



JCCME held “19th Iraq Business Seminar”

January 22, 2024

JCCME

On November 30, 2023, Japan Cooperation Center for the Middle East (JCCME), in collaboration with JETRO, conducted the 19th Iraq Business Seminar online. The seminar aims to provide Japanese business professionals with the latest information on Iraq, including business opportunities.

In the opening remarks, Mr. Najjar, Advisor to the Prime Minister of Iraq, responsible for "Iraq Development Fund" - an Iraqi sovereign wealth fund -, encouraged Japanese companies to actively invest in the Iraqi market. In the keynote speech, H.E. Matsumoto Futoshi, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to Iraq, addressed the political and economic developments in Iraq under the title of "All Eyes on Iraq: from the Perspective of Baghdad".

In addition, Mr. Shimada from Nihon Kohden Middle East, with nearly 40 years of business experiences in Iraqi market, delivered a lecture titled "Nihon Kohden's Progress and Future Prospects in Medical Equipment Market in Iraq," highlighting their business achievements and future outlook in Iraq. Furthermore, Mr. Okamoto from Control Risks Group, known for its successful safety management of foreign companies' activities in Iraq, presented a lecture titled "Control Risks/Safety Measures in Iraq," focusing on safety measures for those visiting Iraq. Finally, JCCME introduced its Iraq activities and highlighted the upcoming 47th Baghdad International Fair (BIF), scheduled for January 2024 in Baghdad.

With the political situation in Iraq stabilizing since the inauguration of the government led by Prime Minister Mohammed Shia' Al SUDANI in October 2022, expectations for economic revitalization in the market are growing. In June 2023, Council of Representatives of Iraq approved the budget for the three-year period from FY2023 to FY2025 (calendar year) at once. Consequently, there has been growing expectations for progress in development projects, including the resumption of contracts for large-scale investment projects that were previously suspended.



The number of registered participants and actual participants for the seminar totaled 266 and 188, respectively. The numbers increased slightly less than 10% and more than 10% from the 18th seminar, indicating a growing interest among Japanese companies in the Iraqi market.

In cooperation with relevant government and private organizations in both Japan and Iraq, JCCME will continue to support investment activities by Japanese companies in Iraq.



Opening Speech by Mr. Omote
Executive Representative Director, JCCME



Welcome Speech by PM Advisor Mr. Najjar



Keynote Speech by
H. E. Ambassador Matsumoto



Mr. Shimada, Nihon Kohden Middle East



Mr. Okamoto, Control Risks Group



Dr. Ali Hasson, JCCME Iraq Representative

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