy, working women covered by the provisions of this Act must visit a medical service approved by the Pensions and Social Security Department and must subsequently, until their delivery, comply with the medical instructions given to them;

(b) In the light of periodic pre-natal examinations, the relevant medical service sets a date for delivery and accordingly notifies both the woman concerned and her employer. Under the provisions of article 80 of the Labour Act, the employer must release the expectant mother from her work and allow her to take her maternity leave at least one whole month before the date set for her delivery;

(c) Expectant mothers are regarded as being on leave covered by social security with effect from the date of their release from work and this leave continues for a period of at least six weeks after the date of delivery;

(d) The medical service approved by the Pensions and Social Security Department may decide to extend the period of leave referred to in subparagraphs (b) and (c) of the present section in the event of a difficult delivery, the birth of more than one child or the appearance of complications or health problems before or after childbirth, provided that the original period of leave plus extensions does not exceed nine months from the date of release. Before and after childbirth and, in particular, if she is exposed to any of the above-mentioned circumstances, the working woman benefits from all of the health care and treatment provisions specified in article 45 (b) of the Act which stipulates that health care and treatment cover examination at a clinic or at home when necessary, the provision of treatment, specialist consultations, hospitalization or admission to a sanatorium, surgical operations, radiology,

laboratory tests, physiotherapy in the event of a disability, the supply of artificial limbs and other apparatus and everything that the patient's condition might require;

(e) From the date of their release from work until the expiry of the mandatory period of leave referred to in subparagraphs (b) and (c) of the present section working women on maternity leave receive compensation equivalent to the full amount of the last wage on which they paid contributions. If their period of leave is extended under the provisions of subparagraph (d) of the present section, the extra period is covered by the sick leave compensation provided for in article 45 (a) of the Act which stipulates that, subject to the provisions of article 43 of the Act, a sick worker insured by the Department shall, until such time as he is cured or declared disabled, receive from the Department sick leave compensation at the rate of 75 per cent of his average monthly wage, provided that such compensation shall not be less than the minimum wage pertaining to the worker's occupation and the worker shall, at the same time, be provided with every health care and treatment facility;

(f) With effect from the date on which the provisions of this Act came into force, the Department initiated a special programme for the construction of hospitals specialized in maternity, gynaecology and paediatrics with a view to meeting all the needs of the working class in Iraq within a period not exceeding five years.

Article 79 of the Labour Act stipulates that women may not be employed in night work in industrial or other professions unless such work is either of an administrative nature relating to special technical and social activities approved by the responsible authorities or is undertaken in places which provide full health and rest facilities. It is also illegal to employ women in heavy or dangerous work. This article requires that working women be granted a night rest period of not less than 11 consecutive hours, naturally including the period between 7 p.m. and 5 a.m. Article 80 stipulates that working women have the right to leave their jobs one month before the anticipated date of their delivery as specified in a medical report. They are regarded as being on unpaid maternity leave as part of their entitlement to care and assistance.

Article 81 absolutely forbids the employment of pregnant women at night or in heavy, dangerous or overtime work. This article also stipulates that the working hours of pregnant women must in no case exceed seven per day.

Article 82 stipulates that working women with nursing children must be allowed two half-hour nursing breaks during the working day and such nursing breaks are regarded as time spent on the job. Article 83 requires that all institutions employing women must provide female employees with their own rest facilities and, in particular, places to sit while working, in keeping with the nature and circumstances of their work. Article 84 further stipulates that those responsible for places of work which employ women must establish a nursery in which the children of such women can be cared for during working hours. Alternatively, those responsible may make suitable arrangements for this to be done at an outside nursery or kindergarten in accordance with the terms and

conditions laid down in instructions issued by the Minister of Labour and Social Affairs. Article 85 requires that the regulations governing the employment of women must be posted in a prominent place in the main office at every work location employing women.

#### Mothers employed in government service

Paragraph 6 of article 43 of the Civil Service Act (No. 24 of 1960) specified that women employed in government service were entitled to six weeks' leave on full salary during the period preceding and following childbirth, while working women - as already stated - were entitled to a period of leave amounting to one month before delivery and continuing for at least six weeks after delivery. In this respect, therefore, there was a need to bring the entitlement of female civil servants into line with those of other working women. Paragraph 3 of Directive No. 6 of 1960 concerning maternity leave stipulates that expectant mothers employed in government service must submit a medical report from an approved doctor or midwife licensed by the responsible authorities, certifying their pregnancy and specifying an approximate date for delivery. Paragraph 5 of the said Directive stipulates that the pregnant employee's salary during the period of leave granted may, at her request, be paid in advance.

Under the terms of Revolutionary Command Council Decision No. 1534 of 13 November 1979, female employees of the State and other working women are entitled to special maternity leave for a period not exceeding six months for the purpose of taking care of a child under four years of age (art. 1).

Mothers may avail themselves of such maternity leave four times during the period of their service but such leave is not granted for a period exceeding six months per child (art. 2).

During such periods of leave, the mother is paid half of her salary, cost-of-living allowances and other occupational entitlements (art. 3).

Maternity leave is calculated as part of the period of service of the female worker or State employee (art. 4).

#### The situation of mothers working in agriculture and rural industries

The Public Authority for Rural Guidance and Education attached to the Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform is responsible for the encouragement and guidance of the rural population in the operation of cottage industries. One hundred and seventy nine centres for cottage industries have so far been established with the following objectives:

(a) To encourage the rural population to engage in cottage industries, thereby increasing their income and raising their standard of living, and to market their products at a price conducive to the development of such industries without the intervention of speculators and monopolists operating in this field, that is, by selling the products of such industries through public marketing outlets and opening permanent exhibitions in urban centres with a view to the

establishment of a lively community of interests between urban and rural areas and an improvement in the income of rural families engaged in these productive industries;

(b) To ensure that this national handicraft heritage is kept alive, developed and passed on to future generations by providing it with the greatest possible amount of expert advice and assistance;

(c) To utilize inexpensive, locally available raw materials with a view to processing them into useful commodities in order to meet the growing needs of the community and to secure an economic return for the rural family;

(d) To consider cottage industries as a tourist attraction and an incentive for the preservation of the traditional skills of Iraqi artisans;

(e) To encourage such producers by buying their products and co-ordinating the marketing of such products through the Public Authority for Rural Guidance and Education in such a way as to ensure a fair profit for the rural masses;

(f) To utilize the leisure time of the rural population and to take advantage of handicraft skills in these industries.

The measures adopted to ensure profits and avert losses in rural industries can be summarized as follows:

Duration of training periods

(a) The training period for carpet weaving is 3-4 months for new trainees;

(b) The training period for various types of local rugs is 1-2 months;

(c) The training period for various types of palm leaf and straw mats is 30-45 days;

(d) The training period for the manufacture of blankets is 20-30 days;

(e) The training period for woodwork is 30-45 days;

(f) The training period for towels, robes and canvas shoes (givas) is 30-45 days.

Production during the training stage

In view of the fact that, during the training period, the production of rural industries is not of a high standard and is often technically defective, it would certainly not be suitable for sale or presentation at the permanent exhibitions of rural industries. For this reason, such products, after the fashion of the produce from demonstration farms, are given free of charge as an incentive to the trainee who may dispose of them as he wishes, thereby realizing some return for his work.

Production after the training stage

After the training stage, the cottage industry products are of sufficiently high quality to merit their exhibition and sale. As the rural producers gain greater experience through long practice in these industries, production will continue to improve. In order to encourage them to persevere, the following measures are adopted:

(a) If the raw materials are supplied by a centre for cottage industries, irrespective of whether the products are manufactured at such centres or in rural homes, the cost to the centre is deducted from the sale price of the products and redeposited in the project accounts;

(b) If the raw materials are supplied by the producers themselves, irrespective of whether they are working at a centre for cottage industries or in their own homes, both the cost price and the profit accrue to the rural producers.

Training the rural population

Cottage industries are defined as those industries that rely on utilization of the ability of the rural population to process available raw materials into commodities for the purpose of meeting the growing financial needs of members of the rural community.

In order to enhance the skills of working people with the ability to produce efficiently and with a view to the achievement of good quality production and the preservation of the time-honoured cultural and environmental nature of handicrafts from deterioration and stagnation, the Public Authority for Rural Guidance and Education undertakes the following measures:

(a) The provision of training requisites such as small, medium, large, vertical and horizontal weaving looms, wool, palm leaves and yarn;

(b) The provision of instructors with long experience in the practice of these cottage industries so that they can faithfully and conscientiously transmit them from one generation to another;

(c) The granting of incentives and bonuses to those members of the rural population who achieve the greatest output of good quality products in these cottage industries;

(d) Granting the trainees, particularly the younger ones, 70 per cent of the profits accruing from the sale of the handicrafts produced by them during the training period in order to give them a training incentive;

(e) The linking of training programmes to the co-operative system and, in particular, to agricultural co-operatives so that the trainees can exert a more widespread influence;

(f) Efforts to train the rural population in new cottage industries which are not already practised in their community, provided that the requisite raw materials are locally available.

/...

#### Methods for the monitoring of rural trainees

After the conclusion of their training period it is essential that rural trainees be monitored, supervised and guided with a view to increasing the income of the rural family through its cottage industry production. This is achieved by the following means:

(a) Granting advance in cash and in kind to trainees after the conclusion of their period of training in order to enable them to practise cottage industries. After a suitable period, such advances are repaid in equal instalments through the purchase of the handicrafts which they produce;

(b) Regular visits for the purpose of providing them with technical expertise and help in improving and increasing their production with a view to improving and increasing the economic yield of such production;

(c) Marketing the handicrafts produced by trainees in their own homes and paying for them on a basis of cash on delivery, especially if the trainee has not received any advances from the Authority;

(d) Supplying them with designs and patterns depicting local culture and folklore and illustrating the achievements of the revolution of 17 July 1968 under the leadership of the Party;

(e) Organising field trips for trainees in order to acquaint them with the work and production of other trainees, to facilitate an exchange of experience and to create a spirit of artistic and creative competition in the production of good quality handicrafts both within the province itself and between different provinces.

