journal

General Conference **No. 1**
Twenty-first session
Riyadh, 23–27 November 2025

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS[1]

Sunday, 23 November 2025

8 a.m.	**Meeting of the Enlarged General Committee of the General Conference**	**Breakout Room 1**
9.30–10 a.m.	**Opening ceremony**	**Plenary Hall** ***UN Web TV platform***
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	**1st plenary meeting** Item 1: Opening of the session Item 2: Election of officers2 Item 3: Adoption of the agenda Statements by Heads of State and Government, and Ministers of Foreign Affairs Appointment of the Director General *Congratulatory statements* General debate	**Plenary Hall** ***UN Web TV platform***
2.30–3 p.m.	**General Committee**	**Interactive Workshop Stage**
2.30–3 p.m.	**Informal meeting of the Credentials Committee** (for members of the Credentials Committee only)	**Breakout Room 1**
3–6 p.m.	**2nd plenary meeting** General debate (cont'd)	**Plenary Hall** ***UN Web TV platform***
6.30–8.30 p.m.	Reception hosted by the Director General and the Government of Saudi Arabia	**Exhibition stage**

Matters for inclusion in the *Journal* should be sent as far in advance as possible to the *Journal* Editor, email: pmo@unido.org.For documentation related to the agenda items, please consult GC.21/1/Add.1.

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[1] The schedule of meetings reflects the tentative schedule of work, as considered by the third meeting of the pre-session informal consultations on 21 October 2025, in addition to proposed updates to be considered by the Conference at its 1st plenary.

[2] To ensure equitable geographical distribution in the election of officers and the elections to organs, account has to be taken of the latest lists of States to be included in Annex I to the Constitution. The list, as of the date of preparation of the present document, is the same as that included in document GC.21/28.

FORECAST OF MEETINGS

Monday, 24 November 2025

9.30–10 a.m.	**Launch of thematic day:** Investment and partnership day	**Plenary Hall** ***UN Web TV platform***
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	**3rd plenary meeting**	**Plenary Hall** ***UN Web TV platform***
	10–11.30 a.m. General debate (cont'd)	
	11.30 a.m.–1 p.m. **Forum on industrial development issues** Reshaping global value chains: Investment pathways for a new trade era	
1–4 p.m.	**Main Committee – 1st meeting**	**Main Committee Hall**
2.30–5.30 p.m.	**4th plenary meeting**	**Plenary Hall** ***UN Web TV platform***
	2.30–4 p.m. General debate (cont'd)	
	4–5.30 p.m. **Forum on industrial development issues** Mobilizing Finance for Industrial Development in Middle-Income Countries	**Main Committee Hall** ***UN Web TV platform***

FORECAST OF MEETINGS

Tuesday, 25 November 2025

9.30–10.15 a.m.	**Credentials Committee**	**Main Committee Hall**
9.30–10 a.m.	**Launch of thematic day:** Women's empowerment day	**Plenary Hall** ***UN Web TV platform***
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	**5th plenary meeting** 10–11.30 a.m. General debate (cont'd) 11.30 a.m.–1 p.m. **Forum on industrial development issues** Empowering Women, Transforming Industry: Leadership for a Sustainable Future	**Plenary Hall** ***UN Web TV platform***
10.30 a.m.–12.30 p.m.	**Main Committee – 2nd meeting**	**Main Committee Hall**
2.30–4.30 p.m.	**6th plenary meeting** 2.30–4.30 p.m General debate (cont'd)	**Plenary Hall** ***UN Web TV platform***
4–7 p.m.	**Main Committee – 3rd meeting**	**Main Committee Hall**

FORECAST OF MEETINGS

Wednesday, 26 November 2025

9 a.m.–1 p.m.	**7th plenary meeting** Credentials of representatives to the Conference Appointment of an External Auditor General debate (cont'd)		**Plenary Hall** ***UN Web TV platform***
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	**Main Committee – 4th meeting**		**Main Committee Hall**
1–1.30 p.m.	**Launch of thematic day:** Generation future day		**Plenary Hall** ***UN Web TV platform***
2.30–5.30 p.m.	**8th plenary meeting**		**Plenary Hall** ***UN Web TV platform***
	2.30–4 p.m.	**Forum on industrial development issues** Preparing for the future of industrialization: UNIDO's Vision 2050 and launch of the Industrial Development Report 2026	
	4–5.30 p.m.	General debate	
4–7 p.m.	**Main Committee – 5th meeting**		**Main Committee Hall**

