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**Ambassador of Japan conveys to Prime Minister of KRG
Japan's position on the current situation in Iraq after the referendum**

On 16th October, Ambassador of Japan to Iraq, Mr. Fumio Iwai, was received by H.E. Prime Minister of the Kurdistan Regional Government Mr. Nechirvan Barzani in Erbil, and discussed on the recent situation in Iraq.

During the meeting, Ambassador Iwai conveyed Japan's view on the current situation in Iraq after the referendum. The message included the following:

- Japan is concerned that increasing tensions after the referendum would destabilize Iraq and eventually the entire region and waste the efforts made by the international community for the reconstruction of Iraq for many years.
- It is critically important to resolve the issue peacefully through constructive dialogue in a manner that guarantees the unity of Iraq and its territorial integrity under the constitution.
- Japan promises to keep supporting Iraq so long as Iraq and its people have the strong will to rebuild the country.
- We strongly expect the political leaders in Iraq, including Kurdistan, to head in the right direction.

(End)