



Issue No. I
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QATAR HIGHLIGHTS

BY THE CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE STATE OF QATAR IN HONG KONG



FOCUS POINT

Qatar

#الوعد ٢٠٢٢
#See you in 2022



Mohammed Sultan Al Kuwari
Consul General

Consul General's Welcoming Words...

Under the Qatar Vision 2030, and the guidance of His Highness Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad Al-Thani; Qatar is forming a bridge to the future without straying away from its traditions. We thus bring to you our newsletter; "Qatar Highlights", to reflect a glimpse of this journey, in the hope that you would find it to be illuminating and entertaining.

In the newsletter, we will deliver reports of Qatar, its latest achievements in a variety of sector, and will exhibit its numerous wonders. You will also be able to find the latest updates about FIFA 2022 World Cup in Qatar.

Dear readers, as the world seems to be indulging in distress, it is important to magnify the progress and advancement of our mankind, our newsletter is therefore conveyed to you, reflecting on Qatar's effort to build a better future for its people and the world.

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‘JOINT ACTION’ INDISPENSABLE IN ADDRESSING GLOBAL CHALLENGES – AMIR OF QATAR

Delivering his speech via video message at the High-Level meeting of the General Assembly to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the United Nations; His Highness Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani has reiterated Qatar’s commitment to work with and support the UN in order to “achieve its desired goals”, he also addressed a number of regional and global issues, to name a few:

- ❖ Amidst regional and international tensions, disarmament, environmental issues, sustainable development, terrorism and other global trials, HH counted the threat of epidemics as “among the most serious challenges” since the UN was founded 75 years ago.
- ❖ “Joint action’ being indispensable in addressing global challenges in the form of pandemics, climate and the environment in general, and in dealing with issues of poverty, war and peace.
- ❖ To remain “a beacon for international action”, the UN needs serious evaluation of multilateral action, especially in the Security Council. Comprehensive reform is also necessary for the mechanisms to implement resolutions.
- ❖ The UN is in need for solutions to protracted crises based on international law, the role of women and youth in all fields, and the implementation of international declarations attaining the 2030 Development Agenda.



HH Sheik Tamim Bin Hamad AL Thani
Amir of Qatar

“GLOBAL GOVERNANCE NEEDS COMMITMENT TO INTERNATIONAL LEGAL PRINCIPLES”

Addressing the 13th Ministerial Meeting of the Global Governance Group (3G), and on the sidelines of the 75th session of the UNGA, HE the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani, said that the cooperation between the United Nations, the G20 and the Global Governance Group is extremely important and essential in the pursuit of effective international cooperation, global solidarity and comprehensive global governance in the face of the common challenges all the world faces today.

“None of us will be safe unless everyone is safe”

“the coronavirus pandemic, clearly remind us of the close interconnectedness among all of us”.

HE added: ‘we believe that the principle of global governance requires a continuous commitment throughout the year, including adherence to the principles of international law and friendly relations between countries on the basis of sovereign equality, good neighbourliness, pluralism, international and regional cooperation.”

HE stressed the importance of fair and equitable access to safe and effective vaccines to control the pandemic. To this end, the State of Qatar has allocated \$20m to the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization, to enhance research and clinical tests for vaccines and drugs. *Find Further details about both topics by clicking on the pictures*



HE Mohammed bin
Abdulrahman Al Thani
Foreign Minister

QATAR ANNOUNCES CHANGES TO LABOUR LAWS



Ministry of Administrative Development, Labour and Social Affairs in Qatar has announced new changes to the labour laws that include:

- ✓ The scrapping of a rule requiring employers' consent to change jobs -a no-objection certificate (NOC)
- ✓ The Implementations of a basic monthly minimum wage of 1,000 Qatari riyals (US\$274)
- ✓ With the announcement, migrant workers can now change jobs before the end of their contract subject to a notice period
- ✓ The ministry has also announced the provision of 500 riyals (US\$137) for accommodation and 300 riyals (US\$82.2) for food if those expenses are not provided as part of the contract

MADLSA statement said “As part of our efforts to boost the effectiveness of the Wage Protection System, the new amendments, prescribe stricter penalties for employers who fail to pay their workers’ wages and introduce penalties for employers who fail to provide adequate accommodation for their workers”.

Human Rights groups welcome legal changes protecting workers’ rights in Qatar

Amnesty International has praised the Qatari government’s latest reforms to labour laws, calling it a significant step towards protecting migrant workers.

“By introducing these significant changes, Qatar has delivered on a commitment. One that will give workers more freedom and protection, and employers more choice,” Guy Ryder, ILO Director-General, UN body’s statement.