#### The protection of children and young persons

In addition to acts concerning such matters as employment and child labour, legislation governing the protection of the family, as mentioned in article 10, provides for the effective protection of children and young persons without any discrimination. The special measures for the welfare and education of children away from their mothers and families, homeless children, minors and juvenile delinquents are referred to below. The Nursery Act (No. 42 of 1977) provides for the welfare of children during the absence of their mothers in government service or in respect of other work. There are two main types of nurseries:

(a) Residential nurseries for the accommodation of foundlings and homeless children. These nurseries are run by the Department of Social Services in the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs;

(b) Day nurseries, which include the following types:

(i) Day nurseries run by the Department of Social Affairs;

(ii) Day nurseries for children with families. These nurseries are run by the Department of Pensions and Social Security;

- (iii) Nurseries run by the General Federation of Iraqi Women;
- (iv) Private nurseries.

Article 84 of the Labour Act stipulates that the persons responsible for places of work which employ women must either establish a nursery in which the children of such women can be cared for during working hours or make alternative arrangements for this to be done at some other nursery or kindergarten.

At the post-nursery stage, the Government has expanded the kindergartens under the supervision of the Ministry of Education in all parts of the country. In the year 1978/79 there were 333 kindergartens in Iraq catering for a total of 67,265 children.

With regard to the welfare of homeless children, minors and juvenile delinquents, Chapter 5 of the Juveniles Act (No. 64 of 1972) makes provision for homeless and delinquent young persons. Article 49 stipulates that a young person shall be regarded as homeless in the following cases:

(a) If he is found begging on the streets or in public places. Any person pretending to be afflicted with wounds or infirmities or resorting to any fraudulent means in order to attract public sympathy is regarded as a beggar;

(b) If he is found collecting garbage or leftover scraps of food;

(c) If he has no fixed abode or normally sleeps in the public streets or squares;

(d) If he has no legitimate means of support and no guardian or other person responsible for his upbringing.

Article 50 stipulates that a young person shall be regarded as delinquent: (a) if he engages in acts connected with immorality, debauchery, depravity or gambling or works in the service of persons engaged in such acts; (b) if it is established that he is beyond the control of his father or guardian or irresponsible to the control of his mother in the event of the death, absence or incompetence of his father or if he is removed from the latter's guardianship. In such an event no action may be taken against the young person without the permission of his father, guardian or mother as the case may be; and (c) if he associates with vagrants or persons of ill repute.

Under the terms of article 51, if a young person falls under any of the above-mentioned categories specified in articles 49 and 50 of the Act, he is brought before a juvenile court on a summary charge in accordance with the Code of Criminal Procedure. Before hearing the case, the juvenile court may place the young person in the care of a juvenile rehabilitation centre or similar social institution. After receiving a report from the social institution, the court gives its final ruling that the young person should be either (a) placed in the care of a guardian or other person to be responsible for his good conduct, education and upbringing under the terms of an undertaking covered by a financial

bond of an appropriate amount set by the court, all or part of which is forfeited, on the orders of the court, in the event of failure to comply with the terms of the undertaking; or (b) placed in the care of a juvenile rehabilitation centre or similar social institution established for this purpose until he reaches the age of 18 years. The court may also decide to place the young person in the care of a juvenile rehabilitation centre if, having decided to place him in the care of a guardian or other responsible person, there is any failure to comply with the terms of the undertaking or if no one agrees to make the requisite undertaking.

Article 52 stipulates that, if it should be brought to the attention of the court that the young person placed in the care of a juvenile rehabilitation centre or similar social institution has a relative within the first four degrees of blood relationship who has applied for custody of the young person, the court must place the young person in the relative's care subject to verification of the latter's claim, proof of his good conduct and the absence of any other objection. Likewise, if any capable person of good conduct and reputation and of the same nationality and religion as the young person applies for custody with a view to the young person's education and upbringing, the court may place the young person in the care of such person subject to an undertaking covered by an appropriate financial bond under the terms of which the applicant is bound to provide the young person with an upbringing in conformity with the various conditions stipulated by the court in the best interests of the young person and the court must check to ensure that the young person is being educated in the approved manner.

Under the terms of article 53, if the juvenile court finds that a young person under the age of seven years has lost his parents and is without a relative who could accommodate and care for him, the court must place him in a nursery, kindergarten or social or charitable institution. If the admission of the young person into one of these institutions necessitates the provision of funds for the child's maintenance, the court arranges for such payments to be made by the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs and notifies that Ministry or its representative in the city in which the juvenile court is located so that a representative of the Ministry can be sent to attend the hearing.

Under the terms of article 54, on the basis of a report submitted by the director of the juvenile rehabilitation centre or at the request of the young person, of one of his relatives or of the person undertaking his education and upbringing, the court may review and modify the terms of its ruling in a manner appropriate to the situation and best interests of the young person.

In addition to the above, chapter 6 of the Juveniles Act lays down the conditions for adoption. Article 55 stipulates that a childless couple who have been married for more than seven years may jointly apply to the juvenile court for the adoption of a foundling, a child of unknown parentage or an orphan under nine years old. Before reaching a decision, the Court must satisfy itself that the applicants are of Iraqi nationality, of sound mind, free of infectious diseases, of good repute, with no previous record of criminal or dishonourable behaviour and that they are well intentioned, capable of supporting, educating and bringing up

the child and are not likely to use the child in a manner contrary to established conventions and rules of conduct. The court is not obliged to adhere to the above-mentioned seven year stipulation if there is medical evidence certifying the sterility of one or both spouses.

Article 56 stipulates that the court shall grant temporary approval of the adoption for a provisional period of six months which may be extended for a further six months. During this period, the Court sends a social worker to the home of the couple at least once every month in order to ascertain that the couple still want, and are taking good care of, the adopted child. A detailed report from the social worker is then submitted to the court.

If, during the provisional period, either or both spouses change their mind about wishing to adopt the child or if the court finds that the best interests of the child would not be served by such an adoption, the court must revoke its approval of the adoption and place the child in the care of a juvenile rehabilitation centre in accordance with article 57 of the Juveniles Act. If, after the provisional period, the court finds that the best interests of the child are being served and that the couple definitely wish to adopt him, the court then issues its final approval of the adoption. In the case of foundlings, there is an additional stipulation that the husband must allow the child to take his (the husband's) family name before the court can approve the child's adoption and affiliation into the family. In both cases, the court must provide the Registrar-General's office with a copy of its decision for the archives in accordance with article 58 and, under the terms of article 59, the foundling is regarded as an Iraqi Muslim in the absence of proof to the contrary. If the natural father of the adopted or affiliated child subsequently comes forward and proves his paternity in court in the presence of the adopting or affiliating parent, he must submit an application requesting custody of the child, together with a copy of the ruling categorically establishing his paternity, to the juvenile court. The court would then revoke its previous approval of the adoption or affiliation of the child and place the child in the care of its natural father in accordance with the terms of article 60 of the Juveniles Act.

The following reform institutions can currently be found in Iraq:

- (a) Juvenile welfare hostels: 21 hostels in Baghdad and the provinces;
- (b) Juvenile reform institutions in Baghdad:
  - (i) The Reform School accommodates juveniles from 7-18 years of age whom the juvenile courts have found guilty of criminal acts;
  - (ii) The Juvenile Training School accommodates young persons from 15-18 years of age whom the juvenile courts have found guilty of criminal acts;
  - (iii) The House of Surveillance accommodates young persons from 7-18 years of age suspected of crimes, pending their investigation and trial.

/...

Measures to protect children from commercial exploitation

Iraq ratified the Slavery Convention under the terms of Act No. 8 of 1928 and also ratified its amendment under the terms of Acts No. 24 of 1950 and No. 25 of 1955. Iraq also ratified the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others under the terms of Act No. 25 of 1955 and the Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery, under the terms of Act No. 72 of 1963. Iraq adheres strictly to the provisions and texts of these conventions, which it regards as part of its own law, and is co-operating with the international authorities to prevent traffic in human beings and especially in children.

Provisions governing the employment of children and young persons

The provisions governing the employment of young persons are laid down in the Labour Act, article 86 of which stipulates that:

- (a) A young person is one who has not reached the age of 18 years;
- (b) It is categorically forbidden to employ young persons under 15 years of age and they must not be allowed to enter places of work;
- (c) The Minister of Labour and Social Affairs may forbid the employment of young persons under 16 years of age in certain industries, professions and jobs specified in directives issued by him. In particular, it is forbidden to employ them in work of a heavy or dangerous nature or in night or overtime work;
- (d) The daily working hours for young persons under 16 years of age must not exceed seven hours and their annual leave must not be less than one full month.

Under the terms of article 87, the working hours of young persons must include one or more rest periods of a total duration of at least one hour and, when fixing the times of the rest period, care must be taken to ensure that young persons do not work for a continuous period in excess of four hours.

Under article 88, the probationary period for young persons not holding a professional diploma may be extended for a maximum of four months provided that this is not done more than once by any one employer.

In all cases where young persons are employed, article 89 stipulates that juvenile employees must be referred to the competent medical authority in order to be examined and certified medically fit for the work in which they will be engaged. This article also makes it incumbent on all employers to have their juvenile employees medically re-examined at least once every year and to provide evidence of such examinations in their employment records.

Article 90 stipulates that the regulations governing the employment of young persons must be posted in a prominent place in the main office of every place of work employing young persons. In the case of juvenile employees, special records

must also be kept of their names, ages, the work assigned to them and the medical reports given to them. Such records must be verified, checked and inspected.

Finally, we would draw attention to the activities planned in Iraq for the protection of children in connexion with the International Year of the Child in 1979. These activities are detailed in the reports submitted to UNICEF on the International Year of the Child in Iraq.

