



Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
Saudi Food & Drug Authority

# ICDRA 2026

International Conference Of  
Drug Regulatory Authorities

Kingdom Of Saudi Arabia 2026



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# Introduction



The Saudi Food and Drug Authority (SFDA) in Saudi Arabia would like to formally bid to host the next International Conference of Drug Regulatory Authorities (ICDRA) conference in 2026. The ICRA was established under the Council of Ministers resolution as an independent corporate body that directly reports to the President of the Council of Ministers.

We would be delighted to host the ICDRA 2026 as we recognize the importance of this critical regulatory conference internationally. We welcome the opportunity to support the ICDRA, whose contribution to the regulation of medicines is key, particularly in developing countries. Hosting the ICDRA conference would not only allow us to showcase our commitment to addressing pressing health issues but also create a platform for sharing knowledge, exchange, and innovative solutions.

[View More](#)

## SFDA's Work

SFDA is an essential regulatory agency in Saudi Arabia, primarily responsible for ensuring food, drug, and medical devices' safety, efficacy, and quality. Everything we do supports our vision to be a leading international and science-based regulator that protects and promotes public health. Our mission is to safeguard the community through regulation and adequate controls to ensure the safety of products under our purview while promoting the market and facilitating and supporting business.

### **SFDA's main objectives include:**

**Regulation and Oversight:** To oversee food and pharmaceuticals' production, import, and distribution to protect public health.

**Innovation and Research Support:** The authority fosters innovation in the food, medical devices, and pharmaceutical sectors, supporting research and development to meet global standards.

**Public Awareness:** actively engages in public awareness to educate consumers about safe food practices and proper medication use.



# How will Saudi Arabia be a Successful Hosting Country?

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has a strategic location, connecting three continents – Africa, Asia and Europe – which makes it easily accessible. Furthermore, there are numerous international airport flights from various countries to its capital and other host city, Riyadh.

Riyadh is the ideal destination for an international conference, masterfully blending old cultural heritage with modern infrastructure.

As Saudi Arabia's vibrant capital and the headquarters of the Saudi Press and Propaganda Authority, the city is at the forefront of health and regulatory advancements.

With state-of-the-art venues, exceptional hospitality, and strategic location that connects East and West, Riyadh provides an inspiring atmosphere for collaboration and networking as it's the city's commitment to innovation and economic growth.

Attendees can immerse themselves in Riyadh's unique blend of tradition and progress, making it a compelling backdrop for impactful discussions and groundbreaking ideas.



It is a Transformational one for Saudi Arabia, particularly evident through its Vision 2030 initiative, which aims to diversify the economy and improve the quality of life. Key initiatives include:

Regional Health Hubs: Riyadh acts as a conference host, supports aspirations to become a regional hub for healthcare excellence and research, facilitating access to the best of health technologies and practices.

GFDA demonstrates exceptional capabilities in hosting international conferences, showcasing its commitment to fostering global collaboration in health and safety. With state-of-the-art facilities, a highly skilled workforce, and a strategic focus on regulatory excellence, the GFDA effectively brings together experts and stakeholders from around the world.

This enables the exchange of knowledge and best practices, reinforcing Saudi Arabia's position as a key player in the global food and drug regulatory landscape.

WFPd, ensuring inclusivity and accessibility and has the substantial capacity to conduct large-scale conferences. We recognize the importance of WFPd conferences and are fully committed to host all associated costs, including venue arrangements, accommodations, transportation, and any other logistical requirements necessary for the delegates, speakers and the event.

We understand that some developing countries will require funding to attend the conference and we are pleased to confirm that the WFPd can provide this funding based on recommendations from its previous years. Moreover, the WFPd is capable of facilitating the issuance of entry visas for the foreign nationals from any WFPd Member States, as well as providing the support letters to the registered participants upon their request.

Our commitment extends to fulfilling all requirements set forth by the WFPd to create a platform that fosters collaboration, knowledge sharing, and innovation in health practices. Recognizing our role supports our vision to be a leading international and science-based regulator that protects and promotes public health. We are guided by our mission to safeguard the community through regulatory and effective controls to ensure the safety of products under our purview, while also protecting the market and facilitating and supporting business.

WFPd

## Support From The SFDA For The Conference

The SFDA is committed to allocating a substantial financial budget to ensure the successful execution of the upcoming ECDM conference. We will support the ECDM in the following areas:

- ✔ Input into the agenda including potential topics and speakers. (Where appropriate, we can use our regulatory expertise to advise speakers with their presentations.
- ✔ A user-friendly online registration system.
- ✔ A website which is dedicated to the ECDM conference. This website will provide documentation and all other supporting content to participants in advance of the conference.
- ✔ A social event venue for the conference.
- ✔ Overall funding for the event in addition to funding support for developing countries.
- ✔ Translators and all necessary audio-visual support.
- ✔ A social event which will showcase local hospitality and culture.
- ✔ Public relations and media engagement support as required.

# The Organising Committee For ICDRA 2026

To ensure the successful execution of ICDRA conference, the OICRA will establish two key committees.





This committee will consist of members selected by the WPM, alongside prominent figures from the WPM. Most importantly, the committee will provide overarching guidance to align the program with global health objectives, and will ensure that all scientific content meets international standards and fosters meaningful dialogue among participants.

