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Weekly Briefing - Qatar

Top Headlines

[Qatar Investment and Innovation Conference presents high-level panel on fostering entrepreneurship](#)

The Qatar Investment and Innovation Conference is proud to announce its first panel discussion, "Fostering Entrepreneurship and Driving Economic Growth in the GCC." Co-organised by The Business Year and Msheireb Properties, the session will take place during the conference, themed "Driving GCC Entrepreneurial Growth," scheduled for 3 November 2025 at Baraha! Msheireb, Doha.

[Qatar's real estate transactions hit \\$510.9m in September](#)

Qatar's real estate market recorded transactions worth 1.86 billion Qatari riyals (\$510.9 million) in September, with the total sales value rising 65 percent compared to the previous month, according to official data. Figures from the Ministry of Justice's Analytical Real Estate Bulletin showed that 516 property deals were registered in September.

[Qatar-Saudi Joint Business Council explores opportunities for economic integration](#)

The Qatar-Saudi Joint Business Council held a meeting on Monday at the Qatar Chamber's (QC) headquarters. The meeting was presided over by Qatar Chamber Chairman and Head of the Qatar side HE Sheikh Khalifa bin Jassim Al-Thani, while HE Hamad bin Ali Al-Shuwair chaired the Saudi side, in the presence of members of the council from both sides.

Sector Developments and Updates

Agriculture

[Hamad Port Breaks Guinness World Records for World's Largest Mangrove Relocation Project](#)

In a new achievement added to its record of global accomplishments, Hamad Port - Qatar's main gateway to world trade - has broken the Guinness World Records title for the world's largest mangrove relocation project. This marks the port's second entry into the Guinness World Records, highlighting its unwavering commitment to sustainable environmental practices.

[Qatar Participates in 59th Meeting of Executive Council of Arab Organization for Agricultural Development](#)

The State of Qatar, represented by the Ministry of Municipality, participated in the 59th meeting of the Executive Council of the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development (AOAD), of the Arab League. The meeting was held via video conferencing. The Qatari delegation was headed by Engineer Fahad Mohammed Al Qahtani, Assistant Undersecretary for Agriculture and Food Security Affairs.

[MECC, Qatar National Library Sign MoU to Boost Environmental Knowledge](#)

The Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MECC) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Qatar National Library to strengthen cooperation in environmental knowledge-sharing and public awareness. The agreement was signed by HE Eng. Abdulaziz bin Ahmed Al Mahmoud, Undersecretary of the Ministry, and Tan HuiSim, Executive Director of the Library, in the presence of officials from both sides.

Education

[Dean of HEC Paris in Doha to QNA: Celebrating 15 Years Since Founding, Over 1,500 Students Graduated](#)

In an exclusive interview with Qatar News Agency (QNA) on the occasion of HEC Paris' 15th anniversary in Doha, Dr. de Holan said that this occasion embodies the insightful vision of HH Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, Chairperson of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF), and the dedicated efforts of both teams. He highlighted the commitment of all to providing world-class leadership education in the State of Qatar.

[MOEHE Launches Enhanced Licensing System for Private Schools, Kindergartens](#)

The Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MOEHE) has launched the enhanced licensing system for private schools and kindergartens, a paradigm shift in the education system, as well as in the oversight of the nation's private education sector, through the adoption of multi-year educational licenses (ranging from 3 to 5 years) rather than the currently enforced annual licensing system.

[QF's Qatar Academy Msheireb: Sharing education beyond the classroom](#)

Among the honourees was Lama El Kalash, Assistant Principal at Qatar Academy Msheireb (QAM), part of QF's Pre-University Education (PUE), who received the Outstanding Practitioner Award for her leadership in integrating values into every aspect of the learning experience and fostering a school culture that promotes identity, openness, and empathy.

Health

[Qatar Participates in the Meetings of the WHO Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean](#)

The State of Qatar is participating in the seventy-second session of the World Health Organization's (WHO) Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean, which opened today in Cairo and will continue for three days under the theme "Together for a Healthier Future: Action. Access. Equity."

