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'Nerves caused Qatar's defeat to Ecuador'

Sport Page 1

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Amir receives phone call from UAE president

His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani received yesterday a phone call from President of the sisterly United Arab Emirates Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed al-Nahyan. The UAE president congratulated the Amir on the success of the opening of the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022. He praised the good organisation and generous hospitality, wishing the Qatari and Arab teams well during the competition. **(QNA)**

Amir receives phone call from Sisi

His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani received yesterday a phone call from President of the Arab Republic of Egypt Abdel Fattah al-Sisi. The Egyptian president congratulated the Amir on the success of the opening of the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022. He praised the good organisation and generous hospitality, wishing the Qatari and Arab teams well during the competition. **(QNA)**

QatarEnergy, Sinopec sign 'longest' LNG supply agreement

QatarEnergy entered into a 27-year Sale and Purchase Agreement (SPA) with China Petroleum & Chemical Corporation (Sinopec) for the supply of 4mn tonnes per annum (mtpa) of LNG to the People's Republic of China. Under the terms of the SPA, the contracted LNG volumes will be supplied from QatarEnergy's North Field East (NFE) LNG expansion project and will be delivered to Sinopec's receiving terminals in China. HE the Minister of State for Energy Affairs, also the President and CEO of QatarEnergy, Saad bin Sherida al-Kaabi said: "This is the first long-term SPA from the NFE project to be announced, and marks the longest gas supply agreement in the history of the LNG industry." **Business Page 1**

'Systemic war crimes by Russia in Ukraine'

Russians have murdered, tortured and kidnapped Ukrainians in a systematic pattern that could implicate top officials in war crimes, the US State Department's ambassador for global criminal justice said yesterday. There is mounting evidence that Russia's invasion of Ukraine "has been accompanied by systemic war crimes committed in every region where Russian forces have been deployed," said ambassador at Large Beth Van Schaack.

Today's schedule

Group C
Argentina vs Saudi Arabia, 1 pm
at Lusail Stadium

Group C
Mexico vs Poland, 7 pm
at 974 Stadium

Group D
Denmark vs Tunisia, 4 pm
at Education City Stadium

Group D
France vs Australia, 10 pm
at Al Janoub Stadium

Yesterday's result

Group A
Netherlands 2 – Senegal 0

Group B
England 6 – Iran 2

Group B
USA 1 – Wales 1

Six-star England impress as Dutch grab win, USA-Wales in 1-1 draw

England yesterday crushed Iran 6-2 to launch their FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 campaign on a positive note while the Netherlands struck late in the second half for a 2-0 win over African giants Senegal at Al Thumama Stadium.

In the day's last match, USA struggled against Wales in their 1-1 draw at Ahmad Bin Ali Stadium.

The day's best performance was seen at Khalifa International Stadium yesterday where captain Harry Kane's England looked in little bother against an Iranian side that did not sing their national anthem because of anti-government protests back home.

Jude Bellingham opened the scoring for England with a well-taken header in the 35th minute before Bukayo Saka (43) and Raheem Sterling (45+1) also found the net in the first half. Sakar scored his second of the match in the second half (62) three minutes before Mehdi Taremi reduced the deficit (65) for Iran who looked sluggish at the iconic Qatari sports venue.

Manchester United star Marcus Rashford (71) and Jack Grealish (90) of Manchester City also scored for manager Gareth Southgate's young side. In the dying moments of the one-sided game, Taremi managed a late consolation goal from a penalty kick.

Also yesterday, Netherlands - coached by Louis van Gaal - were rescued by two second-half goals for a 2-0 win over

Senegal coached by Aliou Cisse.

Cody Gakpo produced a slick header (84th minute) before substitute Davy Klaassen added one more in injury time to lift Netherlands to win in their opening match at the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022.

Gakpo, the 23-year-old PSV Eindhoven forward, headed the ball into the net following a cross from Frenkie de Jong. In injury time - that was stretched to 9 minutes - Klaassen made the most of a goalkeeper's gaffe inside the Senegal box to score his team's second goal with a drilled shot into the net.

Senegal, who looked sluggish up front, yesterday desperately missed their ace striker Sadio Mane who was ruled out of the World Cup last week because of injury.

With yesterday's plucky win, Van Gaal's side has extended their unbeaten streak to 16 matches. Senegal, the African Cup of Nations winners, will now get ready for their second match against hosts Qatar on November 25.

In the day's third match, Gregg Berhalter-coached USA drew 1-1 against Wales in their Group B clash. Tomothy Weah scored for USA in the 36th minute while Gareth Bale (82, penalty) equalised for Wales.

Today, football icon Lionel Messi will lead Argentina against regional giants Saudi Arabia at Lusail Stadium. Messi has already confirmed this will be the final World Cup of his illustri-



England's goalkeeper Jordan Pickford runs for the ball during the Qatar 2022 World Cup Group B football match between England and Iran at the Khalifa International Stadium in Doha yesterday.

ous career that has won him millions of fans around the world. Also today, Mexico will take on

Poland at Stadium 974 while Denmark face Tunisia at Education City Stadium. In the day's final match

today, defending champions France will face Australia at Al Janoub Stadium. **Sport Pages 1-8**



Fans from Mexico, in the town for the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022, celebrate in Katara - the Cultural Village yesterday at the unveiling of sculptures gifted to Qatar. **PICTURE:** Shaji Kayamkulam **Page 12**

Fifth Qatar-US Strategic Dialogue begins in Doha today

The 5th Qatar-US Strategic Dialogue, co-chaired by HE the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohamed bin Abdulrahman al-Thani and US Secretary of State Anthony Blinken, will kick off in Doha today.

The dialogue is expected to address 12 major issues within the framework of the bilateral co-operation in politics, economy, culture, education, energy, health, mediation and combating terrorism.

Main topics for discussion are: regional stability, defence co-operation, public health, counterterrorism, combating human trafficking, human rights, climate change, energy efficiency and independence, humanitarian assistance, strategic investments, economic cooperation, and

cultural and educational exchanges.

At the end of the session, a number of partnerships, in addition to signing a number of memorandums of understanding (MoUs) and letters of intent, are expected to be announced.

The strategic dialogue aims to discuss ways to enhance co-operation between the two countries in various fields, based on common interests and mutual respect.

On regional issues, Qatar will affirm its position on the need for a political solution and respect for people's aspirations. It will also stress the need to reach a just and comprehensive solution to the Palestinian issue.

Qatar and the US have a strong economic partnership. The volume of trade exchange between the two countries in 2021 amounted to about QR18.4bn. **Page 2**

Fans turn Doha into a big carnival spot

By Joseph Varghese
Staff Reporter

Doha literally has turned into an international carnival spot as the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 fans and visitors from around the world are exploring every nook and corner of the city, savouring the great Arabian hospitality and friendship.

Thousands can be seen roaming around the city, admiring the skyscrapers and scenic views while many others throng the cultural destinations as well as the exotic museums in and around the city.

Fans in large numbers can be spotted swarming around the major traditional locations such as Souq Waqif, the Corniche, Katara - the Cultural Village among others.

Individual fans as well as small

groups could be seen celebrating the World Cup, singing and dancing all across the streets and other hot spots. Yesterday, a large group of Senegal team supporters who had just arrived from their country, gathered at Souq Waqif, greeting everyone with their traditional music and dancing ahead of their match against the Netherlands. Accompanied with drums and other percussion instruments, it was a treat to watch them performing in their traditional attire.

What was more interesting was that among the onlookers of the performance, were a group of Dutch fans who had flown in a few days back to watch their team compete against Senegal. Enthused by the dancing, some of the Dutch fans too joined the party, making it a true symbol of football uniting the entire world.

Elsewhere, the carnival atmosphere



Fans celebrate at a Doha venue.

continued as fans in groups moving around and shouting support for their teams. Doha Metro is another favourite hangout for the fans as they move together from one place to another. As they get into the metro, they start singing in support of their teams in their own language, delighting everyone else in the cabin. The whole atmosphere is thrilling and cheerful and the merry-making continues all through the day and beyond.

With more fans expected to arrive in the coming days from around the globe, the city is expected to experience more entertainment and jovial scenes which could be all the more thrilling, lively and at times boisterous. The energetic and enthusiastic fans are sure to make life more colourful and lively with all the fun and frolic and making Doha - a truly world destination.



Shura applauds World Cup opening, reviews State’s draft general budget

QNA
Doha

The Shura Council held yesterday its regular weekly meeting, under the chairpersonship of HE the Speaker of the Shura Council Hassan bin Abdullah al-Ghanem.

On behalf of all members of the council, HE the Speaker extended the warmest congratulations to His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani, His Highness the Father Amir Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani, and the Qatari people, on the occasion of the remarkable success of the opening ceremony of the World Cup Qatar 2022, which was held at Al Bayt Stadium reflecting a distinguished organisation, in the presence of a number of leaders of countries and heads of delegations of friendly countries.

The Shura Council expressed sincere appreciation for the care and attention given by the Amir to the Qatari youth, stressing that the remarkable success achieved in the opening ceremony, as well

as the excellence and brilliancy that were seen in organising the tournament – which will continue until December 18 – enhances the prestigious position that Qatar has reached in the field of sports, at the regional and international levels.

