



Barwa Bank hosts gala dinner to support the first Qataris to climb Mount Kilimanjaro

Call for action to raise funds for West Africa crisis with Qatar Charity

Doha – June 12, 2012 - Barwa Bank, Qatar's fastest growing Shari'ah compliant banking service provider, the sole sponsor and host of a special fund raising gala dinner held to celebrate the return of the two Qatari diving champions, volunteers of Qatar Charity (QC), who climbed Mount Kilimanjaro, the highest mountain in Africa to increase awareness and encourage donations towards the famine that threatens millions of people in West Africa.

The event was held last night at the Diplomatic Club and was attended by guests of honor, Fahad Mohamed Salem al-Buainain and Talal Abdul Aziz Abdul Rahman Kamal al-Emadi, the first Qatari youth to complete such a challenge, as well as Barwa Bank management, QC representatives and a large number of local VIP's and business leaders. During the event, attendees were informed of the on-going problem facing West Africa and were invited to donate money to the cause.

Steve Troop, CEO, Barwa Bank said, "We are proud to have supported Fahad al-Buainain and Talal al-Emadi from the start to the completion of their expedition, as it's truly a noble cause that they are working towards. As a local bank we wanted to support these two Qatari youths to help drive global attention to the famine crisis in West Africa and we organised this event tonight to pay tribute to their tenacity and encourage people to continue to donate whatever they can. This crisis, in particular, requires concerted efforts in order to prevent an imminent disaster due to lack of food, medicine, drinking water, and essentials of life in Niger and other African countries. We have been overwhelmed by the local support that this initiative has received so far and hope people will continue to be so generous. Barwa Bank is fully committed to supporting humanitarian causes and will continue to do whatever we can to help improve the lives of those who are less fortunate".

Following the expedition, which was completed in mid-March, Barwa Bank and QC have launched a fund raising campaign with all donations raised going towards helping to prevent a famine crisis before it hits this region of Africa creating disaster. Efforts have been made at various levels to help this community by not just providing them with the necessities, but educating them on the various ways they can improve their life. This includes solar water purifying systems and better agricultural techniques. Donations can still be made at any Barwa Bank branch as well as transferred directly to Account Number: 200000007489.



Mr. Youssef Ahmed al-Kuwari, QC CEO thanked the two Qatari young men for their efforts to raise awareness of the famine in west africa. He also thanked Barwa Bank for sponsoring the trip to Kilimanjaro and for their continuous cooperation with Qatar Charity. The famine and drought in that region threatens 15mn people and Qatar Charity urges everyone to support its “Challenge for life” campaign that aims at helping those most effected by the situation. He added that this campaign in cooperation with Barwa Bank is an important component in the relief efforts that will result in sustainable projects in west africa.

Before going on to their expedition, Fahad al-Buainain and Talal al-Emadi also visited the Republic of Niger to see first-hand the conditions in this region of Africa and to document, using video, the human suffering of those affected by famine caused by drought and food shortages. These documentaries were aired during the gala dinner and are now posted on Barwa Bank’s Facebook and Twitter pages, QC website and youtube.

Barwa Bank and QC have worked together on various projects and initiatives; however, this is a particularly crucial campaign that requires immediate action to save many lives. Barwa Bank consistently plays an important role in national and international humanitarian causes and supporting developing nations and will be re-launching its Ramadan campaign to support children’s education in Qatar later this year.

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