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## Qatar Celebrates 10th anniversary of GCC Human Rights Declaration



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Doha, December 10 – Under the patronage of HE Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim Al-Thani, Qatar marked the 10th anniversary of the GCC Human Rights Declaration on International Human Rights Day. The event, organized by the Human Rights Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, was attended by senior officials, including HE Minister of State for International Cooperation Maryam bint Ali bin Nasser Al

Misnad and HE GCC Secretary-General Jasem Mohamed Abdullah Albudaiwi, alongside several ministers and heads of diplomatic missions.

In her opening remarks, HE Minister Al Misnad described the GCC Human Rights Declaration, adopted at the 35th GCC summit in Doha in 2014, as a significant milestone in the region's commitment to human rights. She stressed that the declaration reinforces the GCC member states' dedication to establishing human rights as a cornerstone for a better future. Al Misnad highlighted Qatar's efforts, such as the establishment of the National Human Rights Committee, to foster a culture of human rights both regionally and internationally. She also referenced HH the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani's speech at the 79th UN General Assembly, which reaffirmed Qatar's support for promoting peace, security, sustainable development, human rights, and the rule of law globally.

HE Albudaiwi commended Qatar's leadership and praised the GCC's commitment to human rights as an integral part of their cultural, religious, and social identity. He emphasized that the declaration reflects the values of Islamic Sharia, which upholds fundamental human rights. He also noted the progress made by GCC states in advancing women's and children's rights, protecting persons with disabilities, and combating human trafficking. Albudaiwi called for continued collaboration to achieve further progress and prosperity for the people of the GCC.

Dr. Reem bint Ali Ibrahim Al Derham, Acting Director of the Human Rights Department at Qatar's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, affirmed the country's unwavering commitment to human rights, as enshrined in its constitution. She highlighted Qatar's significant achievements in various areas, including education, healthcare, infrastructure, and humanitarian support for refugees and those affected by conflicts. Dr. Al Derham also noted that Qatar's hosting of the 17th meeting of the GCC's governmental human rights agencies demonstrates the country's dedication to enhancing cooperation in this crucial field.