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**Sent:** Tuesday, February 3, 2026 4:58:57 PM  
**To:** needhamma@state.gov <needhamma@state.gov>  
**Cc:** Sjostedt, Daniel <Daniel.Sjostedt@afslaw.com>  
**Subject:** MEETING REQUEST: KURDISTAN REGIONAL GOVERNMENT VISIT

**Greetings Mike:**

On behalf of the Kurdistan Regional Government, I'm writing to request a meeting for H.E. Rebar Ahmed, Minister of Interior of the Kurdistan Regional Government while he is Washington from Feb 9-13. In view of your many priorities, I am grateful for your consideration.

Minister Ahmed is the KRG's highest-ranking cabinet minister. His portfolio encompasses responsibilities comparable to those of the U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security, the U.S. Attorney General, and key elements of the U.S. intelligence community. In this capacity, he oversees internal security, counterterrorism, border management, law enforcement, and intelligence coordination.

The Minister will be traveling to Washington to discuss urgent and time-sensitive national security and political developments affecting the region, including in Iraq and Syria.

Proposed discussion topics include:

- The formation of a stable and inclusive Iraqi government, including the appointment of a Prime Minister capable of effectively serving all Iraqi citizens in both Baghdad and Erbil
- Direct attacks by Iraqi militias and proxy groups targeting Kurdish and U.S. critical energy infrastructure, including infrastructure funded by Congress
- Concerns regarding a potential reemergence of ISIS due to ongoing instability in Syria, and how we can collectively counter this threat
- U.S. strategic, political, and security interests in the region, including regional stability, counterterrorism cooperation, and the protection of U.S. companies' investments in Iraq—particularly in the hydrocarbon sector

We greatly appreciate your review of this request and look forward to further strengthening the U.S.-KRG partnership at a critical moment.

Very respectfully,  
Phil English, Co-Chairman  
Government Relations Practice Group  
ArentFox Schiff LLP

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