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## IRAQ SUNNIS FAIL TO AGREE ON PARLIAMENT SPEAKER NOMINEE

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By Ali Jawad

BAGHDAD

Sunni political blocs have failed to agree on a nominee for the post of speaker of Iraqs newly-elected parliament, a lawmaker said Wednesday.

Were still considering nine different people for the nomination, MP Mohamed al-Khaledi, head of parliaments Sunni Bayariq al-Khair bloc, told Anadolu Agency.

Al-Khaledi himself is a nominee for the post, along with eight other Sunni politicians, including former Defense Minister Khaled al-Obaidi and current Vice President Osama al-Nujaifi.

On Saturday, parliament will convene to elect a new speaker and two deputies.

Last week, parliament postponed the election of a new speaker to mid-September after a number of lawmakers decided to boycott the vote.

Within 30 days of its first session, which was held last week, parliament should elect -- by a two-thirds majority -- the countrys next president, according to Iraqs constitution.

The new president will then task the majority bloc in parliament with drawing up a government, which must be referred back to the assembly for approval.

<https://www.aa.com.tr/en/middle-east/iraq-sunnis-fail-to-agree-on-parliament-speaker-nominee/1252928>

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