

# Iraq's fragile power-sharing deal

Iraq's parliament ended an eight-month stalemate by implementing a U.S. backed power-sharing deal: Shiite Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki keeps his job while his chief Sunni rival, Ayad Allawi, heads a new Council for National Strategy; Kurdish leader Jalal Talabani will remain President



**Ayad Allawi**

Head of Sunni-backed **Iraqiya** alliance. Backing seen as vital to prevent resurgence of violence as U.S. forces prepare to withdraw in 2011

**Jalal Talabani**

President, leader of Kurdish coalition

**Osama al-Nujaifi**

Speaker of parliament, from Iraqiya alliance

**Nouri al-Maliki**

Prime minister and leader of **State of Law** coalition. Has 30 days to form cabinet. Has backing of anti-U.S. cleric **Moqtada al-Sadr**