The council also expressed its highest appreciation for the efforts that have been extorted by the Supreme Committee for Delivery & Legacy (SC) and various sectors in the country over the past 12 years; pointing out that the co-operation between them resulted in the implementation of major projects that strengthened the infrastructure of the State in several areas, created a bright reality for the country, and will leave a sustainable legacy for successive generations.

The Shura Council also extended thanks to leaders of friendly countries who attended the World Cup opening ceremony alongside His Highness the Amir yesterday; welcoming the visitors of the country and wishing them a pleasant stay in Doha. The Shura Council looked forward



The Shura Council in session.

for the tournament to achieve its objectives by promoting rapprochement between peoples, and offering an opportunity for civilisations interaction and cultural exchange. The council also extended thanks to parliamentary friends from different countries of the world, expressing appreciation for their response to the invitation to attend the World Cup opening and accompanying ac-

tivities, as well as their supportive stances for Qatar in hosting the tournament, and their support for the efforts the country has made in organising, implementing and preparing for the tournament.

HE the Secretary-General of the Shura Council Dr Ahmed bin Nasser al-Fadhala read out the agenda of the session. The minutes of the previous session were ratified, and the Council agreed



unanimously that the session will be confidential. At the outset of its deliberations, the Council discussed the State's draft general budget for the fiscal year 2023, and the draft law approving the budget, with the participation of HE the Minister of Finance Ali bin Ahmed al-Kuwari and a number of the ministry's ranking officials.

HE the Minister gave a full explanation of the draft budget,

and answered the questions and inquiries of the members of the council. HE the Speaker extended his thanks to HE the Minister of Finance for the full explanation that he provided about the items and sectors of the State's general budget, commending in this context the wise policy and guidance of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani, and his keenness on the welfare

of the citizens. The members of the Shura Council also extended their thanks to HE the Minister of Finance for the full explanation that he provided about the items and sectors of the State's general budget, expressing their appreciation for his role in strengthening the principle of partnership and co-operation between the executive and legislative authorities; looking forward to more fruitful co-operation in a way that contributes to achieving common goals.

The Council also extended thanks to the officials of the Ministry of Finance who attended the session and the Financial and Economic Affairs Committee meetings, for providing explanations and answering the council's inquiries. At the end of the meeting, the Shura Council agreed to complete discussing the State's draft general budget for the fiscal year 2023 and the draft law approving the budget; in addition to reviewing the Financial and Economic Affairs Committee's report on the two mentioned drafts, in the next meeting.

Fifth Qatar-US annual strategic dialogue begins in Doha today

QNA
Doha

The fifth annual strategic dialogue between Qatar and the United States will kick-off today in Doha and will be chaired by HE the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohamed bin Abdulrahman al-Thani and US Secretary of State Antony Blinken.

The dialogue addresses several issues of mutual interest, including regional stability, defence co-operation, public health, counterterrorism, combating human trafficking, human rights, climate change, energy efficiency and independence, humanitarian assistance, strategic investments, economic co-operation, and cultural and educational exchanges.

Adviser to the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Spokesperson for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Dr Majed bin Mohamed al-Ansari stressed that strategic dialogues are a milestone in the relations between the two countries and reflect the well-established and advanced level of partnership in all fields.

He also noted that the celebration of the two partners of the



50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations, the classification of Qatar as a major non-Nato ally of the US, and the continuous close co-operation between the two countries in bilateral, regional and international fields all serve as evidence of a shared commitment to enhance those relations.

In a statement to Qatar News Agency (QNA), Dr al-Ansari said that these dialogues also demonstrate the concept of co-ordination on regional and global issues, and enhance bilateral co-operation in the fields of health, humanitarian assistance, international development, human rights, regional co-operation and climate change, as well as trade, investment, culture and education. He also expressed his full confidence that the out-

comes of the fifth session of the strategic dialogue will contribute to reinforcing long-term co-operation, including continuous co-ordination to bring peace and stability to the region.

Dr al-Ansari also noted the coincidence of the strategic dialogue with the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022, praising the close co-operation between Qatar and the US to ensure a safe and successful tournament.

He added that the two sides recently have had in-depth discussions on cybersecurity, law enforcement training, public relations, and human rights. He also stressed that Qatar and the US share a common interest in combating human trafficking and promoting labour rights, pointing to the US Department of States

recognition of Assistant Undersecretary of Labour Mohamed al-Obaidy as a Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report Hero as evidence of the progress made by Qatar on this issue.

Dr al-Ansari also complimented the strong security partnership between the two countries, including co-operation in law enforcement, aviation, border security, countering violent extremism, countering terrorism, and countering financing of terrorism. He reaffirmed the commitment of Qatar to provide \$75mn over five years and implement efforts to support the work of the UN Office on countering terrorism.

Al-Ansari also indicated that relations between Qatar and the United States have been established through various institutions throughout different periods of time, stressing that the distinguished partnership shown by the two countries in dealing with the Afghanistan issue, especially on relocation efforts, clearly reflects the high level of these well-established relations. Al-Ansari also said that Qatar operates in an environment of international, bilateral, and multilateral alliances, and considers the United States its strongest ally and its most important partner in many fields.



The campaign covers precautions to be taken in dealing with antibiotics.

PHCC cautions against taking antibiotics without prescription

The Primary Health Care Corporation (PHCC) has launched an awareness campaign to raise global awareness of antimicrobial resistance.

The objective is to encourage health practitioners in health facilities and policymakers to adopt best practices to avoid the further emergence and spread of drug-resistant infections. This comes as part of World Antimicrobial Awareness Week (WAAW), which runs until November 24 each year.

The application of infection control precautions is an effective way to reduce the spread of antibiotic-resistant bacteria through washing hands, limiting contact with infected or potentially infected people, maintaining good personal hygiene, and taking vaccinations required for each age group, a PHCC statement explained yesterday.

Dr Mahmoud al-Mahmoud, head of Pharmacy & Therapeutics Supply at PHCC, said: "The campaign covers cautions to be

taken in dealing with antibiotics and delivers a comprehensive message that antibiotics are a valuable resource that must be preserved and should not be used to treat what is caused by bacteria unless they are prescribed by a healthcare professional."

Dr al-Mahmoud explained that WAAW aims to raise awareness of antibiotic resistance and urges patients, healthcare providers, and drug policymakers to adopt best practices to avoid the emergence and spread of more cases of antibiotic resistance, stressing that patients should not share these antibiotics or take leftover antibiotics for a later illness, and should complete their full course of antibiotics.

Antibiotic resistance occurs when bacteria change and become resistant to antibiotics designed to kill them, pointed out Dr al-Mahmoud. He also noted that antibiotic resistance is accelerated by the misuse and overuse of antibiotics. PHCC organises lectures on the optimal



Dr Mahmoud al-Mahmoud

use of antibiotics and designs leaflets to educate patients about the importance of rational use of antibiotics, as well as correcting some wrong practices and misconceptions that antibiotics are used to treat influenza and common cold although they do not affect viruses.

PHCC advises patients to avoid stopping antibiotics when they feel better but complete their full course of antibiotics as per their treatment plan.

Dialogue to address 12 major files

The 5th Qatar-US Strategic Dialogue Session will be co-chaired by HE the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohamed bin Abdulrahman al-Thani, and US Secretary of State Anthony Blinken. The dialogue is expected to address 12 major issues within the framework of the bilateral co-operation in politics, economy, culture, education, energy, health, mediation and combating terrorism, namely: regional stability, defence co-operation, public health, counterterrorism, combating human trafficking, human rights, climate change, energy efficiency and independence, humanitarian assistance, strategic investments, economic co-operation, and cultural and educational exchanges. The 5th Qatar-US Strategic Dialogue session is expected to result in announcing a number of partnerships, in addition to signing a number of memorandums of understanding (MoUs) and letters of intent. The strategic dialogue aims to discuss ways to enhance co-operation between the two countries in various fields and to develop exceptional bilateral relations that depend on common interests and mutual respect. The 5th Qatar-US Strategic Dialogue Session will witness an exchange of

views on regional issues. In this context, Qatar will affirm its position on the need for a political solution to regional issues and respect for people's aspirations. It will also stress the need to reach a just and comprehensive solution to the Palestinian issue. Qatar and the US have a strong economic partnership. The volume of trade exchange between the two countries in 2021 amounted to about QR18.4bn, while the volume of trade between the two countries at the end of the Q3 of 2022 amounted to about QR16.7bn. The dialogue is expected to be fruitful, covering a wide range of economic, security and military, investments, education, culture, human rights, and public health issues. The trade file between Qatar and the US, strengthening military and defence relations between the two countries, and regional stability are the important files on the negotiating table during the strategic dialogue. Educational co-operation will also be discussed, and the possibility of increasing the number of Qatari students studying in the United States, contributing to strengthening relations between the two friendly people. Additionally, they will discuss regional issues of common concern, including, the issues of Afghanistan, Palestine, and the

