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## Maryam Al Attiyah Congratulates Sheikh Joaan on OCA Presidency



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HE Maryam bint Abdullah Al Attiyah, Chairperson of the National Human Rights Committee (NHRC), congratulated HE Sheikh Joaan bin Hamad Al Thani on his election as President of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA), describing the confidence placed in him by Asian Olympic committees as a continuation of Qatar's distinguished achievements in sport.

Al Attiyah said Qatar's experience in supporting and promoting sport has become a pioneering model, positioning it as a key pillar of national development and encouraging broad community participation. She stressed that sporting success in Qatar aligns closely with the advancement of human rights, noting that sport is not only a fundamental right but also an effective platform for promoting human rights awareness globally. She also highlighted that Qatar's international sports collaborations and hosting of major competitions contribute to building bridges, enhancing cultural exchange, and showcasing the country's commitment to excellence on a global stage.

She highlighted Qatar's strong commitment to human development and public health, rooted in humanitarian and ethical values. This commitment has expanded sports participation nationwide and ensured the provision of appropriate facilities across various regions, reflecting tangible progress in human rights and creating opportunities for marginalized communities to engage in sports.

Emphasizing sport's positive impact on physical and mental well-being, Al Attiyah said these benefits directly support the broader human rights framework in society. She praised cooperation between the NHRC and national sports federations, affirming the shared belief that sport and human rights are inseparable.

She added that major sporting events hosted by Qatar have been utilized to promote human rights awareness among citizens and international visitors, inspiring both youth and professional athletes alike to embody values of discipline, respect, and teamwork.

Al Attiyah expressed hope that Sheikh Joaan's election will further strengthen the role of sport in advancing human rights across Qatar and Asia, reinforcing inclusion, equality, and universal access without discrimination. She also called on countries across the continent to embrace sport as a unifying tool that fosters mutual respect, peace, and opportunities for youth engagement, ensuring that sporting excellence continues to inspire positive societal change.