Article 11. The right to an adequate standard of living

General and specific measures taken to ensure an adequate standard of living and a continuous improvement in living conditions

The National Development Plan for 1976-1980 aims at achieving an adequate standard of living and a continuous improvement in living conditions through the economic development objectives laid down in the Plan and which can be summarized as follows:

(a) Efforts to raise national income levels and to increase the purchasing power of individual incomes through a system of measures and controls designed to establish co-ordination between investment and consumption and between price levels and wage and salary scales, bearing in mind changes in the average increase in production, financial policy and controls and the tax system. It is hoped that the average individual income will increase from 349 dinars in 1976 to 575 dinars in 1980, that is, an annual increase of 13.3 per cent and an over-all increase of 64.8 per cent over the period 1976-1980;

(b) The development of public services

The Development Plan for 1976-1980 aims at increasing expenditures in all service sectors from 689 million dinars in 1976 to 1,027 million dinars in 1980 with a view to increasing per capita services from 60 dinars in 1976 to 81 dinars in 1980. This trend reflects the commitment of the Arab Socialist Baath Party to the implementation of socialist measures to achieve greater prosperity for the people in all parts of the country;

(c) The development and utilization of human resources;

(d) Paying particular attention to the agricultural sector;

(e) Meeting the increasing local demand for food-stuffs on the one hand and industrial requirements for agricultural commodities on the other;

(f) Changing the social situation in rural areas in a manner consistent with the requirements of socialist transformation aimed at the achievement of the greatest possible degree of homogeneity in levels of development in the country's various economic sectors;

(g) The mobilization of manpower in the agricultural sector with a view to motivating a large part of the potential human resources in rural areas so that they can play an effective role in increasing production and furthering development operations in accordance with established objectives;

(h) A broader application of socialist measures in agriculture and industry with a view to maintaining a structural balance in those sectors and enhancing their primary importance and strategic role in the building of a new society.

The right to adequate food; fundamental legislation, administrative regulations and collective agreements

The legislative acts and other measures adopted in this connexion can be summarized as follows:

(a) Radical agrarian reform and the elimination of feudal property rights and semi-feudal relationships in Iraqi rural areas through the application of the Agrarian Reform Act (No. 117 of 1970) and Act No. 90 of 1975 concerning the self-governing area;

(b) An expansion of the three components of the socialist sector (state farms, collective farms and agricultural co-operatives) with a view to making it a principal developing sector in all respects;

(c) The achievement of close co-ordination and integration between agriculture and industry with a view to the provision of the greater part of the raw materials required not only for the oil industry but also for trade;

(d) The elimination of other forms of exploitation found in rural areas and, in particular, commercial exploitation and usury, through the gradual restriction of agricultural credit and advances in the socialist and co-operative sector;

(e) The eradication of tribal ties and other outdated customs and concepts prevailing in rural areas and the dissemination of socialist culture among the rural population;

(f) The consolidation of the role of women in agricultural development and their liberation from the exploitation, oppression and servitude to which they are subjected;

(g) Far-reaching improvements in economic, social, cultural and health conditions in rural areas and the gradual elimination of disparities between urban and rural areas.

Achievements in connexion with the above-mentioned objectives are as follows:

(a) The application of the agrarian reform acts up to 31 December 1977

(i) The total area of land taken over under the above-mentioned agrarian reform acts up to the end of 1977 amounted to around 12 million dunams;

- (ii) The total area distributed under contracts concluded with farmers up to the end of 1977 amounted to over 13 million dunums;
- (iii) The total number of rural families benefiting from the distribution and contractual purchase of land up to the end of 1977 amounted to 394,000 families;
- (iv) The total area of horticultural land distributed among farmers and cultivators up to the end of 1977 amounted to 21,000 dunums;

(b) State farms

In 1968 there were only five state farms covering a total area of around 197,000 dunums but, by the end of 1977, this number had increased to 31 farms covering a total area of around 839,000 dunums. Some of these farms have achieved high levels of productivity. For example, in the Greater Musaiyib Authority, productivity levels amounted to around 1 ton of wheat per dunum on reclaimed land and 728 kg/dunum on unreclaimed land. The glass houses erected for the first time in Iraq for the production of winter vegetables on state farms in the Khalis area achieved productivity levels which exceeded the maximum target figures, namely 50 tons of cucumber and over 20 tons of tomatoes;

(c) Rural co-operative associations

During the past 10 years, rural co-operative associations have been greatly expanded. By the end of 1977 there were 1,847 such associations with a membership of 365,000, covering over 26 million dunums. This substantial development illustrates the manner in which these associations have spread to most agricultural regions in the country;

(d) Collective farms

Since they were first established in 1971, the number of collective farms has grown to 76, with a membership of 8,718, covering a total operating area of 737,063 dunums;

(e) Joint associations

With a view to improving the co-operative structure in the agricultural sector, especially after the large increase in the number of rural co-operative associations which are regarded as the fundamental basis of this structure, a start was made on the establishment of joint associations which constitute an advanced stage in the agricultural co-operative movement. These associations are characterized by the size of their material, technical and human resources with which they are able to engage in a variety of administrative, accounting and marketing activities with a high degree of efficiency that could not be attained by individual local associations. By the end of 1977, there were 219 joint associations covering an area of 46,237 dunums and having a membership of 1,612 local associations.

(f) Specialized associations

This type of association was devised with a view to the provision of specialised services in stock breeding, agriculture, horticulture and marketing, using the advantages enjoyed by the co-operative movement with regard to credit, technical expertise and marketing. By the end of 1977, there were 52 such associations of which 47 were located in regional agricultural centres and five at the sites of agricultural projects and authorities. Their membership numbered 7,255.

Measures adopted for the development or reform of existing agrarian systems

(a) Affirmation of the leading role played by the State farms, collective farms and co-operatives and endeavours to develop these institutions in a manner conducive to increased production, higher levels of productivity and the further strengthening of socialist links in rural areas;

(b) The formulation of annual production plans for optimum land use in a co-ordinated and balanced manner. Planning began in 1971 with the formulation of the first production plan. This was followed by a series of conferences, of which the last was the Eighth Annual Agricultural Conference. These conferences establish the annual agricultural plan in the light of indicators taken from the National Development Plan for 1976-1980 and with the participation of everyone working in the agricultural sector, beginning with the smallest production unit (the co-operative association);

(c) The promotion of major agricultural projects such as the Dujaila, Greater Musaiyib, Khalis, Abu Gharib, Ishaaqi and Delmej projects in order to provide the strategic crops required for food and to satisfy the basic commodity requirements of industry. A thorough feasibility study of the establishment of agricultural complexes in the light of the requirement for co-ordination and integration between agricultural and industrial development plans;

(d) The diligent development of fishery resources through the regulation of fishing, the utilization of stretches of water in marshes and lakes with a view to increasing the supply of fish in accordance with the planned objective of achieving a food balance, and the provision of refrigerated storage and transport facilities for the proper marketing of such resources, as specified in the planning indicators;

(e) Completion of the detailed agricultural land map with a view to the formulation of an agricultural production plan based on the soil surveys and studies required for modern agricultural planning operations;

(f) Land reclamation and the completion of irrigation and drainage networks in the central and southern regions, bearing in mind the fact that the desalination of these two regions is one of the main objectives of agricultural development in our country. During the 1976-1980 Five-Year Plan, a central and feeder drainage network covering an area of 2.55 million dunums will be established and around 1 million dunums will be fully reclaimed.

(g) The utilization of irrigated and rain-fed agricultural lands in such a way as to attain the highest possible yield with a view to achieving an annual growth rate of not less than 7 per cent in the agricultural sector;

(h) The intensive development of rain-fed agricultural lands and the introduction of crop rotation for the production of cereals, oleaginous crops, legumes and animal fodder;

(i) The establishment of a price control system in the agricultural market in order to provide an inducement for farmers to produce the agricultural commodities required to meet current needs in the light of the indicators contained in the National Development Plan;

(j) The development of livestock and fishery resources in order to meet the increasing demand for meat and other animal products in the light of the indicators contained in the 1976-1980 Food Balance Plan which aims at the achievement of a minimum growth rate of 8.4 per cent for red meat, 7.1 per cent for milk and 20 per cent for fish;

(k) The conservation and development of forestry resources, the afforestation of around 125,000 dunums of natural forest land and the establishment of around 80,000 dunums of artificial forests in addition to the establishment of 5,800 groves around watering points next to the main roads;

(l) The conservation and development of natural pasture land on a scientific basis.

Measures adopted for the specification of production methods and the quantity and quality of food produce

(a) The promotion of agricultural research and the utilization of the necessary materials, equipment and techniques. The Institute for Applied Agricultural Research was established with the task of conducting agricultural research to determine the best ways and means of carrying out various agricultural operations. For this purpose, research centres and experimental stations have been set up throughout the country and the Institute is co-operating with the Scientific Research Establishment and Iraqi universities with a view to the promotion of agricultural research and the application of modern technological methods;

(b) Measures for the dissemination of information regarding the use of materials, equipment and techniques. The Public Authority for Rural Guidance and Education intends to organize vocational and specialized training courses at which farmers will receive instruction regarding the use of materials, equipment and techniques both within the country and abroad so that they will become sufficiently knowledgeable to carry out the tasks required of them for the achievement of the objectives laid down in the Plan. There will be courses in horticulture, farming, apiculture, livestock fattening, sheep breeding, mechanization and the use of equipment and fertilizers. Moreover, the above-mentioned Authority is constantly establishing demonstration farms in

/...

various parts of the country with a view to convincing the farmers of the benefits that can be obtained through the use of scientific methods in agriculture. The pilot experiment in the cultivation of wheat and rice succeeded in persuading the farmers to use fertilizers and machinery for the cultivation of such crops. The Public Training Authority provides instruction for agronomists, veterinarians and agricultural advisers through technical and vocational courses held within the country and abroad.

