



Special Edition

Power Transition in Qatar

by Edgar Zedler

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H.H. Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar

On 25th June 2013 the Emir of Qatar, H.H. Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani, announced his resignation in favour of his son, the designated heir apparent, H.H. Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani. With this step he fosters and gives power to the young generation of the country. H.H. Sheikh Hamad al-Thani's achievements shaped the current status of Qatar and also will do so in the future. Thanks to his leadership, Qatar has evolved from a small desert country into a diplomatic and economic global player and the world's third largest exporter of liquid natural gas. It is very much due

to his efforts that the small country is hosting the World Cup 2022. To this end he started to develop Qatar's infrastructure. For example, he drove forward the construction of mega projects like The Pearl, the New Doha Port and the tellingly new Hamad International Airport. Up until 2022 and beyond Qatar wants to become a regional transportation, finance, tourism and business hub, all made possible through the development programme 'Qatar National Vision 2030', which was to a great extent envisaged by H.H. Sheikh Hamad al-Thani. He explained his decision to transfer power to his son during a live

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ABU DHABI: SEWAGE SYSTEM WITH STRATEGY.


On the basis of the 2030 master plan, a gigantic new sewage network is being built in the desert metropolis of Abu Dhabi, which will connect new city and industrial areas. The "Strategic Tunnel Enhancement Program", in short "STEP", includes a main collector (deep tunnel sewer) with a length of 40 kilometers in three lots, as well as inflow link sewer and pump stations.

Herrenknecht has delivered five tunnel boring machines (EPB Shields) for the project lot 2 and 3. They are designed to withstand high groundwater pressures of up to 8bar, and have been working successfully since April 2011. In April and May 2012, Impregilo's tunnelling experts achieved breakthrough with the first 3 machines after daily top performances of up to 33 rings (Segment length: 1.400mm). The two other EPB Shields are underway at full speed. The concrete segments for the tunnel lining are delivered by a lining segment production plant, which was planned, equipped and put into operation with the help of Herrenknecht Formwork engineers. In the form of innovative rolling stock transport systems, MSD provides support for efficient jobsite logistics.

The project is well underway with Herrenknecht technology and competent partners from the region. This means that Abu Dhabi will soon have plenty of purified water for the irrigation of the desert city.

ABU DHABI | UAE

PROJECT DATA

 S-582, S-583, S-584,
S-649, S-654, 5x EPB Shields
Diameter: 3x 6,310mm, 2x 6,950mm
Installed power: 3x 945kW,
2x 1,200kW
Tunnel lengths: 4,590m, 5,152m,
4,808m, 4,846m, 4,260m
Geology: clay stone, gypsum, sands-
tone/limestone

CONTRACTOR

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The New Cabinet of the State of Qatar

Minister	Ministerial Post	Status
Sheikh Abdullah bin Nasser bin Khalifa al-Thani	Prime Minister and Interior Minister	New Minister (formerly Minister of State of Internal Affairs)
Ahmed bin Abdullah bin Zaid al-Mahmoud	Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs	Retained
Dr. Khalid bin Mohamed al-Attiyah	Foreign Minister	New Minister (formerly Minister of State for Foreign Affairs)
Hamad bin Ali al-Attiyah	Minister of State for Defence Affairs	New Minister (formerly Chief of General Staff of Qatar Armed Forces)
Sheikh Abdulrahman bin Khalifa al-Thani	Minister of Municipality and Urban Planning	Retained
Dr. Mohammed bin Saleh al-Sada	Minister of Energy and Industry	Retained
Ali Sherif al-Emadi	Minister of Finance	New Minister
Dr. Hamad bin Abdulaziz al-Kuwari	Minister of Culture, Arts and Heritage	Retained
Abdullah bin Khalid al-Qahtani	Minister of Public Health	Retained
Dr. Ghaith bin Mubarak al-Kuwari	Minister of Endowments (Awqaf) and Islamic Affairs	Retained
Salah bin Ghanem bin Nasser al-Ali	Minister of Youth and Sports	New Ministry
Sheikh Ahmed bin Jassim al-Thani	Minister of Economy and Trade	New Ministry
Dr. Hassan Lahdan Saqr al-Mohannadi	Minister of Justice	New Minister
Dr. Issa Saad Al-Jafali al-Nuaimi	Minister of Administrative Development	New Ministry
Dr. Hessa Sultan al-Jaber	Minister of Communication and Information Technology	New Ministry
Dr. Saleh Mohamed Salem al-Nabit	Minister of Development Planning and Statistics	New Ministry
Mohammed Abdul Wahed Ali al-Hammadi	Minister of Education and Higher Education	New Minister
Abdullah Saleh Mubarak al-Khulaifi	Minister of Labour and Social Affairs	New Minister
Ahmed Amer Mohamed al-Humaidi	Minister of Environment	New Minister
Jassim Seif Ahmed al-Sulaiti	Minister of Transport	New Ministry

