

Statement on Inauguration of New Iraqi Government

Secretary Condoleezza Rice

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I welcome the inauguration of Iraq's new government. Prime Minister Maliki and his cabinet carry into office with them the hopes of all Iraqis. In three years Iraq has gone from Saddam's one-man rule to an inclusive national unity government chosen by a freely-elected parliament under a permanent constitution. This is a remarkable transformation and one which the United States is proud to have helped bring about.

Now the hard work of governing begins. Iraqis should know that the United States will do all that it can to help their leaders meet the challenges in the days ahead and build a brighter future for them and their country.

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