



**Summary of the 141<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Board of Trustees – 14 April  
2010**

The Chairman advised that there had been a most successful visit by HRH Prince Charles and Sheikah Mozah Bint Nasser Al Missned, the consort of the Emir of Qatar. He noted that the Qatar Foundation had sponsored an exhibition of Qur'anic Plants and that a letter of intent had been signed for future co-operation.

The Director drew Trustees attention to a paper on the Georgian Kitchens proposal from Historic Royal Palaces and said there was to be a clear agreement on the costs and responsibilities of the parties. After discussion, the Trustees authorised the Director to proceed with a full repairing licence for 25 years and to seek approval from the Defra Secretary of State for the licence to be agreed and implemented.

The Chairman asked Michael Murphy, Director of Development of Kew, to comment on progress at the Foundation. He noted that the Foundation had enjoyed a very good year in difficult times with £9 million in income and the highest legacy income recorded for a year. He was pleased to advise that Richard and Kara Gnodde had joined as Foundation trustees and that there were a number of new trustees, including a co-chair soon to be appointed. The Director responded to a question about the relationship with the National Trust and noted that a formal consultation had commenced and there was a spirit of co-operation. Gross.Max were to produce a landscape master plan for the Wakehurst Place and Millennium Seed Bank site.

The Director spoke about the Global Plants Initiative, and the Trustees gave their congratulations to staff who had secured a grant to help fund this work. The Board approved the Business Case so Kew's contribution to the Global Plants Initiative could proceed at full scale and pace.

The report on Pest risks to the Herbarium collection in the Herbarium, Library, Art and Archives Building was discussed following the Trustees visit to the new Herbarium wing in February. The Trustees noted the report, and the steps being taken to manage the situation in the short term. They approved that an investigation into the refitting of wing A, B, C, D and Quadrangle basement and other relevant areas in the HLAA Building be completed in the financial year.

The Trustees participated in a tour relating to digitisation in the Herbarium, Library, Art and Archives. Trustees saw the digitisation process, looked at digitisation of the Director's correspondence, and were shown the new reading room in the new extension.