Agricultural magazines and newspapers are published periodically for the purpose of disseminating information among farmers and technicians working in the agricultural sector. These publications include the magazine Al-Thawra Al-Zira'iyah (the Agricultural Revolution), Al-Thaqafa Al-Filahiya (Farming News) and the newspaper Sawt Al Fallah (The Farmer's Voice), as well as agricultural literature published by the Public Authority for Rural Guidance and Education.

Measures adopted to improve the dissemination of knowledge regarding methods of food conservation

The dissemination of knowledge regarding methods of food conservation is not the exclusive responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform since numerous other government departments (such as the Ministries of Health, Education, Labour and Social Affairs, and Information) and professional organizations (such as the General Federation of Iraqi Women) also play a considerable role therein and the information services of these bodies disseminate information regarding the conservation of food. The advisory centres for rural women established by the Public Authority for Rural Guidance and Education also play a prominent role through the help which they provide for rural families.

Measures adopted to improve the distribution of food through the improvement of communications between producing areas and marketing centres

Associations specialized in agricultural marketing have been established. After 1972, legislation was promulgated to restrict the marketing of the principal grain crops such as wheat, barley, rice and millet to the rural co-operative associations and these marketing restrictions were subsequently extended to cover dates, oleaginous seeds and wool. The Public Fruit and Vegetable Marketing Board also plays a major role in the marketing, export and import of such produce.

One of the principal measures adopted to improve the distribution of food is the surfacing of the main rural roads and their link-up with the main highways since the development of the agricultural sector requires the provision of roads and basic means of communication between production and marketing centres and the establishment of the closest possible cultural links between rural and urban areas. The agricultural sector is also endeavouring to establish various types of storage facilities in the vicinity of production centres in order to assist with marketing and distribution.

Measures adopted to improve food consumption and nutrition standards

In view of the importance of providing a balanced diet consistent with actual individual needs for bodily and mental sustenance in order to maintain health, psychological and production standards, the 1976-1980 National Development Plan aims at increasing the average individual food intake from 2,729 calories/day in 1975 to 2,918 calories/day in 1980 and to increase the individual intake of protein from 81.8 grams/day (including 16.9 grams/day of animal protein) in 1975 to 90.2 grams/day of protein (including 22.8 grams/day of animal protein) by 1980. One of the principal measures adopted to improve food consumption standards in our country is the implementation of the School Nutrition Programme which provides for the nutritional needs of kindergarten and primary school pupils and pays special attention to pupils in rural areas.

Measures adopted (including nutritional standards to reduce the adulteration and contamination of food-stuffs

Official institutions have been established with the task of controlling food and nutritional standards and laying down specifications for all types of food-stuffs. The law severely punishes anyone attempting to adulterate food and forbids the sale of contaminated food-stuffs. All of these institutions are outside the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform and report to the Ministries of Health and Industry.

Measures adopted to disseminate knowledge regarding principles of nutrition

(a) The various advisory centres located in rural areas provide information and guidance regarding principles of nutrition and their importance for the building of a sound and healthy body. This is done through training courses organized by these centres and through frequent visits made to rural families;

(b) Information regarding principles of nutrition is disseminated through school programmes at various educational stages;

(c) Information regarding principles of nutrition is disseminated by the mass communication media (newspapers, magazines, radio and television).

Participation in international co-operative efforts to promote the right of everyone to be free from hunger

Iraq is participating in the following agricultural projects in five Arab States:

	<u>Title of project</u>	<u>Beneficiary State</u>	<u>Amount of aid in Iraqi dinars</u>
1.	Construction of buildings for agricultural co-operative centres	Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan	368.563
2.	Production of seed	Democratic Yemen	1,489.600
3.	Production of oleaginous seeds and beans	Somali Democratic Republic	1,331.32
4.	Production of oleaginous seed crops	Democratic Republic of the Sudan	1,000.000
5.	Development of olive production	Republic of Tunisia	800.000

Statistical data on the realization of the right to adequate food

Tables 1 to 3 below provide information on the average individual consumption of agricultural food produce in Iraq during the period 1975-1980; 1980 production targets for the principal crops planted; and 1980 production targets for animal, fish and poultry resources.

Table 1. Average individual consumption of agricultural food produce in Iraq during the period 1975-1980

Type	1975				1980			
	Quantity consumed kg/year	Quantity consumed gm/day	Total calories	Total protein in grams	Quantity consumed kg/year	Quantity consumed gm/day	Total calories	Total protein in grams
1. Wheat	160.63	386.6	1 346	50	140.5	386.9	1 347	50
2. Rice	26.43	72.4	275	5	30.16	82.4	313	5.6
3. Potatoes	3.7	10.1	8.5	0.2	4.6	12.6	10.6	0.25
4. Sugar	28.9	79.2	30.9	-	31.7	86.8	330.5	-
Total sugar and starch	199.4	-	1 938.5	-	-	-	2 009	-
5. Legumes	4.84	13.5	32	1.6	5.9	16.2	38.4	1.9
6. Fruit	40.6	111.2	71	1.2	44.2	121	77.4	1.2
7. Dates	17.9	69	169.5	1.0	18.8	51.8	179	1.0
8. Nuts	15.3	99.7	28	1.0	48.9	112	32.2	1.1
9. Vegetables	95.4	261.4	91.5	5.2	133.5	318	100	6.2
10. Meat	12.4	34	-	-	14.5	40.2	-	-
11. Poultry	4	1	-	-	5.8	15.8	-	-
Total meat	16.4	45	63	9.5	23.3	61.2	89.3	12.0
12. Fish	3.28	19	16	1.7	4.3	11.0	13	2.2
13. Eggs (no.)	78.8	12	19	1.6	116.1	17.6	28.5	2.2
14. Dairy produce	37.6	102.5	78	4.1	50.8	137	104	5.5
Total animal protein	-	-	-	16.9	-	-	-	22.0
Total vegetable protein	-	-	-	64.9	-	-	-	87.4
15. Vegetable oils	0.85	23.7	200.5	-	9.2	25.5	236	-
16. Animal fats	0.85	2.3	26	-	0.8	2.2	19	-
Grand total	-	-	2 729	81.0	-	-	2 910	90.2

1...

Table 2. 1980 production targets for the principal crops planted in Iraq

<u>Crop</u>	<u>Target year 1980 (Thousands of tons)</u>
Wheat	2,041
Barley	860
Rice	476
Millet	105
Sugar cane and sugar beet	900
Legumes	254
Oleaginous seeds	80.5
Cotton	78
Summer and winter vegetables	1,958
Green fodder	5,500

Table 3. 1980 production targets for animal, fish and poultry resources

<u>Type</u>	<u>Target year 1980 (Thousands of tons)</u>	<u>Growth rate (Base year 1975) (Percentage)</u>
Red meat	182	8.4
Milk	644	7.1
Fish	50	20
Hides	4.3 million units	4.8
Poultry meat	68	18.5
Eggs	1,200 million	31

The right to adequate clothing

Adequate clothing for citizens is one of the targets inherent in the objective of providing an appropriate standard of living for the population of Iraq under the State's socialist strategy. The State has endeavoured to provide its citizens with adequate clothing at suitable prices as follows:

(a) All workers and employees in government service who are required to wear standard clothing are provided with two uniforms (one for the summer and another for the winter) free of charge;

(b) Citizens are supplied with clothing from the following sources:

(i) The Public Tailoring Company which makes a considerable contribution towards meeting the demand for adequate clothing at prices which are far below those for clothing produced by the private sector. In 1978, production from that company was as follows:

/...

Winter clothing. 26,000 men's suits; 4,000 separate jackets; 4,000 separate pairs of trousers; 94,550 uniforms for State employees; 6,600 children's suits; 5,000 girls' dresses; 4,500 girls' coats; 2,700 girls' jackets with trousers; 3,290 women's dresses; 3,850 women's coats; 1,800 women's jackets with trousers. The prices of these clothes range from a maximum of 11 dinars to a minimum of 3 dinars.

Summer clothing. 5,000 men's suits; 58,625 separate pairs of trousers; 27,200 uniforms for State employees; 21,175 shirts with trousers; 4,000 children's suits; 7,600 girls' dresses; 3,700 girls' blouses with skirts; 7,140 women's dresses; 2,200 blouses for female state employees.

The prices of these clothes, which range from a maximum of 9 dinars to a minimum of 2 dinars, are far below those for clothing produced by the private sector;

- (ii) Establishments in the socialist sector also help to meet local demand for adequate clothing from various sources at very reasonable prices. In 1979, the Iraqi Al-Makhazin (department store) company imported 7,033,746 pieces of knitwear and underwear; 4,060,727 pieces of male and female clothing; and 155,800 hats and head-scarves;
- (iii) The State helps the private sector to produce clothing by providing it with cloth and raw materials produced by the socialist sector and the State also fixes the prices for ready-made clothing at a level commensurate with the income of citizens.

#### The right to housing

The political report of the Arab Socialist Baath Party stressed the importance of finding a solution to the country's housing problem on the basis of a fundamental strategy aimed at providing adequate housing for the entire population. A start has already been made on the implementation of housing programmes included in the National Development Plan and there are also other projects for housing, the development of the north, industrial housing, the settlement of nomads and the establishment of border villages.

In view of the concern which the revolution is showing for this vital sector, the Ministry of Housing and Construction has prepared a long-term plan covering the period up to the year 2000 with a view to the provision of healthy housing for all Iraqis in urban and rural areas. In dealing with housing problems, the revolution has not only made the requisite investments but has also concerned itself with the problems resulting from horizontal expansion which it is endeavouring to change into vertical expansion.

The State has endeavoured to ensure that rural housing is in conformity with the strategy aimed at changing existing production, economic and tribal relationships in rural areas by giving priority to housing complexes in co-operative, collective and state farms as a factor in the successful implementation of the slogan calling for a return to the countryside.

In the present section, we will review a summary of the State Housing Plan up to the year 2000 which was prepared in conjunction with international advisory bodies.

