

## **DIFI PARTICIPATES IN 73RD SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE ELIMINATION OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN**

*Involvement demonstrates dedication to supporting women*

**Doha, Qatar, July 3, 2019:** The Doha International Family Institute (DIFI), a member of Qatar Foundation, has attended the 73rd session of the Committee on the Convention of Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), which is currently taking place in Geneva, Switzerland, and set to conclude on July 19.

DIFI's participation came in the first two days of the conference. On the first day, DIFI participated in a closed NGO meeting, while, on the second day, DIFI attended a discussion of the second periodic report of Qatar on the implementation of CEDAW involving 23 independent committee experts from around the world.

Dr. Sharifa Noaman Al-Emadi, Executive Director, DIFI, said: "Women are considered to be at the center of the evolved family that serves as the basis for society, and we consider women's rights and empowerment at the top of our priorities. DIFI recently conducted many studies and important activities aimed at strengthening the family, and combating discrimination against women.

"For example, this year we published a study titled 'Work-Family Balance' based on quantitative and qualitative data that sought to investigate the challenges confronting working women and the family as a whole. One of the challenges we identified was the lack of achieving a work-family balance, and the negative effects this can have on family members, such as health.

"We are honored to attend this conference, reaffirming our commitment to support women. Indeed, in March 2019, DIFI organized an event titled 'Gender-Responsive Social Protection for Adolescent Girls to Enable Aspirations and Reach the SDGs in the Arab Region' at the 63rd Session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women in New York."

DIFI is a global policy and advocacy institute working to advance knowledge on Arab families through research and promote evidence-based policies at a national, regional, and international level. The institute has special consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council.

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## About Doha International Family Institute (DIFI)

The Doha International Family Institute (DIFI), a member of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF), was established in 2006. The Institute works to strengthen the family through the development and dissemination of high-quality research on Arab families, encouraging knowledge exchange on issues relevant to the family and making the family a priority to policy-makers through advocacy and outreach at the national, regional and international levels. Among the Institute's most important initiatives is the Annual Conference on the Family; and the OSRA Research Grant in collaboration with the Qatar National Research Fund, an annual research grant which encourages research related to the Arab family and family policy. The Institute has special consultative status with United Nations Economic and Social Council.

## 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 Amir, 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, please visit: [www.qf.org.qa](http://www.qf.org.qa)

For any media inquiries, please contact: [pressoffice@qf.org.qa](mailto:pressoffice@qf.org.qa)