

**Guarantees and advantages of
investment in the investment law and
conventions**

Counselor

**Dr. Abdulateef Nayyef
Vice-Premier of the State
Council**

The most important guarantees and benefits in the amended investment law No. (13) for the year 2006

- Protection of investment projects licensed from confiscation or nationalization.
- Ownership of the land allocated to residential projects belonging to the State and the public sector.
 - The granting of soft loans taking into account the completion of (25%) of the project.
- Ownership of the Iraqi investor lands allocated for industrial projects may be a partnership with the foreign investor in financing and management.

- Exemption from taxes and fees for projects that have an investment license of up to (10) years from the date of operation.
- some projects (hotels, hospitals, educational and tourism) are granted additional exemptions from the importation of furniture and supplies for renovation once every 4 years.
- Exemption of land and real estate allocated for the establishment of investment projects of some legislation (the law of sale and lease of state funds, the law of industrial investment, instructions for the implementation of government contracts ... etc).
- Exemption of residential investment project from excise duties and registration fees.
- Exemption of raw materials imported for commercial purposes from taxes and customs duties.

- To allow the foreign investor the right to trade in shares and bonds in the Iraqi market for investment securities.
- The right to insure the investment project with an Iraqi or foreign insurance company.
- Opening an account in Iraqi or foreign currency at an Iraqi or foreign bank
- Taking out the capital and its revenues.

- The right of residence for investors and workers in investment projects in Iraq and facilitate their entry and transportation.

- Rental of land for the establishment of projects for up to (50) years renewable.

- Settlement of Investment Disputes by Arbitration Item (1) of Article (27).

Multiple Agreements:

- New York Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards of 1958. The approval of the Council of Ministers by resolution (54) / in 6/2/2018 was granted to join the Convention taking into account the reservations (reciprocity, scope of application, Commercial disputes under Iraqi law).
- Washington Convention for the Settlement of Disputes Relating to Investments between State and Citizens Other States of 1965 (Oxid), Iraq officially joined on 17/11/2015 and became effective on 17/12/2015 based on article (68 paragraph 2) of the Convention.
- The United Nations Convention on Transparency in the Arbitration of Investors and States signed by Iraq in New York on 10/2/2017.

-The Unified Convention for the Investment of Arab Capital in the Arab Countries 1980, Iraq ratified this Convention under Law No. 44 of 1981, published in the Iraqi realities newspaper in issue No. 2832 of 6/1/1981.

(Especially for the protection and flow of investment).

- The Arab Riyadh Agreement on Judicial Cooperation of 1983 ratified by Iraq this Convention under Law No. 110 of 1983 is published in the Iraq realities newspaper in Issue No. 2976 on 16/3/1984.

Bilateral agreements in the field of investment promotion and protection / permissible the parties to dispute Resolution by Oxidation Center, Transaction and Protection Types (Fair, non-discriminatory, protection against expropriation and expropriation and Most Favoured Nation treatment).

- With France No. (4241) on 6/4/2012 / entered into force.
- With Japan No. (4296) on 4/11/2013 / entered into force.
- With Armenia No. (4309) on 10/10/2014 entered into force.
- With Kuwait No. (4346) on 20/12/2014 entered into force.

- With Jordan No. (4353) on 23/2/2015 / entered into force.
- With Germany No. (4254) on 15/10/2012 / did not enter into force.
- With Belarus No. (4397) on 15/2/2016 / did not enter into force.
- Investment Incentives Agreement with the United States of America No. (4276) on 13/5/2013 / entered into force.
 - which are being negotiated (Russia, Italy, Holland, Czech).

The various other agreements in the field of investment to which Iraq joined:

- International Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA).
- World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies 2008 (WAIPA).
- Agreement on the Promotion, Protection and Guarantee of Investments among OIC Member States.
- The Arab Association for Investment Guarantee and Export Credit in 1974.
- The Cairo Convention for the Settlement of Investment Trends in the Arab States for the year 2000.

Signed memorandums of understanding:

- Memorandum of Understanding for Cooperation with the Arab Institution for Guaranteeing Investment and Export Credit of Kuwait.
- Memorandum of Understanding with JCCME.
- Memorandum of Understanding with the General Authority for Investment and Free Zones.
- Memorandum of Understanding with the Korean Agency for Trade and Investment Development.



**Thank you for
listening**