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broadcast, as he stated: "The time has come to turn a new leaf in the history of our nation, where a new generation steps forward to shoulder the responsibility with their dynamic potential and creative thoughts." The new Emir, H.H. Sheikh Tamim al-Thani, born in 1980 and at 33 years of age the region's youngest leader, was appointed heir apparent in 2003 and fulfils the image his father drew in his speech. In 1997 he graduated from Shireburn High School in the UK and, like his father, subsequently attended the Royal Military Academy in Sandhurst. Since then he has held several high-ranking positions in Qatar. For instance, he was declared Commander in Chief of the Qatari Army. He has also held different leading positions in several organisations and institutions, such as the National Olympic Committee of Qatar, given that he is a sports enthusiast like his father. He is also the Chairman of the Qatar Investment Authority, the Chairman of the Supreme Council for the Environment and Natural Reserves and the Chairman of Ashgal, Qatar's Public Works Authority. The transition of power came at short notice but was not unexpected. Since 2003 he has been prepared for his future role and accompanied H.H. Sheikh Hamad al-Thani at official appointments. Thus he will certainly pursue the strategy of his father by further modernising Qatar and preparing the country for the challenges to come. In his first address to the Qatari nation, on 26th June, he underlined that the issues of Qatar and the Qatari people have the highest priorities, including the interests of the citizens, society, economy, politics, cultural identity, humanity and Qatar's affiliations to the Gulf region, Arab and Islamic worlds as well as the international community. He also intends to continue the advancement of the country's economy, the development of services, construction of public facilities, development of the youth and sports sectors and the diversification of income sources.

H.H. Sheikh Tamim al-Thani stressed that changing the Emir of the State of Qatar does not mean that the challenges and tasks for the state have changed: Challenges such as new investment in the oil and gas industry and further developing

the infrastructure. He then pointed out his plans to restructure the Qatari government in order to reduce duplication and to place all public domains under the responsibility of well-defined and specific ministries. Qatar will continue to invest in several sectors, but with an eye on better results and outputs. Regarding its international diplomatic relationship, Qatar wants to maintain its brotherly relations and friendship with the Arab and Islamic nations as well as its cooperation with the Gulf Cooperation Council and the Arab League and their institutions. Another important issue of his address was the announcement of a new cabinet.

Besides a general rejuvenation, the formation of new and the reshaping of current ministries, a woman, H.E. Dr. Hessa Sultan al-Jaber, was appointed as Minister of the newly formed Ministry of Communication and Information Technology. The change with the most impact on Qatar's politics, however, is the release of H.E. Sheikh Hamad bin Jassim al-Thani from his positions as Prime Minister and Foreign Minister since he shaped Qatar's policy for many years. His roles are now split under H.E. Sheikh



H.E. Gerhard Schröder, Former Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany and Honorary Chairman of NUMOV, the German Near and Middle East Association and H.H. Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani, Emir of Qatar

Abdullah bin Nasser bin Khalifa al-Thani, former Minister of State for Interior Affairs, as new Prime Minister, while H.E. Khalid bin Mohammed al-Attiah, former Minister for Foreign Affairs, now holds the position of Foreign Minister. It is very likely that there will be a continuation under the leadership of H.H. Sheikh Tamim al-Thani. However, experts assume that he will focus more on the domestic challenges such as pushing forward the infrastructural projects in connection with the World Cup 2022: For example the construction of stadiums, the implementation of a railway and metro network and the expansion of accommodation for tourists. The financial, diplomatic and cultural foundations, built under the leadership of H.H. Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani for these goals are very well laid.



H.H. Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani, Former Emir of the State of Qatar and H.H. Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani, New Emir of the State of Qatar



official swearing-in ceremony of the New Cabinet of the State of Qatar

Sheikh Abdullah bin Nasser bin Khalifa al-Thani, Prime Minister and Interior Minister



H.E. Sheikh Abdullah bin Nasser bin Khalifa al-Thani, Prime Minister and Interior Minister

On the 26th of June 2013 the new Emir of Qatar, H.H. Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani, announced H.E. Sheikh Abdullah bin Nasser bin Khalifa al-Thani as Qatar's new Prime Minister and Minister of the Interior. H.E. Sheikh


Department. In 2002, he was appointed Director of the Special Security Forces and in 2004 Commander of the Interior Ministry's Special Forces. In 2005, H.E. Sheikh Abdullah was assigned the position as Minister of State for Interior

Abdullah bin Nasser bin Khalifa al-Thani has served in the interior ministry for many years and is said to be close to the new Emir. H.E. Sheikh Abdullah was educated abroad. He graduated from the British Durham Military College in 1984 and also obtained a Bachelor's degree in law from the American University of Beirut in Lebanon.

Initially, he held several positions in the military, such as the Commander of Special Operations Battalion or Commander of the Special Unit at the Special Security Force

Affairs and he became a member of the Council of Ministers. Amongst other responsibilities, he was in charge of developing and expanding the various departments within the ministry.

