



حديقة القرآن النباتية
QUR'ANIC BOTANIC GARDEN
عضو في مؤسسة قطر
Member of Qatar Foundation

QUR'ANIC BOTANIC GARDEN SIGNS PROTOCOL OF COOPERATION WITH THE AGRICULTURE RESEARCH DEPARTMENT OF THE MINISTRY OF MUNICIPALITY AND ENVIRONMENT

QBG Celebrates Qatar National Environment Day 2016

Doha, Qatar, 2 March 2016: Qur'anic Botanic Garden (QBG), a member of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF), recently signed a Protocol of Cooperation (PoC) with the Agriculture Research Department of the Ministry of Municipality and Environment (MME).

The agreement, which was signed on Tuesday, 1st March 2016, aims to strengthen scientific, agricultural, and environmental research in Qatar, through the conservation of national plant resources and modern mechanisms in horticultural preservation and agricultural sustainability. QBG's partnership with the Agriculture Research Department therefore reflects its commitment to enhancing Qatar's sustainable development and reinforces the Environmental Pillar of the Qatar National Vision 2030 (QNV2030).

Project Manager of Qur'anic Botanic Garden, Ms Fatima Bint Saleh Al-Khulaifi, said: "I am delighted that we have signed a Protocol of Cooperation with the Agriculture Research Department of the Ministry of Municipality and Environment. The agreement is extremely beneficial to both entities who have united under common efforts to preserve and protect Qatar's environment. Signing the agreement around Qatar National Environment Day 2016 is particularly poignant, as it demonstrates our commitment to nurturing Qatar's environment, and is-line with the invaluable words of Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, Chairperson of Qatar Foundation, 'If we nurture our environment, it will nurture us'."

During the signing ceremony, which was held at the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Agricultural Research Department Director, Mr Masoud Jarallah Al Marri, said "The Agricultural Research Department is the entity that represents Qatar in international conventions and treaties related to the environment and agriculture. The department also manages the genetic resources of Qatar. I hope that the Protocol of Cooperation will pave the way for us to benefit from these international treaties, and I hope that it will enable the two parties involved to support Qatar, as well as implement the Qatar National Vision 2030."

Ms Aisha Dasman Al Kuwari, Head of Genetic Resources, Agricultural Research Department, Ministry of Municipality and Environment, said: "The Genetic Resources department collects, characterises, and conserves wild plants in Qatar. It conducts various activities, like environmental surveys and storing plants in the Gene Bank, and it aims to establish an integrated database of genetic resources in Qatar. This Protocol of Cooperation will contribute to strengthening our relationship with the Qur'anic Botanic Garden (QBG), and will help to better conserve and preserve Qatar's environment."

The agreement also paves the way for a number of collaborative activities, mutual research benefits, and overall development and education opportunities. This includes publishing co-produced research,



plant conservation, documenting traditional knowledge and heritage, laboratory experiments for tissue culture techniques, and DNA identification, as well as organising technical seminars, workshops, and scientific meetings.

ENDS

About Qur'anic Botanic Garden:

The Qur'anic Botanic Garden, a member of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development, the first of its kind in the world, exhibits all the plant species mentioned in the Holy Qur'an, and those in the Hadith and *Sunnah* (Sayings & traditions of the Prophet Muhammad PBUH). The Garden exhibits the botanical terms mentioned in the Holy Qur'an, explaining the significance of their mention in the Holy Qur'an, as well as the scientific explanations of composition, application and usefulness to man. It inspires appreciation of nature by encouraging respect and responsibility for our environment. The concept comes from a region-wide UNESCO. The idea of the Qur'anic Botanic Garden was started since it was inaugurated by Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, Chairperson of Qatar Foundation on 17 September 2008. To mark the event, she planted the Garden's very first tree, the Sidra (*Ziziphus spina-christi* Willd, Sidr), which is also the symbol of the Foundation.

Qatar Foundation – Unlocking Human Potential

Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development is a private, non-profit organisation that is supporting Qatar on its journey from a carbon economy to knowledge economy by unlocking human potential for the benefit of not only Qatar, but the world. Founded in 1995 by His Highness Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani, the Father Amir of Qatar, QF is chaired by Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser.

QF carries out its mission through three strategic pillars: education, science and research, and community development. QF's education pillar brings world-class universities to Qatar to help create an education sector in which young people can develop the attitudes and skills required for a knowledge economy. Meanwhile, its science and research pillar builds Qatar's innovation and technology capacity by developing and commercialising solutions through key sciences. Finally, its community development pillar helps foster a progressive society while also enhancing cultural life, protecting Qatar's heritage and addressing immediate social needs in the community.