



# Qatar wants to be a gateway between east and west: PM

Qatar wants to emerge as a centre for connectivity, a major transit hub, utilising its ideal geographical location to become a gateway between the east and west, HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohamed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani has said.

"Our mission now is to become a centre for connectivity," he said adding, "as a transit hub, Qatar is located at the gateway between the east and west, and offers unparalleled market access and connectivity to billions of people across more than 25 economies: 80% of the world's population is within a 6-hour flight from Qatar; and

Asia, Europe and the US are all just 18 days away from Qatar by ship."

Delivering the inaugural lecture of the IISS Raffles Lectures series in Singapore on Friday, he said Qatar is strategically located to connect people and businesses physically and digitally from around the world, pointing out that Qatar's energy sector continues to expand, with many investment opportunities emerging for both local and foreign investors in the hydrocarbon industry.

"Our energy industry has launched best-in-class technological and logistical capabilities and in the years to come, we will convert this further into the healthcare and innovation industries," he

said. He outlined that Qatar's economic model has proven successful in helping host one of the biggest sporting events in the world: the FIFA World Cup. "Qatar's successful organisation of the 2022 FIFA World Cup constituted a major feat for a small state. Not only did the tournament present an opportunity for sustainable infrastructure building and substantial economic growth, but it also showcased Qatari, Arab, and Muslim culture, and the region to positively change stereotypes," he said.

"Qatar has a clear long-term vision on the industries that will continue to form the backbone of its domestic economy, with a multiplier effect on the global econ-

omy as a whole," he said adding: "This is what guides the vision for our country, as well as our investments in select industries around the world, such as here in Singapore."

HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs said: "Likewise, Singapore has achieved great economic success becoming a global financial hub known for its exceptional financial infrastructure and regulatory stability. Singapore's role as a bridge between Eastern and Western markets, along with its dedication to technological advancement, sets an impressive example for all small states to work towards. For small countries, investments in educa-

tion, healthcare, and social welfare must remain at the forefront of our priorities."

HE Sheikh Mohamed stressed that providing opportunities for Qatari citizens equips them to contribute meaningfully to the world stage, while ensuring a robust social foundation for progress.

"It is this investment in our people that allowed Qatar to exhibit remarkable resilience in the face of regional tensions and the global pandemic. "Qatar's leadership and its people demonstrated a steadfast resolve to maintain stability, diversify our trade routes, strengthen domestic industries, and boost our ability to withstand adversity," he said. "For the long-

est time, we have looked at small states as countries that are limited by their size. But today, looking at successful examples of small states, such as Singapore and Qatar, we see how small states use the tools and strategies at their disposal to become successful actors in the international community," he said.

Wrapping up, HE the Prime Minister and the Minister of Foreign Affairs said: "History has shown that size does not dictate favourable outcomes. Through planning, fostering global partnerships, and nurturing our inherent strengths, small nations will not only succeed, but also inspire others to do so."

## PM concludes fruitful visit to Singapore

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HE Sheikh Mohamed also spoke about promoting peaceful solutions and diplomatic initiatives to resolve various conflicts and wars in the region and the world. He also talked about the relations between Qatar, Singapore and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean).

This comes within the framework of the two countries' keenness to continue strengthening relations, which are seen as a successful model for the distinguished partnership between them.

The joint statement issued by the Eighth Meeting of the High-Level Joint Committee stressed the impor-

tance of the committee as a main platform for expanding the strong Qatari-Singaporean partnership to broader horizons, in line with the common interests of the two countries.

Both sides emphasised their shared commitment to maintaining and promoting peace, security, and prosperity in the region, and to an Asean-centred, open, inclusive, transparent, resilient, and rules-based regional architecture that upholds international law.

The delegation accompanying HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohamed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani included HE the Minister of Finance Ali bin Ahmed al-Kuwari, HE the

Minister of Commerce and Industry Sheikh Mohamed bin Hamad bin Qassim al-Thani, HE the Minister of Education and Higher Education Buthaina bint Ali al-Jabr al-Nuaimi, HE the Minister of Social Development and Family Mariam bint Ali bin Nasser al-Misnad, HE Qatar Airways CEO Akbar al-Baker, HE the Chairman of the Qatar Free Zones Authority Ahmad bin Mohamed al-Sayed, HE the President of the Civil Service and Government Development Bureau Abdulaziz bin Nasser bin Mubarak al-Khalifa and HE the Chief of Asia Pacific and Africa Investments at Qatar Investment Authority (QIA) Sheikh Faisal bin Thani al-Thani.

