

**In his Meeting with the Director General of the Iraqi Media Network,  
Sayyid Ammar al-Hakim Reiterates his Support for the Laws that Guarantee  
the Independence of the Network and Promote the National Interest**

Sayyid Ammar al-Hakim, head of the Islamic Supreme Council of Iraq, said the Citizen's Alliance and the National Coalition are willing to introduce a strategic media policy in the governmental program that will be discussed simultaneously with the formation of a new Iraqi government, showing his support for the laws on the Iraqi Media Network which would guarantee its neutrality and independence and promote the Iraqi national interest amidst the strong media competition in Iraq and around the world.

This came in a meeting held between Sayyid Ammar al-Hakim on Saturday, August 23, 2014, with the Director General of the Iraqi Media Network, Mr. Mohammed Abdul-Jabbar al-Shabout and a number of the Network's directors.

For his part, al-Shabout discussed the media situation in Iraq while stressing the need to pass a new law concerning the Network that meets the international public broadcasting standards and concepts and guarantees the Network's financial, administrative and media independence. He added that what the Network needs is a law that ensures the legal cover for the Network's neutrality and independence and that the current laws are restrictive for the Network and make it less competitive comparing with the other media networks.