



Ref: 719/17

Paris, 06 October 2017

Dear Mr. Chairperson of the Executive Board

I would like to refer to the upcoming appointment of the Director General of the Organization, scheduled to take place during the 202nd session of the Executive Board of UNESCO in October 2017. I would like to inform you the decision of the Government of Iraq to withdraw the candidature of Dr. Saleh Al-Hasnawi as Director General of UNESCO for the term 2017-2021.

Please accept, Dear Mr. Chairperson of the Executive Board, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in green ink, reading 'M. Khalaf'.

**Prof. Mahmood Al-Mullakhalaf**  
Ambassador, Permanent Delegate  
of Iraq to UNESCO

**H.E. Mr. Michael WORBS**

The President of the Executive Board to UNESCO