Even though he had only just become de facto appointed Interior Minister, he had already taken over some of the duties of his predecessor, H.E. Sheikh Abdullah bin Khaled al-Thani, who officially had held the position since 2001.

Throughout his career and in order to prepare him for his current office, H.E. Sheikh Abdullah has completed plenty of training abroad, such as aircrafts and airports security courses and courses on developing anti-terrorist data collection methods. One of his honourable positions is that of Chairman of the Security Committee for Organizing the Qatar World Cup 2022. H.E. Sheikh Abdullah is related to the former Emir, H.H. Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani, as he is the son of H.E. Sheikh Nasser bin Khalifa al-Thani. In his private life, H.E. Sheikh Abdullah bin Nasser bin Khalifa al-Thani is married and has six children. 


Ahmad bin Abdullah bin Zaid al-Mahmoud, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs



H.E. Ahmed bin Abdullah bin Zaid al-Mahmoud, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs

H.E. Ahmad bin Abdullah bin Zaid al-Mahmoud has been appointed Qatar's new Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for the Council of Ministers Affairs. H.E. Ahmad bin Abdullah

bin Zaid al-Mahmoud obtained his academic education abroad. In 1976, he graduated from Cairo University with a Bachelor of Arts in Arabic and Islamic Studies before pursuing his Master's Degree in Economics at the Central Michigan University in the United States of America. Since 1976, H.E. Ahmad bin Abdullah bin Zaid al-Mahmoud has been active in the diplomatic corps assuming the role of Third Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as his first position. He continued to work in the various departments of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs before taking up his first posting abroad as Chargé d'Affairs of Qatar's Embassy in Algeria in 1983. Afterwards, he went on to become Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the State of Qatar to the Sultanate of Oman 1984-1986 and to the United States of America from 1987-1989. Upon his return

to Qatar, he served as Under Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs from 1989-1995 and as Minister of Foreign Affairs since 1996. In 1999 he was also made a Member of the Council of the Ministers and Chairman of the Standing Committee for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs between 2001 and 2011. In addition to that, Ahmad bin Abdullah bin Zaid al-Mahmoud has been Deputy Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the University of Qatar since 2004 and Chairman of the Committee of Boundary Issues since 1995. Up until today, he still holds both positions. Moreover, between 2010 and 2012 he was also the Chairman of Qatar's Development Fund. In July 2008, he was appointed Minister of State for Foreign Affairs. Since 2011 he has held the position of Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for the Council of Ministers affairs. 

Dr. Khalid bin Mohamed al-Attiyah, Foreign Minister

Qatar's new Minister of Foreign Affairs, H.E. Dr. Khalid bin Mohamed al-Attiyah has served in several official state positions. With his appointment he succeeds H.E. Sheikh Hamad bin Jassim al-Thani, former Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs. He pursued his education at the King Faisal Aviation College in Saudi Arabia and at the Beirut Arab University, earning Bachelor's Degrees in aviation science in 1987 and law in 1993. He furthered his education by earning a Master's Degree in public law in 1999 and a doctorate in law in 2006 from Cairo University. In addition to his academic qualifications, he pursued a career as a fighter pilot in the Qatari air force from 1987-1995. In 1995 he moved his professional career into the field of law and established a private legal practice called Khalid bin Mohammed al-Attiyah Firm for Legal Consultations and Services. In 2003, H.E. Dr. Khalid bin

Mohamed al-Attiyah started his political career with his position as President of the National Committee for Human Rights, which he held until 2008. He also served as Member of the Board of Trustees of the Arab Democracy Foundation and as Member of the Board of Directors of the Qatar Electricity & Water Company. In June 2009 he was appointed Acting Minister of Business and Trade and Vice-Chairman of the Qatar Financial Center Authority. In the same year, he took over as Chairman of the Board of Directors at Qatar Stock Exchange and Vice-Chairman of the Supreme Council for Information Technology and Communications. His election as Member of the Board of Trustees of Silatech and Member of the Board of Directors and Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Qatari Diar Real Estate Investment Company also took place in 2009. Two years later, in



H.E. Khalid bin Mohamed al-Attiyah, Foreign Minister

2011, H.E. Dr. Khalid bin Mohamed al-Attiyah was appointed Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and Member of the Council of Ministers before he was promoted to Minister of Foreign Affairs in the newly formed cabinet in June 2013. 

Dr. Mohammed bin Saleh al-Sada, Minister of Energy and Industry

H.E. Dr. Mohammed bin Saleh al-Sada graduated from Qatar University with a Bachelor of Science in marine science and geology. He also holds a PhD from the University of Manchester's Institute of Science and Technology.

H.E. al-Sada served as the Technical Director of Qatar Petroleum, where he managed massive oil and gas infrastructure projects.

