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UN SECURITY COUNCIL MEMBERS DIVIDED ON IRAQ'S REQUEST TO CLOSE UN MISSION BY 2025

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Several members of the UN Security Council, including Russia and China, on Thursday backed Baghdads request for the world bodys political mission in Iraq to shut down by next year -- but Washington did not immediately offer its support.

Last week, in a letter to the council, Iraqi Prime Minister Mohamed Shia al-Sudani called for the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI), which has been operational since 2003, to end by December 31, 2025.

Iraqs deputy UN envoy Abbas Kadhom Obaid Al-Fatlawi reiterated the request before the council on Thursday, saying: The mission has achieved its goals.

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