[QRCS, ICRC Mark World Mental Health Day](#)

Marking World Mental Health Day, celebrated on October 10 every year, Qatar Red Crescent Society (QRCS) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) held a roundtable discussion on Mental Health in Conflicts and Emergencies. The event was attended by Faisal Mohamed Al Emadi, Secretary-General of QRCS, H E Karim Marcos, Ambassador of Canada, H E Olette Yedi David, Ambassador of Colombia, Duncan Hill, Deputy Head of Mission at the UK Embassy in Qatar, and Basma Tabaja, head of ICRC mission in Qatar.

[Sidra Medicine to host Paediatric Neuroscience Conference](#)

Sidra Medicine, a member of Qatar Foundation, will host its 5th annual Paediatric Neuroscience Conference (PNC) from November 6 to 8 2025 at the Marriott Marquis City Centre in Doha, Qatar. This year's conference will convene experts in paediatric neurology, neurosurgery, neuro-critical care, neurogenetics, neuroradiology and related fields for three days of scientific exchange, clinical insight, and collaborative networking.

Travel, Culture, and Tourism

[Ministry of Culture Holds Special International Edition of "Seminar Season" in Paris](#)

The Ministry of Culture organized on Sunday a special international edition of its renowned "Seminar Season" in the French capital, Paris, in partnership with the Arab World Institute. Held for the first time outside the State of Qatar, the event was attended by HE Minister of Culture Sheikh Abdulrahman bin Hamad Al-Thani, HE Ambassador of the State of Qatar to France Sheikh Ali bin Jassim Al-Thani, HE Undersecretary of the Ministry of Culture Dr. Ghanem bin Mubarak Al Ali, and HE President of the Arab World Institute Jack Lang, alongside a number of ambassadors, academics, and researchers.

[Nigeria And Qatar Set To Boost Tourism And Cultural Ties Through Signing A New Partnership: Here's What You Need To Know](#)

In an effort to strengthen cultural and tourism ties, the government of Nigeria has resumed discussions with the Qatar authorities, aiming to bolster collaboration in arts, culture and tourism. The potential partnership promises to create numerous opportunities for both countries to boost their tourism sectors and foster deeper cultural exchanges.

[Qatar Leads the Global Tourism Boom, Surpassing Rivals in Visitor Growth and Numbers](#)

Statistics from the UNWTO show that Qatar's international tourist arrivals have grown by an extraordinary 138% from 2019 to 2024, with the number of visitors expected to surpass 5 million in 2024, up from 2.1 million just five years earlier. This leap places Qatar among the top nations in terms of growth, highlighting the effectiveness of the country's strategic investments in tourism infrastructure and its successful rebranding as a world-class destination.

Transport and Logistics

[Maritime activities resumed: MoT](#)

The Ministry of Transport announced yesterday the full resumption of maritime navigation activities for recreational, tourism, fishing, and similar vessels. In a circular, the ministry urged all marine vessel owners and seafarers to always ensure the availability of safety and security equipment before and during sailing, to ensure their safety.

[The Communications Regulatory Authority – Qatar Airways activates Internet protocol version 6](#)

The Communications Regulatory Authority (CRA) announced that Qatar Airways has activated Internet Protocol Version 6 (IPv6) within its digital infrastructure, with regulatory support from CRA, to accelerate the adoption of IPv6 across key sectors. This milestone comes as part of a comprehensive roadmap aimed at enhancing Qatar's digital readiness, aligning with the latest international standards, and meeting the requirements of the digital economy.

[Qatar records higher aircraft movements, passengers in Sept](#)

Qatar's air transport sector continued to show strong momentum in September 2025, with aircraft movements and passenger traffic recording steady year-on-year (YoY) growth, according to the preliminary figures released by the Qatar Civil Aviation Authority (QCAA) . The data show that flight movements increased to 23,759 in September 2025, up from 22,917 in the same month of 2024, reflecting a 3.7 percent annual rise. M

Information and Communications Technology

[Vodafone Qatar, Barzan University sign MoU to advance ICT services](#)

Vodafone Qatar has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Barzan University College, in partnership with Swinburne University of Technology, Australia, to advance ICT services. The strategic partnership aims to leverage Vodafone Qatar's cutting-edge ICT capabilities to enhance operational efficiency and drive innovation within the university.

[CRA launches 'Caller Name Presentation' initiative to enhance trust, protect consumers](#)

The Communications Regulatory Authority (CRA) has commenced the gradual launch of the first phase of the Caller Name Presentation (CNAP) initiative, in collaboration with the telecom Service Providers; Ooredoo Qatar and Vodafone Qatar, and in coordination with the relevant national authorities. The initiative aims to protect consumers, enhance their trust in telecom services, and reduce fraudulent calls.