region. In 2018, the first Qatar-US Strategic Dialogue Session in the US capital, Washington, discussed areas of partnership, including defence, combating terrorism and extremism, trade and investment, as well as political co-operation. Both Qatar and the United States expressed their satisfaction with their bilateral relations, which were recently strengthened and expanded. This highlights their mutual commitment to the advancement of global peace and prosperity. The US acknowledged the generous humanitarian role of Qatar bilaterally and multilaterally through its work with various United Nations agencies, in support of the forcibly displaced population and assisting refugees, including millions of vulnerable groups such as young children and women. The US also acknowledged Qatar's progress and the commitments it made recently regarding combating human trafficking and advancing workers' rights. In this context, the two governments signed an MoU to continue progress in these areas. Qatar and the US signed various MoUs and letters of intent in the fields of bilateral trade, investment, and technology, welcoming the partnership of the United States Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP) with the Ministry of Finance. Officials

also signed a letter of intent on co-operation in cyber security and intelligent technology. The two governments issued a joint declaration on security co-operation, affirming their joint commitment to promoting peace and stability and combating the scourge of terrorism. The United States expressed its readiness to work jointly with Qatar, in accordance with the provisions of the United Nations Charter to deter and confront external threats to the territorial integrity of Qatar. The statement issued by the first edition of the Qatar-US Strategic Dialogue Session affirmed that Qatar and the US are committed to promoting bilateral trade, and welcomed the role of US companies in the development of Qatar, the Qatari investment in US companies, and jobs. Both countries recognised the importance of bilateral investment and reaffirmed their commitment to discussing bilateral investment frameworks that address tax policies and reduce regulatory hurdles. The delegation of Qatar talked about the recent reforms aimed at attracting foreign investment in Qatar, including free trade zones, expansion of ownership for non-nationals, improvement of the banking system, and consolidation of the rule of law, including a dispute settlement mechanism.

Second vice-president of Costa Rica arrives in Doha



Second Vice-President of Costa Rica and Minister of Sports Mary Munive Angermuller arrived in Doha yesterday to attend parts of the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 matches. Angermuller and the accompanying delegation were welcomed upon arrival at Hamad International Airport by HE the Director of Department of Protocol Ibrahim bin Youssef Fakhro and Costa Rican ambassador to Qatar Mariano Segura. **(QNA)**

Zambia exempts Qatar’s citizens from entry visas

An official source at the Department of Consular Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said yesterday that the Zambian government issued a decision exempting citizens of Qatar from entry visas to Zambia. **(QNA)**

Mesmerising opening ceremony draws attention of global media

The *Independent* newspaper confirmed in a report on the opening ceremony that, Qatar has given the World Cup an Arab taste, praising the opening ceremony of the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022, which was hosted at Al Bayt Stadium, which is inspired by the Bedouin heritage tent.

The newspaper noted the lining up of Arab horses outside Al Bayt Stadium, as well as art performances that combine Arab traditions and global culture, as well as honouring all teams participating in the tournament and host countries for previous editions of the tournament and volunteers.

The newspaper highlighted the welcome of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani at the opening of the tournament of all participants and followers of the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022, where His Highness said: "From Qatar, from an Arab country, I welcome everyone to the World Cup

2022. We have worked hard, along with many people, to make it one of the most successful tournaments. We have exerted all efforts and invested for the good of all humanity. Finally, we have reached the opening day, the day that you have been eagerly waiting for."

For its part, CNN Arabic, described the opening ceremony of the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 as historic, noting that the ceremony held at Al Bayt Stadium in Al Khor city, captured the world's attention and was also centred on the rapprochement of all peoples, overcoming differences, through humanity and respect. Also, CNN Arabic praised the segments of the ceremony, which saw verses from the Holy Qur'an recited by the Qatari youth, Ghanem al-Muftah, in addition to the presence of the renowned American actor, Morgan Freeman, stressing that the opening ceremony sparked a wide interaction in the

media, among the audiences and football fans around the world.

The French channel France 24 broadcasted a report titled, "World Cup 2022...the Amir of Qatar welcomes everyone at the opening ceremony which blended the Qatari traditions and global culture," noting the opening of the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 at Al Bayt Stadium in the presence of 60,000 spectators, led by His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani, who delivered a speech welcoming the attendees and calling for benefiting from the human depth of the sports event and rejecting differences.

The channel highlighted the statement of the Amir "We have worked hard, along with many people, to make it one of the most successful tournaments.

"We have exerted all efforts and invested for the good of all humanity. Finally, we have reached the opening day, the day that you

Al Bayt Stadium captured the world's attention.

PICTURE: Shaji Kayamkulam

have been eagerly waiting for." It also shed light on His Highness's statement: "People of different races, nationalities, faiths and orientations will gather here in Qatar, and around screens on all continents to share the same exciting moments. How beautiful it is for people to put aside what divides them in order to celebrate

their diversity and what brings them together at the same time."

Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) commended the opening ceremony of the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022, which included paintings, folkloric performances and encouragement for each team participating in the tournament, noting that it began with an East-

West dialogue represented by the Qatari youth, Ghanem al-Muftah, and the West represented by the famous American Actor Morgan Freeman. The ceremony also featured a mix of folk art paintings of the Gulf region such as exhibits and performances of different cultures around the world. For its part, Jordan's Petra News Agency said the opening ceremony was dazzling, employing modern technology FIFA said was being for the first time in the World Cup. The agency added that Qatar entered history books, writing a new chapter of the World Cup.

The Jordanian News Agency indicated that the current version of the World Cup is characterised by exceptional standards, foremost of which is the proximity of the distances between the stadiums, as all the stadiums of the tournament are located in an area that does not exceed 75km at furthest, which facilitates the movement

and training of teams participating in the tournament.

For its part, the Algerian news agency said that the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 opening ceremony saw the East, with a Qatari flavour, meet the modernity of the West.

It added that the ceremony constituted a contemporary global show that presents an important message coming out of the great Arab world to the whole world, and through it an invitation was extended to meet in one unit, and to link bridges between all differences in race, culture, colour and nationality, to fill all distances with acceptance, respect and coexistence. Anadolu Agency meanwhile said that the opening ceremony took place among festive cheers. The agency said the ceremony began with the Holy Qur'an recited by Ghanem al-Muftah, and a dialogue between the East-West emphasising the importance of bridging cultural differences. (QNA)

Gulf newspapers and media houses shower praise over World Cup show at Al Bayt Stadium

The media acclaim from the Gulf region poured in over the eye-catching opening ceremony of the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022, which was held at Al Bayt Stadium in Al Khor. Gulf newspapers highlighted the important messages included in the ceremony, which focused on coexistence, peace and rejection of disputes. Saudi newspapers and media outlets hailed the legendary World Cup opening ceremony and focused on the cable of thanks sent by Saudi Crown Prince and Prime Minister Mohamed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz al-Saud,

upon his departure from Doha, after attending the opening ceremony, to His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani. The cable expressed profound thanks and appreciation for the Amir for the warm welcome and generous hospitality accorded to the crown prince and the accompanying delegation, congratulating him on the success of the World Cup opening ceremony, and wishing him success and good health and the Qatari people further success, progress and prosperity. *Al Riyadh* newspaper highlighted the crown

prince's directives to all ministries and government agencies in the kingdom to provide any further support and facilities needed by Qatar to support its efforts to host the World Cup. Under the title "Doha fascinates the world", the daily's cover story highlighted the opening ceremony and the Amir's speech during which His Highness welcomed the fans from worldwide, stressing that Qatar threw its full weight behind hosting an exceptional tournament in the FIFA history, voicing hopes the whole world will enjoy a dazzling soccer festival

in Doha. *Al Jazeera* newspaper hailed the directives of the Saudi crown prince, stressing that they come within the framework of the strong fraternal relations between the two sisterly countries, and that any success achieved in one country is celebrated by the other. *Al Youm* newspaper affirmed Saudi Arabia's keenness to bolster sweeping and sustainable development not only locally but at the regional and international levels as well, eyeing sports as a key investment pillar in the crown prince's vision. Under the headline "supporting brothers as approach

and comprehensive ambitious vision", the daily highlighted the crown prince's directives for Saudi ministries and government agencies to provide all needed backing for counterpart agencies in Qatar in its World Cup hosting, and for the Saudi minister of sports to follow up on that, stressing that the directives reflect the kingdom's interest in sports and supporting the sisterly countries in whatever intersects with the vision to achieve a blanket renaissance that promotes regional integration. Omani newspapers also

highlighted the historic opening of the World Cup 2022, devoting large areas of their front pages to cover the news of the launch of the tournament. Under the headline "Opening is Done...Qatar Dazzles the World", the Omani newspaper said that the moment that the Qataris and the world has been waiting for 12 years has come, and the 22nd edition of the World Cup, hosted by Qatar, kicked off and dazzled the world in the opening ceremony which consisted of a seven scenes combining Qatari traditions and global culture.