## Iraqi PM praises Qatar's pioneering experiences in successful investments

QNA  
Baghdad

Iraq's Prime Minister Mohamed Shia' al-Sudani has praised Qatar's pioneering experiences in successful investments, and the co-operation between his country and Qatar, stressing that the promising co-operation started effectively following the latest visit of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani to Baghdad.

This came during the ceremony of laying of the foundation stone for a huge tourism complex - comprising large hotel, a residential complex and various tourist facilities - carried by the Qatar's 'Investment Holding Group', in central Baghdad.

Al-Sudani considered this project the first for Qatari investments in Iraq, lauding the pioneering companies and experiences Qatar possesses in successful investments.

He pointed out that this project

would be the first within the context of co-operation between Iraq and Qatar, and would be followed by other projects in various sectors.

He also pointed to the promising investment opportunities that Iraq possesses, adding that his government is keen to provide the necessary support and facilities for investors.

Al-Sudani explained that his government deems Arab investment as one of the gateways to economic integration.



The agreement signing ceremony.

## McKinsey & Company becomes official knowledge partner of ConteQ Expo24

McKinsey & Company Inc Qatar will be an official knowledge partner to the ConteQ Expo24, it was announced yesterday. According to a press statement from the Public Works Authority (Ashghal), McKinsey & Company, as knowledge partner, will provide global insights for the conference while sharing sector trends and industry best practices.



Abdullah Saad al-Saad

McKinsey research will help inform discussion at the conference, focused around three main pillars which are innovative buildtech, service accelerators and policy pathfinders. Jointly organised by Ashghal, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoCI) and the Ministry of Labour at Qatar National Convention Centre (QNCC) from September 16-18, ConteQ Expo24 is described as an ideal venue for companies, construction, manufacturing, and retail industry leaders in Qatar to meet with thought leaders, suppliers and prominent industry leaders at the international level.

It will be a platform to share innovation in the industry through the integration of digitisation and emerging technologies. The exhibition showcases innovative building technologies with an immersive area of 25,000sq m with more than 60 speakers to discuss

groundbreaking conference that will host speakers from all around the world to discuss innovation that drives progress and shapes the future of the construction and services industry," al-Saad said.

Samvit Kanoria, Senior Partner at McKinsey & Company Inc Qatar, said the company is pleased to support Ashghal as a Knowledge Partner for ConteQ Expo24. This partnership reflects our commitment to promoting growth and advancement in Qatar within the construction and services domain. We aim to provide research and insights that support discussions at this large-scale conference with a distinguished line-up of industry experts, leading to the sharing of transformative insights and strategic initiatives," Kanoria said.

McKinsey is a global management consulting firm committed to helping organisations accelerate sustainable and inclusive growth. We work with clients across the private, public, and social sectors to solve complex problems and create positive change for all their stakeholders.

It combines bold strategies and transformative technologies to help organisations innovate more sustainably, achieve lasting gains in performance, and build workforces that will thrive for this generation and the next.

the three main pillars.

The event seeks to revolutionise the sector by elevating deliverable quality with precise compliance to requirement specifications and expediting project deliveries. The conference will feature an esteemed panel of over 60 industry experts who will share their insight and expertise on the latest technologies that drive growth in the industry.

Abdullah Saad al-Saad, deputy chairman of the organising committee, expressed his delight about McKinsey & Company Inc Qatar joining as a knowledge partner. "We are excited to partner with McKinsey & Company. Their expertise and knowledge will undoubtedly contribute to the success of ConteQ Expo24 Conference, helping us host a

## Qatari play *The Sultan* in Lebanon theatre festival

The Qatari play *The Sultan* is preparing to participate in the 10th session of the Lebanon International Theater Festival (LITF) in Tripoli, which will start on 28 August, at the Lebanese National Theater, with wide Arab and international participation.

It includes performances from Qatar, Libya, Iraq, Portugal, Bangladesh, Canada, Morocco, Lebanon, where the performances of the official competition of the festival compete in the categories of awards for best actress, actor, director, text, scenography, integrated work. The award of the jury consists of the artist Salah al-Mulla from Qatar, Dr Khalifa al-Hajri from Kuwait, Majid al-Awfi from the Sultanate of Oman, and Dr Hakima Abu Ali from Lebanon, and the guest of the festival is the artist Mohamed al-Mansour from Kuwait.



