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IRAQ: FEEDBACK FROM SECONDEES

We met today to discuss debriefing mechanisms for civil service secondees returning from the CPA in Iraq, and reporting to Ministers.

2. We agreed that this issue falls into two parts:
 - Operational debriefing to extract lessons and experience of future benefit to our effort in the CPA, which will be led by the IPU; and
 - career debriefing to see whether the secondees, and their home departments, derived benefit from their CPA service and whether their careers have benefited as a result, which will be led by the Cabinet Office.
3. IPU already have operational debriefing in hand with a single point of reporting in the IPU, interviews of returning secondees and pro forma questionnaires. This information needs to be consolidated into an overall report on achievement for Ministers in September. **Action IPU.**
4. You will draw up a questionnaire on career-related information which can be put to secondees within a month of their return from Iraq. You will then talk to home departments about the individuals' and mutual experience of the secondment over the next three months. The objective is to provide a report to Ministers by November. **Action CO.** In the first instance, IPU should send you a full list of home civil service staff sent to Iraq, their departments and current location. **Action IPU.**
5. We may meet again in this format to discuss progress in the autumn. I am copying this to Desmond Bowen, Jim Drummond and Matthew Rycroft; Neil Crompton and , IPU; and the Iraq Officials Group.

TOM DODD