

19 AUGUST - DAY OF REMEMBRANCE
23rd ANNIVERSARY OF BOMBING OF UNHQ IN BAGHDAD
Headquarters Observance – New York
Wednesday, 19 August 2026

The commemoration of the bombing of the United Nations headquarters in Baghdad will be observed on Wednesday, 19 August 2026 with a brief ceremony organized by the UN Staff Union's Standing Committee on the Security and Independence of the International Civil Service.

The ceremony also marks the observance of World Humanitarian Day designated by the General Assembly in 2008 to coincide with the date of the bombing in Baghdad. The Day also honours humanitarian aid workers who have been killed or injured in the course of their work.

WHEN: Wednesday, 19 August 2026 at 11:30 a.m.

WHERE: General Assembly Building public lobby
Front of memorial plaque located outside meditation room

WHAT: Wreath-laying by the UN Secretary-General, H.E. **Mr. António Guterres** in front of the plaque honouring those who lost their lives in Baghdad, followed by a moment of silence.

* * *

11:30 a.m.: Participants gather
11:45 a.m.: Wreath-laying by **Mr. António Guterres**, Secretary-General
(Wreath will be moved by Honour Guard)
11:45 a.m.: **Mr. António Guterres**, Secretary-General delivers his remarks
11:50 a.m. Moment of Silence
11:50 a.m.: **Mr. Mohammed Marzooq**, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of Iraq to the UN delivers remarks on behalf of Iraq
11:55 a.m.: **Mr. Abdul Alrshid**, Co-chair, UN Standing Committee on the Security and Independence of International Civil Service delivers remarks on behalf of the Committee
12:00 p.m.: **Mr. Atul Khare**, Under-Secretary-General, Department of Operational Support meets with the survivors and their families
12:15 p.m.: Ceremony closes

The ceremony will also be aired live on UN Web TV [here](https://webtv.un.org/en/asset/k1f/k1f4dtakvb) or at:
webtv.un.org/en/asset/k1f/k1f4dtakvb

* * *

Nationalities of those killed

Brazil
Canada
Egypt
France
Iran
Iraq
Jordan
Philippines
Spain
United Kingdom
United States of America

Working for

UN various departments (including OCHA, DPPA)
UNHCR
UNICEF
UNOPS