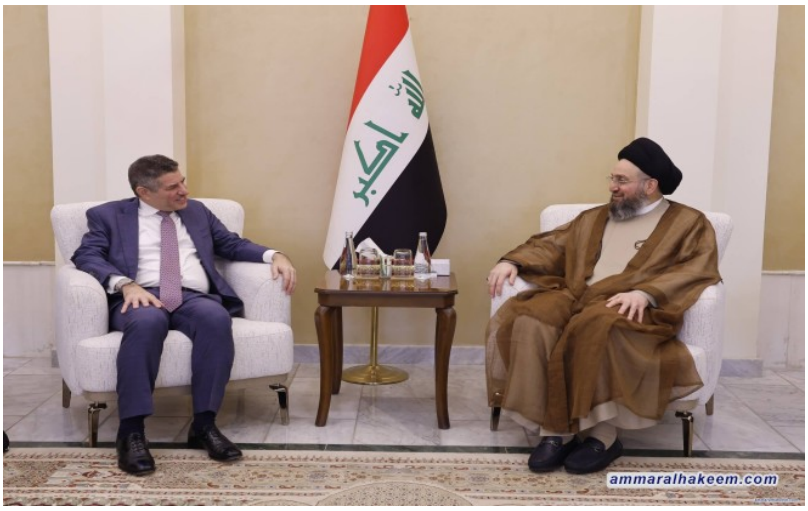
Sayyid Al-Hakeem: Diversifying Income Sources, Oil Export Outlets Necessary To Strengthen Iraqi Economy



His Eminence Sayyid Al-Hakeem, Head of the National State Powers' Alliance, received at his office in Baghdad the Chargé d'Affaires of the U.S. Embassy to Iraq, Mr. Steven H. Fagin. The meeting discussed the latest political developments in Iraq and the region, as well as bilateral relations between Iraq and Washington in the phase following the end of the mission of the International Coalition to Combat ISIS, with H.E. stressing the strengthening of relations in a way that serves Iraq's interests and safeguards its sovereignty.

H.E. outlined the nature of the challenges facing Iraq, calling for continued intelligence and security work and information sharing to confront any attempt by ISIS to reproduce itself, and renewing his call for national cohesion and the issuing of reassuring messages among the Iraqi components.

H.E. pointed to the damage that Iraq has suffered as a result of the escalation in the region, stressing the importance of restoring calm there, and calling for peace and stability to be established in the region, and for Iraq to draw lessons and examples from the current crisis by diversifying sources of income and diversifying oil export outlets.