



Statement of the IDB Governor for the Republic of Iraq

The 43rd Annual Meeting of the IDB Board of Governors
Tunis – Republic of Tunisia
17th – 19th Rajab1439H (3rd – 5th April 2018)

Original Text
(Arabic)

**His Excellency, Chairman, 43rd Annual meeting
H. E. Dr. Bandar bin Muhammad bin Hamza Hajjar,
IDB Board of Governors.**

As we wish this session all the success it deserves, we would like to express our thanks to Tunisia for its warm welcome. We wish the people and leadership of Tunisia peace and prosperity. Thanks and appreciation are also due to all those who have participated in the preparation for the 43rd Annual meeting of the IDB Group.

We would like to convey to you the greetings and goodwill of the Iraqi people as they glory in their decisive victory over the criminal gangs who wreaked havoc not only in Iraq but in the entire region.

The victory that has been achieved over the state of backwardness and myth-making has come about at huge human and material sacrifices that drained Iraqi resources and destroyed the country's infrastructure, communications, roads, etc. The destruction enveloped schools and universities and even ancient and modern historical monuments.

But the Iraqi people have embarked on a morale uplifting campaign in tandem with huge efforts to rebuild their country's physical infrastructure. This rebuilding requires additional financing and support that has been provided from domestic resources. Reconstruction is also underway via development programs as well as multi-sector institutional structures. The aim is to accelerate the tempo and scale of rebuilding in order to put Iraq on the right track – a country seeped in ancient history with deep rooted relations in the region as well as around the world.

Events have shown that division and uncoordinated efforts by the countries of the region as well as at the global level enabled these criminal gangs to occupy important parts of the lands of the Islamic Ummah. This is a lesson that should breathe new life in our regional institutions, chief among which is the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, through programs that give priority to re-orienting reconstruction, as well as collaboration in the rebuilding of the areas that suffered at the hands of the gangster state.

H. E. Chairman of the 43rd Annual Meeting,

I call upon the leadership of this session and upon my fellow participants to focus on reconsidering reconstruction programs and projects for achieving stability and development in the liberated areas, and on working out a clear and inclusive method for Islamic cooperation that serves common interests through the various investment projects.

In conclusion, we reiterate our thanks and appreciation to the Republic of Tunisia and wish this session the success it deserves.