

WISH TO PARTICIPATE AS A PANELLIST AT THE “EMPLOYEE HEALTH AND WELLBEING CONFERENCE”

Event To Address Occupational Health Challenges To The Workforce

Doha, Qatar, 07 October 2015: The World Innovation Summit for Health (WISH), a global initiative of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF), will participate as a panellist at the “Employee Health and Wellbeing Conference,” which will be held in Doha from October 11 to 13, 2015. The conference will be held under the patronage of H.E Abdulla Bin Khalid Al Qahtani, Minister of Public Health, and is officially supported by the Supreme Council of Health.

The conference will explore the assertion that fluctuating business climates, globalisation and difficult work environments are posing wider occupational health challenges to employers. With the aim of reducing the economic burdens of workplace injury and illness, the conference is designed to find the best ways of generating high quality health care for the workforce.

As part of its commitment to healthcare by capturing and disseminating the best evidence-based ideas and practices this area is of particular importance to WISH as it continues to work towards QF’s vision of cementing Qatar’s pioneering role as an emerging centre for healthcare and innovation.

WISH CEO, Egbert Schillings, will speak at a session entitled Wellness Works and Prevention Pays: Business Perspective, on the first day of the conference at 9 am. Mr Schillings will discuss the return on investment that wellness and prevention programmes provide once a business invests in a health strategy.

Mr Schillings said: “A business’s most important asset is its employees. And in a world with rising incidence of lifestyle related diseases, the health of a business depends increasingly on the health of its employees. At the same time 75 percent of all health care costs arise from these largely preventable conditions which the providers in the health care system alone cannot fix. Employers therefore have an important role to play in helping their staff reduce health risk factors including weight, blood pressure, glucose and cholesterol. This conference is extremely timely and throws into stark relief both the challenges and the opportunities in employee health.”

Other topics that will be addressed at the event include Corporate Health as a Key Determinant for Sustainable Development, Countering Air Industry Medical Challenges, Developing Healthy & Resilient Workforces and Pioneering Remote Healthcare. Featuring 30 plus speakers and a choice of over 20 topics, the conference promises to offer a rich selection of industry-leading education and debate.

Embedding the theme of “Global Action Plan – Promote Worker Health & Let the Business Thrive”, the conference will offer invaluable advice and best practice guidance through peer-led interactive sessions, thought provoking debates, real-life case studies, and practical activity-based workshops giving each participant a learning experience unique to their professional needs.

WISH’s participation in the conference hopes to translate what is discussed and learned into being implemented as part of local healthcare policy initiatives.

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About the World Innovation Summit for Health:

The World Innovation Summit for Health (WISH) is a global healthcare community dedicated to capturing and disseminating the best evidence-based ideas and practices. WISH is an initiative of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF) and is under the patronage of Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, its Chairperson.

The inaugural WISH Summit took place in Doha in 2013 and convened more than 1,000 global healthcare leaders. Through international summits and a range of ongoing initiatives, WISH is creating a global community of leading innovators in healthcare policy, research and industry.

Together, they are harnessing the power of innovation to overcome the world’s most urgent healthcare challenges and inspire other stakeholders to action.

Qatar Foundation – Unlocking Human Potential

Qatar Foundation for Education, Science, and Community Development (QF) is a private, non-profit organisation that is supporting Qatar on its journey from 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, QF is chaired by Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser. QF’s work encompasses education, research and community development. World-class universities are brought to Qatar to help create an



education sector in which young people can develop the attitudes and skills required for a knowledge economy. At the same time, QF builds Qatar's innovation and technology capacity by developing and commercialising solutions through key sciences. The Foundation also works to foster a progressive society while enhancing cultural life, protecting Qatar's heritage and addressing immediate social needs in the community.

For a complete list of QF's initiatives and projects, visit <http://www.qf.org.qa>