FRAUD WARNING

U.S. companies interested in doing business in Iraq should be aware of recent fraudulent contract offers made by persons posing as Iraqi officials. U.S. companies have received e-mails and other correspondence asking them satisfy such conditions as the fo llowing to participate in Iraqi ministry tenders: (1) pay large, up- front fees to "register" for the tender; and/or (2) provide detailed bank account information as a reference or to show qualification for a letter of credit. Although some of the documents sent to the U.S. firms appear to be authentic tender documents from Iraqi ministries, these tenders are fictitious and these conditions are not legitimate. If you comply with such conditions, you may suffer substantial financial losses.

Before replying to any such offers, U.S. companies should first contact the U.S. Embassy in Iraq (see points of contact below) to confirm whether the business offer is legitimate and whether the tender documents are authentic. In addition, communications that raise questions of fraud should be reported to the Internet Crime Complaint Center at http://ic3.gov/. In no case should a company send money or bank account information without verifying the authenticity of the tender, the related documents, and the conditions of participation.

U.S. Embassy, Baghdad Contact Information:
Andrew Wylegala, Senior Commercial Officer : Andy.Wylegala@mail.doc.gov
Bill Crawford, Deputy Senior Commercial Officer: Bill.Crawford@mail.doc.gov