Since August 2006 he has been serving as the Managing Director of RasGas Liquefied Natural Gas Company. He is also the Vice Chairman of the Board of the Qatar Chemical Company and Qatar Steel Company and the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Qatar Metals Coating Company. In April 2007 al-Sada was appointed as a cabinet member and Minister of State for Energy and Industry Affairs. He replaced H.E. Abdullah bin Hamad al-Attiyah as Minister of Industry &

Energy in January 2011 in a reshuffle of the cabinet. He has served as a member of Qatar's Permanent Constitution Preparation Committee, the Supreme Education Council, and the National Committee for Human Rights.

He brings with him a wealth of experience, with around 30 years in the energy and industry sectors of Qatar.

Oil revenues in Qatar have been optimally employed in laying out solid foundations for the development of oil and gas and other industrial sectors.

The establishment of ultra-modern infrastructures capable of servicing national industries has been implemented, responding to Qatar's changing needs and future challenges. The Ministry has set itself many goals, such as the development and support of industrial ventures in a way that helps



H.E. Mohammed bin Saleh al-Sada, Minister of Energy and Industry

diversify national income sources and encouraging the private sector to increase its contribution to the strengthening of the integration between the oil and gas sector which should be accomplished by investments in the manufacturing and other economic sectors.

Ali Sherif al-Emadi, Minister of Finance



H.E. Ali Sherif al-Emadi, Minister of Finance

H.E. Ali Sherif al-Emadi remains Qatar's Minister of Finance. He obtained his Bachelor's Degree in

Financial Science at the University of Arizona in the United States of America. Before he became the Minister of Finance, he gained helpful and important experience for the task during his tenure as the Chief Executive Officer at Qatar National Bank (QNB) for eight years.

He started his work there in 1998 and worked simultaneously as the Chairman of the Board of Directors of QNB in Switzerland. Since August 2005 he has been the Chief Executive of Qatar's National Bank Group.

H.E. Ali Sherif al-Emadi is a Member of the Board of Directors of the Advisory Council for Emerging Markets of the International Finance Institute. H.E. Ali Sherif Al-Emadi faces the task of bringing

discipline to a public sector that has some weaknesses right now due to its size. His challenge is to enable Qatar to deliver on its huge infrastructure projects in time for the 2022 World Cup, to diversify its economy, and to encourage more nationals into the private sector, despite a social contract providing them with secure public sector jobs. The Ministry of Finance in Qatar proposes objectives and tools for financial policy in line with the national development requirements, working to develop and implement the state's public budget. Furthermore, it collects public revenues, including taxes and tolls, according to the Qatari law. From an international perspective, the Ministry of Finance for formulating of financial ties with other countries such as double taxation agreements.

Sheikh Ahmed bin Jassim bin Mohamed al-Thani, Minister of Economy and Trade

H.E. Ahmed bin Jassim bin Mohamed al-Thani is a member of the Royal Family and graduate of the Imperial College and the Carnegie Mellon Tepper School of Business in Pittsburgh. Before his career as a politician, he was a successful businessman. Sheikh Ahmed al-Thani is an influential personality in Qatar. The economic magazine Arabian Business named him the most powerful Qatari businessman in 2012. He was chosen as the 38th most powerful Arab by the magazine Gulf Business in 2013.

Before being chosen as Minister of Economy and Trade, H.E. Ahmed bin Jassim bin Mohamed al-Thani worked for the world's largest LNG producer Qatargas, where he was in charge of several petroleum engineering projects in Qatar and abroad. He was also a Member of the Board at Qatargas.

In September 2011 he became the Director General of the Al Jazeera network, the well-known and influential global media network which is the widely-recognised Arab mouthpiece to the West. Al-Thani's nomination as minister in the new cabinet of Emir H.H. Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani came at a crucial juncture for the network, which is gearing up for the launch of Al Jazeera America in late August 2013.

Since June 2013 H.E. Ahmed bin Jassim bin Mohamed al-Thani has served as Minister of Economy and Trade. In a restructuring move by the country's new Emir, the former Ministry of Economy and Finance has been transformed into the Ministry of Economy and Trade. The former Minister of Economy and Finance was Yousef Hussain Kamal. Additionally, H.E. al-Thani, together with Qatar's new



H.E. Sheikh Ahmed bin Jassim bin Mohamed al-Thani,
Minister of Economy and Trade

Finance Minister H.E. Ali Sherif Al Emadi, was appointed to the new Administrative Council of the Sovereign Wealth Fund. The chairmanship will be held by H.H. Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani. 

Dr. Hussan Lahdan Saqr al-Mohannadi, Minister of Justice

H.E. Dr. Hassan Lahdan Saqr al-Mohannadi was born in 1967 and was appointed Minister of Justice at the Cabinet reshuffle on 26th June 2013.

After his graduation from the University of Cairo in 1985 and his graduation as PhD. in Law from Southampton University in the UK in 1999, he became Director of Legal Affairs in the Emiri Diwan and Second Director of the Legislative Department at the Council of Ministers, therefore able to supervise preparations of laws and bylaws and other legislations.