FORECAST OF MEETINGS

Thursday, 27 November 2025

10 a.m.–1 p.m.	**9th plenary meeting** General debate (cont'd) *(if required)*	**Plenary Hall** ***UN Web TV platform***
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	**Main Committee – 6th meeting** *(if required)*	**Main Committee Hall**
3.30–6.30 p.m.	**10th plenary meeting** Consideration and adoption of decisions and resolutions Closure of the session	**Plenary Hall** ***UN Web TV platform***

INVITATION

In keeping with the "UNIDO goes paperless" initiative, delegations are informed that the Secretariat no longer prints individual invitations for delegations to reduce paper use and minimize environmental impact.

DELEGATION-LED SIDE EVENTS

Monday, 24 November

3–4.30 p.m.	Partnering for Progress - Interactive Dialogue with the Private Sector on Challenges and Experiences (Germany)	**Member States Pavilion**

Tuesday, 25 November

10–11.30 a.m.	Cultural Narratives and Economic Growth: The Power of the Orange Economy (Bahrain)	**Member States Pavilion**
11.30 a.m.–1 p.m.	Investment dialogue: Mobilizing Gulf capital for sustainable industrial growth in Ukraine (Ukraine)	

Wednesday, 26 November

11.30 a.m.–1 p.m.	The energy-industrialization nexus in Africa (Burkina Faso)	**Member States Pavilion**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Format of the session

The twenty-first session of the General Conference will take place as an **in-person meeting**, with the proceedings of the plenary also being available online in all six languages of UNIDO through the United Nations' official streaming platform, UN Web TV.

To access the venue, registered participants **in possession of personalized conference badge will be able to access the venue.** All other participants are invited to collect their personalized conference badge at the registration desk in the King Abdulaziz International Conference Center.

Reception

All participants are cordially invited by the Director General and the Minister of Industry and Mineral Resources on the occasion of the twenty-first session of the General Conference to a reception on Sunday, 23 November at 6.30 p.m. in the exhibition stage area at the King Abdulaziz International Conference Center.

Statements

Delegations may wish to register for the following speaking slots:

- Opening ceremony: Heads of State and Government, Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Executive heads of United Nations organizations, specialized agencies and related organizations;[3]
- General debate (national statements);[4] and
- Congratulatory statements following the appointment of the Director General (item 6).[5]

Written copies of statements

Statements submitted to the Division of the Policymaking Organs will be published on the UNIDO Extranet for Permanent Missions and on the UNIDO public website, unless a clear instruction is given by the submitting delegation that they should not be made available (www.unido.org/extranet).

Pre-recorded video statements

Delegations wishing to **submit pre-recorded video statements** to the session are requested to submit the pre-recorded video along with a transcript of the statement by email to listofspeakers@unido.org **latest by Friday, 14 November 2025**. The technical and procedural **requirements** for submitting a pre-recorded video statement can be accessed ***here***.

Delegations are encouraged to also refer to the **United Nations audio and video requirements** for pre-recorded statements, including a list of recommended equipment, available ***here*.**

Internet access at venue

Delegates attending in person can connect to the Internet throughout the King Abdulaziz Conference Center by using the wireless connection named "UNIDO_2025".

General Conference coverage on the Internet

All official General Conference pre-session documents have been published on the UNIDO website (https://www.unido.org/gc/21).

Delegates can follow the proceedings of the Plenary Hall of the twenty-first session of the General Conference on UN Web TV here: https://webtv.un.org/, and via the UNIDO General Conference website here: https://gc21.unido.org/.

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[3] Delegations are advised that this slot is not intended for national statements, which will be delivered during the general debate. A country delivering a statement during the opening ceremony may still register on the list of speakers for an additional slot to deliver their national statement under the general debate.

[4] Unlike the item-oriented format followed for the Programme and Budget Committee and the Industrial Development Board, the General Conference is structured around a general debate where delegations deliver their national statements, referencing those agenda items most relevant to their priorities. The provisional agenda of the session is contained in document GC.21/1/Rev.1.

[5] It is foreseen that the consideration of agenda item 6, "Appointment of the Director General", take place during the first plenary meeting on Sunday, 23 November 2025, starting at 10 a.m.

Forum on industrial development issues and side events

The Industrial Innovation Forum, the UNIDO forum on inclusive and sustainable industrial development, and the launch of the Industrial Development Report 2026 will be held in the plenary and make up this year's forum on industrial development issues. All side events are held in the Plenary Hall, the Main Committee Hall, the Workshop Stage and the Exhibition Stage at the King Abdulaziz International Conference Center.

