

## QFFD, QRCS to Provide Shelter for Syrian IDPs

**September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017 — Doha:** Qatar Fund for Development (QFFD) and Qatar Red Crescent (QRCS) have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to secure adequate shelter for the internally displaced people (IDPs) from Homs to Idlib and Aleppo, northern Syria.

The agreement was signed by QFFD's Executive Director of Strategic Planning, Ali bin Abdullah Al-Dabbagh, and QRCS Secretary-General, Ali Hassan Al-Hammadi.

During the signing ceremony, Mr. Al-Dabbagh stated, "This grant from QFFD will help provide shelter for the Syrians displaced from Homs to Idlib and Aleppo, in a difficult journey. Many of them had suffered a long siege and lack of all sorts of supplies, so they had to leave".

"It is part of the State of Qatar's humanitarian strategy to mitigate the suffering of humanity and falls under the humanitarian response plan adopted by QFFD for 2017. To that effect, several agreements were signed over the year, including relief interventions in Iraq, Syria, Somalia, and Ethiopia," said Mr. Al-Dabbagh.

QFFD, he added, appreciates the strong relations with QRCS and bilateral cooperation for the relief of the Syrian people.

Mr. Al-Hammadi, said, "I would like to thank QFFD for this fruitful cooperation to help the homeless Syrians, who were forced out of their home towns. It is indispensable for them to find somewhere to live other than substandard IDP shelters, particularly as the cold winter is approaching".

He commended the strategic partnership with QFFD, which reflects the approach of Qatar leaders towards helping the vulnerable and the distressed, particularly in Arab countries like Syria, Iraq, Yemen, Libya, and Sudan. "At the center of this is QRCS, thanks to its internationally recognized capacity and as an auxiliary to the State of Qatar in its local and international humanitarian policy," he noted.

Under the three-month MoU, QRCS would build and rehabilitate 310 housing units, each 100 m<sup>2</sup>. These houses will accommodate 620 families (3,100 people),



including 150 persons with disability. Also, transportation would be provided for the beneficiaries free of charge.

###End###

### **Qatar Fund for Development (QFFD)**

Qatar Fund for Development is a Qatari public organization that was established under the law number (19) of 2002. The organization is officially mandated to coordinate and implement foreign development assistance on behalf of the State of Qatar. Qatar Fund for Development has provided foreign assistance to several countries worldwide targeting a variety of sector needs including education, health, and economic development. Qatar Fund for Development is committed to providing foreign aid through bilateral and .multilateral channels in compliance with best practices

### **About Qatar Red Crescent Society (QRCS)**

Established in 1978, Qatar Red Crescent Society (QRCS) is a humanitarian volunteering organization that aims to assist and empower vulnerable individuals and communities without partiality or discrimination.

QRCS is a member of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, which consists of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), and 190 National Societies. QRCS is also a member of several GCC, Arab, and Islamic organizations, such as the Islamic Committee of International Crescent and the Arab Red Crescent and Red Cross Organization (ARCO). In this legally recognized capacity, QRCS has access to disaster and conflict zones, thus serving as an auxiliary to the State of Qatar in its humanitarian efforts — a role that distinguishes it from other local charities and NGOs.

QRCS operates both locally and internationally and has ongoing international relief and development projects in a number of countries throughout the Middle East, Asia, Africa, and Europe. QRCS's humanitarian actions include providing support in disaster preparedness, disaster response, risk reduction, and disaster recovery. To mitigate the impact of disasters and improve the livelihoods of affected populations, QRCS provides medical services, healthcare, and social development to local communities. It is also active at the humanitarian advocacy front. With the help of a vast network of trained, committed staff and volunteers, QRCS aspires to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity.

QRCS works under the umbrella of the seven international humanitarian principles: Humanity, impartiality, neutrality, independence, voluntary service, unity, and universality.

