

Republic of Iraq
Ministry of Finance

Iraqi Fund For External Development



جمهورية العراق
وزارة المالية
الصندوق العراقي للتنمية الخارجية

No :

العدد :

Date :

التاريخ :

Mr. president,

Ladies and gentlemen

Dear colleagues,

I am Bareen AbdulSalam / Director General of the Iraqi Fund for External Development in the Iraqi Ministry of Finance.

I would like to convey you H.E. the Minister of Finance greetings, who assigned me to attend the meeting on his behalf and unfortunately was unable to attend due to compelling circumstances and obligations that prevented his participation in this meeting. I would like to convey you also His Excellency's wishes to adopt successful decisions to address the negative effects of COVID-19.

It is clear that the Republic of Iraq is one of the most affected countries by COVID-19, as the number of patients has reached more than 250,000 cases so far, with a cure rate of more than 195,000 cases, which are high rates compared to the population of Iraq, which is 40 million.

The government of the Republic of Iraq has worked to implement health measures taken in such circumstances by increasing the capacity of hospitals, building field hospitals, providing the necessary treatment for patients as much as possible, applying comprehensive and partial prohibitions in the affected areas, and providing direct financial support to the poorest classes, as well as contracting with countries to provide the necessary vaccines and treatments by the ministry of Health.

There is no doubt that the current conditions that the world is going through require the solidarity of all countries in order to overcome the negative impacts of this pandemic related to unemployment, the labor market, and the decline in GDP in the most affected countries. The crisis has shown all countries the importance that they should attach to electronic governance, reduce reliance on direct monetary exchange, and provide education to students through electronic platforms.

The government of the Republic of Iraq is striving, within the available resources, to provide support to Arab countries to overcome this crisis and stands with all efforts made to reduce the severity of the impact of the pandemic on the global economy.

Iraq hopes that the recommendations of this meeting will come up with practical solutions for the development of our countries. We look forward for the support of industrial countries and wide international cooperation to save the required financial resources in order to maintain a sustainable development in the developing countries to address this pandemic.

Thank You.