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Recipient: UNHCR  
Attention: Saad AL-ATTAR, Head of Desk,  
Regional Bureau for South West Asia, North  
Africa and the Middle East  
Fax No.: 0 00 41 22 739 73 37

Date: 27 February 2001  
Office: Documentation and Research  
Division  
Case officer: Claus Gade Sørensen  
Telephone: 35 36 66 00, lokal 8  
Fax.No.: 35 30 85 70

No. of pages: 6 (incl. cover page)

Dear Saad AL-ATTAR,

The Interest Section of the Republic of Iraq in Damascus has provided a Danish delegation of one representative of the Royal Danish Embassy in Damascus and two representatives of the Danish Immigration Service with the required visas to visit Baghdad, the Republic of Iraq.

According to our plans we are hoping to visit Baghdad in the beginning of March 2001. Returning to Damascus the 15 of March 2001.

The Danish Immigration Service is counting on the good offices of the UNHCR in Geneva and the UNHCR mission in Iraq to co-ordinate a programme in which the Danish delegation hopes to be able to meet representatives of relevant Iraqi authorities, as well as representatives of international humanitarian agencies in Iraq and diplomatic representatives. The Danish Immigration Service is aware of the Eid Al-Adha and understands that this has to be taken into consideration concerning the co-ordination of the programme. The Danish Immigration Service has been told by the Royal Danish Embassy in Damascus that communications between Damascus and Baghdad e.g. the Danish Honorary Consul is very difficult due to the standard of Iraqi telecommunications. However, if necessary, The Royal Danish Embassy in Damascus has offered its assistance in co-ordinating the programme.

In 1999 and 2000, people of Iraqi descent made up the largest group of foreigners seeking residence in Denmark. Therefore, the Danish authorities have a special interest in learning about the situation in Iraq. The purpose of the visit is to have a firsthand impression of the situation in Iraq, entry and exit procedures and to acquire information on different types of documents, e.g. marriage certificates, divorce certificates, ID-cards, which are presented to the Danish authorities by Iraqi citizens.

The delegation, which will be travelling with diplomatic passports, will be composed as follows:

Mr. Jens Kofod, Senior Adviser, Documentation and Research Division, Danish Immigration Service, head of the delegation. Mr. Claus Gade Sørensen, Regional Adviser on the Middle East, Documentation and Research Division, Danish Im-



migration Service. Mr. Danny Annan, First Secretary, Royal Danish Embassy, Damascus.

The Danish Immigration Service welcome any suggestions the UNHCR may have concerning meetings with Iraqi authorities, as well as representatives of international humanitarian agencies in Iraq and diplomatic representatives.

Please revert if You have any questions.

Yours sincerely,

*Claus Gade Sørensen*  
Claus Gade Sørensen



**The Danish Immigration Service's  
roving attaché mission to Baghdad, Iraq  
March 2001**

**Participants**

**Mr. Jens Kofod/ Danish Immigration Service  
Phone Direct + 45 35 30 86 19  
Fax + 45 35 30 85 70**

**Mr. Claus Gade Sørensen/ Danish Immigration Service  
Phone Direct + 45 35 30 85 95  
Fax + 45 35 30 85 70**

**Mr. Danny Annan/ Royal Danish Embassy, Damascus  
Phone + 963 11 333 1008  
Fax + 963 11 333 7928**



## Programme

(Draft)

### Monday, March 5<sup>th</sup> 2001

Austrian Airlines

Departure Copenhagen 7.55

Arrival Vienna 9.45

Departure Vienna 10.20

Arrival Damascus 15.05

Tuesday, March 6<sup>th</sup> 2001

### Tuesday, March 6<sup>th</sup> 2001

Royal Norwegian Embassy, Damascus

Mr. Martin Yttervik, First Secretary

### Wednesday, March 7<sup>th</sup> 2001

Departure Damascus

Arrival Baghdad

### Thursday, March 8<sup>th</sup> 2001

Gathering of information in Baghdad for the use of nationality questions

(Maps, photos of mosques, churches and other relevant information).

### Friday, March 9<sup>th</sup> 2001

Gathering of information in Baghdad for the use of nationality questions

### Saturday, March 10<sup>th</sup> 2001

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies Iraq Delegation

Henrik Nedergaard, Head of Delegation

International committee of the Red Cross



Beat Schweitzer, Head of Delegation

**Sunday, March 11<sup>th</sup> 2001**

Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany

Embassy of the French Republic

American interest section at the Polish Embassy

Austrian Embassy

**Monday, March 12<sup>th</sup> 2001**

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Representative Ahmad Gubartallah

Representatives from the United Nations Humanitarian Coordinator for Iraq (UNOHCI)

Representatives from the United Nations World Food Programme  
Representatives from United Nations Children's Fund

**Tuesday, March 13<sup>th</sup> 2001**

Iraqi Ministry of Interior for information on entry and exit procedures

**Wednesday, March 14<sup>th</sup> 2001**

Iraqi Ministry of Justice for information on marriage and divorce laws, marriage certificates etc.

Iraqi Bar Council

**Thursday, March 15<sup>th</sup> 2001**

Departure Baghdad

Arrival Damascus

**Friday, March 16<sup>th</sup> 2001**

**Saturday, March 17<sup>th</sup> 2001**

Austrian Airlines



Departure Damascus 15.55

Arrival Vienna 18.55

Departure Vienna 20.45

Arrival Copenhagen 22.40