

## **ROUND - UP**

*Iraqi Business News*  
*Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> of May 2006*

### **Economy**

**Businessmen from Kurdistan visit Lebanon:**

The Beirut and Jabal Lebanon Chamber of Commerce invited the chairman and members of the Union of Businessmen in Iraq, Kurdistan branch to a business meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> of May in the headquarters of the Chamber in Beirut. The chairman of the Union Businessmen said that this meeting aimed to build economic relations between Lebanon and the Kurdistan region, knowing that the Lebanon private sector have been looking forward to investing in Kurdistan.

**Al - Mashreq**

**A project to eliminate unemployment:**

The Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs recently announced the start of a project that is supported by the government, in coordination with the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS). The project aims to eliminate unemployment and poverty that affect Iraqis in the Al – Basra governorate. The project will start in June, once the Strategic Commission in the Ministry of Planning will be granting approvals. The project will help in creating jobs by establishing four Funds: one to support microfinance projects, one to support infrastructure and public services, one in support to farmers and a social protection Fund. The project cost more than \$4 million.

✍ Mohammed Salah

**Al - Mashreq**

### **Reconstruction**

**A meeting to promote the Rebuild Iraq Conference in Cairo:**

The Arab Organization for Industrial Development recently decided to hold a promotional meeting for the Rebuild Iraq Conference in Cairo on the 12<sup>th</sup> of September. The meeting will aim to discuss preparations for the Rebuild Iraq Conference. Representatives from Planning, Trade, Industry, Communications, Irrigation, Agriculture, Construction and Housing, Electricity, and Finance ministries will participate in the meeting.

**Al - Mashreq**

### **Investment**

**Barazani calls for Kuwaitis to invest in Kurdistan:**

The President of the Kurdistan region Mr. Masoud Barazani said on the 16<sup>th</sup> of May in a press conference in Kuwait that his trip to Kuwait was successful in stimulating mutual relations between Iraq (the Kurdistan region in particular) and Kuwait. Mr. Barazani called for Kuwaitis to invest in Kurdistan during his meeting with the Kuwaiti Chamber of Commerce members.

**Al - Sabah**

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*Translated and Edited by: IZDIHAR Public Relations Department*

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