The sports section of the Omani newspaper said that Qatar organized a brilliant opening ceremony. Meanwhile, the Omani newspaper, *Al-Roya*, wrote on its cover page that Qatar is writing history with the legendary opening of the 2022 World Cup, a visual masterpiece attracting the attention of millions towards Al Bayt Stadium. The Omani newspaper, *Al-Watan*, said on its front page that the opening of the World Cup in Qatar embodied dreams, communication, and memories. (QNA)

Guess & Win Contest

Group's matches: Guess which two teams will qualify for Round 16

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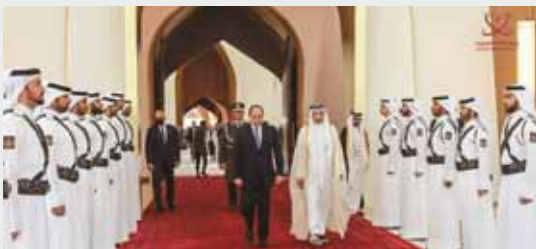
- All employees of Gulf Publishing and Printing Company as well as sponsoring companies are not allowed to participate in this contest.
- The contest is on social media platforms Facebook Instagram and Twitter.
- Participants can comment on each post to guess the winner and/ or the team that will qualify for the Round 16.
- Comments will be suspended before the start of the Qatar matches and before the third match of each group.
- For Qatar matches the draw will be made automatically on the second day of the match.
- For the rest of the group league matches, 2 draws will be made (1 for each platform and 1 for all groups).
- Winners will be announced on our social media platforms.
- The contestant can participate more than once.
- Prizes will be collected after the end of the World Cup.



Foreign dignitaries, guests of World Cup opening ceremony depart Doha



Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi, Algeria President Abdelmajid Tebboune, Palestine President Mahmoud Abbas and Djibouti President Ismail Omar Guelleh left Doha yesterday after attending the opening ceremony of the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022. President al-Sisi and the accompanying delegation were seen off upon departure at Hamad International Airport by HE the Minister of Sports and Youth Salah bin Ghanem bin Nasser al-Ali and Egyptian ambassador to Qatar Amr El-Sherbiny. President Tebboune and the accompanying delegation were seen off by HE the Minister of Sports and Youth, Qatar's ambassador to Algeria Abdullaziz Ali al-Naama and the Algerian ambassador to Qatar Mustafa Boutoura. President Guelleh and the accompanying delegation were seen off by HE the Minister of Sports and Youth and Djibouti's ambassador to Qatar Tayeb Dbd Robleh. President Abbas and the accompanying delegation were seen off by HE the Minister of State Sheikh Fahad bin Faisal al-Thani, and Palestinian ambassador to Qatar Munir Abdullah Ghanam. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres left Doha on Sunday after attending the opening ceremony of the World Cup. He and the accompanying delegation were seen off by HE the Permanent Representative of Qatar to the United Nations Sheikhha Alya Ahmed bin Saif al-Thani and the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (Unesco) Representative for the Gulf States and Yemen and Director of the Unesco Regional Office in Doha, Salah El Din Zaki Khaleed. Vice-President of India Jagdeep Dhankhar also departed Doha after attending the opening ceremony.



BMW model recalled

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoCI), in co-operation with Alfardan Automobiles, has announced the recall of BMW 760i xDrive Saloon, 2022 model, due to missing first aid supplies. The recall campaign comes within the framework of the MoCI's continuous efforts to protect consumers and ensure that dealers follow up on vehicle defects and repairs. The MoCI said that it will co-ordinate with the dealer to follow up on the maintenance and repair works and will communicate with customers to ensure that they carried out the necessary repairs. The MoCI urged all customers to report any violations to its Consumer Protection and Anti-Commercial Fraud Department, which processes complaints, inquires and suggestions through the following channels: Call centre: 16001, e-mail: info@moci.gov.qa, Twitter: @MOCIQATAR, Instagram: MOCIQATAR, MoCI mobile app for android and iOS: MOCIQATAR

Qatar public transport clocks record numbers

By Shafeeq Alingal
Staff Reporter

With the ball rolling for FIFA World Cup Qatar, the country's transportation sector is registering a huge flow of passengers at airports, bus and metro stations. According to figures released by the Ministry of Transport (MoT), more than 1,500 air movements have been recorded at both Hamad International Airport (HIA) and Doha International Airport since the mega sporting event.

"Qatar is expected to see a significant increase in the number of passengers and aircraft movement with the mass arrival of fans and visitors to the global sporting event," MoT said in a statement.

"Years ago, the Qatar Civil Aviation Authority carried out comprehensive development plans in the Qatari airspace in terms of increasing the number of air routes for inbound and outbound airplanes, to and from Qatar, and upgrading all the systems and technologies used in air navigation," it was explained.

Doha Metro, the prime option for fans and visitors to access stadiums, tourism destinations and accommodation places, is witnessing a steady increase in number of passengers. Doha Metro and Tram, according to the figures from MoT, transported around 567,000 passengers transported on the first day of the World Cup.

Doha Metro has extended its operational hours from 6am to 3am from Saturday to Thursday and from 9am to 3am on Friday. Free metrolink buses run useful routes within 2-5km of stations and some



of the stations have dedicated car parks to reduce traffic during tournament time.

Mowasalat (Karwa), on Sunday, transported 118,805 passengers while the company operated 2,787 services to ferry fans to the sta-

diums and tourism spots across Qatar. Karwa has intensified its operational preparations for the World Cup while mobilising its fleet with specialised technical teams to ensure a comfortable and smooth transportation experience

for the tournament. About 4,000 buses are being operated during the tournament, of which about 3,000 are dedicated to transporting fans, including more than 800 fully electric buses that operate with zero carbon emissions.

Qatar fascinated the world: Turkish ambassador

Turkish ambassador to Qatar Dr Mustafa Goksu has praised the speech of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani at the opening ceremony of the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 on Sunday. The ambassador said, in a statement yesterday, that the Amir's speech carried many direct messages, full of noble human meanings. He also stressed that the ceremony at Al Bayt Stadium, presented humanitarian and civilised messages that promote rapprochement between peoples and cultures around the world.

He said that Qatar fascinated the world and viewers from all over the world, through the legendary opening ceremony of the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022, which brought together the 'fragrance' of the East with a dis-

tinctive Qatari flavour as well as its dazzling performances, meanings and sublime values that focused on unity, coexistence, mutual respect and other common values between peoples.

He added that Qatar dazzled the world and fulfilled its promise to present the best version in the history of the World Cup, and it presents a honourable model in organising international tournaments and confirms the ability of the Islamic world to organise such major events. He also noted that the presence of Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan at the opening ceremony with a large delegation of Turkish ministers and officials was a sincere message of support for the sisterly and friendly State of Qatar on this historic day.



Dr Mustafa Goksu

He added that Türkiye is still with Qatar side by side in organising this event with all its capabilities, and will remain with Qatar until the end of the World Cup. (QNA)

Congratulations from Kuwait

The Kuwaiti Cabinet yesterday congratulated Qatar on the impressive success of the opening ceremony of the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022, stressing that through the opening ceremony, Qatar has efficiently showcased its ability to host this exceptional sporting event. According to Kuwaiti news agency (KUNA), the Kuwaiti Cabinet expressed congratulations to Qatar on the ceremonial inauguration that manifested Doha's ability to send a message of amity and peace to all nations of the globe, commending its huge preparations and the intensive efforts by the relevant apparatuses to ensure the tournament success." (QNA)

World Cup source of pride for all Arabs: Egypt envoy

Egyptian ambassador in Doha Amr Kamal El Din El Sherbiny has congratulated His Highness the Amir, government and people of Qatar on the honourable organisation of the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022. The ambassador hailed the great attention Qatar attaches to sports and athletes, and stressed that the world's mega event which is held for the first time in the region affirms Qatar's potential of distinguished organisation and will remain as a source of pride for all Arabs and a huge achievement for Qatar and the Arab and Muslim nations. In a press statement, the ambassador extended his congratulations to the Qatari leadership, people and government of Qatar, for the excellent preparation and opening ceremony and the honourable organisation of the tournament, which in turn expresses the great interest Qatar attaches to encouraging sports and athletes by providing excellent infrastructure and facilities. Undoubtedly, such an important global sporting event is a great opportunity to bring people together, spread a culture of peace, and support friendship and solidarity on the basis of noble values and sportsmanship, he said. He added that the presence of President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi at the opening ceremony of the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022, confirms his keenness to be present with his brother, His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani, in this great and important global sporting event, and as an expression of the brotherly relations that connect both countries and brotherly peoples. He stressed that President al-Sisi's visit to Qatar also came to express the depth of the Egyptian-Qatari relations, which are witnessing rapid steps to elevate them to higher levels of co-operation and joint co-ordination.

Cabinet lauds ceremony

The Cabinet of Egypt applauded the opening ceremony of the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022, which was held at Al Bayt Stadium on Sunday, stressing that the ceremony which saw a remarkable presence of a large number of leaders and presidents, lived up to the level of the event. A report by the Cabinet's Information and Decision Support Center (IDSC) published yesterday affirmed that Qatar was able to dazzle everyone while highlighting the features of its Arab identity during the World Cup opening ceremony. The report indicated that Qatar grabbed the limelight as football fans all over the world gathered yesterday in front of television screens to follow the largest sporting event – the opening of the FIFA World Cup – which is being organised for the first time in an Arab, Middle Eastern country. (QNA)

INVITATION TO TENDER

Doha Golf Club is pleased to announce the following:

Ref. No.	Title	Bid Bond (QAR)	Bid Fee (QAR)	Last Date to Issue RFP	Bid Closing Date	Email Address
DGC/TC/22/014	Bid for Food & Beverages Managed Services	QAR 100,000	QAR 5,000	08 Dec 2022	22 Dec 2022	Doha Golf Club To: zaib@dohagolfclub.com and rabin@dohagolfclub.com

DGC is keen to invite reputable companies to bid for **Food and Beverage Managed Service** at Doha Golf Club.