Studies in connexion with the housing scheme

The revolutionary Government has made significant progress in the forward planning of housing in Iraq for the next 20 years and the Planning Council has authorized the Public Housing Authority to use the services of consultants in connexion with the Housing Plan and urban and rural housing programmes. The Authority has concluded an agreement with the Polish consultants Pole Service and the Iraqi Dar-ul-Imara (architectural consultants) for the preparation of a comprehensive housing scheme involving a study of housing problems, the formulation of the requisite programmes for the various housing sectors and the elaboration of demographic and income projections for the country in future years in accordance with the following framework:

(a) Comprehensive surveys to establish the current housing situation in the country, including a socio-economic survey, a survey of the current housing balance for the year 1976 in urban areas and settlements, a survey of the current situation in rural settlements, a survey of building materials, construction output and establishments engaged in construction in the socialist and private sectors, surveys of housing construction and housing patterns and other social, topographical and planning surveys;

(b) The specification of existing criteria and the establishment of other criteria for the purposes of the surveys, including basic definitions and terminology, division of the country into five housing regions for study purposes and the establishment of basic and minimum specifications for housing standards;

(c) The preparation of a country-wide housing policy for the coming years and the formulation of four alternative strategies for the implementation of the housing policy, one of which will be selected to constitute the backbone of the general programme;

(d) The formulation of future projections for all the factors affecting housing, such as demographic projections and trends, comprehensive economic projections concerning the housing sector, projected housing patterns, projections of the development of construction output and the production of materials to meet the demand, projections of the development of the administrative, planning and executive institutions and establishments needed to implement the programmes and projections of developments in legislation and regulations concerning housing;

(e) An estimation of supply and demand with a view to the formulation of plans for the provision of housing for various sections of the population, the amount of building materials needed and the allocation of areas for their production and consumption, the number and size of the institutions, companies and establishments needed to implement the general programme and the requirement for manpower of various types and levels at various locations, in addition to the financial, legislative and other requirements of housing development;

(f) On the basis of the various surveys, settlement and housing patterns of various standards were to be designed for the five proposed housing regions in such a way as to cater for the entire country through the provision of 25 types of housing units of different design and structure commensurate with the different climatic conditions and income levels in the various regions with a view to clarifying the method of dealing with regional design problems in urban and rural areas;

(g) On completion of the various studies, surveys and designs, a final report was to be prepared on the detailed programmes for the implementation of the selected strategy for old and new settlements, including their numbers, configuration, construction schedule and comprehensive plans to facilitate the provision of materials, installations, legislation, establishments and means of financing and implementation;

(h) The Short-term Programme. The study comprises the preparation of designs, plans and contractual documents for 7,500 housing units in three groups to be constructed on an experimental basis with a view to ascertaining the soundness of the standards adopted and studying any problems which families might encounter when moving into and living in a housing unit forming part of a new settlement.

#### The phasing of the general housing scheme

In March of 1977 the consultant submitted the first report on the current housing situation in Iraq, which was sent to the various ministries and departments for their comments. The following aspects of the report were discussed:

(a) A socio-demographic survey of around 10,500 housing units distributed among most of the urban settlements in the country and accommodating over 10,000 persons;

(b) An on-site survey of 266 villages distributed among the five housing regions. A detailed analytical survey was conducted in 19 of these villages which were regarded as representative of other villages in the various regions;

(c) A survey of urban housing units for the purpose of ascertaining their physical, structural and sanitary condition, occupancy level, household composition and other data.

This survey covered 913 analytical samples taken from 5,000 housing units in new settlements in a manner designed to establish a balance between the size of the housing unit and the population density of the area. These units were then marked on special plans showing their location on the basic city plans;

(d) A survey of contractors was also conducted for the purpose of ascertaining the country's construction capacity. This was done by distributing questionnaires among 1,500 contractors in various regions;

(e) The texts of over 700 regulations concerning housing in the country were assembled and analysed;

(f) Other surveys, such as the physio-economic survey and the survey of housing patterns, were also conducted;

(g) The above surveys were conducted by numerous specialized study groups and field teams, including over 100 specialists from Polish universities and institutions and from the universities of Baghdad and Mosul, together with 32 Iraqi specialists employed by the State Consulting Organisation. The field teams taking part in the survey consisted of 200 Polish and Iraqi engineers, specialists and sociologists, including 150 students from Iraqi universities.

The consultant submitted the first part of the second report to the government department concerned. The main conclusions were studied, summarized and submitted to the Advisory Council in the Ministry of Housing and Construction under the chairmanship of the Minister. The principal conclusions of the report were as follows:

(a) The projected housing requirements contained in the report on the current housing situation in 1976 showed that, in the period from 1976 to 2000, there would be a need for 3.7 million housing units. In other words, 160,000 housing units would have to be constructed each year and this figure was five times higher than the number of units currently being constructed. This would require considerable increases in the production of building materials and components and also in the size of the labour force and the number of technical specialists as detailed in the report;

(b) A model was supplied for a housing policy based on three implementation strategies which took into account the probable population growth, the demographic distribution throughout the country, a balance between the urban and rural populations and the type, growth and composition of settlements. Specifications were also given for housing patterns ranging from the inferior type, with which current standards are compared, to the basic type which will determine the minimum acceptable standards for future housing constructed by both the socialist and the private sectors. The report also recommended that housing units should be constructed for households rather than for families and proposed appropriate ways and means of providing the material and human resources needed to implement the housing programme;

(c) One of these strategies was chosen as being the most compatible with the guidelines laid down in the political report of the Eighth National Conference of the Arab Socialist Baath Party. Under this strategy, the socialist and private sectors would jointly undertake the implementation of Iraq's general housing programme as contained in the second part of the second report, the main points of which were as follows:

- (i) Up to the year 2000, the socialist co-operative sector would meet 40 per cent of the total demand for housing units and would also provide all of the technical and social infrastructures required for the full implementation of the programme in urban areas;

/...

- (ii) In rural areas, the socialist sector would construct under 10 per cent of the total number of housing units required, leaving the construction of the remaining units to the rural population in view of the problematic nature of rural housing;
- (iii) The technical and social infrastructures would be provided by the socialist sector;
- (iv) This strategy regards the village and the rural complex as the design and construction unit.

The third report contained details of housing patterns of various standards and laid down the general guidelines to be followed by housing programmes. This extremely important report, which stipulated that building designs and housing locations must be economical and practical, constituted a very significant stage in the proper implementation of general housing policy in Iraq.

(a) Patterns

We use the term "housing pattern" to refer to the plot of housing land, its area, the type of infrastructure, the total floor plan area of the house and the technical services in the region. In accordance with various criteria, the pattern is divided into patterns serving a number of purposes explained in detail in the report. It should be borne in mind that the pattern is not a fixed concept since it changes from time to time and is influenced by economic growth and national development.

The Advisory Council in the Ministry of Housing and Construction approved the basic pattern 1/ as the target pattern for housing development up to the year 2000, while regarding the inferior pattern as a yardstick with which to assess the standard of existing housing units which changes from time to time in

---

1/ The basic pattern is determined by the following criteria:

- (a) Guaranteed possession of the property;
- (b) Occupation by not more than one household;
- (c) Provision of a number of enclosed areas appropriate to the number of occupants, provided that the number of such enclosed areas is not less than three, each of which may be occupied by two adults and one child under 10 years of age;
- (d) Provision of a kitchen, bath and toilet;
- (e) Provision of electric power, supply of piped drinking water, drainage facilities and compliance with environmental health regulations (space, ventilation, sunshine and other housing standards);
- (f) Access to social services and public transport facilities.

accordance with developments in housing construction. It should be pointed out that, in view of the existence of housing complexes of a standard lower than the inferior pattern and with the basic pattern as the ultimate objective, it will first be necessary to pass through the stage constituted by the inferior pattern by establishing projects and construction plans and following appropriate procedures, bearing in mind the fact that compliance with the basic housing pattern will be obligatory in all housing constructed by the socialist sector and will be used as a gauge with which to assess the standard of housing constructed by the private sector.

#### Methods for the implementation of the housing policy

The new housing concept contained in the study is not restricted to the external structure of the residence and the comfort of its occupants since it necessarily includes the improvement of environmental conditions in the residential vicinity and the provision of technical and social infrastructures.

Therefore, with regard to the housing policy, we would like to emphasize the need for the building and construction work to be carried out in accordance with a comprehensive strategy covering all aspects of the policy by, for example, the following means:

- (a) Establishing new housing patterns in areas which possess technical and social infrastructures;
- (b) Establishing new housing patterns in areas which do not possess technical and social infrastructures;
- (c) Improving existing infrastructures where they are found to be of an inferior standard;
- (d) Helping families which possess plots of land to build housing units thereon;
- (e) Helping the residents of existing housing units to maintain and extend the life of those units;
- (f) Taking the necessary measures to help the owners of dilapidated housing units in appropriate residential areas to change their residences;
- (g) Identifying residential areas which should be demolished as generally substandard;
- (h) Helping those able to build an additional housing unit for rent with a view to helping to solve the housing crisis while, at the same time, controlling rent levels;
- (i) Placing emphasis on infrastructural contracts and accelerating their execution since it is estimated that 30 per cent of the existing housing units in Iraq are not served by infrastructures of an acceptable standard;

(j) Helping those who are able to contribute to the production of building materials.

This policy must be implemented in a balanced manner by all the bodies concerned.

Obviously, the Public Housing Authority will be responsible for some of the above-mentioned requirements but this will not prevent the Ministry of Housing and Construction from acting as the final authority with regard to the standard specifications for housing units and services and the formulation of general policy for the development of the environment in which other bodies will also be involved.

The fourth report deals with the methodology and procedures for the general implementation of the scheme during the next 20 years and, in a more detailed fashion, for the first five years of the scheme.

#### The short-term plan

The above-mentioned yardsticks and criteria were naturally chosen in order to examine the manner in which the occupants settled into the housing unit and were integrated into the new settlements. For this purpose, a short-term plan was formulated for the construction of 7,500 housing units in five urban locations in the north, centre and south of the country and also in a model rural village in the central region.