The Qatari show, which previously participated in Arab and international festivals, won praise from critics and audiences when it was shown in festivals such as the Alexandria Festival in Egypt, the "Hawara International Theater" in Morocco, "Ritual Evenings" in Jordan, the International Theater Festival in Turkiye, and the Maghreb Festival in Tunisia.

The show won a number of important awards. The play is written and directed by Salem al-Mansouri, who is co-starring with the actors: Mohamed al-Muhamadi, Sameh al-Hajari, Ali al-Sharshani, Siham al-Araj, Khaled al-Tamimi, and the scenography of Abdullah al-Bakri, and the production of Arts House for Artistic Production.

## Charting a Course to Excellence: Introducing Our Executive Principal, Elizabeth Lamb

### Compass International School Doha Welcomes a Visionary Leader to Foster Innovation and Growth

Compass International School Doha is delighted to introduce Elizabeth Lamb as the new Executive Principal, marking a pivotal moment in our journey towards excellence. With a wealth of experience in diverse educational landscapes, Elizabeth brings a transformative vision that encompasses innovation, compassion, and a dedicated focus on nurturing each student's potential.

Elizabeth's philosophy resonates deeply with our commitment to creating an environment where students not only acquire knowledge but also develop the skills, values, and confidence to shape a better world.

Compass' new Executive Principal, Elizabeth Lamb, said "I am dedicated to shaping an educational environment that not only upholds our vision and mission but also builds resilience and excellence in our students. As leaders and contributors in the education sector here in Qatar, we create innovative initiatives and technology enabled learning journeys that demonstrates our dedication to support our students to create their future and become global citizens. As a proud member of the Nord Anglia Education network, we stand on the shoulders of a global community of educators, learners, and innovators, a global network opens doors to a wealth of resources, expertise, and cross-cultural experiences that further enrich the education we provide."

Under Elizabeth's guidance, Compass International School continues to focus on the ethos of nurturing well-rounded individuals. An ethos this is enriched by the school's enduring heritage in Qatar.

We extend a warm invitation to parents to join us in this exciting chapter, witnessing first-hand how Elizabeth's leadership, coupled with our dedicated team, fosters an educational environment that cultivates curiosity, nurtures growth, and embraces diversity. Together, we are redefining leadership excellence, empowering the next generation to thrive and create their future in our ever-evolving world.

As part of the Nord Anglia Education leading premium international schools, Compass International School shapes a generation of creative and resilient global citizens who graduate with everything they need for future success. The school's strong academic foundations combine world-class teaching and internationally recognised curricula with cutting-edge technology and facilities, creating a learning environment for students to thrive. Our family of over 80 schools in more than 30 countries around



the world cultivates an approach to learning that is personalised and provides students with unforgettable experiences through partnerships with world-renowned institutions The Juilliard School, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and UNICEF. As one of the most established schools in Qatar, Compass International School inspires students to achieve outstanding academic results and go on to study at the world's leading universities.

To learn more or apply for a place for your child, go to Compass International School.

## HMC rehab project helps 124 patients return to work

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Islam Bakri, physical therapy specialist at QRI, said the Return to Work Programme is divided into two stages: The first stage involves the vocational rehabilitation programme and in this stage, the patient is trained in the daily rehabilitation unit for adults in vocational skills. The second stage, the transitional work programme focuses on all patients who have completed the first stage. Those eligible for the transitional work programme continue their rehabilitation in the daily rehabilitation unit for adults. The daycare rehabilitation team visits the work-

place to assess the work environment and identify required work skills. Based on the results, necessary recommendations and workplace facilitations are provided, along with updating the patient's rehabilitation plan.

Saja Walid, occupational therapy specialist at QRI, said: "The patient is then trained in appropriate strategies to manage challenges related to their injury. The vocational therapy programme is designed according to the patient's job requirements, and the patient is trained in handling work demands. Among these skills are strengthening hand muscles, attention, focus, and perception

skills, the ability to lift and carry heavy objects, writing, using computers, as well as communication and interaction skills."

Dr al-Kuwari emphasised the importance of the speech and language therapist's role in dealing with cognitive communication disorders characterised by deficiencies in cognitive which may hinder employment, independence, and reintegration into society. The speech and language therapist plays a vital role in collaboration with the Return to Work Programme team in providing assessment, diagnosis, and treatment for individuals with cognitive communication disorders.