Who should respond to this invitation?
5 Star Catering Services Providers (Hotels or Restaurants) operating in State of Qatar, and with relevant experience in aforementioned services.

Bid Process:

- Applicant/s should register and submit their Expression of Interest letter, along with accompanying copy of valid Commercial Registration and Computer Card by email to the relevant email address listed in the table above.
- Upon receipt, the applicant/s will receive an email with attached Confidentiality Agreement (CA).
- The Applicant/s should then pay the non-refundable Bid fee to below DGC Bank Account.

DOHA GOLF CLUB
Bank: Commercial Bank of Qatar
Account No.: 4580-583247-004
IBAN: QA24CBQA000000004580583247004

- Applicants will return a completed CA and Bid fee payment slip with bank stamp to DGC by email to the relevant email address, and submit a hard copy of the CA (in 2 copies) and Bid fee payment slip to the address below:

DOHA GOLF CLUB
West Bay Lagoon
P.O. Box 13530
Doha, Qatar

- Upon Receipt of a conformant CA and proof of payment of the Bid fee, the applicant will be issued a copy of the Request for Proposal (RFP).
- Requests for RFP documents after **08 Dec 2022** will be rejected.
- The decision to issue RFP documents to an applicant rests solely with DGC.
- Technical and Commercial Offers should be submitted by hand in separate sealed envelopes with two (2) copies of each to Doha Golf Club as per the above mail address.
- Bid Bond must be included in the Technical Offer, otherwise Doha Golf Club will not consider documents for further review.
- Any queries in relation to this Bid should be addressed in writing to the email addresses above.

KUWAIT ROLLS OUT PMC TENDER FOR WORLD'S LARGEST SOIL REMEDIATION PROJECTS

The Kuwait Environmental Remediation Program (KERP) had recently released a Tender to Consultancy Services in Project Management and Related Activities for Kuwait Environmental Remediation Program (KERP) to the market, to manage the largest Soil Remediation & Revegetation Projects.

The tender had been published in The Kuwait Gazette (Al-Kuwait Al Youm - Issue no.1501 dated 18th September 2022) and include the 'Consultancy Services in Project Management and Related Activities for Kuwait Environmental Remediation Program (KERP) RFP No.2095344 tender. Pre-bid meetings for the tender was conducted on 17th October, 2022. The due date for bid submission is 18th December 2022.

The Kuwait Environmental Remediation Program was established by the UNCC for Kuwait to address the environmental damage resulting from the 1990/91 Gulf War.

For any further information, Interested parties can access more details about the tenders through the following links:
(<https://capt.gov.kw/en/tenders/opening-tenders/>)

More details about the KERP Program can be accessed through the following links:

- (<http://www.kuwaitnfp.org/Client/index.aspx>)
- (<https://www.kockw.com/sites/EN/Pages/We%20Care/Soil-Remediation.aspx>)

Kuwait is proud of its success today as the execution of KERP, which began in 2012, continues to make progress in the effort to responsibly manage the field activities related to the restoration of Kuwait's damaged desert ecosystem, which is steadily being rehabilitated to its original state for future generations.

Qatar Airways celebrates historic opening of FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022

World-class sports infrastructure, a five-star airport expansion and a host of fun-filled tourist attractions and cultural experiences also await the 1.5mn fans expected to attend the event.

"We have 63 more matches ahead of us and I am sure every single one of them will be an unforgettable experience. We are excited to give the world a taste of Arab hospitality and share

Football fans staying in Qatar during

In 2011, Qatar Airways announced its partnership with FIFA as the Official Airline. The alliance has gone on to connect and unite fans globally, with “The World’s Best Airline” also sponsoring numerous football tournaments such as the FIFA Confederations Cup 2017, the 2018 FIFA World Cup Russia, the FIFA Club World Cup, and the FIFA Women’s World Cup.



Fireworks surround a large replica of the World Cup trophy during the opening ceremony of the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 on Sunday.

Rawabi Group announces to open largest single floor Hypermarket “Rawabi Hypermarket Izghawa” in the State of Qatar in end of Jan 2023



Rawabi hypermarket Igzhawa store which is having more than 200,000+ SQFT , 400 + car parking , Food and nonfood, Department stores, entertainments, kids' entertainments, Cafes, food courts, Hot food section , Major F & B Brand , Money Exchange, Health club, premium Arabic Sweets store, Ooredoo and Vodafone store, international brand stores in All in one

For the part of serving the society our Customers having an option to contribute to Qatar charity through our Ahlan club

For the part of rapid retail outlet expansions plans, very soon we are going to open new hyper market in Ain Khalifa Area in the state of Qatar after opening Izghawa Project. For the Part of FMCG wholesale distribution expansion plan, the Next project is Rawabi Food international which is having 160000SQFT warehouse is going to open in Jarir al samoor Logistics Park in ummsalal to satisfy our B2b Customers in the North East part of state of Qatar. Rawabi Group Launched their New Logo and Introduce New Ahlan Premium club membership program to Customers which will give them a premium shopping experience.

OFFICIAL

Amir greets Kazakh president on his re-election

Amir condoles with Indonesian president

His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani and His Highness the Deputy Amir Sheikh Abdullah bin Hamad al-Thani sent cables of condolences to Indonesian President Joko Widodo on the victims of the earthquake that hit Java district, wishing a speedy recovery for the injured. **(QNA)**

World Cup event at Qatar Aeronautical Academy



Qatar Aeronautical Academy organised an event for staff and students to celebrate the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022. There were a number of entertainment activities, including tickets for all to attend World Cup matches. The FIFA Qatar 2022 commemorative coin was also given to 22 employees of the Academy, who were chosen by lot.



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Snapshots from the event at Qatar University.



QU college celebrates winners of Global Sustainability Space Challenge 2022

Qatar University (QU) held a closing ceremony yesterday to celebrate the winners of the Global Sustainability Space Challenge 2022, which aims to promote sustainability locally and globally, by developing capabilities for a sustainable future.

"This initiative was a unique opportunity for students to learn about space and sustainability, and challenged them to come up with impactful entrepreneurial solutions that would help in

addressing pressing sustainability issues on the ground," QU President Dr Hassan Rashid al-Derham said, adding that the students succeeded in finding effective pioneering solutions that would help solve environmental pollution problems.

"The fact that a team from Qatar University won over a large number of participants from different countries and universities in the climate change track is a testament to the high calibre

of our students and their ability to contribute effectively to the global efforts tackling sustainability challenges," said QU vice-president for Academic Affairs Dr Omar al-Ansari.

"Business schools have a responsibility to shape the minds of future leaders that would make responsible and sensible decisions to shape the minds of future leaders and build the skills and attributes business school graduates will need to create a sustainable

future for all," said College of Business and Economics dean Prof Rana Sobh.

As for the winners, a team from Palestine won in the Life Science and Health Care track, whereas the Egypt and Saudi Arabia team won in the category of Sustainable Consumption and Supply Chain track.

A team from Brazil won in the Sustainable Food and Agriculture track.

In the category of Art, Fashion and 3D Technology track, a team compris-

ing students from Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Palestine and the US won.

Two teams from Qatar won in the category of Climate Change.

The Palestinian team was also identified as the winner for its project based on Particulate Matter Monitoring, offering an air purification solution.

The competition comes within the framework of the College of Business and Economics' vision supporting sustainable business practices and

enhancing student culture to find solutions to better manage resources, whether at the local or global level.

About 1,000 students from 30 countries participated in this competition.

Eighteen projects qualified for the finals, evaluated by 20 international and local judges.

A large number of workshops were also offered to participating students on space, innovation, entrepreneurship and sustainability. - QNA



A big crowd watching the big screen at the FIFA Fan Festival, Al Bidda. **PICTURE:** Shaji Kayamkulam

Big screens a hit with fans

By Shafeeq Alingal
Staff Reporter

Big screens have turned out to be favourite spots for many football fans to enjoy the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 matches.

The prominent destinations, including Souq Waqif, Katara, The Pearl, Al Bidda Park, Aspire Park and Msheireb, sport large outdoor screens allowing fans to watch matches for free.

These spots saw large crowds on the first and second days of the tournament.

"The residents want to go out and watch the matches rather than stay home," said Shahana Ilyas, who went to Al Bidda Park to watch the opening match on a large screen.

"The weather is good, and they have every reason to go out and enjoy the matches."

Souq Waqif is a favourite spot for fans and tourists, with a large screen and multiple culinary options and shopping places.

The souq is open day and night, with many opting to watch the matches there while enjoying traditional Arab cuisine and coffee at the restaurants.

Restaurants and hotels in Qatar have announced special World Cup packages, enabling customers to watch matches on large screens.

