

25th World Petroleum Congress will take place in the Middle East

This week members of the World Petroleum Council and wider energy industry convened at the Kazakh-British Technical University in the beautiful city of Almaty, Kazakhstan for the 7th WPC Youth Forum. The university also hosted the 2022 Annual WPC Council meeting which was attended by representatives from 36 National Committees. At this meeting the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia was awarded the right to host the prestigious triennial World Petroleum Congress due to take place in 2026.

A delegation of 23 people from Saudi Arabia, led by Eng. Mohammed Abdulrahman Al-Ibrahim, Assistant Minister of Oil and Gas and including 17 representatives from the Ministry of Energy travelled to the Kazakhstani capital this week to present their bid to host the Congress in the city of Riyadh. Surprisingly, this marks the first time that the event has taken place in this country and only the second time in the WPC's 89 year history that it has taken place in the Middle East, the first being the 20th WPC Congress in Doha in 2011.

"Our industry is facing unprecedented challenges as it looks to secure future energy supplies whilst simultaneously transforming the global energy system. The kingdom of Saudi Arabia as the world's leading oil producer and exporter and with ambitious plans to grow its green economy, will provide the perfect backdrop to debate the latest technical advancements and innovative strategies which will underpin the transition to net zero emissions. It has been a long time coming and we are delighted that the World Petroleum Congress will finally be taking place on Saudi soil in 2026". Said Pedro Miras, President of the WPC.

The Congress, with a typical attendance of over 15,000 provides a neutral and inclusive platform to debate and define realistic, workable paths to a net zero future. The event brings together thought leaders from across the global energy industry including Heads of State, Ministers, CEO's, Presidents & Heads of International Organisations, as well as engineers, academics and the NGO community.