

# Qatar Islamic Museum set to open by 2007-end

Staff Reporter

**THE Qatar Islamic Museum is expected to be opened by the end of 2007, it was announced yesterday.**

The announcement came after the board of the Qatar Museum Authority (QMA) held its first meeting, which was chaired by HE Sheikha Mayassa bint Hamad al-Thani, the chairperson of the QMA board.

The meeting discussed among other things the revamping and developing of the existing museums in Qatar as well as those museums which are scheduled to be set up, with special focus on the Islamic Museum.

The Islamic Museum, which was designed by the renowned American architect Im Pei, is set to house the world's most prestigious collection of Islamic artefacts.

High-level officials and members of the QMA board who attended the meeting included the vice-chairperson of the QMA board Sheikh Hassan bin Mohamed al-Thani, HE Abdullah bin Khalifa al-Attiyah, Egyptian Minister of Culture Farouq Hosni, Lord Jacob Rothschild and Thomas Leisten.

The meeting also discussed the best methods of managing museums and laying down a code of ethics for managing museums, based on the examples of the most prestigious museums across the world.

During the meeting, the deputy director of the QMA, Hamad bin Khalifa al-Nasr gave a presentation of the milestones and the achievements of the QMA since it was set up by the Emiri Decree No. 65 of 2005.

It was also agreed that the second meeting of the QMA board would be held in February 2007.

**HE Sheikha Mayassa bint Hamad al-Thani (inset) presiding over the first meeting of QMA board at the Qatar Foundation yesterday.**

