

WPC Energy proposal to Council for the selection of the 26th WPC Congress based on the Kazakhstan National Committee offer described below.

April 2024

WPC Energy is undergoing a deep transformation process that began with the approval of the Strategic Reflection in the Council Meeting held in Houston, December 2021. Afterwards, at the Council Meeting in Almaty, October 2022, the Strategic Plan was approved, detailing the specific actions to be carried out to comply with the reflection approved in 2021. As a result, the WPC's identity was changed to WPC Energy in May 2023, as well as the logo. This change was made while respecting WPC's history of nearly 90 years of responsibly supplying energy to the world.

Finally, at the Calgary Council Meeting September 2023, The Future Project was approved, which represents the real transformation of WPC Energy and that will close the reform process once put in place. The main objective of the project is to reduce the period between congresses from 3 to 2 years, allowing a better connection with the reality of the industry in today's changing environment.

This decision has very important implications for the organization, in particular and among others, the reduction of the number of additional events, the creation of regional partner and university networks and the control of some of the key operations from the Secretariat in London. The changes will be fully operational by the 26th congress but the work should be fully completed by mid-2025.

Taking control of some of the operations directly from the Secretariat in London is very important as it represents a real change in the way the congress cycles are managed between congresses. Thus, international promotion and marketing and the congress event technology are activities that will be contracted and managed directly by Secretariat to transfer directly from congress to congress -in only two years- all this knowledge and material. It is true that other international events with which WPC competes (CERA week, for example) organize everything in a single year, but it is no less true that it is always in the same city and with the same team, which allows a continuity of management that is impossible when congresses are held every two years in totally different countries.

However, this change requires a transition period that allows the 2028 congress to be brought forward and put into operation at the same time as the 2026 congress in Riyadh is being designed. Because of all the above, the Executive Committee, at its meeting held on February 7th, decided to increase the resources necessary to be able to meet all the above, thus guaranteeing the achievement of the objectives of the Future project.

The increase in resources is based on the new dynamic of two years between congresses that guarantees, starting with the congress in Riyadh, the economic viability of WPC Energy in the long term, as presented at the Council in Calgary. However, there is a transitional period in which, in order to provide the Secretariat with the necessary resources to start operations in the new model, it is necessary to have sufficient funding. And this cannot wait until the end of the Riyadh congress since the modernization process would then not start until 2026, compromising the congress in 2028.

It should be noted that the Executive Committee has deliberately decided not to finance this transitional period by means of an ordinary or extraordinary increase in the annual membership dues, provided that there is another alternative.

It is in this context - the need to obtain the resources this year to be able to begin the transformation - that the offer mentioned below has been received and is now being presented for the Council's consideration.

Specifically, the Kazakhstan National Committee is now able to commit to holding the 2028 congress. This would entail selecting and announcing the 26th Congress at this time and thus satisfying the payments related to this congress in the years 2025, 2026 and 2027. This means that the necessary resources will be available to undertake the Future project at this time.

It is important to underline that the Kazakhstan National Committee is one of the leading national committees supporting WPC Energy for a long time. It has organised several EC, CPC, and Council meetings in the past, as well as the successful 7th Youth Forum in Almaty 2022. In addition, the Kazakhstan National Committee submitted its bid to organise the 23rd WPC Congress (which was eventually held in Istanbul) and the 24th (Houston), demonstrating its strong interest, capacity, and commitment in organising the WPC Energy flagship event.

Accepting this offer is a transitional milestone forced by the need to be able to start the work now and not in 2026, which would be what foreseen in the current procedure.

The Executive Committee of WPC Energy (EC) studied this offer in the meeting held last 7th February 2024 in Riyadh. After the discussion and considering all the benefits for WPC Energy for this special transition period, the EC unanimously approved -with no participation in the voting from the EC VP for Youth, Diversity, and Inclusion, Jambulat Sarsenov- the extraordinary procedure to select Kazakhstan as the venue for the 26th Congress in 2028 and required to present it to the Council as soon as possible.

It is therefore requested the extraordinary approval by the National Committees that make up the Council of the selection of Kazakhstan as the venue for the 26th Congress in 2028. This supposes the suspension with unique and exclusive character for this case of the Articles 12(b) of the WPC Energy Constitution.

It is, therefore, an extraordinary and transitory procedure, only for the 26th Congress in 2028 and mandatory for the achievement of the objectives approved in the Future project, thus avoiding the increase of the fees now borne by the member countries.

In view of the above, the proposal to be approved would be the following:

- 1. To select Kazakhstan as the venue for the 26th WPC Energy Congress in 2028 with the start of royalty payments no later than 3 March 2025, 2026, and 2027.*
- 2. Signing of the acceptance agreement not later than 2 month after the decision of the Council.*
- 3. This agreement implies the temporary and unique suspension for the selection of the 26th congress of Article 12(b) which will be in force again for the 27th congress as long as it is not modified again by the Council.*
- 4. The deadline for the approval of this proposal by the National Committees is 19th April 2024.*
- 5. Failure to respond to this proposal will be counted as explicit support for the agreement.*
- 6. Communications should be addressed to the Secretariat in London via email from receipt of this email.*