#### Tax and credit facilities provided by the State to encourage housing construction

##### Tax facilities

Newly constructed houses are exempt from real estate sales tax for a period of three years as an inducement to citizens to build houses.

##### Credit and financing facilities

In addition to the State Housing Plan to which reference has already been made, the State offers credit, bank and financing facilities to the three principal housing sectors, namely, the private sector, the co-operative sector and the socialist sector represented by the Public Housing and Construction Authority.

#### Bank facilities for construction in the private sector

The Real Estate Bank provides citizens with loans for building purposes on the following terms:

(a) Loans to working and retired State employees to the extent of 100 per cent of the building costs or 60 per cent of the cost of the land and the building, whichever is less, in accordance with the following schedule:

<u>Nominal salary</u> (dinars)	<u>Amount of loan</u> (dinars)	<u>Period of loan</u> (years)	<u>Interest within the limits of the City of Baghdad</u> (Percentage)	<u>Outside Baghdad</u> (Percentage)
Up to 70	Up to 4,000	25	3.5	2.5
71 and above	Up to 5,500	20	5.0	4.0

For repayment purposes, the amount deducted must not exceed 5 per cent of the borrower's income (nominal salary) inclusive of cost-of-living allowances.

(b) In the case of citizens not employed in government service, the Real Estate Bank provides loans to the extent of 100 per cent of the building costs or 60 per cent of the cost of the land and the building, whichever is the less, in accordance with the following conditions:

- (i) If the purpose of the loan is the construction of residential buildings or complexes exclusively intended for sale to citizens as residential units. The loan is granted after approval of the designs and specifications by the Public Housing Authority, provided that the amount of the loan does not exceed 150,000 dinars for any one residential building or complex. The period of the loan is five years, inclusive of the construction period. The interest is 3 per cent on loan payments for the first and second years of the loan period and 7 per cent on the loan for subsequent years;
- (ii) If the purpose of the loan is the construction of a residence for the loan applicant, the following terms apply:

<u>Amount of loan</u> (dinars)	<u>Period of loan</u> (years)	<u>Annual interest within Baghdad</u> (Percentage)	<u>Outside Baghdad</u> (Percentage)
Up to 1,500	20	2.5	1.5
Up to 3,000	15	4.0	3.0
Up to 4,000	15	5.0	4.0

Bank facilities for construction in the co-operative sector

The Real Estate Bank lends money to co-operative associations for the purpose of constructing residential buildings for their members on the following terms:

(a) Loans are made to the extent of 70 per cent of the cost of the land and the building subject to a guarantee from the co-operative fund and approval of the designs, specifications and locations by the Public Housing Authority.

(b) The association arranges direct loans at an annual rate of interest of 2 per cent.

(c) Loans are made to the extent of 100 per cent of the building costs or 60 per cent of the cost of the land and the building, whichever is the less, after the deeds to the property are deposited with the Real Estate Registration Department in the name of the bank as security for the loan provided.

(d) The association provides the bank with a list of the names of its members participating in the construction project for which the loan is to be granted. Loans are made to members of the association under the following terms:

(i) Schedule of loans to working and retired State employees for the construction of high-rise buildings:

<u>Salary</u> (dinars)	<u>Area of apartment</u> (square metres)	<u>Amount of</u> <u>loan</u> (dinars)	<u>Period of</u> <u>loan</u> (years)	<u>Annual</u> <u>interest rate</u> (Percentage)
Up to 50	80	Up to 4,300	25	3
51-70	Over 80	Up to 4,800	25	3
71-100	Over 100 and up to 120	Up to 5,700	20	3
Over 100	Over 120 and up to 150	Up to 7,200	20	3

(ii) Schedule of loans to members of co-operative associations who are not State employees:

<u>Area of</u> <u>apartment</u> (Square metres)	<u>Estimated cost</u> <u>of construction</u> (Dinars)	<u>Proportion of cost</u> <u>covered by loan</u> (Percentage)	<u>Amount</u> <u>of loan</u> (Dinars)	<u>Interest</u> (Percentage)	<u>Period</u> <u>of loan</u> (Years)
80	4,800	90	4,300	3	25
80-100	6,000	80	4,800	3	25
100-120	7,200	80	5,700	3	20
120-220	9,000	80	7,200	3	20

The Co-operative Housing Union also constructs residential buildings and complexes in which citizens can acquire housing units.

The Real Estate Bank provides citizens with loans in order to enable them to acquire these housing units under the above-mentioned terms and such housing units are exempt from real estate tax throughout the period of the loan.

/...

The public sector

The Public Housing Authority constructs housing units in the form of multistorey buildings or houses in densely populated areas in which the principal services are already provided or can easily be connected during the construction period, with a view to enabling citizens of limited income to purchase their own homes. The cost of such housing units is determined taking into account the actual costs of construction; the cost of the land; the proportional share of each housing unit in the costs of external tiling, drainage, water and electricity supply and other facilities such as heating and air conditioning; and 5 per cent of the total administrative expenses.

Citizens are able to acquire such residential units by borrowing from the Real Estate Bank on the above-mentioned terms.

When housing units are first registered in the name of their owners at the Real Estate Registration Department, they are exempt from the registration fee.

Special home ownership measures for certain categories of citizens

The revolutionary Government makes special provision for home ownership by certain categories of citizens as follows:

(a) Transfer of the ownership of buildings from workers' co-operative associations to their occupants free of charge or against a symbolic payment;

(b) The construction of new model villages in the self-governing area for citizens wishing to achieve an appropriate standard of living through home ownership;

(c) Enabling military personnel and the families of martyrs from the armed services to acquire real estate property by a grant of 5,000 dinars to officers or the families of martyred officers and 3,500 dinars to enlisted non-commissioned officers or the families of such enlisted martyrs.

Special measures for the provision of a water supply and medical services in villages and rural areas

The question of water supply in villages and rural areas is given high priority in the national development plans with a view to rural development and the extension of state-supplied services to the rural population in order to improve their health, social and cultural standards etc.

With regard to the supply of drinking water in villages and rural areas, the revolution inherited a heavy legacy of extreme backwardness, as follows:

(a) Ninety-six per cent of the total population of Iraqi villages were without sweet water;

(b) Only 1.2 per cent of the total number of Iraqi villages were supplied with sweet water.

Faced with this situation, the revolution began work on the preparation of long-term plans for the provision of these services. The first planning phase ended in 1973 and was followed, in the early part of 1974, by the second phase involving detailed project studies over a period of two years.

The preliminary estimates of the cost of the project for the supply of drinking water to a large number of Iraqi villages amounted to \$0 million dinars and it was anticipated that it would take several years to complete the project. It should be noted that there are two methods of supplying the population of Iraqi villages with sweet water.

The Rural and Village Drinking Water Projects Department in the General Directorate of Municipalities has recently initiated 21 centralised projects in many parts of the country as a permanent solution to the water shortage. Project locations are chosen in areas situated on watercourses in the centre of a group of scattered villages so that pure water can be pumped to all the villages situated around the project site.

The responsible authorities have recently been endeavouring to dispense with combined units in some villages by replacing them with centralized projects but it has not proved possible to establish such projects in the vast majority of Iraqi villages owing to the existence of certain geographical and topographical features which prevent the establishment of such projects at those locations in a manner that would enable the population to take full advantage of them. Therefore, combined units are indispensable, especially in remote outlying areas with small populations. Of the two methods for the supply of drinking water to village communities, the temporary solution of combined units was chosen.

Combined units represent the first step in the provision of services to villages which have never enjoyed the benefits of purified water and electric lighting.

Although the combined units have only recently been installed, they have proved their usefulness in serving a large number of citizens in various areas, as a result of which the inhabitants of other smaller villages have requested the installation of units for the supply of pure water to their own small communities which have access only to contaminated water unless they go to the trouble of carrying water in jars from the units installed in neighbouring villages. Such communities are fully aware of the benefits of purified water for their physical and mental health. The advantages offered by combined units have been assessed from many aspects, a discussion of which would lead us away from the subject of this brief report.

The achievements of the Department with regard to combined units during the period 1975-1978 are as follows:

(a) 856 combined units have been installed at government locations and in villages and rural areas and others are in the process of being installed;

(b) 1,300 operators have received instruction in the operation of these units at ongoing training courses;

/...

(c) 150 diesel generators have been installed to provide electric power for units which are not connected to the grid of the Public Electricity Authority; these generators are equipped with fuel storage tanks of a capacity of 700 gallons;

(d) 28 technical supervisors have been appointed, trained and assigned to maintenance centres in the various provinces, in addition to three engineers stationed at those centres;

(e) 300,000 persons living in villages and rural areas and 75,000 persons living in urban centres are currently benefiting from these facilities.

In supplying villages with drinking water, the Government is chiefly motivated by the need to find a solution to various problems such as:

(a) Reversal of the migratory trend away from the villages by providing the necessary services, opening social, medical and education centres and reducing the discrepancies between urban and rural areas;

(b) Protection of the rural population from endemic diseases (bilharziasis and cholera) which are the result of drinking impure and unsterilized water;

(c) Increasing the productivity of the rural population.

The steady population growth, especially in the rural areas of Iraq, has created a need for drinking water and the responsible authorities have met this need by supplying water to the greatest possible number of citizens living in rural areas. Despite the difficulties that have been encountered in the implementation of these projects in remote areas and under adverse topographical conditions, the responsible authorities have diligently overcome them in order to provide the drinking water needed by citizens and, at the same time, to instil the revolutionary spirit in the population.

By 1978, 586 combined units (excluding those at government locations) had been installed in villages and rural areas throughout Iraq and these units were benefiting 373,500 persons living in villages and rural areas in the various provinces.

An estimated average of 637 persons were benefiting from each combined unit and each unit was run for an average of 10 hours per day by operators working in shifts. During the first four years after its establishment (1975-1978) the Department trained 1,257 operators. The total expenditure on operators' wages, maintenance operations, transport etc. amounted to 1,250,000 dinars and 2,400,000 dinars were allocated as expenditure for 1979. In 1978, there were 12,083 villages in Iraq containing a population of 4,391,000 persons.

