



**FEBRUARY 9, 2010**

## FOREIGN RELATIONS

### **King Abdullah holds talks with visiting Afghan, Qatari leaders**

King Abdullah and visiting Afghan President Hamid Karzai held a meeting February 3 at the monarch's farm in Al-Janadriyah, on the outskirts of Riyadh. The leaders discussed bilateral relations and international efforts to help Afghanistan achieve security and stability. During the meeting, King Abdullah decorated President Karzai with the King Abdulaziz Medal. Also taking part in the session were Riyadh Governor Prince Salman bin Abdulaziz, Afghan Minister of Foreign Affairs Zalmay Rasoul and other senior Saudi and Afghan officials. President Karzai and his delegation traveled to the Kingdom last week to perform Umrah, visiting both the Grand Mosque in Makkah and the Prophet's Mosque in Madinah.

On February 9, King Abdullah and Qatari Emir Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani held a meeting at the King's palace in Riyadh, during which they reviewed bilateral ties and the latest developments in the Gulf, Arab, Islamic and international arenas. The meeting was attended on the Saudi side by Crown Prince Sultan, Riyadh Governor Prince Salman bin Abdulaziz and Saudi Ambassador to Qatar Ahmed Al-Qahtani. The Qatari delegation included Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Hamad bin Jassim bin Jabr Al-Thani, President of the Qatari Foundation for Information Sheikh Hamad bin Thamer Al-Thani and Qatari Ambassador to the Kingdom Ali Al-Mahmoud.

## FOREIGN AID

### **Saudi Arabia gives \$5 million to Carter Worm Eradication Program**

Saudi Arabia announced in January that it is contributing \$5 million to the Carter Center to support the organization's Guinea Worm Eradication Program in Africa. The contribution will be distributed through the Saudi Fund for Development. The Kingdom has a long record of donations to the Center's Program, including a \$2 million donation made last July.