H.E. al-Mohannadi participated on various committees and is a Member of the Board of Directors in several bodies and institutions, for example the Hamad Medical Corporation. He is married and father of two boys and two girls. Furthermore, he got involved with the


support of the Qatar University by teaching Law there.

As newly appointed Minister of Justice, he will advocate legal awareness and respect for the law within the state of Qatar.

Under his leadership, the Ministry of Justice will further provide legal services and training to lawyers and lawmakers within the government, publish information about the country's Emiri decrees and legal developments, and draft and implement policies and legalisations to protect intellectual property rights. Moreover, the investigation and prosecuting of cases of piracy and trademark rights violation as well as the provision of legal and authentication services to citizens and residents now belong to his field of responsibility. H.E.



H.E. Hassan Lahdan Saqr al-Mohannadi, Minister of
Justice

Dr. Hassan Lahdan Saqr al-Mohannadi succeeds H.E. Hassan bin Abdullah Al-Ghanem, who had been appointed Minister of Justice in 1999, and former Minister of Justice H.E. Dr. Najib Muhammad Al-Nuaimi. 

Dr. Issa Saad al-Jafali al-Nuaimi, Minister of Administrative Development



H.E. Issa Saad Al-Jafali al-Nuaimi, Minister of Administrative Development

H.E. Dr. Issa Saad al-Nuaimi has been appointed Minister of Administrative Development. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Law from the University of Beirut, a Master Degree and a PhD in

General Law from the University of Cairo. After H.E. al-Nuaimi worked in the Ministry of Interior from 1990-2000 and at the Prime Minister's Office from 2000-2004, he became the Director of the Legislative Department in the Council of Ministers.

His field of responsibilities included the supervision of preparations of laws and bylaws and other legislations. From 2007-2008 he was Assistant to the Under Secretary in the Council of Ministers. In 2010, H.E. al-Nuaimi became Secretary General of the Council of Ministers and the Permanent Committee for Legislative Affairs.

As newly appointed Minister of Administrative Development, H.E. Dr. Issa Saad al-Nuaimi will provide further expertise in the various fields of

administrative development, which cover research activities and consultations to most government institutions.

He will also be responsible for research and consultancy studies and projects, for the publication of books, periodicals and scientific bulletins in the field of administrative development, and for the collection, the categorisation and classification of administrative documents. Under his leadership, programmes and training courses, seminars, conferences, meetings and scientific symposiums will be set and planned. Studies and organisational as well as administrative researches will be conducted through cooperation with ministries and other governmental bodies, corporations and public institutions and supervised to meet the consultancy and research needs of these bodies.

Dr. Hessa Sultan al-Jaber, Minister of Communication and Information Technology

H.E. Dr. Hessa Sultan al-Jaber has been appointed Qatar's new Minister for Communication and Information Technology. H.E. Dr. al-Jaber obtained her academic education abroad. In 1981, she graduated from Kuwait University with the Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering, before graduating with a Master's Degree in 1986 and a PhD in Computer Science from George Washington University in the United States of America in 1990. H.E. Dr. al-Jaber has wide experience in Communication and Information Technology. Prior to becoming Minister for Communication and Information Technology, H.E. Dr. al-Jaber was the Secretary General of the Supreme Council of Information and Communication Technology, ictQatar and had overseen the liberalisation of Qatar's communication market ushering in an era of choice and competition and helping to

modernise the ICT infrastructure since 2004. During her responsibility at ictQatar, she spearheaded major initiatives in e-government, education and business. With her modern initiatives she made the government more transparent and accessible for its people. She also led Qatar's initiative to build the first high-capacity satellite "Es'hail", which is scheduled for launch in the summer of 2013. H.E. Dr. al-Jaber was previously also a member of the strategic ICT Committee and was responsible for shaping Qatar's national ICT strategy. Earlier she was the IT advisor for Qtel and served as Chair Woman of the Computer Science Department at Qatar University. H.E. Dr. al-Jaber still currently serves as a member on the WHO/ITU Commission on Information and Accountability for Women and Children's Health. She is also a member of several boards, including the



H.E. Hessa Sultan al-Jaber, Minister of Communication and Information Technology

Board of Regents of Qatar University, the Board of Governors of the American School of Doha and more. According to Forbes magazine, H.E. Dr. Hessa al-Jaber is the one of the most powerful women in the Arab World.



Hamad bin Ali al-Attiyah, Minister of State for Defence Affairs

H.E. Hamad bin Ali al-Attiyah, Minister of State for Defence Affairs and Cabinet member



Ahmed Amer Mohamed al-Humaidi, Minister of Environment

H.E. Ahmed Amer Mohamed al-Humaidi, Minister of Environment

Abdullah bin Khalid al-Qahtani, Minister of Public Health

H.E. Abdullah bin Khalid al-Qahtani has held his position as the Minister of Public Health and General Secretary of the Supreme Council of Health since 2009. He has long-standing experience in ministerial work as he was appointed as the Under Secretary of the Ministry of Business and Trade from 2007 to 2009. From 2003 to 2007 he supervised the Doha Asian Games Organizing Committee as Director General.