In 1978, 985,000 persons (that is, 23 per cent of the rural population) were benefiting from combined units, piped water and water wells and the estimated number of beneficiaries in 1985 will be 3 million persons (70 per cent of the rural population). The implementation of modern industrial projects will provide employment for around 1 million persons (25 per cent of the rural population).

/...

Measures adopted for the protection of tenants

Tenants are protected under the rent acts promulgated in Iraq and, most recently, under Act No. 87 of 1979 as follows:

- (a) In principle, rent contracts are renewed after the expiry of the lease, provided that the tenant is occupying the premises and continuing to pay the rent (art. 3 of the Act);
- (b) The maximum annual rents for real estate property covered by the Act have been fixed as follows:
  - (i) Five per cent of the total value of residential property rented as such;
  - (ii) Three per cent of the total value of property or apartments rented as separate residential rooms;
  - (iii) Eight per cent of the total value of property or apartments intended for purposes other than residence and property or apartments intended for residence but rented for other purposes such as offices, government departments and clubs.

The annual rent of property covered by this Act and for which leases were concluded before the Act came into force will be reduced to the above-mentioned levels but rents below these levels will not be increased (art. 4 of the Act).

A landlord has no right to request vacation of premises subject to the provisions of this Act except on the following grounds (stipulated in art. 17):

- (a) If the tenant fails to pay a rental instalment within seven days of the due date and if the landlord (through a notary public) subsequently gives the tenant notice to pay the rent within eight days of the date of receipt of the notification. In such a case, the expenses involved in the registration and serving of such notice are to be borne by the tenant who is only entitled to benefit from such protection twice in any given year. If the tenant should default more than twice, the landlord has the right to request vacation unless the tenant pays the rental instalment due within 15 days of the due date;
- (b) If the tenant sublets the premises, gives up the lease in whole or in part or accommodates in the premises any person other than those mentioned in article 13;
- (c) If the tenant neglects or causes serious damage to the premises and does not make good such damage after receiving due notice;
- (d) If the tenant makes structural changes to the premises without the written consent of the landlord and fails to restore the premises to their original condition after receipt of due notice;

(e) If the tenant uses the premises for purposes other than those specified in the rent contract in such a way as to jeopardise the reputation of the landlord or cause damage to the premises;

(f) If none of the persons mentioned in paragraph 2 of article 13 remain in the premises or if the leased premises are left vacant and remain unused for a period in excess of 90 days without a legitimate reason;

(g) If the tenant builds a residence within the limits of the town in which he is normally resident;

(h) If the tenant owns or used to own, within the limits of the town in which he is normally resident, property suitable for his residence and if such property may be legally vacated, is vacant or has been vacated for rent to a third party;

(i) If the landlord wishes to demolish the property for purposes of expanding into a larger number of residences or rebuilding it as a multistorey residential building consisting of at least three floors;

(j) If the landlord wishes to add extra storeys to the existing building, provided that the nature of such work necessitates the vacation of the leased premises in whole or in part;

(k) If, after conclusion of the rent contract, compelling circumstances arise and the landlord requires the leased premises for his own residence and neither he, his wife or any of his minor children have at their disposal any other house in which they can reside within the limits of the town in which they are normally resident, this shall be regarded as a case of force majeure, especially:

(i) If the landlord is employed in a government department or in the socialist sector (serving in the armed forces or the police or as a civil servant or State employee) either within the country or abroad and is transferred to the town in which his house is located for official reasons or by virtue of the termination of his service for any reason;

(ii) If the landlord falls under any of the categories specified in paragraph 7, completes his studies or training abroad and returns to the town in which his house is located;

(iii) If the landlord is a State employee serving abroad or a student studying abroad, taking part in a student exchange, on a fellowship or sabbatical leave with the approval of the Iraqi Government and subsequently returns to the town in which his house is located after completing his official or educational mission;

(l) If the premises are on the verge of collapse.

**Article 12. The right to the enjoyment of physical and mental health**

The principal legislative acts and administrative measures relating to this right are as follows:

Article 33 of the Constitution stipulates that the State is obligated to protect public health through the constant expansion of free medical services, including preventive medicine, treatment and medication, in both urban and rural areas. The revolution has made special endeavours to provide the best medical services for those groups which were formerly deprived of medical care, namely, rural dwellers and the poorer social classes who constitute the majority of the country's population.

The political report of the Eighth National Conference of the Arab Socialist Baath Party emphasized the need to promote preventive health care as the corner-stone of the future health plan which has been designed to keep pace with developments taking place in medical treatment.

The indicative guidelines provide for a horizontal and vertical expansion of health care, for which the following principal legislative acts have been promulgated:

- (a) The Workers' Health Insurance Act;
- (b) The Medical Insurance and Rural Health Act which is concerned with health problems in Iraqi rural areas;
- (c) Regulations for the practice of medical professions;
- (d) Regulations for the practice of health-related professions;
- (e) The Public Health Act which is concerned with all types of health problems in the country and establishes controls to protect citizens from sickness.

**Measures adopted to reduce infant mortality rates**

As already stated, the political report emphasized the need to promote preventive health care as a basis for health services in the country. Accordingly, the responsible authorities have taken the following measures:

- (a) The organization of training courses for midwives and nurses and an increase in the number of nursing schools;
- (b) The establishment of maternity and childrens' hospitals;
- (c) The initiation of a project for childbirth at home;
- (d) Pre-natal care at maternity and child care centres and pre-natal clinics in hospitals.
- (e) The establishment of family health clinics.

Measures adopted to ensure the sound and healthy development of children

- (a) The establishment of centres for maternity and child care and family health in various parts of the country;
- (b) The establishment of nurseries for children;
- (c) The establishment of kindergartens;
- (d) The establishment of institutes for the care of the handicapped;
- (e) The establishment of more primary schools in which school health care is provided for pupils.

Measures for the protection of the environment

Iraq has paid considerable attention to the protection of the environment from pollution through the following measures:

- (a) The establishment of a Council for the Human Environment with the task of monitoring environmental conditions and making recommendations for the adoption of suitable measures for the protection of the environment;
- (b) The establishment of environmental health units throughout the country;
- (c) Preventive measures to protect the environment from industrial pollution and measures to combat the effects of pollution;
- (d) The implementation of water supply projects in rural areas and population agglomerations with a view to providing drinking water for citizens and preventing the contamination of the environment, as has already been detailed in connexion with the measures adopted with respect to the right to adequate housing.

Vaccination programmes and the campaign against contagious diseases

All sectors of the population in all parts of the country are vaccinated against infectious and contagious diseases in accordance with pre-established chronological schedules.

Plans relating to health services

All the health sectors participate in the formulation of plans for the provision of health services for all citizens and residents of Iraq without any discrimination.

The University (College of Medicine and Medical City) assists by seconding medical specialists to provide the best medical services at health institutions.

The Ministry also periodically invites foreign medical specialists to Iraq to treat certain cases.

The Medical Insurance and Rural Health Department is making plans for the free provision of preventive medical care and treatment in all rural areas throughout Iraq.

The principal features of arrangements for the provision and financing of medical care

The State has the primary responsibility for the provision of all types of medical services free of charge, including medication and major and minor surgical operations.

The State also fixes reasonable prices for treatment provided by doctors in their private clinics.

Statistical tables

The following 13 statistical tables are set forth below:

- Table 4. Ratio of doctors, nurses and hospital beds to the total population of Iraq, 1978
- Table 5. Hospitals and hospital beds, 1978
- Table 6. Number of doctors working in the Ministry of Health, 1977
- Table 7. Maternity and child-care centres in the province., 1978
- Table 8. Maternity and child-care centres in Baghdad, 1978
- Table 9. Clinics for pre-natal care in public hospitals, 1978
- Table 10. Health centres operated by the Medical Insurance and Rural Health Department, 1978
- Table 11. Family health clinics, 1978
- Table 12. School health dispensaries in Baghdad and the provinces, 1978
- Table 13. Number of children's beds and maternity beds in public hospitals, 1978
- Table 14. Number of children's hospitals, 1978
- Table 15. Number of maternity hospitals, 1978
- Table 16. Infant mortality, 1978

Table 4. Ratio of doctors, nurses and hospital beds to the Total population of Iraq, 1978

(Total population: 12 029 760 (1977 census))

Doctors:	total population	1:2 154
Hospital beds:	total population	1:495
Nurses:	total population	1:2 800

Table 5. Hospitals and hospital beds, 1978

Province	Ministry of health institutions				Private hospitals		Total	
	Hospitals No.	Beds	Family health centres No.	Beds	No.	Beds	No.	Beds
Baghdad	32	9 089	-	-	11	354	43	9 443
Basrah	13	2 234	4	47	1	12	18	2 293
Neineva	13	1 895	2	36	-	-	15	1 931
Misan	18	1 090	2	24	-	-	10	1 114
Arbil	9	997	1	31	-	-	10	1 028
Qadisiyah	7	656	4	165	-	-	11	821
Diyala	10	866	-	-	-	-	10	866
Al Anbar	9	712	-	-	-	-	9	712
Babil	7	935	1	30	-	-	8	965
Kerbala	3	470	-	-	-	-	3	470
Al-Taamin	8	742	1	17	-	-	9	759
Wasit	6	574	6	199	-	-	12	773
Dhi Qar	5	761	7	125	-	-	12	886
Sulaimaniya	10	768	1	20	-	-	11	788
Dohuk	3	294	2	41	-	-	5	335
Muthanna	3	357	2	56	-	-	5	413
Saiahuddin	4	299	-	-	-	-	4	299
Najaf	3	779	2	42	-	-	5	821
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>23 518</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>833</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>366</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>24 717</b>

/...

