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Corruption, Reconstruction and Oil Governance in Iraq

Philippe Le Billon

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Interview

See anti

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Le Billon

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Cash inf to \$20.6

billion; h ers of the

now defunct oil-for-food programme and repatriated funds from the Saddam Hussein

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Coalition Provisional Authority Regulation No 3, 18 June 2003.

This policy, however, was not extended to the oil sector—at least in public declarations by the US government—probably for fear of confirming Iraqi public opinion that the US and UK had invaded Iraq for its oil. See Section 6.1, Coalition Provisional Authority Order No 39, 19 September 2003.

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The delay in its creation was the result of sharp disagreement over the extent of its mandate between the cpa and iamb members (the UN, World Bank, imf, and Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development). Press releases from <http://www.iamb.info/pressrel.htm>; and 'Racing the deadline: the rush to account for Iraq's public funds', Revenue Watch 6, Open Society Institute, April 2004.

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Many critics question the 'sovereignty' of interim Iraqi authorities, pointing to continued reliance on the US and UK. See, for example, Ayad Allawi, head of the interim government, who has been accused of the (dubious) 'oil-for-food' programme. See press releases from the US and Britain.

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Critiques of the service could not be relied on to distribute the money honestly. See 'Oil revenue accountability in

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