



PROFESSOR ABBAS MEHDI

Originally from Iraq, Abbas Mehdi resided in Great Britain from 1976-82, arrived in the United States in 1982, and became a US citizen in 1995.

He graduated with a BA in Economics in 1974 from Al Mustansyria University, Baghdad, Iraq, and earned an MA in Management in 1982 from the School of Management, Bath University, England. He has a PhD in Comparative Organizations from Ohio State University, USA (1987). (He started his PhD program in the Management and Human Resources Department in the Business School at Ohio State University, and received his degree in a joint program with the Sociology Department of that university).

Abbas Mehdi's academic background embraced multidisciplinary and cross-cultural approaches to his areas of specialization: comparative and complex organization. His work emphasizes both the external relationship between the organization and its environment and the internal process of organizational adaptation and change.

Dr. Mehdi has been professor of Complex Organization at St. Cloud State University, Minnesota since 1988. Between 1991 and 1997, he was also adjunct professor in the Department of Strategic Management and Organization in the Graduate School program of the Carlson School of Management at the University of Minnesota, USA.

In May, 2006, Dr. Mehdi took an extended leave of absence from St. Cloud State University and returned to Iraq as Senior Advisor to the Prime Minister's Office, the Council of Ministers, the Ministry of Planning, and the National Center for Consultancy and Management Development, and National Curriculum manager for USAID-funded project for Developing National Capacity in Public Management.

Between January and May, 2007, he served as Chairman of the Board of *Board* of the Iraq National Investment Commission, a Ministerial Position serving the Prime Minister's Office. In May, 2007 returned to his previous position at USAID –funded project in Baghdad. Professor Mehdi resumed his full time teaching duties at St. Cloud State University, USA, in January, 2008.

Since January 2010 Dr. Mehdi serve as a Senior Advisor to the Executive Director in the World Bank. Dr. Mehdi has been advisor and board member for various local and international organizations: He is Advisory Council Member, American Society for Competitive (ASC), 2009-Present. He was adviser to U.S. Senate Democratic Policy Committee, Washington, D.C, USA, 2008, US, Department of Army, Minnesota National Guard, USA, 2008- 2009 , United Nations, the Office of the Secretary General, New York, USA, 2006, International Organization for Migration (IOM), Geneva, Switzerland, 2004, League of Arab State, Egypt, 2004 and Government of Spain, Spain, 1992-2002. He was a Board Member of the Minnesota International Center, 1997-2004 and, a Distinguished Resource Person to International Fellowship Programs, Hubert H. Humphrey Institute, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 1997-2002

Dr. Mehdi is also Founder and Chairman of the Union of Independent Iraqis, an international organization that promotes democracy in Iraq. Abbas Mehdi is an internationally recognized speaker and expert on issues involving the Middle East, and is frequently interviewed and quoted by local, regional, and international reporters writing about Iraq.