

## **VakıfBank is the first Turkish Bank getting a banking license in Qatar**

**Qatar Financial Centre Regulatory Authority (QFCRA) approved the license application of VakıfBank to carry out banking activities. Gaining ground day by day to be a more powerful finance center in its territory, VakıfBank became the first and only Turkish Bank having a banking license in Qatar.**

Evaluating the subject, VakıfBank's CEO Mr. Abdi Serdar Üstünsalih remarked that VakıfBank aims to expand its international operations within the scope of the Board of Directors' decisions, Mr. Üstünsalih continued as follows:

"In line with this decision, we announced that we plan to open representative offices in Qatar and China. All applications to open a representative office in Qatar have been approved in both our country and Qatar. Thus, VakıfBank became the first and only Turkish bank having a banking license in Qatar. Our goal is to accelerate the necessary applications in China following the pandemic and to become operational in China, as well."

**"We are also the strength on the side of our international customers"**

Emphasizing that VakıfBank offers service through New York, Arbil and Bahrain branches in abroad, Mr. Üstünsalih underlined that in addition to these branches, VakıfBank has a subsidiary, called 'VakıfBank International AG', Head Office of which is located in Vienna. Stating that this subsidiary performs via its branches in Germany and Austria, Mr. Üstünsalih completed his speech as follows:

"We increase our international operations by being "the strength" on the side of Turkish entrepreneurs and businessmen operating out of the country in compliance with the national interests of our country. Our Qatar branch became the fourth link of the chain. In a short period of time, one more link will be added to the chain when China representative office is opened. I wholeheartedly believe that VakıfBank's brand value will rise globally with our international debt capital market transactions and expanding international branch network."