

Ayedh Al-Qahtani
Raf Thani Foudation

Tuesday at 11 :54, Venue : ICC Uskudar 1+2

Dr. Aize bin Dabsan Al Qahtani is a Qatari personality well-known locally and in the region through his work in the humanitarian sector and his numerous media programmes and interventions.

Dr. Al Qahtani worked in a number of Government and Civil society positions before moving into the humanitarian sector in 2006 as the deputy Director General of the charitable Eid foundation. In 2009, he moved to the Sheikh Thani bin Abdullah Foundation for Humanitarian Services (also known as raf foundation) at its inception as its Director General and Chairman of the Board of Trustees. Dr. Aize has represented Qatar's civil society and humanitarian sector in a number of regional and international conferences. Dr. Aize holds BSc and Masters in media and journalism as well as a Honorary Doctorate respectively from Qatar University and Muhammed Bin Saud University (KSA).

Statement

The Sheikh Thani bin Abdullah foundation for Humanitarian Services (also known as raf , an Arabic word for Mercy) based in Qatar salutes the Secretary General's initiative to call to this important summit to jointly think about better ways to serve the victims of conflict, poverty and disasters as well as developing financially viable and sustainable solutions in a period of world history characterized by increased distress and pain.

On this occasion, raf would like to contribute to the collective efforts and announce the Sheikh Thani bin Abdullah Initiative for the fight against hunger under the name of Al Salwa (the Arabic word for the solace), a commitment of 1 Bio Qatari Riyal (the equivalent of over 270 million US Dollars) from now until 2020.

Our initiative will target 36 countries in Africa and Asia with a particularly vulnerable food security index aiming at serving 20 Million beneficiaries with food and encourage and develop innovative solutions to fight hunger in cooperation with the specialized multilaterals (World Food Programme, Food and Agriculture Organisation to name a few), the regional and national actors, the philanthropic foundations and civil society actors, research institutes and universities, and the private sector. Agriculture land reclamation, specialized institutes, innovation awards for best practices and for best ideas in food security are a few examples of projects that will be hosted under the umbrella of our initiative.

"Mercy is Grace" is the leading motto of our founder and our organization who aims at building communities of mercy around the world, very much in line with what most philanthropies and NGOs(Non-Governmental Organizations) have at heart.

In line with our motto, raf is committed to the strengthening of health systems in fragile or post-war contexts. To this effect, we have launched the "Save a life initiative" (SALI) to strengthen selected national medical NGOs in fragile contexts, helping these agencies of recovery to deliver quality services to the population, while conducting applied research for a better understanding of the causes of locally prevalent illnesses.

After the SALI workshops and multi-year pilot projects funded by raf, the hub NGOs in Sudan, Syria or Yemen will be in an ideal position to become sustainably funded through Public-NGO partnerships and Private-NGO partnerships with the state authorities, insurance companies or other stakeholders in these countries.

Raf has high expectations as to the anticipated impact of the many commitments we are hearing in this session from all stakeholders. We hope this summit will become an example in the books of history of how humanity from all over the globe in the 21st century worked together hand in hand to alleviate the distress of an unprecedented level of civilian victims and needy communities.