

**Sayyid Al-Hakeem expresses concern over the local elections prolonged delay,
the only viable option to meet the community's needs through ballot \$
outcomes**



During the annual carnival organized by Iraqi Alliance for Disability Organization (IADO) in Iraq, Sayyid Ammar Al-Hakeem, Head of Al-Hikma National Movement, Stressed the significance of ensuring equal opportunities and capabilities for all citizens within the nation, irrespective of their affiliations, diversities, or life circumstances, emphasizing that such equality stands as a crucial aspect of social justice and citizenship rights, illustrating that advanced societies recognize the importance and effectiveness of individuals with disabilities not merely out of sympathy but due to a genuine awareness of their contributions. H.E. advocated for the use of ballot boxes as the optimal and singular means to address the diverse needs of society across all categories and classes. H.E. stated during the annual conference of IADO on the International Day of Persons with Disabilities, that the numerous success stories of people with disabilities in scientific, artistic, sports, and social fields both within Iraq and internationally. Given the challenging security, health, and economic conditions in Iraq, H.E. acknowledged the presence of a significant portion of the population facing disabilities. H.E. stressed that individuals with disabilities have inherent rights to a dignified life, access to life and career opportunities, and the ability to utilize their potential for creativity in various areas of interest and hobbies.

H.E. called for integration between society, the state, and individuals with disabilities, H.E. illustrated the importance of establishing a culture that recognizes diversity and promotes the full integration of individuals with disabilities into society without discrimination or exclusion. H.E. urged individuals with disabilities to take organized and concerted action, while also placing responsibility on both society and the state to identify their needs and devise effective strategies for representation, considering the unique requirements of this demographic.

Sayyid Al-Hakeem stressed that national responsibility necessitates a collective awareness and a commitment to recognizing the intrinsic value of each individual within society. H.E. reiterated the importance of upholding the dual values of "human and nation". And in this

regard, H.E. stated that "this file is within our priorities and social programs, due to our belief in this segment."

H.E. discussed the role of provincial councils in addressing the needs of individuals with disabilities, and outlined priorities for the current stage, emphasizing the development of local legislation that incorporates the practical and comprehensive needs of this demographic and the importance of empowering young individuals with disabilities in leadership positions within provincial councils to present a dynamic and inclusive image of local governance.

On the political front, His Eminence noted the upcoming sensitive local elections, emphasizing the need to fulfill this obligation to consolidate stability and promote reconstruction and services in the country's provinces. H.E. underscored the role of democratic systems in representing the diversity of society through elections, emphasizing the importance of using voting boxes as the sole means to achieve these objectives. H.E. encouraged active and conscious participation by individuals with disabilities to ensure proper representation and effective monitoring of their concerns.

H.E. stated "Our country witness swift and safe transition towards stability and productivity, with relative financial abundance and great economic opportunities which can diverge the global spotlight towards Iraqi projects and market and the grand investment opportunities in the country." H.E. held everyone responsible for the success of this phase and moving towards the better of this country.

Addressing the Palestinian issue, Sayyid Al-Hakeem condemned the deliberate targeting of civilians, Children, Women, the sick, the elderly, journalists, hospitals, houses of Allah, churches, infrastructure, and the livelihoods of many Palestinians by the Zionist entity. H.E. affirmed that this calls for continued strong denouncement and condemnation, and work to help Palestinians stop the shedding of blood in Gaza, indicating the double standards that have been sensed on the international level by millions of living conscience that demonstrated in support of the women and children of Gaza and its steadfast people, notably the regrettable and condemned American veto on the resolution to halt the aggression on Gaza in the Security Council reflects the significant ethical gap between the elites and their societies. H.E. stated "This is a serious matter that requires attention, and commended Iraq's stance of its reference, its people, government, political and social powers, media, and organizations, for standing with Palestine and supporting its oppressed people. H.E. emphasized that this is a source of pride and honor.