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## Sustainability is the future of investing: Doha Bank CEO

THE PENINSULA — DOHA

With the environmental, social, and governance (ESG) framework having been thrust into the spotlight globally and in Qatar, sustainability is now the future of investing, Doha Bank CEO Dr. R. Seetharaman, has said.

He was speaking at an online client event recently which was hosted by Doha Bank's Private Banking division for its high net worth clients in Qatar. Over 400 guests attended the online client event on various virtual channels, which discussed the topic of "Investment Outlook".

During the webinar, Slim Bouker, Head of Private Banking at Doha Bank, indicated that the investment outlooks are part of the Bank's ongoing efforts to bring market knowledge to its clients. He also spoke about Doha Bank's partnership with Bank of Singapore (BOS), Asia's Global Private Bank. "We bring BOS expertise at the doorstep of our HNW clients here in Qatar," he added.

Seetharaman went on to speak about the global outlook, and reiterated the World



Doha Bank CEO Dr. R. Seetharaman and other officials during the online client event recently.

Bank's June 2021 forecast saying the global economy is expected to grow by 5.6 percent in 2021.

"The advanced economies are expected to grow by 5.4 percent in 2021 and emerging market and developing economies are expected to grow by 6 percent in 2021. Significant volatility was noticed after the recent Fed meeting with the dollar strengthening, precious metals weakening and capital markets falling."

"The recent rallies in industrial metals also subsided on

account of the strong dollar. The global economy expects to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, however the inflation concerns had hurt capital markets. The ESG framework has been given thrust globally and in Qatar. Sustainability is the future of investing," he added.

Internationally recognised industry experts were also invited to the forum which was moderated by Seetharaman to cover key topics in the industry.

Dr. Ian Thom, Research Director at Wood Mackenzie,

spoke from Edinburgh, and elaborated on Oil & Gas investment trends and what they mean for Qatar. "Qatar has the world's most competitive LNG, and thanks to the massive North Field expansion, it is one of a few countries globally where hydrocarbon investment is scaling up," said Thom.

Qatar Airways Chief Commercial Officer Thierry Antinori explained how the Qatari flagship carrier was always there for their passengers.