Complementing the forum on industrial development issues, a number of topical side events will give an opportunity to delve deeper into the thematic focus of the General Conference, the Director General's key priorities, the streams of cooperation between Saudi Arabia and UNIDO, and UNIDO's thematic areas of work and broad regional focus. These additional events are designed to allow stakeholders to jointly explore how problems of a global scale can be addressed through innovative cross-border and cross-sectoral solutions.

Reshaping global value chains: Investment pathways for a new trade era

Global value chains have long powered growth in developing countries, but a shift in trade policy, marked by significant tariff hikes in April 2025, now threatens this model. These new barriers risk deepening inequalities, particularly for women, youth and marginalized groups. This high-level session will explore the impact of rising protectionism on emerging economies, the disruptive potential of AI on trade, and strategies to ensure developing countries are not left behind in the Fourth Industrial Revolution. Participants will also examine how blended finance, public-private partnerships and regional cooperation can foster inclusive, resilient trade. Saudi Arabia will contribute a Middle East perspective, highlighting regional integration and its Vision 2030 approach to trade diversification and industrial transformation.

Date and time: Monday, 24 November 2025, 11.30 a.m.–1 p.m.
Venue: Plenary Hall

Mobilizing finance for industrial development in middle-income countries

Only a small share of global climate finance supports industrialization, especially in the Global South, where much more investment is needed for sustainable industrial development. Middle-income countries (MICs) are well placed to use innovative financial mechanisms and blended finance to drive industrial innovation and greening. UNIDO, through its role as a convener and partner, works with international financial institutions (IFIs) and MICs to mobilize such investment. Its flagship Transformation Pathways Fund, developed with Finance in Motion, combines public and private funding and provides technical assistance to strengthen enabling environments. The proposed side event will highlight UNIDO's ongoing engagement with MICs, starting with a keynote on financing challenges and opportunities, followed by a high-level round table with IFIs (such as Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank and OPEC Fund). The discussion will showcase how innovative financial mechanisms can scale up investment for industrial development and ensure the sustainability and long-term impact of UNIDO's interventions.

Date and time: Monday, 24 November 2025, 4–5.30 p.m.
Venue: Main Committee Hall

Empowering women, transforming industry: Leadership for a sustainable future

As the world advances toward the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, gender equality, women empowerment and inclusive industrialization remain central to unlocking long-term prosperity. As supported by numerous recent studies, including the OECD's 2024 report "Harnessing the Green and Digital Transitions for Gender Equality", global transition to green and digital economies brings unprecedented opportunity, but also the risk of deepening gender divides if women are not fully included. Persistent structural barriers, harmful gender norms and unequal access to education, finance and leadership opportunities continue to hold women back from equally contributing to and benefiting from industrial development. This high-level event marks the 30th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and responds to the global call to recognize women's role in building sustainable, resilient, and inclusive industries. While the green and digital transitions create major opportunities, they also risk widening gender gaps if women are not fully included. Structural barriers, discriminatory norms and unequal access to education, finance and leadership remain key challenges. The event will highlight women's leadership in industry, access to STEM education and skills, entrepreneurship and finance, digital inclusion and AI, and women's role in the green transition. A high-level political round table will bring together governments, industry leaders, international organizations, and civil society to share reforms, partnerships, and investment strategies that foster women's participation and leadership in emerging sectors, advancing inclusive and sustainable industrial transformation.

Date and time: Tuesday, 25 November 2025, 11.30 a.m.–1 p.m.
Venue: Plenary Hall

Preparing for the future of industrialization: UNIDO's Vision 2050 and launch of the Industrial Development Report 2026

Accelerating sustainable economic and industrial development is essential to meeting global challenges. Industrialization drives job creation, income growth and future development opportunities, especially in developing countries. Sustainable industrialization extends beyond growth, it integrates social, environmental and cultural dimensions to secure long-term prosperity. This session will feature UNIDO's new vision 2050, "The Future of Industries for Development", and its underlying foresight studies, and the launch the Industrial Development Report 2026, the central analytical pillar of the vision. In a rapidly evolving global context, marked by deep transformations, the session will explore what actions need to be taken today to ensure a better future by the means of industrial development. It will present projections to 2050, assess megatrends shaping industry, and outline UNIDO's priorities for sustainable industrial development. The event will convene leading experts and policymakers for high-level debate on industrial policy solutions that are both future-oriented and regionally grounded.

