



Press Release/ Soft Launch Feb 27, 2007

**The Amwal MENA Special Opportunities Fund I L.P.
to be launched mid-March with target size of USD 100 million**

*Fund targets "blue chip" founder blocks,
IPOs and other value driven deals within the region*

Doha, February 27, 2007: Amwal, Qatar's leading investment firm announced it will be launching the country's first MENA special opportunities fund, with a target size of USD 100 million.

The Amwal MENA Special Opportunities Fund I L.P (**AMSOF 1**) aims to provide investors with an opportunity to achieve superior returns by investing in "blue chip" founder blocks, IPOs and other value driven deals within the MENA region in addition to taking minority positions in regional listed companies.

"As the first licensed investment firm in Qatar" commented Ms.Noura Al Mannai, VP of Amwal's Investor Relations & Business Development "experience has taught us that leveraging our local and regional network in addition to the extensive know-how of our investment team, enables us to provide our investors and institutional clients with unparalleled access to superior investment opportunities. The Amwal MENA Special Opportunities Fund will invest in IPOs and various Greenfield projects mainly in Qatar and in the region."

Mr. Mark Diab, Vice President of Amwal's Asset Management Division added "The high level of expertise to analyze potential investment opportunities and add value, coupled with our ability to source deals at the right price, provide us with an excellent foundation from which we aim to provide our investors with superior returns over the long term. Our focus will be on choosing only the very best of many compelling investment opportunities that we have already started to identify."



Amwal will launch the Amwal MENA Special Opportunities Fund I L.P. in light of recognizing a number of opportunities in the region. The Amwal MENA Special Opportunities Fund I L.P. will be managed by Amwal and is seeking initial capital commitments of US\$100 million and targets an IRR of 25%.

Notes to Editors

Amwal

Founded in 1998, Amwal is the first investment firm to be licensed by the Central Bank of Qatar operating in three lines of business; investment banking, asset management and financial planning. The firm has launched the first investment portfolio and the first mutual fund investing in the Doha Securities Market and under-wrote the first non-Qatari Initial Public Offering in the country. Amwal has one of the largest investment teams in Qatar, employing more than 50 talented professionals. The firm benefits from a strong shareholder base comprising of major regional and local companies.

For More Information:

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