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## PRESS RELEASE

### Networking Event for Financial Professionals to be Addressed by Steve Forbes

*Qatar Financial Centre, Amwal and Qatari Businessmen Association hold second event after successful launch in November*

**Doha, 25 February 2007** – The three leading local business and financial organizations which have established a local platform for networking and financial industry development have announced the holding of its second event.

The event, to take place on 28 February, coincides with the conclusion of the Forbes Middle East CEO Forum in Doha. Steve Forbes, President, CEO and Editor in Chief of Forbes magazine, will attend the networking event and address the participants.

The Networking Event for Financial Professionals is geared to professionals working in the financial sector, and those in financial positions in the wider business community. Amwal, Qatar Financial Centre and Qatari Businessmen Association each invite clients and other professional contacts to participate.

The group offers an opportunity for financial professionals to share information on ethics, corporate governance, and best practices in the field of finance among other finance-related topics.

“We were delighted with the response to our first event” said Sheikha Hanadi Nasser bin Khaled Al Thani, Vice Chairperson and Managing Director of Amwal. “The senior level of professionals attending, and the real mix of people across the various businesses not only based in Qatar but also in the region, prompted some very good comments,” she added.

Sheikh Faisal Bin Qasim Al Thani, Chairman of the Qatari Businessmen Association commented “As the ambitions and achievements of our industries grow we need to provide them with the best financial capabilities available. The networking event is likely to become a very important source for identifying how we can best support them in this respect.”

Stuart Pearce, CEO and Director General of the Qatar Financial Centre Authority added “The networking event in some ways performs the same function as the QFC. It is helping to create critical mass, informed debate, and a sharing of information on opportunities or developments. It is an important community which contributes in a very significant way to the future of the country. ”

The events will take place every 2-3 months, is by invitation only, and will be tailored to fit the needs of the professionals that are expected to participate. In order to do this, the founding group have already conducted a post-event survey of those who were invited to the first event. This produced some very positive results and confirmed the need for such a body to meet on a quarterly basis.