In addition to his ministerial position, H.E. Abdullah bin Khalid al-Qahtani is also active as the Chairman of the Al Meera Company. Prior to this he was the Chairman of the Qatar Sport Investment Company and Vice Chairman of the

Hassad Company and the Competition Protection Committee. H.E. Abdullah bin Khalid al-Qahtani holds a Master of Science degree in Accounting from the American University in Washington D.C., USA.

H.E. Abdullah bin Khalid al-Qahtani achieved a position as Member of the Executive Board in the World Health Organization in the year 2011. The Executive Board is composed of 34 persons who are technically qualified in the field of health, each designated by a member state that has been elected to serve by the World Health Assembly. Member States are elected for three-year terms.



*H.E. Abdullah bin Khalid al-Qahtani,
Minister of Public Health*

Sheikh Abdulrahman bin Khalifa bin Abdulaziz al-Thani, Minister of Municipality and Urban Planning



H.E. Sheikh Abdulrahman bin Khalifa bin Abdulaziz al-Thani, Minister of Municipality and Urban Planning

After graduating from Qatar University in 1993, H.E. Sheikh Abdulrahman bin Khalifa bin Abdulaziz al-Thani joined the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Agriculture as trainee engineer in the same year. He obtained his Masters Degree and started working at the Building Engineering Department of the

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Agriculture as a Project Coordinator, later becoming the Project Director in 1997.

After working as the Director of the Engineering Department at the Special Engineering Bureau, he was promoted to become the Director of the Special Engineering Bureau. Since 2006 H.E. Sheikh Abdulrahman bin Khalifa bin Abdulaziz al-Thani has held several positions in governmental institutions. As the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Urban Planning, he has set his goals to guide the Ministry in extending the provision of electronic services to all its services intended for the public, in its drive to reach its objective of a paperless electronic government in the State of Qatar. Many further services are offered by the Ministry to the citizens and residents in the field of municipal services, including: the maintenance of local roads;

general public cleaning; pest control; food control in terms of its sale locations, its storage and exchange; the monitoring of markets and retail outlets; the issuing of building permits and advertisement permits; and the issuing of commercial licenses.

These services include the management of public parks and promenades, plantation of trees and promoting plants and trees as well as all over the state of Qatar, providing advice and consultations to the public about the rehabilitation and maintenance of their gardens. He started as the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Agriculture in July 2006, later becoming the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Urban Planning on in July 2008, still maintaining this position. The first Ministry of Municipal Affairs in Qatar was established in 1972 through the decree of a specific law which set the duties of the ministry and its departments.

Dr. Hamad bin Abdul Aziz al-Kuwari, Minister of Culture, Arts and Heritage



H.E. Hamad bin Abdul Aziz al-Kuwari, Minister of Culture, Arts and Heritage

H.E. Hamad bin Abdulaziz Al-Kuwari obtained his Bachelor Degree in Arabic and Islamic Studies at Cairo

University in 1970. He later received his high degree diploma from Jesuit University in Beirut and in 1980 his Master Degree in Political Philosophy in Paris. He completed his PhD in Political Science in New York in 1990. Aart from Arabic and English he also speaks French.

H.E. Hamad bin Abdul Aziz al-Kuwari has had many different posts, including working in Syria and France as the Ambassador of Qatar, as well as being a delegate of Qatar to UNESCO from 1979 until 1984.

After these early steps he became Ambassador of Qatar in the USA and non-resident Ambassador in Mexico and Venezuela from 1984 until 1990. From

1992 to 1997 he was the Minister of Information and Culture in Qatar. In 2010 he became the President of the 17th Conference of Arab Ministers of Culture. The husband and father of a daughter and two sons now heads the Ministry of Culture, Arts and Heritage which is in charge of organising cultural events and activities in Qatar and abroad, including festival weeks. It prepares lectures and poetry recitals, producing and presenting theatre and folklore shows as well as music and lyric concerts. While organising and supervising such events, the Ministry of Culture acts in its function as central ministry that lays down cultural programs and implements them according to the promulgated laws; its activities in this field should be regarded as the main activity of cultural policy of Qatar.


Dr. Ghaith bin Mubarak al-Kuwari, Minister of Endowments (Awqaf) and Islamic Affairs



H.E. Ghaith bin Mubarak al-Kuwari, Minister of Endowments (Awqaf) and Islamic Affairs

H.E. Ghaith bin Mubarak al-Kuwari has held the position as the Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs since 2010 and was appointed again in June 2013. He is highly experienced with the work of the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs. Prior to his ministerial position, he was the Director of the Dawa at the Ministry as of 2006.

