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First, we are delighted to be hosting the World Policy Conference edition 2016 in Qatar following the success of last year's conference in Switzerland. This plenary session 4 has a broad topic on health, but this is the right time to discuss it not only because health is at the core of the human development in every country but also because each country has a role in collectively shaping the future of the global governance in health. Sharing knowledge expands surely our knowledge horizon.

Since 2008, The State of Qatar has been consistently ranked among the top three fastest growing economies in the world. In 2010, it was ranked the fastest growing economy in the world. Now, the State of Qatar is set to remain the "fastest" growing country in the GCC region. This is not only closely linked to oil and gas. It is due to our Emir's clear vision and perception and it is due to our self-confidence. The medical profession for example is one of the most essential in our society. Qataris who choose to study medical degrees have a strong interest in the sciences, along with a passion for helping others and desire to make a difference in people's lives. They travelled around the world, studied in the USA, the UK, Canada, Egypt, Syria, Pakistan... and returned back to their home country.

As you know, human civilization has seen three major revolutions in its history. We had the Agricultural Revolution of the ancient times, the Industrial Revolution in the late 18th to early 19th century and finally, the Digital/Tech revolution in which we currently live. Modern technology has changed the structure and organization of the entire medical field. From electronic medical records which have made significant savings in time and cost, to advances in bio-medical engineering, and delivery innovative methods of healthcare. Innovation is changing at an ever increasing rate. In the State of Qatar, we have electronic surveillance systems in Hamad Medical Corporation HMC, which has signed an agreement with Cerner since 2012 to digitize the entire public health system of the State of Qatar, including all HMC hospitals, and Primary Healthcare Centers (PHCs). The State of Qatar has no system of tax on technology. It has been rated as having the least demanding tax framework in the world. This has facilitated heavy investments in technology. For example: innovation on developing and deploying smart systems and services in MOI helped in offering solutions to support the reduction of road crash fatalities in Qatar. Results exceed expectations as the road accident fatality rate dropped from 26 to 7.5 per 100,000 people in 2015.

The post-Cold War world of the 1990s marked the end of a very long period of international history based on a policy of balance of powers. As the world becomes interdependent, global governance aims at achieving sustainable development and negotiating responses to problems that affect more than one state or region. The Sustainable Development Goals SDGs work in the spirit of partnership to make the right choices to improve life, in a sustainable way, for future generations, by 2030. They apply to all countries, in the developing and developed worlds alike. They provide clear guidelines and targets for all countries to adopt in accordance with their own priorities and challenges. The SDGs provide a common plan and agenda to tackle some of the pressing challenges facing our world. If we achieve 80-90% of these goals by 2030, the world will be in a sustainable and resilient path by integrating and balancing the three dimensions of sustainable development: the economic, social and environmental.

**John ANDREWS**

I just have one question on Qatar. One of the great problems, it seems to me, in the medical world now, is that antibiotics are becoming disease resistant. A lot of countries, especially in the Middle East, you can simply go to a pharmacy and buy antibiotics over the counter without a prescription. What happens in Qatar?

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In the State of Qatar, all antibiotics require a doctor's prescription. Many antibiotic awareness campaigns have been developed in the State of Qatar over the last 10 years. The cultural center in Doha has always been warning residents and visitors coming to Qatar to be aware of the regulations. If antibiotics were undertaken abroad, residents and visitors must carry a doctor's prescription. This applies to sedatives and other psychoactive drugs such as painkillers.