

## **WORLD PETROLEUM COUNCIL ANNOUNCE QNCC AS OFFICIAL VENUE FOR 2011 CONGRESS**

Tuesday 10 March 2009

Yesterday in Doha, the World Petroleum Council (WPC) Executive Committee announced that the Qatar National Convention Centre (QNCC) is the venue of choice to hold the prestigious 20th World Petroleum Congress in December 2011.

The WPC states that when hosting the triennial World Petroleum Congress, a world class congress providing first class organization and first class content are not the only goals on their list of objectives. The intention of the World Petroleum Congress is not only to promote the progress of the global oil and gas industry but to leave a positive effect on the local community of the host country and a long lasting legacy for its environment and that is exactly Qatar Petroleum's mission as local host committee for 2011.

Mr Abdulreda Nayroze Abdulla Hassan, Qatar Petroleum Lead Coordinator for WPC 2011 said the theme for 20th WPC will be *'Energy Solutions for All Promoting Cooperation, Innovation and Investment'* which will focus the debate on solutions aimed at providing global access for all to reliable, affordable and sustainable energy in both the near and long term future.

Qatar was selected as host country for the 20th World Petroleum Congress by the WPC Council in a secret electronic ballot vote in 2007, four years prior to the scheduled event. Each member country receives one vote and can cast it for one of the nominated candidate countries after their year-long campaign. The official handover took place at the end of the 19th World Petroleum Congress in Madrid in July 2008. Other host cities that have previously held this event include Johannesburg, Beijing, London, New York, Paris and Rome.

Expecting to attract in excess of 5,000 international delegates and needing up to 40,000 sqm of exhibition space, numerous meeting rooms and sessions plus an opening and closing ceremony of 4,000 plus participants, the space requirements are one of the primary components when choosing the host venue.

Prior to the announcement, Qatar Foundation's Mr Ahmed Al Hajjaji welcomed the WPC Executive Committee members before showing a presentation on the Centre's capabilities and conducting an extensive site inspection of the Qatar National Convention Centre. The Committee members commented on the spectacular nature of the building and were particularly impressed that the Centre's design would achieve a minimum of Gold Certification in the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System and the construction progress to date.

General Manager for the Qatar National Convention Centre, Mr Paul D'Arcy said it was a significant milestone to win one of the world's highest profile events to be held in their opening year.

"It was extremely satisfying to hear the added confidence of the WPC Executive committee on learning that the Centre is managed by international operator, AEG Ogden and is a member of the Qatar Foundation.

"We have been working closely with Qatar Petroleum and representatives from WPC for the past two years. In fact, our Project Logistics Manager, Ms Ingrid Keates joined Qatar Petroleum's Head of Conferences & Exhibition/Public Relations Department, Mr Ossama El-Buy at last year's congress in Madrid to gain valuable insight and knowledge into the day to day running of the event," remarked Mr D'Arcy.

The World Petroleum Congress is the first of many conventions and exhibitions that QNCC have in their sights and expect to announce between now and opening in 2011.

## **Editors Notes**

**World Petroleum Council Vision** [www.world-petroleum.org](http://www.world-petroleum.org)

*The WPC's core value and purpose, as stated in the Constitution, centres on sustaining and improving the lives of people throughout the world.*

*The World Petroleum Council's (WPC) main purpose is to catalyse and facilitate dialogue amongst internal and external stakeholders aimed at seeking solutions to key technical, social, environmental and management challenges in global energy issues for the benefit of mankind. In doing so, the WPC will contribute towards sustainable growth.*

*The WPC does not take a position on the key issues facing oil and gas; but it provides a forum where the solutions to key challenges can be addressed.*

*The World Petroleum Council was founded in London in 1933. It is an international, unbiased, non-political organization that provides a forum for global issues on energy and petroleum and related matters. The mandate of the WPC is to promote the management of the world's petroleum resources for the benefit of mankind. It aims to encourage the application of scientific advancements, technology transfer and the consideration of economic, financial, management, environmental and social effects on petroleum issues. Sixty National Committees currently comprise the decision-making body of the World Petroleum Council, representing over 95% of the world's major oil and gas producing and consuming nations. Both OPEC and non-OPEC countries participate in the World Petroleum Council. As a neutral forum, the World Petroleum Council has been given United Nations accreditation.*

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**Qatar National Convention Centre** [www.qatarconvention.com](http://www.qatarconvention.com)

A member of the Qatar Foundation and opening in 2011, at a cost in the region of USD1.2 billion, QNCC will feature a multi-purpose hall for 4000 seated theatre style, a 2300-seat lyric style three tiered auditorium and an additional 57 flexible meetings rooms to accommodate a wide range of events. Plus 40,000 sqm of exhibition space over nine halls, that will be adaptable to seat 10,000 for a conference or banquet.

QNCC is proudly managed by AEG Ogden, one of the largest facility and entertainment management specialists in the world. [www.aegogden.com](http://www.aegogden.com)

**Qatar Foundation** [www.qf.org.qa](http://www.qf.org.qa)

Qatar Foundation's mission is to prepare the people of Qatar and the region to meet the challenges of an ever-changing world, and to make Qatar a leader in innovative education and research.

Download hi resolution image of the World Petroleum Council MOU signing in Doha  
<http://www.qatarconvention.com/media/wpc-announcement.jpg>

For further images to support this media release, visit  
<http://www.qatarconvention.com/centerimages.htm>

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