Date and time: Wednesday, 26 November 2025, 2.30–4 p.m.
Venue: Plenary Hall

INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS

Journal

1. During the session, the *Journal* appears early every morning. It gives such information as the schedule of meetings for the day, a brief summary of the plenary meetings held on the previous day, a forecast of meetings for the following day and various announcements.

2. The *Journal* will also appear on the eve of each day of the session on the UNIDO website (https://www.unido.org/gc/21).

Secretariat

3. The Executive Secretary of the twenty-first session of the General Conference is Mr. Kai Bethke, Director, Division of Policymaking Organs. The Executive Secretary can be contacted by telephone +43 (1) 26026-5232, by email to pmo@unido.org.

Registration

4. The twenty-first session of the General Conference will take place as an in-person meeting.

5. All participants have been requested to register for the twenty-first session of the General Conference using the online platform INDICO, which can be accessed via the following link: https://indico.un.org/e/UNIDO-GC.21. Participants who do not have an INDICO profile are requested to create one and to then complete the registration for the Conference.

6. Member States, Permanent Observers and non-Member States of UNIDO have been requested to submit a note verbale indicating the composition of their delegations, issued by either the Permanent Mission or the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to pmo-registration@unido.org. United Nations organizations, specialized agencies and related organizations, IGOs and NGOs have been asked to submit an official letter to the Secretariat via email to pmo-registration@unido.org. The official letter should indicate the names, functional titles and email addresses of all members of the delegation. A copy of the note verbale/official letter shall be uploaded by all participants to the INDICO registration page.

7. Delegations have also been requested to specify their Head of delegation when registering for the twenty-first session of the Conference.

8. Only those delegates who have been registered following the process described above will be eligible to access the venue.

Credentials

9. Representatives who have been unable to submit their original credentials before the opening of the Conference are requested to deposit them at the registration desk on the first day of the Conference.

Conference access cards

10. To access the venue of the session, in-person participants should, when requested, present their personalized conference badge. Participants who have pre-registered and wish to collect their pre-printed conference access cards in advance of the session may do so at the registration desk in the King Abdulaziz International Conference Center from Thursday, 20 November to Saturday, 22 November 2025, between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. During the session, the registration desk at the King Abdulaziz International Conference Center will operate from Sunday, 23 November (first day of the Conference) to Wednesday, 26 November, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., and on Thursday, 27 November, from 8 a.m. until the end of the session or 4 p.m., whichever is earlier. As part of the high-level security arrangements in place, all participants are required to present their confirmation of registration (email with QR code) identifying them as delegates, together with their passports or other official photograph-bearing identity documents, at the entrance before proceeding to the registration area in the King Abdulaziz International Conference Center to register and obtain their conference access cards.

List of participants

11. A provisional list of participants will be available on the first days of the Conference, to be revised at a later date. Governments and organizations are requested to supply the names and titles of the members of their delegations in good time before the Conference.

12. Delegations are also requested to notify, in writing, the staff at the registration area, or the Secretariat of the Conference of any subsequent changes in the information in the provisional list of participants, so that records for the final list of participants may be kept up to date and accurate.

Seating arrangements

13. Each registered Government delegation will be assigned a total of four seats, i.e. two (2) seats at the table and two (2) seats in the row directly behind the table. Other representations (Permanent Observers, non-Member States of UNIDO which are members of the United Nations, United Nations entities, IGOs and NGOs) will be allocated one (1) seat at the table and one (1) seat in the row behind. There is no limitation on the number of participants that can be registered. Whenever voting is required in the plenary, at least one registered representative per Member State[6] with voting rights will be required to be physically present in the Plenary Hall, where the voting will take place in person. Casting a vote virtually will not be possible. Delegations will be seated in English alphabetical order. For UNIDO Member States, Papua New Guinea was drawn by lot and the delegation of this country will therefore sit at the extreme right of the front row in the Plenary Hall, as seen from the podium.

Simultaneous interpretation

14. In the proceedings of the plenary and the Main Committee, interventions made in any of the official languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish) will be interpreted into the other official languages.

15. A participant may speak in a language other than the official languages. In this case, however, the speaker must inform the Division for Policymaking Organs (listofspeakers@unido.org) in advance and provide for interpretation into one of the official languages. Interpretation

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6 The representative of the Member State with voting rights must be included in the note verbale presenting the members of the delegation, to enable the tellers to verify the representative's identity prior to casting the vote.

into the other official languages will then be provided by the Secretariat's official interpreters.

