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**14th session of Human Rights Council
Item No.6- Universal Periodic Review of Iraq
The Institute for Women Studies and Research**

Mr. President,

Since the 2003 invasion of Iraq by the United States of America, between one to two million Iraqis have abandoned their country and approximately another two million and eight hundred thousand of them have become homeless. In these conditions, the refugees' efforts for enjoyment of a dignified life in conditions where they need to find expenses for food, clothing, training and education, and health cares are increasing, are reaching critical conditions. Forced migration from Iraq is still continuing while neighboring nations have adopted various policies toward these refugees and asylum-seekers comprising of an acceptance mixed with hospitality and hostility.

Mr. President,

A large number of these refugees do not have proper jobs and they are not enjoy legal residency rights. This is while the living costs in the host countries have sharply increased in the recent years.

As the formerly occupying nation that still has a formidable military presence in the country, the United States is directly accountable for this crisis. Therefore, Washington has the responsibility to make extra efforts to resolve this human rights crisis.

Mr. President,

This Institute recommends that president Obama's administration plays a key role in implementing a comprehensive plan to provide answers to the homelessness crisis in Iraq. It seems that the cooperation of Washington with United Nations agencies, governmental and nongovernmental organizations of host nations, and the drawing up of a long term coordinated strategy with them, will have a key role in the solution to the crisis. Also the drawing of international humanitarian assistance for the improvement of the refugees' conditions and assisting to prepare the necessary basis for the repatriation of Iraqi refugees back to the country is another key factor in improving the conditions.

Thank you