[Ooredoo and Barwa Group Partner to Advance Digital Transformation in Real Estate Management](#)

Ooredoo, Qatar's leading telecommunications provider, has announced the signing of a strategic partnership with Barwa Real Estate Group, a prominent development and investment company. The partnership aims to enhance Barwa Group's digital services and elevate the experiences of its tenants and residents.

Emerging Technology

[Qatar wins three awards at GCC e-Government Award](#)

Qatar won three awards at the GCC e-Government Award 2025, held in the State of Kuwait Wednesday, in recognition of its distinguished government initiatives in digital transformation and smart service development. These awards reflect the country's continuous progress in implementing pioneering digital projects.

[Qatar Affirms Importance of Shoring Up Int'l Cooperation in Sciences, Technology and Innovation](#)

The State of Qatar has affirmed the importance of reinforcing international cooperation in the areas of sciences, technology, and innovation, in addition to bridging the digital divide between the Global North and South, fostering partnerships oriented to technology transfer, advancing infrastructure, capacity-building, sharing expertise and knowledge.

[Company Officials at 3rd Qatar Real Estate Forum: Use of Technology in Real Estate Sector Boosted Sales by 30%](#)

Company officials at the 3rd Qatar Real Estate Forum have confirmed the growing impact of digital transformation and artificial intelligence tools on the real estate sector. They pointed to the increasing use of technology by developers and clients in sales, purchase, and rental processes, including determining property locations and pricing levels, concluding deals, and predicting the future of real estate.

Energy and Industrial

[Qatar cuts December al-Shaheen oil term price amid excess supply, sources say](#)

State-owned QatarEnergy has cut the term price for al-Shaheen crude oil loading in December to the lowest in more than a year, several trade sources said on Thursday, as abundant Middle Eastern supply weighed on the market. The December term price for al-Shaheen crude was set at 54 cents a barrel, the sources said, falling sharply from \$3.61 in the previous month.

[Earnings call transcript: Qatar Fuel reports Q2 2025 revenue decline](#)

Qatar Fuel, known as WOQOD, reported a decline in revenue and net income for the first half of 2025, compared to the same period last year. Despite maintaining a dominant market share in Qatar's petroleum retail sector, the company faced challenges from macroeconomic factors affecting fuel sales.

[Iran signs preliminary deals for LNG supply](#)

OPEC member Iraq has reached a preliminary agreement with Qatar and Oman to supply it with liquefied natural gas (LNG) after a deal with Turkmenistan bogged down because of objections by the U.S., an Iraqi official told Iraq's Shafaq News Agency this week. Supplies from the two Gulf countries could start arriving at offshore terminals in summer 2026, said Electricity Ministry spokesperson Ahmed Mousa.

Sports

[Qatar and Saudi Arabia qualify for 2026 World Cup](#)

In Group A, Qatar saw off the United Arab Emirates 2-1 in their must-win clash in Doha, where second-half goals from captain Boualem Khouchi and Pedro Miguel sealed the 2022 hosts' place at next summer's finals in the United States, Canada and Mexico. Then, later in Jeddah, the Saudis came through a goalless draw at home to Iraq to book a berth at the 2026 showpiece.

[FIBA World Cup 2027 LOC launches Mini World Cup for basketball – a first in Middle East](#)

The Organizing Committee of the FIBA Basketball World Cup Qatar 2027, in collaboration with the Qatar School Sports Association, on Sunday announced the launch of inaugural Basketball Mini World Cup, to be held in Doha across two seasons (2025–2026 and 2026–2027). This pioneering initiative marks the first of its kind in the Middle East.

[Doha to Host 1st Ever Basketball Mini World Cup in Mideast](#)

The Organizing Committee of the FIBA Basketball World Cup Qatar 2027, in collaboration with the Qatar School Sports Association (QSSA), announced, Sunday, the launch of the inaugural Basketball Mini World Cup, to be held in Doha across two seasons (2025–2026 and 2026–2027), marking the first pioneering initiative of its kind in the Middle East.