H.E. Ghaith bin Mubarak al-Kuwari holds a Bachelor's degree in Islamic Law from the Islamic and Arabic Language Sciences Institute at Al Imam Mohammed Bin Saud Islamic University in Ras Al Khaimah, UAE. In the Kingdom of Morocco he obtained a Master's Degree in Islamic science and a PhD in

Literature. The Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs is concerned with the affairs of Muslims and the management of religious endowments in Qatar. The Ministry undertakes the affairs of Awqaf and sets strategies and projects to reserve and develop their resources. It sets the strategies for managing the Zakat and is responsible for the establishment of mosques and all affairs related to them. Other duties include the supervision of religious advice and guidance and the preparation of nationals to specialise in related fields, the development of the Qur'an education as well as the exchange of information and expertise with Arabic and Islamic religious organizations in the field of Awqaf and religious affairs. 

Salah bin Ghanem bin Nasser al-Ali, Minister of Youth and Sports




H.E. Salah bin Ghanem bin Nasser al-Ali, Minister of Youth and Sports

Headling the newly-formed Ministry of Youth and Sports, H.E. Saleh bin Ghanem bin Nasser al-Ali can look back on an extensive career in the government structure of the state of Qatar. Born in 1966, the 47-year-old Minister earned his academic merits in the United States, where he graduated in Administrative Engineering at the Pacific University Oregon, USA, in 1992. Until 1998, he was responsible for the budget of the Ministry

of Municipality and Agriculture, where he headed the Budget Section. He was then appointed as the Deputy Chief of the Audit Bureau, aged 32. This position already proved his high value for the Qatari government, since the Audit Bureau is responsible for scrutinising the accounts of all ministries, their affiliated departments and all state-owned entities as well preceding audits for projects, tenders and contracts. In 2006, eight years later, he became the Chief of the Audit Bureau.

In this position, H.E. Saleh bin Ghanem bin Nasser al-Ali had a hand in formulating the strategic plans for the Audit Bureau for the periods from 2005 to 2010 and from 2011 to 2016. During his tenure, he also served as Head of the National Committee for Transparency as of 2007. Among the committee's activities was also the organisation of the conference "Asia without Corruption". Four years later, in 2011, H.E. Saleh bin Ghanem bin Nasser al-Ali advanced towards the centre of the future Qatari government when he became both a

consultant in the office of the Heir Apparent, the new Emir of Qatar, H.H. Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani, as well as the General Manager of the Sheikh Jassim Mohammed bin Thani Foundation for Social Care.

With the appointment to the position of Minister of Youth and Sports, he will be responsible for projects which are of vital interest for the image Qatar is conveying to the global society. In his state address H.H. Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani emphasised the importance of Qatari investments in the sports sector as well as their continuation. The state of Qatar can look back on an impressive track record in the field of sports, hosting such events as the Asia Games (2006), the Arab Games and the Asian Football Confederation Cup (both in 2011) as well as the annual Qatar Open (since 1993) and the annual Qatar Ladies Open (since 2001). Looking ahead, the Ministry of Youth and Sports will be responsible for the upcoming sports events in Qatar, such as the 2015 Men's World Handball Championships and the 2022 Football World Cup. 


Dr. Saleh Mohamed Salem al-Nabit, Minister of Development Planning and Statistics

H.E. Dr. Saleh Mohamed Salem al-Nabit has been appointed Qatar's new Minister for Development Planning and Statistics. H.E. Dr. al-Nabit obtained his academic education abroad. He graduated from Qatar University with a Bachelor of Science in Economics in 1992 before graduating with a Master's Degree in Business Administration from St. Louis University in the United States of America in 1996 and a PhD in Development Economics from the University of Bradford in the United Kingdom in 2001. H.E. Dr. al-Nabit has wide-ranging experience in development planning. Prior to becoming Minister of Development Planning and Statistics, H.E. Dr. al-Nabit was the Secretary General of the Supreme Council of Development Planning, from June 2011. Previously, from 2008 until May 2011, H.E. Dr. al-Nabit was the

Director of the Department of Institutional Development at the Council of Development Planning and served as Acting Director of the Department of Economic Development during the period of 2001 to 2008. Prior to this, he worked in the banking sector, before moving towards academia in 1993, teaching economics and finance as a faculty member at the College of Business and Economics of Qatar University. He participated in various official delegations for the State of Qatar at important regional and international conferences, such as Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) meetings. H.E. Dr. al-Nabit is an active member of several committees and working groups focussing on national economic affairs and national development. He is also the author of numerous academic studies and



H.E. Saleh Mohamed Salem al-Nabit, Minister of Development Planning and Statistics

articles pertaining to the areas of economic and social development, investment, privatisation policies, banking, and finance. 