Packages can be booked ahead. Malls across the country have set up large screens to attract footfall, while some of the eateries across Doha and other parts of the country have installed television sets for customers.

Tramadol, hashish seized at HIA



The Hamad International Airport Customs has foiled an attempt to smuggle tramadol and hashish into the country. The General Authority of Customs tweeted that the customs officials seized the banned substances from a passenger's luggage. The officials found 1,990 tramadol pills and 464.5g of hashish.

Qatar embassies hold events to mark World Cup 2022 kick-off

Several Qatar diplomatic missions abroad have organised a wide range of events to celebrate the kick-off of FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022.

Qatar's embassy in **Turkiye** held an event to show the opening FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 match between Qatar and Ecuador.

The hours-long event was attended by various Arab and Western diplomats, in addition to prominent figures in Turkish society and media personalities.

In **Palestine**, people converged in the showrooms set up by the Qatar Committee for Reconstruction of Gaza in Gaza Strip and Ramallah, while hundreds of Palestinians gathered in Gaza and West Bank to celebrate the launch of the tournament in Qatar.

The Qatar Committee for Reconstruction of Gaza previously announced that it had dedicated two sites to screen the tournament matches in the Palestinian territories, indicating that the show will continue in those places during all days of the tournament.

In **Algeria**, the Qatar embassy held a ceremony in Harcha Hassan Sport Hall designated by the embassy throughout the whole period of the tournament as free "Fan Zone". The site is equipped with Poetry Majlis to highlight Qatari heritage, along with an open zone for children.

There is a giant screen, and models of the stadiums where the tournament matches are held. Arabic coffee and a variety of traditional Qatari dishes are served.

In a statement on this occasion, Qatar's ambassador to Algeria Abdulaziz Ali al-Naama spoke of the relations between Qatar and Algeria, and lauded the co-operation by Algeria for a successful tournament.

In **Bucharest**, the Qatar embassy held a celebration attended by officials, athletes and members of the diplomatic corps in Romania.

In **Dar-es-Salaam**, the Qatar embassy held a celebration attended by number of heads and members of the diplomatic missions in Tanzania.

In **Mexico City**, the Qatar embassy is organising a festival that will extend over the entire period of the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 tournament.

The festival was intended to engage the Mexican public and enable them to follow up on the tournament events.

The festival featured live streaming of the



Qatar's embassy in Cairo set up a special area for fans of the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022.

The Qatar embassy in Turkiye also held a party on the occasion.



tournament opening ceremony.

Traditional Qatari dishes were served in a tent erected for the event.

In **Porto-Novo**, the Qatar embassy in Benin organised a promotional ceremony for the World Cup 2022.

The ceremony was attended by Benin's Minister of Foreign Affairs and Regional

Co-operation Aurelien Agbenonci, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Arts Jean Michel Abimbola, a delegation from the Benin ministry of sports, heads of the diplomatic and consular missions, and representatives of the international organisations accredited to Benin.

In **N'Djamena**, the Qatar embassy to

Chad held a ceremony that included a live streaming of official opening ceremony of the tournament and the opening match.

Officials of the Chadian government, heads and representatives of the Arab and foreign diplomatic missions accredited to Chad, and leading community figures were in attendance.

In **Asmara**, the Qatar embassy to Eritrea held a ceremony attended by Eritrean Minister for Foreign Affairs Osman Saleh Mohamed, Commissioner of Culture and Sports Zemede Tekle, various Eritrean ministers and officials, and heads of missions of the diplomatic missions in Eritrea. - QNA

ANNOUNCEMENT

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Katara draws large number of fans



The festivities at Katara - the Cultural Village, accompanying the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022, attracted large number of fans eager to know more about the Qatari culture, arts and heritage. The 12th edition of the Katara Traditional Dhow Festival at the splendid Katara Beach promenade, which runs until December 18, witnessed a

remarkable turnout with its various pavilions highlighting the marine heritage. The grand and hugely popular festival which showcases Qatar's pearl-diving legacy and the rich values of fishing and maritime history attracted audiences from various nationalities. The festival won their admiration for its richness and

great history and is a cultural pride of Qataris for generations. The festival includes 50 pavilions - comprising exhibitions of marine heritage collectibles and others for crafts and handicrafts known as 43 handicrafts, and ship building workshops from nine countries: Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Oman, Iraq, Yemen, India, Turkiye and Tanzania.

M7's new exhibitions, pop-ups to run throughout World Cup

Qatar's creative hub M7 is presenting a series of new exhibitions and pop-ups throughout the duration of the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022.

Established under the leadership of HE Sheikha Al Mayassa bint Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani, the latest exhibitions Anassir, Home Grown, Mesra and MilanoxDoha features several local artists and designers.

Entry is free at the exhibitions, with some on display until the end of January 2023.

Anassir, a solo exhibition by Bouthayna al-Muftah - Powered by Progress, is on show until January 21 at M7 Gallery 3 - Floor 1. The Qatari artist's latest composition - Anassir (Elements) is her second solo exhibition in Doha. The series of artworks - Fataarat (Phases), In'ekas (Introspection), and a breathtaking large-scale tapestry named Yeebhom (Bring Them Back), depict a passage through time, conveyed in large scale articulations. The works invite an immersive experience through Bouthayna's mixed-media practices.

Yeebhom is a legacy project produced in collaboration with the world-renowned La Cité internationale de la tapisserie in Aubusson, and was supported by her work In'ekas (Introspection), produced during her residency at Fanoon - Centre for Print Media Reserach at VCUarts Qatar. Born out of the relationship estab-



MilanoxDoha

lished during the Qatar-France 2020 Year of Culture, Yeebhom (Bring Them Back) serves as a commemoration of the 50-year anniversary of diplomatic relations between Qatar and France. The unique artwork blends French traditional and Qatari contemporary influences, inviting the viewer to discover traditional weaving craftsmanship through the lens of a contemporary artist.

Al-Muftah's multidisciplinary practices culminate in 360 unique and profound explorations of Qatari culture and its rapid development over a short period of time. Her exhibition is supported by Audi's House of Progress initiative, and jointly curated by online

art gallery Emergeast. Mesra - An Art Photography Installation, by Khalid Hamad al-Thani, presented by Al Hosh Gallery and curated by Gerhard Steidl, is on show until January 21 at M7 Theatre - Floor 2.

With a career spanning 15 years, photographer Khalid al-Thani is connected with the desert landscape, positioning the non-human habitat as a central element. Mesra (Path) is an installation consisting of sound and photography. Drawing inspiration from the surrounding environment, and focusing on its movement and geometry, his work looks to spark conversation around the multidimensional nature of the desert, and to evoke a visual and theoretical presence



Home Grown

that disrupts popular notions of its heritage aesthetic.

The Age of Modern Architecture in Qatar - A series of images by Joel Tjintelaar is open until January 21 at M7 Hallway - Floor 2. Qatar Tourism is presenting the product of the award-winning photographer's 10-day trip to Qatar. The exhibition consists of 29 striking black and white images by the fine art photographer, and draws inspiration from buildings which embody Qatar's cultural identity, such as the National Museum of Qatar, the Museum of Islamic Art, and other poignant structures.

Home Grown Gallery - An exhibition that reflects the traditional Qatari heritage mixed with modern influences by talented

designers cultivated at Nama (Social Development Centre) is running until December 19 at M7 Creative Learning Space - Floor 1.

The collective work by 17 Qatari artists, looks to strengthen the Qatari identity and introduce the present and future generations to the heritage and tradition of handicrafts, such as Sedu weaving and jewellery making. The exhibition seeks to highlight the skill of designers in producing works of art which combine traditional craftsmanship with modern and contemporary spirit and influence, as well as to promote small businesses affiliated with Nama.

This pop-up exhibition showcases several crafts, such as the



The Age of Modern Architecture

traditional Al-Najada craft, the art of embroidering traditional fabrics and costumes with embellishments - especially light fabrics - with silver and gold wires. The featured designers are Asma al-Darweesh, Hissa al-Haddad, Khalid al-Janahi, Khoulood al-Abdulla, Sameera al-Mulla, Shareefa al-Ansari, Shareefa al-Ghaneem, Maraim al-Tajer, Noor al-Hameedi, Muneera al-Ansari, Wadha al-Sulaiti, Safya al-Hajri, Masooma Jawaad, Hassan al-Emadi, Hamad Almohammed, Seham Yaqoup and Fajer al-Mansoori.

MilanoxDoha - In conjunction with Milan Design Week will run until January 21 at M7 Qatar Creates Hub - Ground Floor. Showcasing unique fur-

niture design in a display of unique and non-conformist pieces, Qatari and Doha-based designers bring together timeless aesthetics and unique materials in their creations.

The works on display include the Shuroq collection, designed in collaboration with design platform FROMM and Qatari designers Maryam Suwaidi and Shua'a Ali, Melting Pottery by the MFA in Design programme at VCUarts Qatar, The Freedom Bench by Shaikha al-Sulaiti (crafted from recycled Hermes Birkin bags), and Eggo by Nada Elkharrashi (a comment on the over consumption of single-use materials). These works were featured in Milan Design Week 2022 in the Rossana Orlandi Gallery.

