

Read Ahead for [] Meeting on IIA

- You will discuss a staff paper on the next steps to forming an Iraqi Interim Authority.
 - The paper presents pros and cons on questions related to forming the IIA. Its analysis is fine, but the points below are worth noting.
- Role of IIA
 - The paper offers 3 options: 1) an IIA with gradually increasing powers, 2) a “technocrat” IIA, and 3) a fully empowered transitional government.
 - This issue was settled at the March 10 [] meeting. The IIA will exercise increasing authority over time.
- Baghdad Conference to establish IIA
 - Key assumption of the paper is that the IIA should be formed at a nationwide conference of roughly 250-300 delegates.
 - OSD “Action Plan” disagrees – IIA should be established and membership selected *before* any such conference.
 - If there is to be an IIA-formation conference, however, the USG should convene the meeting and control the invitation list.
- Timing of IIA
 - Paper clearly prefers waiting 3-4 months before establishing IIA.
 - There is no need for so much delay.
- OSD’s notional “Action Plan” provides an alternative approach to forming the Interim Authority.