Wish to Know More?
Visit the website of the MADLSA



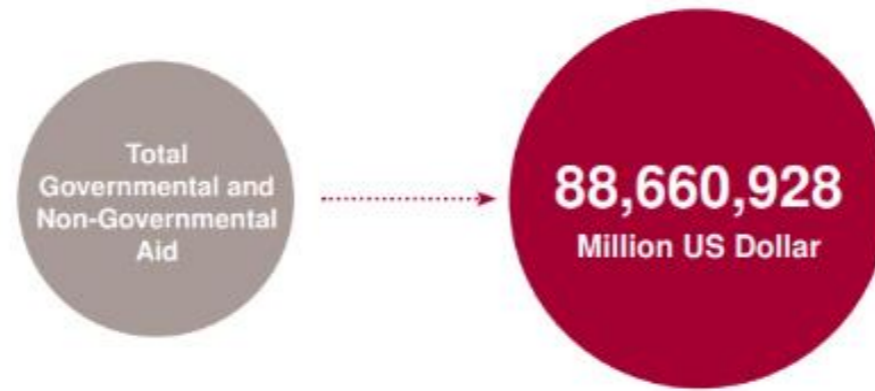
COVID-19 OUTBREAK

The Qatari Government implemented a collection of measures to tackle the spread of Covid-19 inside Qatar through imported cases.



- ✓ Qatari nationals, their children and spouses are allowed to enter Qatar subject to quarantine requirements.
- ✓ Entry is also permitted for regular residents permit holders, permanent resident subject to re-entry approval.
- ✓ Qatar has continued the transit services throughout the pandemic, serving as a linking point to countries around the world in time many countries have restricted flights.

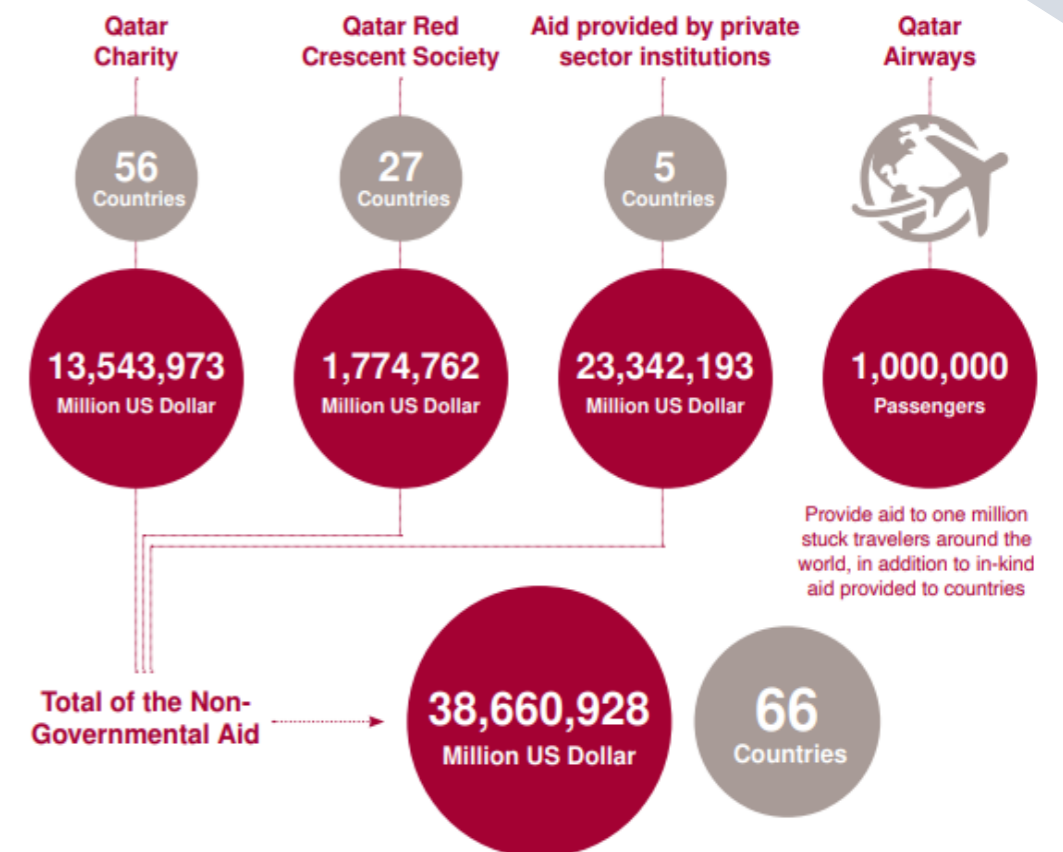
Qatar Aid to International Organizations and Governments



Throughout the Covid-19 crisis, Qatar spared no efforts to offer its aid to organizations, governments and private sector to combat the pandemic, its foreign aid by August 2020 amounting to:

- 50 million USD that benefited 32 countries
- 150 million USD to the Gaza Strip
- 20 million USD to (GAVI)
- 10 million USD to (WHO)
- 39 million USD donated by Qatari private sector to 66 countries
- Deploying field hospitals by Ministry of Defense
- Qatar Airways assisting 1 million stranded passengers from around the world

<https://covid19.moph.gov.qa/EN>



Did You Know?

Qatar Airways is the leading international airline in Global Connectivity during the Covid-19 pandemic

QATAR AIRWAYS AND THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

During this extremely challenging time for the aviation industry, Qatar Airways has continued to maintain operations wherever possible, despite plunging passenger traffic.