List of speakers

16. The list of speakers for the plenary meetings was opened on Tuesday, 28 October 2025, at 12 noon (CET). As of Sunday, 23 November , once the Conference has started, delegates attending the session in person wishing to speak in plenary meetings and who have not already signed up to the list of speakers, are requested to notify the Secretariat on site or by email to listofspeakers@unido.org of their intention to be inscribed on the list of speakers. By lifting their nameplate, delegates signify their intention to take the floor immediately for an urgent intervention.

17. The list of speakers will be made available through this link at the start of the Conference and will be updated in real time. Alternatively, the list can be accessed scanning the following QR code:

18. Delegations may wish to register for the following speaking slots:

- Opening ceremony: Heads of State and Government, Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Executive heads of United Nations organizations, specialized agencies and related organizations;[7]
- General debate (national statements);[8] and
- Congratulatory statements following the appointment of the Director General (item 6).[9]

19. When registering for the list of speakers, delegations are asked to indicate:

1. For which speaking slot(s) (i.e. opening ceremony, general debate and/or congratulatory statements) the request is being made;
2. Name, title and affiliation of the speaker(s); and
3. Whether the speaker(s) will be delivering the statement(s) in person, or via a pre-recorded video message (more information on this option below).

20. Requests will be entered on the list of speakers in the order in which they are received, with due regard to protocol requirements.

21. **Delegates are urged to keep the duration of their statements in the general debate to a maximum of 5 minutes for national statements (approximately 500 words), and 10 minutes for statements of behalf of groups (approximately 1,000 words).**

22. **Congratulatory statements following the appointment of the Director General should be limited to two (2) minutes for groups and one (1) minute for Member States.**

23. Time for short statements of representatives of United Nations organizations, specialized agencies and related organizations, IGOs and NGOs may be accommodated, to the extent possible, after the statements of delegations within the time frame allotted for the general debate.

Prepared statements

24. To facilitate the work of the interpreters, speakers are requested to submit in advance, and as early as possible, a copy of their statements to listofspeakers@unido.org and unov.conference@un.org.

25. Submitted statements will be published on the UNIDO Extranet for Permanent Missions, unless there is a clear indication that they should not be made available (www.unido.org/extranet).

Documents distribution

26. The official pre-session documents are available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish. Pre-session documents are published on the UNIDO website (https://www.unido.org/gc/21). To reduce expenditure and minimize the environmental impact of printing, pre-session documents will only be distributed electronically (document IDB.41/5/Add.1-PBC.29.5/Add.1, para. 12 refers). Conference room papers are available on the UNIDO Extranet for Permanent Missions (www.unido.org/extranet).

27. All session documentation will be provided electronically only. Delegates are asked to take appropriate measures to ensure their access to relevant documentation online.

28. Distribution of documents other than legislative documents must be cleared by the Secretary of the Policymaking Organs.

Submission of draft decisions or resolutions

29. The deadline set by the informal consultations for the submission of draft decisions and resolutions has expired. The General Committee will take a decision in relation to any additional texts at its first meeting.

Media

30. Representatives of the media – print media, photo, radio, television and film, news agencies and online media – who fully meet United Nations media accreditation requirements are invited to attend the Conference and register through the

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[7] Delegations are advised that this slot is not intended for national statements, which will be delivered during the general debate. A country delivering a statement during the opening ceremony may still register on the list of speakers for an additional slot to deliver their national statement under the general debate.

[8] Unlike the item-oriented format followed for the Programme and Budget Committee and the Industrial Development Board, the General Conference is structured around a general debate where delegations deliver their national statements, referencing those agenda items most relevant to their priorities. The provisional agenda of the session is contained in document GC.21/1/Rev.1.

[9] It is foreseen that the consideration of agenda item 6, "Appointment of the Director General", take place during the first plenary meeting on Sunday, 23 November 2025, starting at 10 a.m.

official United Nations registration platform, INDICO, via the following link: https://indico.un.org/e/UNIDO-GC.21. Please send an email to: ccm@unido.org.

Conference premises and services

31. The following facilities will be available to participants at the conference Center:

United Nations Department for Security and Safety Services

32. The United Nations Department for Security and Safety Services will be available 24 hours/day at the King Abdulaziz International Conference Center. The Duty Officer can assist with general queries.