Table 6. Number of doctors working in the Ministry of Health, 1977

<u>Province</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Baghdad	1 135	491	1 626
Basrah	203	64	267
Neineva	174	69	243
Misan	93	11	104
Arbil	96	16	112
Qadisiyah	72	18	90
Diyala	117	45	162
Al-Anbar	107	30	137
Babil	121	44	165
Kerbala	71	21	92
Al-Taamim	108	30	138
Wasit	97	23	120
Dhi Qar	94	13	107
Sulaimaniya	93	20	113
Dohuk	48	10	58
Muthanna	43	9	52
Salahuddin	61	11	72
Najaf	94	20	114
Foreigners	<u>38</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>70</u>
Total	2 865	977	3 842
Doctors working in other government departments			1 095
Private doctors			<u>294</u>
Total			5 231
Doctors not practising and those outside Iraq			<u>216</u>
			5 447

/...

Table 7. Maternity and child care centres in the provinces, 1978

Provincial centres		District centres		Local centres	
Dhi Qar		Al-Rifaai	1	Al-Gharraf	
Nasiriya	1	Suq Al-Shuyukh	1		
		Al-Shatrah	1		
Neineva		Telafar	1		
Mosul	4	Al-Sharqat	1		
Arbil	1	Kousenjaq	1		
		Makhsour	1		
		Shaqlawa	1		
		Rawanduz	1		
Sulaimaniya	1	Halabja	1	Sayyid Sadiq	1
		Bashdar	1	Bakr Ju	1
		Raniya	1	Jawartah	1
		Banjuin	1		
		Dukan	1		
		Darbandikhan	1		
		Kalara	1		
		Jamjamal	1		
Dohuk		Zakhu	1		
		Al Amadiya	1		
Kerbala	1	Al Hindiya	1		
Al-Taamim		Al Huwaija			
Kirkuk	2				
Al-Anbar		Hit	1		
Al Ramadi	1	Anah	1		
		Al Falluja	1		
		Haditha	1		
		Al-Qaim	1		
Diyala		Khaniqin	1		
Baaquba	1	Al Miqdadiya	1		
		Al Khalis	1		

/...

Table 7 (continued)

Provincial centres		District centres		Local centres	
Salahuddin		Samarra	1		
Tikrit	1	Tuz	1		
Basrah	6	Qurna	1	Umm Qasr	1
		Abul Khasib	1		
		Fao	1		
		Madina	1		
		Zubair	1		
		Shatt Al Arab	1		
Misan					
Amara	1	Ali Al Gharbi	1		
		Qala Salah	1		
		Maymuna	1		
		Majar Al Kabir	1		
		Kahlaa	1		
Baghdad		Mahmudiya	1	Abi Gharib	1
20 centres		Madain	1		
(see table 8)					
Babil		Musaiyib	1	Al Nidhatiya	1
Hilla	1	Bashimiya	1	Al Mashru	1
Qadisiyah					
Diwaniya	1	Afak	1	Al Shanafiya	1
		Shamiya	1	Ghammas	1
		Bazza	1	Sumer	1
				Mahanawiya	1
				Daghhara	1
Najaf	1	Kufa	1	Mishkhab	1
		Manadhira	1		
Muthanna					
Samawa	1	Rumaiha	1		
		Khidhir	1		
Wasit					
Kut	1	Hai	1		
		Suwaira	1		
		Mamaniya	1		

/...

Table 8. Maternity and child-care centres in Baghdad, 1978

1. Shaikh Omar Training Centre
2. Adhamiya Training Centre
3. Thawra Centre
4. Thawra Centre (Al Gayyara, newly opened)
5. Alawiya Centre
6. Eastern Karradah Centre
7. Zaafaraniya Centre
8. Kailani Centre
9. Kadhimiya Centre
10. Salihiya Centre
11. Rahmaniya Centre
12. Ameriya Centre (newly opened)
13. Salaam Centre
14. Bayaa Centre
15. Dawra Centre
16. Dahalik Centre
17. Nur Centre
18. Huriya Centre
19. New Baghdad Centre
20. Shaab Centre (newly opened)

Table 9. Clinics for pre-natal care in public hospitals, 1978

1. Province of Baghdad

- 1.1 Pre-natal clinic in the Alawiya Maternity Hospital
- 1.2 " " " " Karkh Maternity Hospital
- 1.3 " " " " Kadhimiya Public Hospital
- 1.4 " " " " Thawra Public Hospital
- 1.5 " " " " Karamah Hospital
- 1.6 " " " " Yarmuk Hospital
- 1.7 " " " " Nur Public Hospital

2. Other provinces

- 2.1 Pre-natal clinic in the Mosul Public Hospital
- 2.2 " " " " Kirkuk Public Hospital
- 2.3 " " " " Basrah Public Hospital

3. The Ministry of Health has decided to open a pre-natal clinic in every hospital containing a maternity department. These clinics will be staffed on a rotation system by specialists working in the maternity departments and will be under the technical supervision of the Maternity and Child Care Institute in Baghdad.

Table 10. Health centres operated by the Medical Insurance and Rural Health Department, 1978

Province	Main health centres	Branches	Health teams
Baghdad	13	43	13
Al-Anbar	13	13	14
Salahuddin	10	68	9
Al-Taamim	8	46	8
Neineva	25	86	16
Arbil	19	59	8
Sulaimaniya	24	131	12
Dohuk	10	25	6
Diyala	14	89	10
Kerbala	6	21	6
Babil	13	49	7
Dhi Qar	15	60	18
Wasit	15	29	12
Muthanna	8	11	7
Miscn	8	27	10
Basrah	11	46	16
Najaf	7	30	5
Qadisiya	11	35	9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>958</b>	<b>186</b>

Table 11. Family health clinics, 1978

1. Family health clinic in Shaikh Omar
2. Family health clinic in the Alawiya Maternity Hospital
3. Family health clinic in the Karkh Maternity Hospital
4. Family health clinic in the Yarmuk Hospital
5. Family health clinic in the General Federation of Iraqi Women
6. Family health clinic in the Mosul Public Hospital

Table 12. School health dispensaries in Baghdad and the provinces, 1978

Baghdad	13 dispensaries	Bayaa, Adl, Shula, Kadimiya, Adhamiya, Shaikh Omar, Batawin, Rafidain, Thawra, Eastern Karradah, New Baghdad, Muawiniya and Karkh
Babil	2	Hilla, Musaiyib
Najaf	2	Najaf, Kufa
Basrah	2	
Nisan	1	
Wasit	1	
Dhi Qar	1	
Qadisiya		
Muthanna	1	
Kerbala	1	
Al-Anbar	1	
Diyala	1	
Al-Taamim	1	
Salahuddin	1	
Neineva	1	
Dohuk	1	
Arbil	1	
Sulaimaniya	1	
TOTAL	33	

Table 13. Number of children's beds and maternity beds in public hospitals, 1978

Province	Number of children's beds	Number of maternity beds
Baghdad	264	266
Basrah	140	111
Neineva	20	16
Nisan	13	10
Arbil	20	77
Qadisiya	46	52
Diyala	77	72
Al-Anbar	122	44
Babil	20	38
Kerbala	68	41
Al-Taamim	6	16
Wasit	50	17
Dhi Qar	12	49
Sulaimaniya	26	42
Dohuk	59	26
Muthanna	10	24
Salahuddin	48	23
Najaf	96	69
TOTAL	1 107	993

/...

Table 14. Number of children's hospitals, 1978

Province	Number of hospitals	Number of beds
Baghdad	5 (Child Protection; Arab child; Alawiya children's; Kadhimiya children's; Thawra)	796
Basrah	1	133
Neineva	2	262
Misan	1	66
Arbil	1	64
Qadisiya	1	70
Diyala	-	-
Al-Anbar	-	-
Babil	1	85
Kerbala	-	-
Al-Taamim	1	100
Wasit	1	65
Dhi Qar	-	-
Sulaimaniya	1	76
Dohuk	-	-
Muthanna	1	37
Salahuddin	-	-
Najaf	1	50
TOTAL	17	1 804

Table 15. Number of maternity hospitals, 1978

Province	Number of hospitals	Number of beds
Baghdad	3 (Karkh Maternity; Alawiya Maternity; Red Crescent)	467
Basrah	2	129
Neineva	1	240
Misan	-	-
Arbil	-	-
Qadisiya	-	-
Diyala	-	-
Al-Anbar	-	-
Babil	-	-
Kerbala	-	-
Al-Taamim	1	84
Wasit	-	-
Dhi Qar	-	-
Sulaimaniya	-	-
Dohuk	-	-
Muthanna	-	-
Salahuddin	-	-
Najaf	-	-
TOTAL	7	920

/...

Table 16. Infant mortality, 1978

1. Infant mortality rates

<u>Type</u>	<u>Mortality rate per thousand live births</u>
Country-wide	69
Rural areas	85
Urban areas	48
Male infants	73
Female infants	64
External factors as cause of death	47
New-born children	43
Children after the age of one month	26

2. Infant mortality rates by age

<u>Age</u>	<u>Mortality rate per thousand live births</u>
Under 7 days	31
7-28 days	12
29 days-6 months	15
6 months-one year	11
All ages	69

Difficulties impeding the enjoyment of the rights referred to in the present report

In conclusion, reference should be made to the difficulties impeding the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights.

The principal difficulties impeding the enjoyment of these rights derive from the socio-economic and cultural backwardness which the revolution inherited from the era of colonial domination. One of the main objectives of the revolution has been to remedy this backwardness by every available means. Efforts have been made to eliminate economic backwardness by allocating the country's resources to the development of the necessary facilities. However, as a developing country, our economic circumstances, in conjunction with the current international economic order, constitute an obstacle to development.

For this reason, Iraq has always stressed the importance of establishing a new international economic order with a view to promoting the development of the developing countries and ensuring the full enjoyment of all human, economic, social and cultural rights.

The revolution has endeavoured to eliminate the cultural backwardness which is impeding the enjoyment of social and economic rights through the initiation of a country-wide campaign for the eradication of illiteracy with a view to enabling citizens to protect their own health by taking preventive measures, thereby helping in the furtherance of social progress.