UNMOVIC IAEA Press Statement on Inspection Activities in Iraq 13 December 2002

An UNMOVIC team went to inspect the Communicable Diseases Control Centre in Baghdad today. The Centre is a government facility under the Ministry of Health. This site was included in the Iraqi declaration of 1 October 2002 and is a new site. The same team had confirmed the location of the site on 10 December and decided to inspect the site today.

The team arrived at the site at 9:00 a.m. As today is a Muslim holy day, the site had only one guard and a duty officer, who is an assistant technician. The duty officer did not have the keys to the rooms and could not locate the central key holder. The team then decided to tag seals on several rooms they wanted to inspect later. In the process, question arose on the procedures for tagging. At this point, decision was made to get the Iraqi National Monitoring Directorate involved. The Director of the Baghdad Ongoing Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Centre, Miroslav Gregoric, and General Hossam Amin of the NMD arrived at the site, and the matter was resolved quickly. Seals were tagged on several rooms and the team left the site at around 1:00 p.m.

An UNMOVIC team inspected the Al Kadhimiya plant and the Shumouk stores adjacent to the plant. The site is involved with the Al Samood missile programme.

Another UNMOVIC team inspected the Al Mussaib Pesticide Store, which sells ready-touse pesticides. The store had only one worker. On request, the National Monitoring Directorate brought two facility representatives with keys to all buildings and rooms. The team accomplished the inspection objectives.

The IAEA undertook hydrological sampling at three Major Iraq Surface Water Drainage Basins, of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers just south of the 33rd parallel. Several samples were taken at each site including water, sediment and vegetation. A separate IAEA team conducted a wide-area gamma survey of the Bahgdad area, which included the Karama Sumood missile facility.

Hiro Ueki Spokesman for UNMOVIC and the IAEA in Baghdad