Y 4.F 76/2:S.HRG.110-489

S. HRG. 110–489

# IRAQ: AN INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENT

## HEARING

BEFORE THE

## COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS
## UNITED STATES SENATE

ONE HUNDRED TENTH CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

SEPTEMBER 4, 2007

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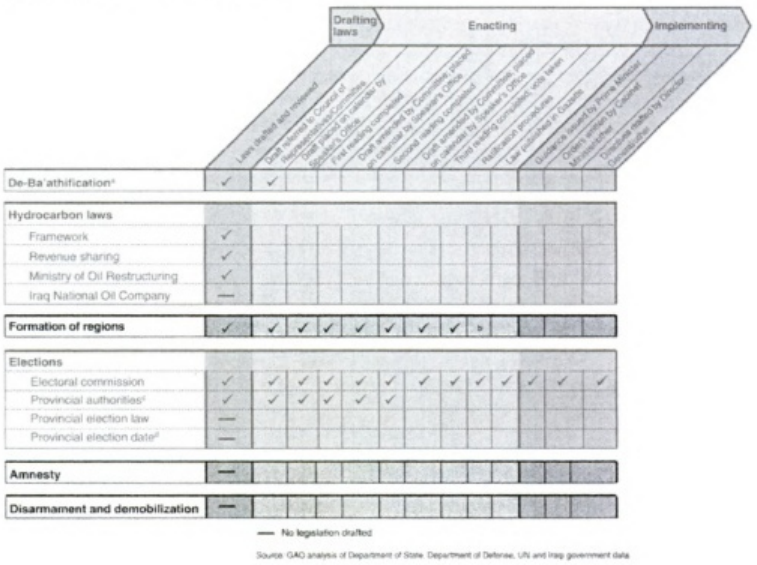
**Figure 3: Enactment and Implementation Status of Six Legislative Benchmarks**




Source: GAO analysis of Department of State, Department of Defense, UN, and Iraqi government data.

Notes:

[a]The Iraqi legislature is considering several competing drafts.

[b]The Iraqi Constitution exempts the law on formation of regions from following the Presidency Council's ratification process that is set out in Article 138 of the Constitution.

[c]The draft deals with broader federal versus provincial powers, according to the United Nations.

[d]According to State, the Iraqi government may not need a law to set the election date, though to date this is unclear.

## MIXED RESULTS IN ACHIEVING SECURITY BENCHMARKS

Two of nine security benchmarks have been met. Specifically, Iraq's Government has established various committees in support of the Baghdad security plan and established almost all of the planned Joint Security Stations in Baghdad. The government has partially met the benchmarks of providing three trained and ready brigades for Baghdad operations and eliminating safe havens for outlawed groups. Five other benchmarks have not been met. The government has not eliminated militia control of local security, eliminated political intervention in military operations, ensured even-handed enforcement of the law, increased army units capable of independent operations, and ensured that political authorities made no false accusations against security forces. It is unclear whether sectarian violence in Iraq has decreased—a key security benchmark—since it is difficult to measure perpetrators' intents, and various other measures of population security from different sources show differing trends. As displayed in figure 4, average daily attacks against civilians have remained unchanged from February to July 2007.

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