

Iraq Waterkeeper Environmental Law and Advocacy Project



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Meeting With Decision-Maker In Kurdistan Iraq Parliament

Advocacy project team, conducted a meeting with the Head Deputy of Agricultural Committee Mr. Ghareeb Panjwani in the Parliament of KRG (Sulaimaniya Office) on 29 July, 2015. The aim of the meeting is to make the KRG government encourage stakeholders (Public and NGOs) to participate effectively on environmental legislation before passing from KRG- parliament, and how can they take part and how they can get involved? in the decision-making processes and express their opinion at that meeting we discussed the first draft of **Water Management and Protection Law in KRG** which is submitted to the parliament in 2014 still it is under discussion. The outcome of the meeting is that the committee reaches to the point that the roles of NGOs are vital for participation in the legislation of the environmental laws and the water draft law. and the role of Nature Iraq in that meeting is to contact the NGOs and university professors working on water issues to collect the recommendations in order to get their feedback about that draft in order to be submitted to the mentioned committee.



Joint Meeting With NGO Environmental And Water Experts To Review The Draft Of Water Management And Protection Law In KRG

Step one :-

On 18 August, 2015, Advocacy project team held a joint meeting with environmental NGOs in Sulaimaniya in Sawa Centre Hall, KEDO (Kurdistan Economic Development Organization). This joint meeting is an integral part of the previous meeting with the Head Deputy of Agriculture Committee in the Sulaimaniya Parliament office.

Representatives of 15 NGOs and two water experts from Sulaimaniya University were participated in that meeting. The aim of the meeting is to lead tangible outcomes from the key stakeholders and the experts and identifying their observations on the draft of **Water Management and Protection Law in KRG – Iraq**, during the first part, 20 out of 39 articles of the draft law were reviewed.



Step Two :-

On 8th November 2015, the second part of the joint meeting was held, The aim of the meeting was to review the remaining articles of Draft of Water Management and Protection Law in KRG the overall 39 articles were reviewed and finalized, texts were edited and then the recommendations are written for the draft law. This draft is considered as an important act of law as there are no environmental specific legislation in KRG related to water management.

The participants agreed to conduct another joint meeting to collect notes or recommendations regarding the Part Four (Penal Provisions) to specify the fines and punishments to be undertaken and to compare the articles of this draft with the existing articles of laws in Iraq so as there are no discrepancy. Linguistic person will be invited for language check and then the draft will be sent to the concerned committee in the KRG Parliament. Nature Iraq is optimistic about the result of that meeting as this kind of work can allow more cooperation and transparency between the NGOs and the KRG to be taken place.