Weekly Update from the Office of the Iraq Programme

15 September 1998

There were two new oil contracts approved by the United Nations oil overseers during the period from 5 September to 11 September. One was a contract for 1.2 million barrels of Basrah Light with a Malaysian company and the second a contract for 2 million barrels of Kirkuk crude and 2 million barrels of Basrah Light with a Vietnamese company.

The Oil Overseers also report that the State Oil Marketing Organisation (SOMO) cut the quantity of oil to be sold in 23 contracts - the total reduction was 22.35 million barrels.

The number of oil contracts approved in the current 180-day phase is now 57 for a total of 298,505,000 barrels (after reductions). One contract is pending.

During the past week, there were 11 loadings totalling 12.6 million barrels with an estimated value of \$137 million. The total revenue generated from the beginning of Phase IV is about \$1.668 billion at current prices. The overseers estimate the total revenue for Phase IV at current prices to be about \$3050 million. Phase IV runs from May 30 to November 25 1998.

There were 16 new applications for oil spare parts received by the Secretariat in the past week bringing the total received to 84. Two more contracts were approved - bringing the total approvals to 23 worth a total of \$35.6 million. The two contracts approved were with two Jordanian companies for a total of \$1.8 million. At present there are two contracts for oil spare parts pending the seven-day no-objection deadline and 29 contracts on hold.

The table below gives the details of the spare parts contracts approved to date.

Country	Nature of spares	Contract value	
Jordan	Pipeline Equip & Spares	\$	914,924.19
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Total of spare parts contracts approved		\$	1,829,848.39

The 661 Committee approved 16 additional humanitarian supplies applications under Phase IV last week, for a total of 368 approvals, put four on hold and blocked none. It also approved one humanitarian supplies application under Phase III.

Since the first deliveries in March 1997, the "oil-for-food" programme has delivered more than 6.8 million tonnes of foodstuffs to Iraq, worth more than \$2.2 billion and more than \$352 million dollars worth of medicine and health supplies.

For further information please call John Mills in the Office of the Iraq Programme on 1.212.963.1646 or 1.917.328.7500