



U.S. Embassy Regional Reconstruction Team Iraqi Kurdistan Region

For Immediate Release
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Ambassador Hill Visits Kurdistan Region of Iraq

ERBIL – The U.S. Ambassador to Iraq, Christopher Hill, visited the Kurdistan Region of Iraq from June 27 to 28. Ambassador Hill participated in the opening ceremony of the Erbil Emergency Hospital, towards which the U.S. government contributed \$ 12 million. The hospital was constructed with the cooperation of the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG). This project adds an additional 165 beds serving approximately one million residents of Erbil City and its environs. This new Emergency Hospital will become the primary access point for taking care of emergency cases in the service area.

In remarks to KRG Prime Minister Barham Salih, Minister of Health Taheer Hawrami, Minister of Planning, KRG Department of Foreign Affairs Head Falah Mustafa, Erbil Governor Nawzad Hadi, and an audience of local officials, Ambassador Hill stated “this project represents the kind of friendship that the American people have for the people here in Kurdistan. This is a friendship that may have been born in very difficult times, and sustained through a long struggle, but this is a friendship that will continue even to good times because we are two peoples who may live far apart from each other but we live very close to each other in terms of our values and our outlook on the world and what needs to be done ahead.”

Since 2003, the United States Government has spent over \$1.1 billion in development assistance in the three provinces of the Iraqi Kurdistan Region and approximately 50 million dollars on health facilities in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq.

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