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**ANSBACHER GRANTED FIRST LICENCE TO CONDUCT BUSINESS IN
THE NEW QATAR FINANCIAL CENTRE**

Ansbacher & Co Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of Qatar National Bank, (QNB) has been granted the first ever licence to conduct business in the newly established Qatar Financial Centre in Doha.

The licence means that Ansbacher is able to establish a permanent presence in Qatar and provide advice on and access to the wide range of the Ansbacher Group's products and services to individuals and organisations in the Qatar region. These include private and specialist banking services, wealth management, investment advice, yacht finance, fiduciary and fund administration services.

The Qatar Financial Centre was opened in May this year by His Highness, Sheikh Abdullah Bin Khalifa Al-Thani, The Prime Minister who inaugurated the Qatar Financial Centre.

The Centre has been designed to attract leading financial services and professional services organisations to Qatar and to create a low risk, low cost business environment.

Commenting on this development, Richard Spilg, CEO of Ansbacher Group said:

“We are delighted to have been awarded this first licence to operate in Qatar and believe this is a very significant step in our plans to develop Ansbacher's business across the Middle East. Having a permanent, physical presence in Dubai and now in Qatar confirms our commitment to the region and allows us to tailor our products and services to meet the needs of our clients looking for expert wealth management solutions.

“Our move to Qatar is also the latest stage in our developing business relationship with our parent company QNB and we believe our two organisations will work extremely well together to provide a world class service to individuals and organisations alike in both Qatar and the region as a whole.”

Mr Ali Sherif Al Emadi, Acting CEO of QNB said:

“We are very encouraged by the fact that Ansbacher & Co Limited is establishing a permanent base here in Qatar. This development fits perfectly with our long term expansion strategy and demonstrates how QNB and Ansbacher are working together successfully. This news of the Doha branch comes just a few weeks after the launch of the QNB Al Watani Funds. These funds are to be managed by Ansbacher which has an award winning track record in wealth management.

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Notes to editors:

The Ansbacher Group, which is wholly owned by Qatar National Bank (QNB), provides tailored financial solutions to high net worth and institutional clients worldwide. The Group’s services span private and specialist banking, wealth management, investment advice, fiduciary services and fund administration. The Group is also represented in the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands, the Cayman Islands, Bahamas, Dubai and Switzerland.

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