The airline has carried over **one million people** home plus transported over **70,000 tonnes** of medical equipment and aid relief by August 2020. In order to provide this passenger and cargo service, Qatar Airways has operated with a mix of scheduled and charter services plus extra sectors.



Learn More



Ehteraz, an application aimed at limiting the spread of Covid-19 in Qatar

Developed by the Qatari government, the application assists in identifying disease transmission chains, alerting individuals and stakeholders to expedite the provision of medical support and prioritize testing. The app will help to:

1. Follow-up on those who are in quarantine
2. Enable reaching any suspected cases and provide the necessary health care
3. Will alert if coming in contact with infected people

The app will color tag individuals using a QR code as shown here



Hamad International Airport



As Qatar has grown so has its airline – and demand at its airport. Ten years ago, just over 5 million people a year passed through. Now that is closer to 25 million and likely to continue rising rapidly.

Spacious and stunning, **Hamad International Airport** is all about flow. The flow of passengers, smooth and seamless. For that reason, the airport has an aquatic theme.

Hamad International Airport will continue to grow and develop. Once complete, phase 3 will boost its capacity from the current 30 million passengers a year to 50 million.

If you didn't visit Hamad international Airport yet, you can always take a virtual tour at their website: <https://dohahamadairport.com/>

**HAMAD INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
REPRESENTS A NEW ERA FOR AVIATION**

Qatar National Bank, the biggest lender in the Gulf region, has opened its first branch in Hong Kong this year, in order to provide a full range of banking products and services. The launch was part of an international expansion plan to establish a foothold in key markets like Hong Kong and mainland China.

“The Hong Kong branch offers the opportunity to leverage QNB’s in-depth expertise to capture investment and trade flows in this promising market”

Abdulla Mubarak Al-Khalifa, QNB Group Acting CEO

- ❖ QNB is the largest bank by Market Capitalisation, Total Assets, Loans, Deposits and Profit in Qatar and Middle East Africa region
- ❖ QNB Group, subsidiaries and associate companies operate in more than 31 countries around the world across 3 continents
- ❖ QNB’s total assets crossed USD259 Billion by 2019, recording USD4 billion in profit for the same year.

Check their website <https://www.qnb.com/>



Qatar National Bank
headquarters

FOCUS POINT

FIFA WORLD CUP Qatar 2022

**QATAR WELCOMES YOU WITH OPEN ARMS
YOUR FIFA 2022 Host**

FIFA 2022 marks the first World Cup to be ever held in the Arab World.

It is also the first not to be held in the summer! The tournament is scheduled between late November until mid-December, in a reduced time frame of 28 days, with the final being held on 18 December 2022, which is also Qatar National Day.

Eight state-of-the-art stadiums are set to host the matches of the World Cup, with audience capacity that reaches 40,000 seats in seven of them, and a staggering 80,000 seats at Lusail Stadium which is to host the final match!



FIFA Qatar 2022 match schedule is out, Al Bayt Stadium is to host the opening match on 21 November! The final will be taking place at Lusail Stadium on 18 December. Fans will enjoy a festival of football, including four matches per day during the group stage.

CHECK OUT THE MATCH SCHEDULE AND MORE



National Museum of Qatar



The National Museum of Qatar (NMoQ) opened to the public on 28 March 2019. The building was designed by architect Jean Nouvel who got his inspiration from the desert rose crystal, which can be found in Qatar.

The museum is dedicated to bringing to life the unique story of Qatar and its people. It actively gives voice to the nation's rich heritage and culture and demonstrates its extensive network of ties with other nations and people around the world.

DISCOVER QATAR

The story of Qatar unfolds across 11 striking galleries, all employing innovative approaches to storytelling.

For scholars and students, the museum offers a new research centre and laboratories along with access to digital archives.

Acting as an intergenerational learning tool, the museum offers a range of educational resources and learning spaces for families and academic researchers. Visitors can also enjoy a rich display of objects that each illustrate an important aspect of Qatari history and culture.



Click the photo for more about NMoQ



متحف قطر الوطني
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF QATAR

“The National Museum of Qatar is the physical manifestation of Qatar’s proud identity, connecting the country’s history with its diverse and cosmopolitan present. It will reflect a part of every Qatari’s life, representing our roots and identity.”

HER EXCELLENCY SHEIKHA AL MAYASSA BINT HAMAD BIN KHALIFA AL THANI CHAIRPERSON OF QATAR MUSEUMS

WHY VISIT QATAR?

Qatar is your perfect destination if you are looking to be introduced to a new vibrant culture with state-of-the-art facilities, and a touch of luxury.

The Qatar Tourism Authority is planning to invest almost \$20 billion on tourism infrastructure including a new international airport capable of handling 50 million passengers annually, a new long-distance rail network and a city-based metro system to serve residents and visitors to Doha.

According to Ernst & Young's (EY) latest Rapid-Growth Markets (RGM) Forecast report, growth remains robust across the GCC region, with Qatar's economy, in particular, predicted to record the highest increase at 6 percent.

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