Mohammed Abdul Wahed Ali al-Hammadi, Minister of Education and Higher Education



H.E. Mohammed Abdul Wahed Ali al-Hammadi, Minister of Education and Higher Education

The new Minister of Education and Higher Education of the State of Qatar is H.E. Mohammed Abdul Wahed al-Hammadi. He replaces H.E. Saad bin Ibrahim Al-Mahmoud. H.E. al-Hammadi has held several high-ranking positions in the education sector of Qatar. He was

Demonstrator of the University of Qatar before he was appointed Dean of the College of Engineering. He also held positions as Director of Qatar Technical School and Director of Research and Institutional Planning as well as Vice Chancellor of Qatar University for Planning and Institutional Development. He also held several positions at Qatari Diar, Qatar's state-owned property investment company under the umbrella of the Qatar Investment Authority. Education is a key priority of Qatar's politics. The constitution of the country determines education as a basic foundation for the progress of society, according to which education shall be fostered and spread. The Qatar National Vision 2030 considers human development as a cornerstone, since educational and training services are aligned with the labour markets needs and the abilities of each individual. There are currently two main institutions sharing

the responsibility for education in Qatar: On the one hand, the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, and on the other hand, the Supreme Education Council. The latter was established in 2002 and controls the education system from pre-school to university level, improving the quality of education for nationals and expatriates. The functions of the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, are inspection of provided education, health services and free electricity and water for all educational facilities, comprising kindergartens, schools and universities. Qatar has made large improvements in its educational sector, but there is still a need for continued development. Core missions will be to optimise student talents and capabilities, developing knowledge and skills to cope with the labour market's needs. In general, education in Qatar aims to prepare students to participate in the global knowledge economy. 


Abdullah Saleh Mubarak al-Khulaifi, Minister of Labour and Social Affairs

The new Minister of Labour and Social Affairs, appointed by H.H. Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani, is H.E. Dr. Abdullah Saleh Mubarak al-Khulaifi. H.E. al-Khulaifi holds a PhD in Economics from Southern Illinois University in the U.S.A. Among his tenures are positions such as Assistant Professor at Qatar University from 1994-1995, General Secretary of Social Affairs in the Economic Secretariat of the Gulf Cooperation Council from 1996-1998, President of Qatar University from 1998-2003, Chairman of the Constitutional Committee of the State of Qatar and Member of the Executive Office of the International Association of Universities. H.E. al-Khulaifi participated in many conferences at Arab, regional and international level. He carried out academic research in the field of funding, currency, banking and economics, for which he was awarded

medals from the Gulf Cooperation Council as well as obtaining the French Academic Award and the Early Award for the General Volunteer of Qatar. The Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs is responsible for achieving the general objectives for labour affairs in the State of Qatar. The ministry acts as a link between employers and workers, in addition to controlling the domestic labour market and supervising and implementing jobs and businesses. The functions of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs are, for example, the provision of high-quality services to advance workplace practices to standards envisaged by Qatar's National Vision 2030. Services for the public, different labour groups and entrepreneurs include the development of policies for labour forces, the utilisation of an integrated administration and information



H.E. Abdullah Saleh Mubarak al-Khulaifi, Minister of Labour and Social Affairs

system, the settlement of labour disputes, the development and implementation of job training programmes, as well as the development of programmes to foster Qatarisation. 

Jassim Saif Ahmed al-Sulaiti, Minister of Transport


The newly appointed Minister of Transport of the State of Qatar, H.E. Jassim Saif Ahmed al-Sulaiti, graduated from Mechanical Engineering College in France in 1985. He furthered his education in 1997 by pursuing a Master's degree in military science, also in France. H.E. Jassim Saif Ahmed Al Sulaiti's academic qualifications further include holding a diploma of the Institute of Administrative Development in Qatar. During his professional career he has served as an officer in the Qatari Armed Forces and as Staff Brigadier and Commander of the Maintenance Corps. Beside his military career, he has held several positions in committees and the private sector. Among his positions in various committees are his work as Chairman of the Qatari-French Supreme Committee and the Industrialization Committee. He also chaired the Engineers Qualification Committee.

Keeping close ties with the military, he also served as Member of the Supreme Council of Ahmed Bin Mohammed Military Academy. H.E. Jassim Saif Ahmed al-Sulaiti has also been engaged in the private sector, serving as Chairman and Managing Director of Mowasalat Company, Qatar's state owned transportation company which further broadened his experience in the sector.

Moreover, he held positions as a Member of the Board of Directors of Masraf al Rayan Q.S.C., a Qatari Islamic Bank, and as a Member of the Board of Directors of Qatar National Bank. H.E. Jassim Saif Ahmed al-Sulaiti has already served in the sector of transport in several positions during his professional career. Among these are the Chairmanship of the Department of Transportation and his work as Deputy President of the



H.E. Jassim Saif Ahmed al-Sulaiti, Minister of Transport

International Transport Association. Looking to build on H.E. Jassim Saif Ahmed al-Sulaiti's experience, H.H. Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani appointed him Minister of Transport in his newly formed cabinet. 

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