



## H.H. SHEIKHA MOZA PARTICIPATES IN NATIONAL SPORT DAY WITH QATAR FOUNDATION

*Thousands of Community Members take part in QF's Fun-Filled Program of Activities*

**Doha, Qatar, February 13, 2018:** Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, Chairperson of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF), participated in QF's National Sport Day activities this morning at Education City.

H.H. Sheikha Moza was joined by a number of high profile officials, including H.E. Sheikh Joaan bin Hamad Al Thani, President of the Qatar Olympic Committee; H.E. Dr. Mohammed bin Saleh Al-Sada, Minister of Energy and Industry; H.E. Dr. Hamad Bin Abdulaziz Al Kuwari, Minister of State; and Alistair Routledge, President of ExxonMobil Qatar, as well as thousands of visitors.

QF's National Sport Day program kicked off with a 2km Walkathon around Education City, followed by a 40km Cycle and a 50km Ultra Marathon, which started out from the Ceremonial Court. Additionally, visitors to AL SHAQAB enjoyed a day of high-energy pursuits, under the title 'The Challenge', where participants competed in a series of challenging physical activities that tested skills such as strength, strategy, balance, concentration, and competition.

Mrs. Machaille Al-Naimi, President of Community Development, QF, said: "Our National Sport Day program highlights QF's commitment to creating an active, sports-loving society, while encouraging the public to make long-lasting health and lifestyle changes. QF's celebrations, which are designed to cater for all ages and athletic abilities, are part of a wider, year-round, and community-inspired campaign, aimed at fostering a socially-engaged society and promoting the physical and mental well-being of all."

A range of activities also took place at QF's Oxygen Park, including football, treasure hunts, jump rope, beach tennis, pony riding, and a selection of fun children's activities. Families with young children also enjoyed games and sports at the QF Recreation Center, such as swimming for children with autism, goal ball – a football activity for the blind, as well as a gymnastics and trampoline display, a squash tournament, slalom football, and blindfolded football designed to raise awareness about loss of vision.

Furthermore, a range of ladies-only activities were held at the Education City Student Center, and at AL SHAQAB during the afternoon. Outdoor games and activities also took place on the Green Spine and at the Ceremonial Court throughout the day.

Mrs. Mayan Zebeib, Chief Communications Officer, QF, said: "As a leading agent of change in Qatar, QF actively participates and supports national initiatives such as National Sport Day. We're absolutely delighted to welcome so many people to Education City today to share our celebrations. Our diverse



range of activities ensures the local population is given access to some of the country's best sporting and recreational facilities."

Additionally, a number of students from the Doha Centre for Media Freedom attended QF's day-long event to practice reporting and to interact with participants. Lolwa Abdulaziz Al-Ansari, a 13-year-old student from Barzan Independent Preparatory School for Girls, said: "I'm very interested in pursuing a career in media, which is why I'm interning with the Doha Centre for Media Freedom. I'm really enjoying being at Qatar Foundation today and seeing all the activities on offer. We're hoping to interview some of the participants; we're going to ask them about their day and sports routines."

Speaking at the start line of the Ultra Marathon event, Qatari athlete Salman Al Khanji said: "I'm very excited to be taking part in today's event. I did a two-week walk around all of Qatar last year and I hope to run the full 50km today. This is a wonderful event and I'm very thankful to Qatar Foundation for staging it."

Noora Almarri, a Qatari mother, who attended with her family, said: "I'm here with my children and brother today, and each of us are looking forward to taking part in different activities. My children are excited about the treasure hunt and pony rides at Oxygen Park. It's great that there's something for everyone to enjoy. I've always wanted to try Zumba, and I think this is the perfect day to do it. I'm glad they have a separate area exclusively for ladies to try this out."

Sponsors of QF's 2018 National Sport Day events included Vodafone, platinum sponsor; Sidra Medicine and Astad, gold sponsors; and Centerpoint, silver sponsor.

**-ENDS-**

### **Qatar Foundation – Unlocking Human Potential**

Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF) is a non-profit organization that supports Qatar on its journey to becoming a diversified and sustainable economy. QF strives to serve the people of Qatar and beyond by providing specialized programs across its innovation-focused ecosystem of education, research and development, and community development.

QF was founded in 1995 by His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, the Father Emir, and Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, who shared the vision to provide Qatar with quality education. Today, QF's world-class education system offers lifelong learning opportunities to community members as young as six months through to doctoral level, enabling graduates to thrive in a global environment and contribute to the nation's development.

QF is also creating a multidisciplinary innovation hub in Qatar, where homegrown researchers are working to address local and global challenges. By promoting a culture of lifelong learning and fostering



social engagement through programs that embody Qatari culture, QF is committed to empowering the local community and contributing to a better world for all.

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