



**Government
Decision**

III:6

2006-12-21

UD2006/60777/MENA

Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Sida
Valhallavägen 199
SE-105 25 Stockholm

Additional guidelines and extension of the simplified country strategy for Swedish development cooperation with Iraq

1 Appendix

Background

The Government commissioned the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) on 19 May 2004 (UD2004/26102/MENA) to implement development cooperation with Iraq in accordance with a simplified country strategy adopted at the same time. The cooperation was to be implemented during the period 1 January 2004 until 31 December 2006. In the Government's appropriation directions to Sida with regard to the fiscal year of 2006, the strategy was extended to apply until 31 December 2007. Sida was at the same time commissioned to submit a revised framework for the strategy by 31 October 2006.

The framework shall consist of additional guidelines for the country strategy for Swedish development cooperation with Iraq. This revision is motivated by the change to Iraq's status under international law, and by the political and security-related development with its ramifications on the implementation of the development cooperation.

The difficult security situation in Iraq does not at present permit the stationing of personnel in the field. In light of this and in order to facilitate the implementation of development cooperation with Iraq, Sida needs to establish two positions at its headquarters in Stockholm within the framework of field personnel funding.

The Government's decision

The Government has decided to extend the simplified country strategy for Swedish development cooperation with Iraq to apply until 30 June 2008 with the changes proposed in the appended guidelines.

The Government has decided that the appended guidelines shall be regarded as additions to the simplified country strategy for Swedish development cooperation with Iraq.

The Government has commissioned Sida to implement development cooperation with Iraq during the period 1 January 2007 – 30 June 2008 in accordance with the country strategy and the additional guidelines.

Sida shall submit an assessment of results and experience gained with regard to development cooperation with Iraq for the period 2004 – 2006 by 31 May 2007.

The Government authorises Sida to establish two positions at its headquarters in Stockholm within the framework of field personnel funding during 2007 until 30 June 2008. Sida shall incorporate the necessary personnel resources within the appropriations for administration when drawing up any new cooperation strategy with Iraq.

Project agreements concluded by Sida may only be valid until 31 December 2008.

The cost of implementing the strategy shall be covered by funds at Sida's disposal under expenditure area 7 International Assistance, appropriation 8:1 Development Assistance Activities, item 6 Asia, the Middle East and North Africa. The sum may not amount to more than SEK 150 million per year.

On behalf of the Government

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