Qatar Charity participates in AidEx 2022 in Brussels

AlRumaihi, also noted the need for holistic long-term development strategies for a sustainable and inclusive solution, giving the examples from QC's programmes and projects in this regard. He also talked about the opportunities and challenges of localisation, and the importance of investing in strengthening and building capabilities of local actors, in addition to QC's experience and approach to localisation.

Sealine, Khor Al Udaid beckon visitors

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GULF TIMES

Who will pay for climate ‘loss and damage’?

The COP27 summit of nearly 200 countries agreed on Sunday to set up a “loss and damage” fund to support poorer countries being ravaged by climate impacts, overcoming decades of resistance from wealthy nations whose historic emissions have fuelled climate change.

Pakistan’s climate minister Sherry Rehman, who was part of the campaign by developing nations to win the commitment at the two-week UN summit in Egypt, hailed the landmark decision as “down payment on climate justice”.

But the text of the agreement leaves open a number of crucial details to be worked out next year and beyond, including who would contribute to the fund and who would benefit.

Here’s what you need to know about the agreement:

In UN climate talks, “loss and damage” refers to costs being incurred from climate-fuelled weather extremes or impacts, like rising sea levels.

Climate funding so far has focused mostly on cutting carbon dioxide emissions in an effort to curb global warming, while about a third of it has gone toward projects to help communities adapt to future impacts.

Loss and damage funding is different, specifically covering the cost of damage that countries cannot avoid or adapt to.

But there is no agreement yet over what should count as “loss and damage” caused by climate change — which could include damaged infrastructure and property, as well as harder-to-value natural ecosystems or cultural assets.

A report by 55 vulnerable countries estimated their combined climate-linked losses over the last two decades totalled \$525 billion, or 20% of their collective GDP. Some research suggests that by 2030 such losses could reach \$580bn per year.

Vulnerable countries and campaigners in the past argued that rich countries that caused the bulk of climate change with their historical greenhouse gas emissions should pay.

The United States and European Union had resisted the argument, fearing spiralling liabilities, but changed their position during the COP27 summit. The EU has argued that China — the world’s second-biggest economy, but classified by the UN as a developing country — should also pay into it.

A few governments have made relatively small but symbolic funding commitments for loss and damage: Denmark, Belgium, Germany and Scotland, plus the EU. China has not committed any payment.

Some existing UN and development bank funding does help states facing loss and damage, though it is not officially earmarked for that goal.

Also remaining to be worked out are the details on which countries or disasters qualify for compensation.

The fund agreed at the UN summit in Egypt will be aimed at helping developing countries that are “particularly vulnerable” to climate change, language wanted by wealthy nations to ensure the money goes to the most urgent cases while also limiting the pool of potential recipients.

The deal lays out a roadmap for future decision-making, with recommendations to be made at next year’s UN climate summit for decisions including who would oversee the fund, how the money would be dispersed — and to whom.

The agreement calls for the funds to come from a variety of existing sources, including financial institutions, rather than relying on rich nations to pay in.

Some countries have suggested other existing funds could also be a source of cash, although some experts say issues like long delays make those funds unsuitable for addressing loss and damage.

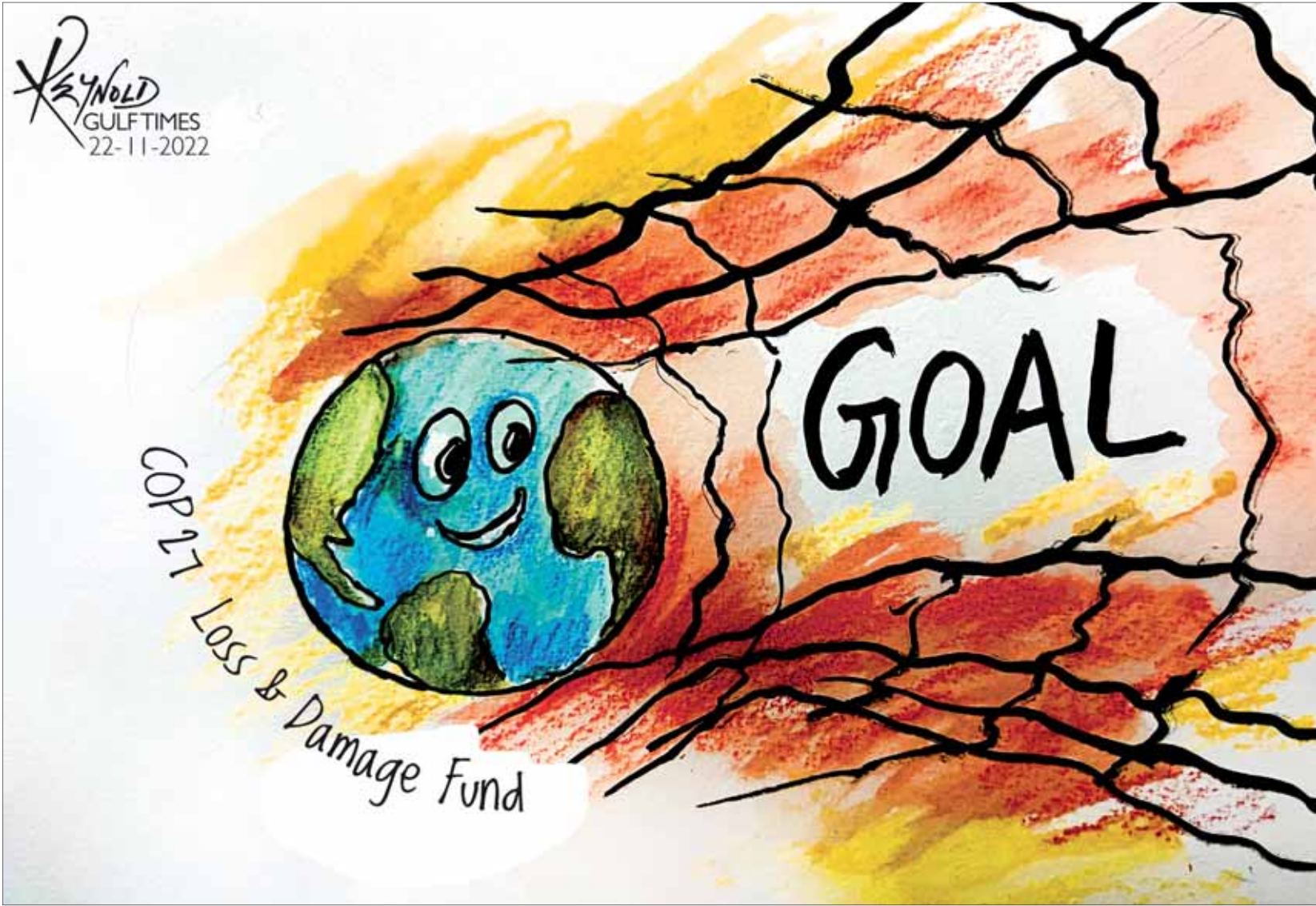
Other ideas include UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres’s call for a windfall profit tax on fossil fuel companies to raise funding. — Reuters

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What’s holding back Germany’s Zeitenwende?

By **Helmut K Anheier**
Berlin

Just days after Russia’s invasion of Ukraine, German Chancellor Olaf Scholz declared that Germany’s approach to defence and foreign policy would undergo a *Zeitenwende* (epochal change). And in various commentaries and speeches since then, he has reiterated his commitment to deeper European security integration and economic coordination. Then, in September, German Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock announced that Germany would adopt a more values-based feminist foreign policy to defend the liberal order against autocracy.

The intended message is that Germany will abandon a foreign policy that many others have criticised as being too passive, intransigent, and ambiguous. For many decades, Germany was all too willing to do business with autocrats, despite its professed commitment to a foreign policy based on European liberal values. It was a free rider in matters of hard power, and it frequently failed to consult its allies or pay due attention to their legitimate concerns. It clung to this ambiguous position because there were massive benefits for Germany in doing so.

From Helmut Kohl in the 1990s to Scholz today, German chancellors have consistently believed that trade policy and dialogue would improve ties with actual and potential adversaries. Defying key allies such as the United States and France, Germany fostered economic dependencies that ultimately could be used against it. By the time Russia invaded Ukraine, Putin had an iron grip on Germany’s natural-gas supply, and by the time Xi Jinping became all powerful in China, Germany’s massive export sector had become critically dependent on China.

Is the current German government serious about adopting a more assertive and less ambiguous foreign policy? Unfortunately, the early evidence suggests otherwise. The same old gap between Germany’s stated aspirations and its actions remains. After announcing support for Ukraine, the government has been slow in granting military and logistical aid, and its promised strengthening of the Bundeswehr (armed forces) is already far behind schedule.

Moreover, by moving unilaterally to soften the blow from higher energy prices, Germany is increasingly isolated within the European Union. This lack of consultation has increased Franco-German tensions to a worrying degree.

As for the values-based feminist

foreign policy, Baerbock’s office already failed its first test by being too slow to respond to the women-led protests in Iran. And Scholz added to the ambiguity of Germany’s position with his visit to China this month. He said his goal was to convince China to pressure Russia not to use nuclear weapons. But if that was really the point of the visit, why did he also bring a host of German corporate executives with him?

