



LOCAL QATARI SPONSORS SUPPORT REACH OUT TO ASIA TO GIVE YOUTH A VOICE ON GLOBAL STAGE

ROTA Enables Youth To Contribute To UN Secretary General's Report

Doha, Qatar, 10 August, 2015: Reach Out To Asia (ROTA), a member of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF), has unveiled the names of the six local Qatari organisations that will sponsor the first-ever Global Youth Consultation (GYC) for the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA).

As a member of QF, ROTA believes in the importance of unlocking human potential, as well as the development of human capacity in-line with the Human and Social Development Pillars of the Qatar National Vision 2030. Sharing the view that young people are critical actors in rethinking the global humanitarian architecture, ROTA, as the event host, is using its expertise, knowledge, and resources to ensure that the youth are given a voice on the global stage.

The sponsors of the UN's first-ever GYC are Qatar National Bank (QNB), Qatar Airways, Qatar Petroleum (QP), Nakilat, Sheikh Thani Bin Abdullah Foundation for Humanitarian Services (RAF), and United Muslim Relief.

There will also be a number of international partner organisations participating, including the UN Major Group for Children and Youth, World Humanitarian Summit Youth Task Force, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) Societies, the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the UN Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth, and Plan International.

Mr Essa Al Mannai, ROTA's Executive Director, said: "We are proud that ROTA, representing Qatar, is hosting the first-ever Global Youth Consultation for the World Humanitarian Summit where promising young people will be given the opportunity to reshape the world with their dreams and ambitions. We are incredibly thankful to our local Qatari sponsors and partner organisations which will support ROTA to inspire greater action and involvement of youth in humanitarian issues, and provide a platform for the announcement of youth-oriented transformative projects."

Around 300 youngsters from 82 countries will take part in the first GYC on 1st and 2nd September at the Hamad bin Khalifa University Student Centre at Education City. Through



ROTA, sixty participants from Qatar and 240 international delegates aged between 18 and 30 will have the chance to be heard on an international stage.

The World Humanitarian Summit was initiated by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon to improve global disaster preparedness and response. The WHS Global Youth Consultation aims to shape the global youth position by gathering input from youth on humanitarian challenges and solutions. The Consultation will allow the views of the youth to be incorporated into the UN Secretary-General's report, and the overall recommendations for the World Humanitarian Summit, which will be held in Istanbul, Turkey, in 2016.

ROTA was chosen by UNOCHA for its tremendous efforts in supporting the youth, in particular, EMPOWER, ROTA's flagship youth conference which has taken place annually for seven consecutive years. EMPOWER has built a great reputation for enabling young people, from all over the world, to voice their opinions in the global sustainable development agenda.

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About ROTA

Reach Out To Asia is a non-profit organisation launched in December 2005 in Doha, Qatar, by Her Excellency Sheikha Al Mayassa bint Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani. Operating under the auspices of the Qatar Foundation, ROTA is committed to providing high quality and relevant primary and secondary education, encouraging relationships among communities, creating safe learning environments and restoring education in crisis affected areas across Asia and around the world. ROTA envisions a world, where all young people have access to the education they need in order for them to realise their full potential and shape the development of their communities.



For more information about Reach Out To Asia, please visit: www.reachouttoasia.org

About Qatar Foundation

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.

About the World Humanitarian Summit – Global Youth Consultation, Doha, 2015

The World Humanitarian Summit (WHS) is an initiative of UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon to improve global disaster preparedness and response. In the lead-up to the summit in 2016 in Istanbul, the WHS wants to collaborate with young people to create humanitarian solutions. The WHS will leverage off of existing mechanisms and other post-2015 processes. The WHS will also engage in other events and processes that will focus on young people.

For more information please visit <http://rchout.org/whs>

