

H.E. Sheikh Faisal Bin Qassim Al Thani in partnership with Qatar University (“QU”) and Qatar National Bank (“QNB”) launch new Al Faisal Educational Fund

Doha, 1 November 2009 – H.E. Sheikh Faisal Bin Qassim Al Thani, Qatar University and Qatar National Bank today announced the launch of the new Al Faisal Educational Fund, a new joint initiative between QU, QNB and Al Faisal Holding Company, facilitated by its subsidiary the Al Rayyan Education Company. The Fund will be financed by H.E. Sheikh Faisal, and created to enhance the existing courses on offer at the College of Business and Economics (“CBE”) at QU, teaching business students the principles of Socially Responsible Investment (“SRI”) and giving the opportunity to enhance the classroom experience with real life practical investment experience.

The new initiative has been designed to enhance the existing courses in Investment and Portfolio Management by providing students with the opportunity to experience investment on the Qatar and Regional Exchanges first hand. Money from the Al Faisal Educational Fund will allow students to create and manage their own real portfolios during the semester. Students will then justify their investment decisions to members of the finance faculty to show an understanding of the theory and application of responsible investment. Students will not be graded on any gains or losses. Around 120 male and female students are expected to take part in this programme every semester.

Finally, students participating in this program will be awarded with certificates upon the completion of the course. All funds will be managed by the investment department of QNB.

Commenting on today’s announcement, H.E. Sheikh Faisal Bin Qassim Al Thani said:

“A new joint initiative and effort between the Qatar University, Qatar National Bank and the Al Faisal Holding Company is being commemorated. This new initiative aims at providing a unique opportunity for business students in the College of Business and Economics at Qatar University, to learn and enhance their understanding of the principles of Socially Responsible Investment (“SRI”) and the opportunity to gain first hand practical investment experience on the Qatar Stock Exchange and Regional Exchanges.

Through this initiative, we are not only investing in the future of our beloved country, we are creating a new generation of quality investment professionals, who will share in the growth of our great state, under the leadership of His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar, and His Highness, the Heir Apparent Sheikh Tamem Bin Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani.”

Professor Mohamed K. Najdawi, the Dean of the College of Business & Economics at Qatar University said:

“The students and faculty of CBE are grateful to Sheikh Faisal Bin Qassim Al Thani for his generosity and support. He has been a role model as an advisory board member for our college and an effective and kind mentor for all of us. The new initiative will enrich applied business education at QU and enhance the students understanding of the Theory and Practice of Socially Responsible Investment (“SRI”). We are excited about the opportunity and believe that it will contribute greatly to the development of the financial sector in Qatar and will provide our students, the leaders of the future, with the skills and competencies that they need to be competitive and able to manage effectively the challenges of the knowledge age.”

QNB commented:

“QNB is always on the look out for new and innovative ways to increase involvement in shaping the future of Qatar. By supporting this initiative between Sheikh Faisal and the University the Bank hopes to build strong relationships with the students on the course as they become the leaders of tomorrow.”

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About H.E. Sheikh Faisal Bin Qassim Al Thani

H.E. Sheikh Faisal is Chairman and CEO of Al Faisal Holding Company, Chairman of the Qatari Businessmen Association, and a member of the Board of Regents at Qatar University.

As Chairman and CEO of Al Faisal Holding Company, and an advocate of the importance of education, H.E. Sheikh Faisal has already established a number of academic facilities as an effort to impart high scholastic excellence to the budding youth of Qatar. These facilities include the esteemed international education conglomerate, Stenden Hogeschool, previously known as CHN, offering Qatari and Dutch accredited undergraduate programmes such as International Hospitality Management, Tourism Management and Hotel Management Studies. Another academic establishment is the Gulf English School, a private, co- educational school offering the General Certificate of Secondary Education (“GCSE”), and the International Baccalaureate programmes. These institutions are facilitated by the Al Rayyan Education Company, a subsidiary of Al Faisal Holding Company.

About Qatar University

Since its inception in 1973, Qatar University has become a model national and major institution of higher education. Today, over 30,900 graduates, and a faculty community of almost 700 members work and study at the University’s seven colleges: the College of Arts & Sciences, the College of Business & Economics, the College of Education, the College of Engineering, the the College of Law, the College of Pharmacy, and the College of Sharia & Islamic Studies. Business courses that are offered at the University such as the Investment and Portfolio Management courses attract professional recognition through their emphasis on close working links with business, industry, and other professions.

About QNB

Qatar National Bank (QNB), established in 1964 as the country’s first Qatari-owned commercial bank, and has steadily grown to be among the largest banks in the region with presence in 22 countries including long established branches in London and Paris and more recently branches in Yemen, Oman, Kuwait & Singapore as well as Representative Offices in Iran & Libya. It is by far the leading financial institution in the country, with a market share approaching 40% of banking sector assets.

QNB offers a full range of Retail, Corporate, Investment, Treasury, Wealth Management, and Islamic Banking products and services for individuals, corporate institutions and government entities in Qatar as well as internationally. QNB has an active community support program and sponsors various social, educational, and sporting events.