More broadly, why has Germany constantly managed to alienate its closest allies while going soft on adversarial powers like Russia and China? I see four interrelated reasons. First, there is Germany’s lack of long-term strategic thinking in foreign policy, which blinded it to a fundamental rule of geopolitics: conditions can — and often do — change radically.

Until Vladimir Putin’s attack on Ukraine earlier this year, Germany had no “plan B.” It had scarcely even considered the possibility that there might be some alternative to the post-Cold War dispensation of endless economic globalisation driving the spread of liberal values and democracy. The German foreign ministry remained beholden to groupthink through the rise of Trumpism, illiberal democracy, Russian bellicosity, and a thoroughly autocratic China.

The second reason is the close

connection between German corporate interests and German foreign policy. It is only a slight exaggeration to say that what Germany calls its foreign policy is in fact primarily a trade policy. That is how it ended up so precariously dependent on Russian energy and exports to China. The governments of Gerhard Schröder and Angela Merkel were pushed that way by corporate interests.

It was German big business that wanted the Nord Stream 2 pipeline, with its promise of cheap Russian gas, and it is German exporters that have made the country even more dependent on the Chinese economy than on Russia. Some of the same corporations that want Russian gas shipments to recommence also had representatives travelling with Scholz to Beijing, with chemical giant BASF as a prime exemplar. The German government’s unhealthy proximity to big business consistently compromises its other commitments to national and European interests.

The third factor is the “permacrisis” phenomenon. After coming to power a year ago, the current Scholz government had no time to get into operating mode and start implementing the reforms outlined in the coalition agreement — many of which were meant to overcome the inertia of the Merkel years.

Instead, the government has been dealing with the pandemic, the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the energy crisis, the influx of a million refugees, inflation, a slowing economy, infrastructure problems, lagging digitalisation, and demands by Poland for World War II reparations. Overburdened and lacking the capacity to handle so many crises at once, Germany’s government has failed to stay on top of more routine diplomatic matters, such as co-ordinating weapons procurement with France.

Lastly, Germany has a complex, fragile coalition government that is often working at cross purposes, having been forged under the fairer-weather conditions of late 2021. Plodding debates among various sub-coalitions are delaying decisions, frustrating German voters and allies abroad, and often producing bad results.

The three main ministries involved are headed by the two coalition parties that have the least in common. With the Greens leading the foreign and economics ministries, and the Free Democrats leading the finance ministry, co-ordination failures have been legion. These factors were evident in the move to cap gas prices, Scholz’s trip to China, and energy purchases at high prices, which crowded out other European countries.

Once again, Germany is showing a troubling lack of empathy to allies and boldness to adversaries. There can be no *Zeitenwende* without both. — Project Syndicate

● *Helmut K Anheier, Professor of Sociology at the Hertie School of Governance in Berlin, is Adjunct Professor of Social Welfare at UCLA’s Luskin School of Public Affairs.*



FRAGILITY: Germany has a complex, fragile coalition government under Chancellor Olaf Scholz that is often working at cross purposes, having been forged under the fairer-weather conditions of late 2021.

With football fans from across the world converging on Qatar, the FIFA Fan Festival at Doha's Al Bidda Park, has been transformed into a party zone with celebrations happening from 11am to 2am, as per the scheduled running until November 29. The timing from November 30 to December 18 is 4pm to 2am. Lot of activities are happening at Souq Waqif as well, attracting a good crowd. Scenes from yesterday's activities at both locations.

PICTURES: Thajudheen and Shaji Kayamkulam

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PICTURES: Thajudheen and Shaji
Kayamkulam





QATAR



FIFA WORLD CUP
Qatar 2022

QATAR



Her Highness Sheikha Moza with Presidents Sall (*right*) and Kagame, and Canada's Minister Sajjan. **PICTURE:** AR al-Baker



PICTURE: Aisha al-Musallam

Sheikha Moza opens EAA's SDG Pavilion

Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, Chairperson of Education Above All (EAA) Foundation and SDG Advocate, launched yesterday the SDG Pavilion on the sidelines of the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 competition in the Fan Zone at Al Bidda Park.

Her Highness Sheikha Moza also attended a discussion on the role of sports as means to promote development and peace internationally, and the challenges of reaching the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

The discussion was attended by Rwanda's President Paul Kagame, Senegal's President Macky Sall, Islamic Development Bank president Dr Mohammed Sulaiman al-Jasser, World Health Organisation Director-General Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Canada's Minister of International Development and Minister responsible for the Pacific Economic Development Agency Harjit Sajjan, and SDG Advocate Kailash Satyarthi.

Meanwhile, the EAA has officially launched the "Scoring for the Goals" campaign, which calls for unity and solidarity to achieve the SDGs on the sidelines of the World Cup 2022.

The campaign will feature many activities that will be organised in co-operation with Qatar Foundation (QF) partners such as Unicef, Unesco and the UNHCR.

The campaign includes live music performances, dialogue with world leaders, art installations, and football workshops.

Attendees at yesterday's launch included EAA Vice-Chairperson HE Sheikha Al Mayassa bint Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani and high-level representatives from Canada, Liberia, Mexico and the United Kingdom. – **QNA**



PICTURES: AR al-Baker



Live it all in Qatar!

Accompanying the on-field action of the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 is a dazzling array of entertainment and leisure activations.

Here are some highlights:

■ **FIFA Fan Festival:** Al Bidda Park, daily until December 18. November 21-29: 11am-2am; November 30-December 18: 4pm-2am.

Join 40,000 fans and enjoy all 64 FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 matches live on the mega-screens.

See global music acts and local artistes take to the stage in a true celebration and vibrant festival of culture.

Entry only for Hayya card holders.

■ **Corniche celebrations**

Qatar's global street carnival along Doha's iconic 6km waterfront, from the Museum of Islamic Art to Hotel Park.

Taking place daily until December 18, from noon until midnight (entertainment from 3-11pm).

The atmosphere along the Corniche will celebrate nations – allowing fans to connect from all around the world.

■ **Welcome to Qatar: Corniche**

Welcome to Qatar is a must-see for all during the tournament, featuring the Circle of Lights – a shimmering circle suspended above the water that transforms to poetically narrate wonderful stories.

Shows take place daily at 3pm, 3.30pm, 4pm, 5pm and 5.30pm.

■ **Hayya Fan Zone**

A grand celebration of the beautiful game at Lusail South Promenade, open from November 20-December 18, from noon until 1am.

Head to Lusail South Promenade and join the festivity, fun and football.

Access: entry fee and ticketed activations.

■ **Ras Abu Aboud Beach 974**

Hit the shore at Beach 974, extending from the heart of Doha along Ras Abu Aboud's glistening waterfront.

Combine football and beach life, enjoy the water – then kick back and let the beat move your feet! Timings: 9am-6pm.

For more details, visit <https://www.qatar2022.qa/en/live-it-all-in-qatar/ras-abu-aboud-beach-974>

■ **MDLBEAST Presents: Aravia**

Step off the pitch and onto the dancefloor for 28 Arabian nights. A magical world that combines music, performance and song – from premiere international talent and rising regional stars.

All inspired by the colours and shapes of Arab culture, blending rave with Arabia.

Taking place from November 21-December 18, from 8pm-2am. Located next to Al Wakra Metro Station, 12 minutes from Doha.

Access: Event admission ticket required.

■ **Arcadia Music Festival**

This world-renowned event will mesmerise you late into the night – as the energy of this one-of-a-kind experience takes over! Featuring international artistes and DJs, extraordinary sculpted stages with a fire-breathing spider, and much more.

Open until December 19, daily from 6pm-3am, at Ras Bu Fontas.

■ **Lusail Boulevard**

Live entertainment lights up the boulevard! The modern city of Lusail is brought to life from morning until night with live music, parades and street performances.

You'll be captivated by it all! Taking place until December 18, daily from 11am-2am.

Access: public (some activities require admission tickets).

■ **QetaifAN Beach Fest**

Be entertained day and night! Enjoy concerts, special performances, giant screen live matches, water activities and a Floating Aqua Park – all at one of the largest entertainment venues in Qatar! Open until December 18 in Qetaifan Island North.

Event admission ticket required and ticketed activations (free entry for guests staying at Fan Village Qetaifan Island North).

■ **World Cup activations** at Katara – the Cultural Village, Katara Traditional Dhow Festival, World Cup festivities at Msheireb, and more

Please refer to <https://www.qatar2022.qa/en/live-it-all-in-qatar> for more information.

UN secretary-general visits NMoQ



Ahead of the official opening of the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 on Sunday, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres visited the National Museum of Qatar (NMoQ). He was given a guided tour of the NMoQ's galleries.



Gift of Mexican sculptures

Katara – the Cultural Village general manager Prof Khalid bin Ibrahim al-Sulaiti and Mexico's Foreign Affairs Secretary Marcelo Ebrard Casaubon led the unveiling of Mexican sculptures gifted to Qatar yesterday at Katara.

The event also marked the launch of the Mexican fans' caravan for the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022.

Prof al-Sulaiti and Casaubon also inaugurated the Mexican-Qatari Centre at Katara on Saturday. **PICTURES:** Shaji Kayamkulam