Medical services

33. Medical attention will be available at the medical Center in the Main Lobby. The Center will be open on weekdays from 8.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. In case of an emergency after regular working hours, please apply to the Security Duty Room.

Meditation rooms

34. Meditation rooms for men and for women will be available in the left corridor when entering the Conference Center, after the Workshop Stage.

Information counter for participants

35. An information counter for participants is located in the foyer area when entering via the main entrance of the Conference Center.

Lost and found

36. During the Conference, a lost and found counter is available in the left corridor when entering via the main entrance of the Conference Center.

Delegates' lounge

37. A delegates' lounge will be available in the main lobby close to the Plenary Hall. Should delegates wish to meet in a separate room, a room will be made available directly in front of the Plenary Hall.

Security advice

38. Participants are advised not to leave briefcases and other personal items unattended. Suspicious objects should be reported to the United Nations Department for Security and Safety Services immediately.

Use of cellular telephones and laptops

39. Delegates are invited to keep their cellular telephones switched to the silent mode inside conference rooms, as they cause radio frequency interferences in the sound system, adversely affecting the quality of interpretation and recordings of proceedings.

Geography

40. Saudi Arabia is situated in the Middle East, occupying most of the Arabian Peninsula. It is bordered by Jordan and Iraq to the north, Kuwait to the northeast, Qatar, Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates to the east, Oman to the southeast and Yemen to the south.

Climate

41. Saudi Arabia has a desert climate characterized by hot days and cooler nights. In late November, the weather is mild and pleasant. The average daytime temperature is approximately 25°C, while nighttime temperatures can fall to around 10–15°C. Occasional rainfall may occur during this transitional period between summer and winter.

Language

42. The official language of Saudi Arabia is Arabic. English is widely spoken, especially in business, tourism and hospitality settings.

Currency

43. The official currency of Saudi Arabia is the Saudi Riyal (SAR). One riyal is divided into 100 halalas.

44. The Saudi Riyal is pegged to the US Dollar. 1 USD = SAR 3.75. Major hotels, restaurants and shops accept international credit cards.

45. There are no restrictions on bringing bank notes and travelers' cheques into Saudi Arabia. However, it is advisable to declare amounts over SAR 60,000. Visitors may export any unused foreign or local currency, but should retain currency exchange receipts if planning to reconvert funds when departing.

Time

46. Saudi Arabia observes Arabian Standard Time (GMT/UTC +3 hours) year-round.

Taxes and tipping

47. A 15 per cent value added tax (VAT) is levied on most goods and services in Saudi Arabia.

48. Tipping is not obligatory but is a common practice. It is customary to leave a 10–15 per cent tip in restaurants if a service charge is not included. Hotel staff and taxi drivers may also be tipped at the guest's discretion.

Electricity

49. The domestic power supply is 220 volts at 60 Hz. Sockets typically accept British-style three-pin plugs (Type G). Visitors may need an adapter or voltage converter for non-compatible devices.

Telephone services and useful telephone numbers

50. The country code for Saudi Arabia is 966.

51. Telephone and mobile services are widely available in hotels, shopping Centers and cafes.

52. Saudi Arabia has three major mobile network providers: STC, Mobily and Zain. Prepaid SIM cards can be purchased at airports and authorized outlets. A passport with visa stamp is required for SIM card registration. Dialling is as follows:

For local calls:

a) From landline to landline: (area code) + (number);

b) From landline telephone to mobile phone: (mobile phone number);

c) From mobile phone to landline phone: (area code) + (number); and

d) From mobile phone to mobile phone: (mobile phone number).

For international calls:

a) 00 + (country code) + (city code) + (landline telephone number); and

b) 00 + (country code) + (mobile phone number).

53. Flight information may be obtained by accessing the following website: https://www.kkia.sa/en for King Khalid International Airport (RUH). Details of a specially designated travel agency will be provided in an updated version of this document.

Postal, facsimile and internet services

54. Postal and facsimile services are available at main post offices and many business hotels in Riyadh. High-speed internet is widely available in hotels, conference venues and public locations including cafés and shopping malls.

Business hours

55. Government offices in Riyadh generally operate from Sunday to Thursday, between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. Private businesses typically function Sunday to Thursday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., sometimes with a midday break. Shopping Centers and malls open from around 10 a.m. until 10 or 11 p.m. On Fridays, shops and malls usually open in the afternoon, following the Friday prayer.

For further information, please refer to document GC.21/INF/1 "Advance information for participants".