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- Iraq Inquiry [Flex-C]

From: - Iraq Inquiry [Confidential]
Sent: 15 April 2013 11:15
To: - Iraq Inquiry [Confidential]
Subject: FW: Iraq Inquiry - Role of Civilians in Iraq RESTRICTED
Attachments: Civilians Table_DfID response doc

From: (GSX RESTRICTED) [mailto:]
Sent: 05 May 2011 17:59
To: - Iraq Inquiry Secretariat; - Iraq Inquiry Secretariat
Cc: Mary Hunt (GSX RESTRICTED); (GSX Restricted); (GSX Restricted)
Subject: Iraq Inquiry - Role of Civilians in Iraq RESTRICTED

Hello both I have recently taken over from [redacted] on the DfID Iraq Inquiry team and have taken responsibility for responding to the civilian staffing sift. Please see DfID response attached. For ease where there is a category that we don't have a DfID contribution for I have greyed the row out so you can see easily the categories we have filled in.

I believe [redacted] had a number of conversations on this with you before she left and I have also spoken to Alicia Forsyth since starting. We have responded to the request to the best of our ability and the following points give additional background to the data.

Location

This information is primarily pulled together from a spreadsheet which was compiled by the DFID Inquiry team in late 2009/early 2010. It was drawn from a variety of sources, including duty of care sheets, consultants' records, and medal spreadsheets. At the time we did not know that the Inquiry would be interested in breaking down civilians by location/role, so we did not routinely include this information. This means that the spreadsheet has a large number of consultants listed without location/role. We've looked through some of the original information sources to try and rectify this and have managed to reduce the number of consultants with unknown locations from 150 to around 40, trying to find the location for the remaining names would take a disproportionately large amount of time, requiring retrawling through all the information sources and some project documents. Having spoken to you about this, it was agreed that we should adopt a proportional approach, and so have listed some consultants without locations (this has been added to the table as an additional category).

Embedded in Govt Ministries

The only time DFID 'embedded' staff was during the CPA phase, which we have already captured through the CPA numbers. Otherwise DFID employed consultants to work with the Iraqi government, but they weren't embedded, I have therefore greyed out the category for 'Embedded in Iraqi govt'.

Breakdown: programme/capacity building vs. other

DFID would have had some staff employed to fulfil office manager/HR functions. However, this information is not routinely captured in any DFID documents and would require sifting old job descriptions. Many staff would also have taken on mixed roles, so it would be difficult to attribute how their time was split. We therefore have listed the numbers of DFID staff in DFID Baghdad/Basra at any one time under programme capacity building.

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PRT

Staff from the PRT would have been drawn from a range of different government departments, including some consultants directly contracted by the Stabilisation Unit. Following a conversation with the SU it is apparent that a list of staff who were in the Basra PRT is not held. We have gone back through some older sources such as staff whereabouts lists and have been able to identify some names from our spreadsheet who were in the PRT. I have put these in the respective category. The only way to gather more information on this would be to recall the staff files for everyone in Iraq after the start date of the PRT and check their job descriptions, this would take an incredibly disproportionate amount of time and I understand from the conversation you had with Jessica that this is not the kind of action you would want us to take.

Please let me know if you have any questions/issues and it might be worthwhile having a short phone call sometime in the near future to introduce myself a bit better.

Many thanks

Middle East and North Africa, DFID

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✉ email:

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