



## **QATAR FOUNDATION RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT SIGNS MOU WITH KOREAN INSTITUTE**

*Collaboration To Promote And Foster Innovation In Both Countries*

**Doha, Qatar, 12 January 2016:** Qatar Foundation Research and Development (QF R&D) recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Korea Institute of Science & Technology Evaluation and Planning (KISTEP), following a visit by Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, Chairperson of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF), to South Korea last year.

The signing was attended by Dr Hamad Al Ibrahim, Executive Vice President, QF R&D; Dr Dirar Khoury, Executive Director, Research Coordination and Special Initiatives, QF R&D; and Dr Frans Van Den Boom, Executive Director, Policy, Planning, and Evaluations, QF R&D.

QF R&D, a main pillar of QF, plays an active role in promoting QF's vision of cultivating life-long learning with interests in many areas including science and research in Qatar. It also aims to foster a progressive knowledge-based society in-line with the Qatar National Vision 2030.

The memorandum signing will allow QF R&D to incorporate KISTEP's leading strategies and expertise in the fields of research, science, and technology. It will use this expertise to follow KISTEP's successful model, which has resulted in rapid economic growth in South Korea due to the advancement of its science and technology abilities.

Dr Hamad Al Ibrahim hailed the signing, saying: "KISTEP shares a similar vision and mission to QF R&D, and that's why partnering with KISTEP comes as a logical strategic step, where we exchange expertise and utilise both networks to further the research agenda. Partnering with KISTEP will fill the uncertainty gap and will help us to prepare better business plans through KISTEP's very sophisticated tools, such as foresight technology planning."

Professor Young Ah Park, President of KISTEP, said: "Through signing today's MoU we hope to share our knowledge and experience in science and technology planning, coordination, and evaluation systems with QF R&D. As both QF R&D and KISTEP dedicate efforts to establish national policy and development strategies for the advancement of science and technology, I believe we can share valuable insights to promote innovation and the joint growth of both our countries."

**Image Caption:**

**Image 1:** Professor Young Ah Park, President of KISTEP, alongside Dr Hamad Al Ibrahim, Executive Vice President, QF R&D, following the signing ceremony.

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**Qatar Foundation Research & Development**

Qatar Foundation Research and Development (QF R&D) is charged with the Qatar National Research Strategy, dedicated to making Qatar a leading center for research and development excellence and innovation. QF R&D is home to Qatar National Research Fund, a leading scientific research funding organization, Qatar Science & Technology Park, an international hub for technology innovation and commercialization.

For more information, visit: [www.qfrd.org](http://www.qfrd.org)

**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. QF was co-founded in 1995 by His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, the Father Amir, and Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, Qatar Foundation's Chairperson. 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>