



HEC Paris honors Class of 2016 at Qatar Foundation Convocation

Doha, Qatar – May 3, 2016: HEC Paris, ranked number two worldwide for Executive Education by the Financial Times in 2015, congratulated its new graduates for having successfully completed the Executive MBA and Specialized Master[®] in Strategic Business Unit Management.

The Qatar Foundation Convocation, organized in honor of the new graduates, was held on 3 May 2016, at the Qatar National Convention Centre (QNCC). This year's batch includes 45 Executive MBA (EMBA) and 49 Specialized Master[®] in Strategic Business Unit Management (SBUM) participants of HEC Paris in Qatar along with those from other degree programs offered by HBKU and other universities operating in partnership with Qatar Foundation.

Amongst its distinguished graduates, HEC Paris is particularly proud to welcome to its growing base of influential alumni Her Excellency Sheikha Hind bint Hamad Al Thani – Vice Chairperson and CEO of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF) is one of the prominent graduates of this year's EMBA. Following her successful graduation she commented: "I am proud to be among the Class of 2016 graduates of Qatar Foundation and HEC Paris In Qatar this year. Education is a continuous process that I believe is a necessity for progression. It is very rewarding to graduate from the same organization that I am a part of today, which aims to offer the new generations a new horizon for education and a passport to a brighter future."

"On behalf of HEC Paris, its faculty, staff and participants in Qatar, I feel truly honored to applaud this year's select batch of graduates, in particular the graduates of our EMBA and SBUM programs," said Prof. Laoucine Kerbache, Dean & CEO of HEC Paris in Qatar. "Their diligence and commitment to successfully completing these demanding programs has indeed paid off. "

"The overwhelming response from aspiring professionals, particularly from Qatari men and women, is heartening and serves as evidence that this program runs parallel to the needs of Qatarization. We are

confident that these programs will have a significant impact on building a new breed of entrepreneurial leaders who will influence the future course of leading business organizations in Qatar," he added.

Professor Peter Todd, Dean of HEC Paris, a special guest at the convocation was delighted to comment: "This is my second visit to Qatar since my appointment as Dean of HEC Paris, and with each visit I feel more and more proud of the incredible community of inspiring students, graduates and alumni HEC has trained. I have no doubt these will be exceptional architects for Qatar and its region tomorrow."

This year's cohort comprised 40 Qataris out of 49 participants in the SBUM program and 23 Qataris out of 45 participants in the EMBA program – a true reflection of the growing popularity among Qataris for the programs offered by HEC Paris in Qatar. Of these, 34 participants among this year's graduates were women. Notably, the two programs attracted 31 non-Qataris representing 16 different nationalities. This is indicative of the multinational appeal of the programs.

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Media inquiries:

Salwa Ghorayeb,
Account Manager, Action Qatar
Tel: 00974 44361499
Email: salwa.g@actionprgroup.com

Notes to Editors

HEC Paris

Specializing in management education and research, HEC Paris offers a complete and unique range of educational programs for the leaders of tomorrow: Masters programs, Summer School, MBA, PhD, Executive MBA, TRIUM Global Executive MBA, open-enrolment and custom executive education programs.

Founded in 1881 by the Paris Chamber of Commerce and Industry, HEC Paris is a founding member of the Université Paris-Saclay. It boasts a faculty of 138 full-time professors, more than 4,400 students and over 8,000 managers and executives in training each year.

In 2010, HEC Paris joined Qatar Foundation and brought world-class Executive Education programs and research activity to Doha and the region. By 2011, HEC Paris launched Qatar's first international EMBA. The HEC Executive MBA (EMBA) is a part-time program that provides executives with a set of fundamental skills to expand their knowledge and leadership capabilities. In addition to the EMBA, HEC Paris provides in Qatar a Specialized Master's Degree in Strategic Business Unit Management. The institution also offers non-degree management programs for executives, in the form of open enrolment programs as well as custom-designed programs for individual companies. It has also recently introduced bespoke executive management programs for Family Owned Businesses (FOB) that are designed to meet the specific and individual needs of each client and are aimed at key decision makers, from Board level to middle management. The programs and research activities of HEC Paris in Qatar build corporate competitiveness within the global economy and are fully aligned with Qatar National Vision 2030 to support the transformation of Qatar into an advanced, competitive and knowledge-based economy. Accordingly, HEC Paris has opened a Research Office that has resulted in a number of case studies and innovative articles being published in renowned academic journals and presented at international conferences. In 2015, HEC Paris was ranked number two worldwide in Executive Education by the influential UK-based Financial Times media group. <http://www.exed.hec.edu/hec-qatar>

Qatar Foundation

Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development is a private, non-profit organization that serves the people of Qatar by supporting and operating programs in three core mission areas: education, science and research, and community development. The Foundation strives to nurture the future leaders of Qatar. By example and by sharing its experience, the Foundation also contributes to human development nationally, regionally, and internationally. In all of its activities, the Foundation promotes a culture of excellence in Qatar and furthers its role in supporting an innovative and open society that aspires to develop sustainable human capacity, social, and economic prosperity for a knowledge-based economy. <http://www.qf.org.qa/>