

## **Human Rights Watch Unofficial Translation**

### **Embassy of the Republic of Iraq**

#### **Beirut**

**Date: November 20, 2019**

**Number: S14/organizations/4306**

The Iraqi Embassy in Beirut sends its best regards to Human Rights Watch and is honoured to forward the response of the Council of Ministers/Advisory Committee regarding the report on the current situation in Iraq that was posted on your organization's website on 11/10/2019. The response includes the following:

- 1- The prime minister gave his instructions to form a supreme committee for investigations to investigate the high numbers of fatalities from October 1 to October 8, 2019. [The committee] is headed by the minister of planning and includes as members a number of ministers and security commanders. The committee issued a number of recommendations, most important of which is referring a number of [officials accused of negligence] to the judiciary and relieve a number of security commanders of their duties.
- 2- The Prime Minister issued strict instructions prohibiting the use of live ammunition against protesters under all circumstances.
- 3- The formation of a unit that is specialized in law enforcement, called Law Enforcement Forces, whose mission is to deal directly with protesters and protect major social events.
- 4- Security forces shall be dispossessed of arms or any other tools and instructed to be patient facing harm from demonstrators, which has caused many injuries among security forces.
- 5- Demonstrators shall be protected in areas designated for demonstrations so they could express their opinions and demands and receive medical aid. Demonstrations remain under the protection of security forces.

**The Embassy takes this opportunity to express its deep appreciation and respect.**

**Human Rights Watch – Beirut**