## <u>Press Releases: Secretary Pompeo's</u> <u>Meeting With Prime Minister Haider al-</u> <u>Abadi</u>

Readout Office of the Spokesperson

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The below is attributable to Spokesperson Heather Nauert:

Secretary of State Michael R. Pompeo met today with Prime Minister of Iraq Haider al-Abadi in Brussels on the sidelines of the NATO Summit. The Secretary reaffirmed U.S. support for the Iraqi people and our common fight against ISIS. The Secretary welcomed Iraq's request for further NATO support and gave full backing to the training mission for Iraq that the Alliance announced during the Summit.

The Secretary expressed his support for the robust cooperation occurring between the International Coalition and the Iraqi Security Forces, including the Peshmerga, in the continued battle against ISIS, and commended Prime Minister Abadi for the military operations underway to protect Iraq's borders and sovereignty.

The Secretary also noted recent efforts to ensure the integrity of the parliamentary elections and encouraged the Prime Minister and all of Iraq's leaders to work expeditiously towards a centrist government that expresses the will of all Iraqi people.

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