Updates in Regulations

[Ministry of Municipality, SJC sign MoU to manage, regulate online auctions](#)

The Ministry of Municipality and the Supreme Judicial Council (SJC) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to manage, regulate, and implement electronic auctions. The agreement comes as part of ongoing institutional cooperation aimed at enhancing transparency in the sale and management of seized items, including vehicles, machinery, and equipment, while keeping pace with the country's digital transformation.

[New legislation enhanced attractiveness of Qatar's real estate sector: QC Chairman](#)

Sheikh Khalifa bin Jassim bin Mohamed Al Thani (pictured), Chairman of Qatar Chamber, praised the Cityscape Qatar exhibition, highlighting the significant development it has witnessed year after year, and the advanced level achieved by Qatari companies operating in the real estate sector.

[MoCI issues updated guide on industrial sectors and activity restrictions](#)

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoCI) has announced the release of an updated version of its Guide on Industrial Sectors and Restrictions on Industrial Activities in the State of Qatar. The updated guide serves as a comprehensive reference for investors and stakeholders in the private sector, offering clear insights into industrial classifications and regulations governing various activities.

News by Soutien Group

[Qatar Enhances Ties With Sweden, Latvia And South Korea](#)

Qatar Business Association (QBA) recently hosted the Minister for International Development Cooperation and Foreign Trade of the Kingdom of Sweden.

[Saudi Arabia Awards 9 Exploratory Mining Licenses](#)

Saudi Ministry of Industry and Mineral Resources recently announced the awarding of 9 mining licenses to local and international companies. They cover 25 sites within the Nabita Al-Duwaili belt in the Makkah Al-Mukarramah region. Accordingly, the awarded companies have committed to spending a total of SAR 156 million (USD 41.6 million) on exploration.

[Oman's Salalah Free Zone Signs OMR 180 Million Deal](#)

Oman's Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones (OPAZ) in collaboration with the Salalah Free Zone, recently agreed terms for an advanced battery chemical materials project. Notably, the signing ceremony occurred at OPAZ headquarters in the presence of senior officials from OPAZ and Salalah Free Zone.

Expertise at Soutien Group

[Market Entries & Business Localization](#)

We assist corporate, private, and international clients in forming, incorporating, and registering limited liability entities in onshore and offshore jurisdictions, including mainland, business centers, financial hubs, and free zones, with or without local partners. The process of formation, incorporation and registration is divided in three stages or phases. These are Pre-Licensing, Licensing, Post-Licensing and Administrative and compliance. Click [here](#) for more.

[Strategies, structures, and systems](#)

We engage or involve in areas related to primary and secondary market research, strategy development and implementation, organizational and operational restructuring and restructuring, business model development and innovation, business plans, feasibility studies, and project reports as well as initiation, mediation representation, and public relations services and works. Click [here](#) for more.

[Partnerships & Sponsorships](#)

We have a network of partners, sponsors, and investors including members of the royal family, senior administration officials and key businessmen and -women who are interested in contribute to businesses and projects on a case-by-case basis depending on the requirements of the foreign investor and the interests of the local partners, sponsors, and investors. Click [here](#) for more.

[Other Services](#)

We work hand-in-hand with a network of partners including law-, tax-, accounting- and audit firms, family offices and private banks, who are licensed and authorized to practice in their areas in different jurisdictions regionally and internationally. Click [here](#) for more.

Frequently Asked Questions

[How Can I Apply for a Commercial Permit in Qatar?](#)

To apply for a Commercial Permit, fill out the online application via the Single Window platform, submit required documents, and pay the necessary fees. The application will be reviewed by relevant government agencies before approval.

[What is a Commercial Permit in Qatar?](#)

A Commercial Permit (CP) in Qatar allows businesses to operate legally under specified activities. It is essential for entities wishing to conduct business and ensures compliance with local regulations.

[Can GCC branches own equity in a Qatari company?](#)

Yes, GCC branches can own up to 49% equity in a Qatari company. However, ministerial approval is required to exceed this limit. This rule ensures compliance with regional investment regulations.

[Can foreign investors fully own a company under Qatar's business laws?](#)

Yes, foreign investors can own 100% of a company in Qatar under Law No. (1) of 2019, which encourages international business development. While most sectors are open to full ownership, exceptions like banking and insurance may require special approval. Learn more about investment opportunities in Qatar's business-friendly environment.

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