

YOUR EXCELLENCY...

MR. DIRECTOR...

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS...

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.

LET ME WELCOME ALL OF YOU TO THIS IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT AS WE CELEBRATE THE LAUNCH OF QATAR AIRWAYS' DIRECT SERVICE FROM MIAMI TO DOHA.

DUE TO OUR GEOGRAPHIC POSITION, AND THE HISTORIC MAKE-UP OF OUR COMMUNITY...

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY HAS TRADITIONALLY BEEN KNOWN AS THE GATEWAY TO THE AMERICAS AND THE CARIBBEAN.

INCREASINGLY, WE HAVE ALSO BECOME A GATEWAY TO EUROPE.

AND WITH TODAY'S ANNOUNCEMENT, WE ARE EXPANDING OUR REACH TO THE MIDDLE EAST AND BEYOND.

WE ARE PLEASED TO WELCOME QATAR AIRWAYS TO THE EVER GROWING FAMILY OF AIRLINES AT MIA, AND WE VALUE THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THEIR PRESENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY.

QATAR AIRWAYS IS RECOGNIZED AS ONE OF THE TOP AIRLINES IN THE WORLD...

HAVING WON SEVERAL ACCOLADES FOR ITS SERVICE...

INCLUDING BEING NAMED A SKYTRAX FIVE STAR AIRLINE AND WORLD AIRLINE OF THE YEAR.

IT'S ALSO AMONG THE FASTEST GROWING AIRLINES.

NOW, MIAMI BECOMES QATAR AIRWAYS' ONLY DESTINATION IN THE SOUTHEASTERN UNITED STATES.

QATAR AIRWAYS WILL OPERATE FOUR WEEKLY FLIGHTS OUT OF MIA...

AND THESE WILL BE THE ONLY DIRECT FLIGHTS FROM FLORIDA TO THE MIDDLE EAST.

AS GOOD CORPORATE CITIZENS, IT'S ESTIMATED THAT QATAR AIRWAYS WILL CONTRIBUTE OVER 500 JOBS AND \$78 MILLION IN BUSINESS REVENUE TO OUR LOCAL MIAMI-DADE ECONOMY.

MORE IMPORTANTLY, IT WILL OPEN THE DOORS TO NEW BUSINESS AND CULTURAL TIES WITH THE MIDDLE EAST.

IN A COMMUNITY THAT BENEFITS FROM OUR DIVERSITY AND OPENNESS TO INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND COMMERCE...

THIS IS YET ANOTHER STEP TOWARD ENHANCING OUR POSITION AS A GLOBAL COMMERCIAL AND CULTURAL GATEWAY.

WITH EVERY NEW AIRLINE THAT FLIES INTO MIA, WE OPEN THE DOORS TO MORE TRAVEL AND TRADE OPPORTUNITIES.

THIS NEW SERVICE BECOMES PART OF ALMOST 30 NEW ROUTES AND OVER 20 NEW AIRLINES ADDED TO THE MIA FAMILY SINCE 2010...

BRINGING OUR COMMUNITY CLOSER TO 150 DESTINATIONS AROUND THE WORLD.

IN THIS WAY, WE ATTRACT MORE VISITORS AND MULTI-NATIONAL COMPANIES, INCREASE BUSINESS AND TOURISM, AND EXPAND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL OUR RESIDENTS.

FINALLY, BY CONNECTING MIAMI AND DOHA...

WE BRING THESE TWO EXCITING CITIES CLOSER TOGETHER, AND OUR PART OF THE WORLD BECOMES CLOSER TO THEIRS.

I LOOK FORWARD TO STRENGTHENING THE TIES BETWEEN OUR COMMUNITIES...

AND TO MANY, MANY YEARS OF YOUR PRESENCE HERE IN OUR COMMUNITY.

YOUR EXCELLENCY, THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING TO BRING QATAR AIRWAYS TO MIAMI-DADE COUNTY...

AND I WISH YOU MUCH SUCCESS, AND SAFE TRAVELS!