

Need to boost Qatar-Turkey trade ties: Ambassador

RAMY SALAMA

DOHA

THE Turkish Ambassador to Qatar His Excellency Ahmet Demirok has said that there is a need for strengthening trade ties between Qatar and Turkey as the current volume of bilateral trade did not reflect the potential the two friendly countries held for each other.

“With these excellent political relations, our trade volume does not reflect the potential, and Qatar and Turkey, two very compatible countries, can offer each other many more opportunities”, Demirok said.

Listing some of these avenues for further economic cooperation, the Ambassador said, “Turkey needs energy, and Qatar produces a lot of energy, while Qatar requires food and other supplies, which we in turn manufacture in abundance”.

He added, “Turkey is a technologically developed country, while Qatar needs this kind of know-how. So in terms of trade, the two countries compliment each



Turkish Ambassador to Qatar His Excellency Ahmet Demirok

other nicely and we would like to increase the extent of economic relations to reflect, on that front, the extent of our excellent political relations.”

There is a positive environment for the furthering of economic relations between the two countries accord-

ing to the Ambassador, who said “as an ambassador, it is in fact my main priority to further these economic and trade relations, and thankfully, there is a good will on both sides to achieve this, and I would like to work to facilitate and accelerate this phase.”

Turkish Souq to come up in Doha

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DOHA will have a traditional Turkish style bazaar offering authentic Turkish products imported from the country, Turkish Ambassador to Qatar HE Ahmet Demirok has revealed to *Qatar Tribune*.

“Construction has just begun on a Turkish Souq in Doha with the Qatari government having provided almost 300,000 square metres of land for the project. When it’s complete, you will be able to buy Turkish products from this Souq built on the model of

the Grand Bazaar in Istanbul, Turkey,” the ambassador said.

It is the latest phase of an ongoing and extensive cooperation between the two countries, which is of a bilateral and multifaceted nature.

The ambassador noted that these fruitful relations are grounded in firm political soil. He said: “When it comes to our relations with Qatar, we can describe it as excellent. We have extensive contact and a direct dialogue between our two governments.”

He described the trade relations as very strong and by way

of an example of this, referred to an MoU signed by the two countries during the visit of the Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan recently.

He said: “During the visit of Prime Minister Erdogan recently, we signed an agreement between Qatar Holding and Electric Orttime Company of Turkey to build a power plant in Turkey worth almost \$12 billion. So this is a very big project, actually, the second biggest single foreign investment in Turkey.”