

## ECUADORIAN PRESIDENT VISITS QATAR FOUNDATION AND EXPLORES POSSIBLE COLLABORATIONS

*His Excellency Rafael Correa Hails Qatar Foundation As Extremely Impressive During Tour That Included Qatar Science & Technology Park And Carnegie Mellon University In Qatar*

**Doha, Qatar, 25 October 2014:** Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF) hosted the President of the Republic of Ecuador, His Excellency President Rafael Correa as part of his two-day state visit to Qatar.

The Ecuadorian Head of State and his delegation were welcomed to Qatar Foundation Visitor's Centre by Engineer Saad Al Muhannadi, President of QF. President Correa was then introduced to QF through a comprehensive presentation that detailed the many educational initiatives, community development plans and scientific research programmes being undertaken by the Foundation and its many centres.

Following the presentation, the delegation from South America was shown an impressive 3D scale model of the educational and research buildings.

"Qatar Foundation is extremely impressive," observed President Correa. "This is a wonderful campus. It represents a lot of dreams; dreams that are realistic, too. Qatar Foundation is remembering the past, while looking to the future.

"I think there is potential for collaboration between our countries as we are doing similar projects in Ecuador. We have Yachay University – 'The City of Knowledge' – an educational institution with housing and innovative facilities," he added.

As the visit came to a close, President Rafael signed QF's Visitors' Book and was presented with an honorary gift.

From the Visitor's Centre, the President and his delegation moved to Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar. Located in Education City, it is one of the partner universities of QF member Hamad bin Khalifa University (HBKU). The party was given a tour of the facilities and learned more about the prestigious university's innovative programmes in business administration, computer science and information systems.

The visit concluded with President Correa visiting the headquarters of Qatar Foundation Research and Development's Qatar Science and Technology Park (QSTP). Accompanied by Mr Hamad Al Kuwari, Director General of QSTP, the visiting delegation benefited from an in-depth look at the Qatar Robotic Surgery Centre and its activities, which include training programmes for surgeons, healthcare professionals and scientists, and the development of advanced surgical technologies.

**Image1-** The President of the Republic of Ecuador, President Rafael Correa (right), being introduced to Qatar Foundation through a comprehensive presentation while accompanied by Engineer Saad Al Muhannadi, President of Qatar Foundation (left), and other senior management representatives.

**Image2:** Engineer Saad Al Muhannadi, President of Qatar Foundation, pictured left, describing the current, and future, educational and research buildings at Qatar Foundation to President Rafael and his delegation through an impressive 3D scale model of the campus.

**Image 3:** President Rafael of Ecuador signing Qatar Foundation’s Visitors’ Book in the presence of Engineer Saad Al Muhannadi, President of Qatar Foundation.

**Image 4:** President Rafael of Ecuador and his delegation being welcomed to the Qatar Foundation Visitor’s Centre by Engineer Saad Al Muhannadi, President of Qatar Foundation.

**Image 5:** The President of the Republic of Ecuador, His Excellency President Rafael Correa, left, receiving a guided tour of the Qatar Science & Technology Park (QSTP) by the Managing Director of QSTP Mr Hamad Al Kuwari, during a visit to Qatar Foundation.

**Image 6:** The President of the Republic of Ecuador, His Excellency President Rafael Correa, left, and the Managing Director of Qatar Science and Technology Park, Mr Hamad Al Kuwari, during a visit to Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development.

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### **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 Emir, 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 commercializing 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>***