## Executive Committee

Composed of WPM members such as logistical and technical experts, in which they will handle the operational aspects of the COVID-Conference. The experts will be delegated based on their specialty, below is an overview of the scope of work of the executive committee:

**Logistical Coordination:** Manages all logistical arrangements, including venue setup and participant communications.

**Scientific Supervision:** Oversees the development and implementation of the scientific agenda, ensuring relevance and engagement.

**Feedback Mechanism:** Collects and analyzes participant feedback to enhance future programs and initiatives.

# Proposed Timing of ICDRA 2026

ICDRA will collaborate with WHO to propose and agree on the conference dates to avoid overlaps/conflicts with other major international conferences.

Suggested dates for hosting the conference are the following:



Summer Session  
(April or May)



Autumn Session  
(October or November)





# Climate in Riyadh

General insights about the  
climate in Riyadh during  
Summer & Autumn.



30° - 40°

Summer

Season  
(April to May)



30° - 25°

Autumn

Season  
(November to December)

## SFDA International Conference Experience



## SFDA International Conference Experience



# SFDA International Conference Experience



## Potential Venues



conference venues can accommodate up to 600 guests.



The venues can facilitate all the conference catering needs such as tea and coffee receptions, breaks and lunches on all days.



There are also relaxing lounges and fitness centres within the hotels.



The hotels have an abundance of meeting rooms, for video meetings, speaker rooms and VIP rooms (request).



Potential venues are located 20-25 km from King Abdul International Airport.



The venues offer complimentary Wi-Fi and cable Internet access throughout the meeting spaces.



Potential Venue



01

Ritz-Carlton Hotel

Riyadh City

## Meeting room









Potential Venue



100 KM

## 02 Crown Plaza Riyadh City

## Meeting room



Meeting Room - Riyadh City





Potential Venue



30.7 Km

03

**Fairmont Hotel**

Riyadh City

## Meeting room



Paloma at Hotel - Bogotá City





## Meeting room







## Other Hotels Near the Potential Venue

(This table compares the distances with the Cruise

(Place Digital City Hotel – and Hilton Canada Hotel)

Hotel/Hotel	Rating	Number of Rooms	Approximate Price	Walking Distance from Potential Venue
Hotel	3 star	Over 100 rooms	100000	1000
Hotel from Hotel	3 star	Over 100 rooms	100000	1000
Hotel from Hotel	3 star	Over 100 rooms	100000	1000
Hotel	3 star	Over 100 rooms	100000	1000
Hotel	3 star	Over 100 rooms	100000	1000
Hotel	3 star	Over 100 rooms	100000	1000
Hotel	3 star	Over 100 rooms	100000	1000
Hotel	3 star	Over 100 rooms	100000	1000

## Other Hotels Near the Potential Venue

(This table compares the distances with the Ritz-Carlton, Riyadh.)

Hotel Name	Rating	Number of Bedrooms	Approximate Price	Walking Distance from Potential Venue
Riyadh Diplomatic Quarter - Marriott Executive Apartments	4.5 star	near 100 rooms	1,000 SAR - 1,500 SAR	200m
Marina Bay Sands Hotel Riyadh - Diplomatic Quarter Hotel	5 star	near 100 rooms	2,000 SAR - 3,000 SAR	200m
Four Seasons Hotel Riyadh by the Diplomatic Quarter - 5 star	5 star	near 100 rooms	2,000 SAR	200m
Address 190 Hotel & Residence, Riyadh Diplomatic Quarter	5 star	near 100 rooms	1,000 SAR - 1,500 SAR	200m

## During ICDRA



Gala Dinner

### Receptions & Social Activities

ICDRA Attendees will be given full schedule for entertainments with transportation to the destinations.



## Fairmont Hotel



### The Ball

Experiencing the Fairmont Hotel lobby is like stepping into a world of modern design and luxury. The lobby is a masterpiece of modern architecture, with its clean lines and warm tones creating a welcoming atmosphere.

## Hilton Riyadh



### Salad - 100%

Salad is a healthy and delicious way to start your meal. It's a great way to get your daily dose of vitamins and minerals. The salad is made with fresh ingredients and is served with a delicious dressing.



### House of Grill

The House of Grill is a restaurant that specializes in grilling. It's a great place to enjoy a delicious meal with your family or friends. The restaurant has a warm and inviting atmosphere, and the food is always fresh and delicious.



### Mayday - 100%

Mayday is a restaurant that specializes in Mayan cuisine. It's a great place to enjoy a delicious meal with your family or friends. The restaurant has a warm and inviting atmosphere, and the food is always fresh and delicious.

## Social Programs



## Social Programs







# Saudi Hospitality



Hospitality in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is one of the strong and unconditional human bonds that remained embedded in the Arabian Peninsula over centuries.

- Saudi Hospitality is well known for its warmth and generosity, deeply rooted in the region's cultural heritage.
- Visitors always experience an extraordinary level of welcome, characterized by traditional customs such as offering Arabic coffee and dates.
- In Saudi Arabia, it's common for hosts to go to great lengths to ensure their guests feel comfortable and valued, reflecting the nation's pride in its rich traditions and commitment to fostering strong community ties.

World's Heritage Site

## Traditional Market

At the heart of Hanoi

is the heart of Hanoi, about 0.5 km from the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum. The neighbourhood is one of the oldest in Hanoi, with a long history of traditional markets that have been part of the city's life for centuries.



# Almusmak

A vast clay and mudbrick shield that witnessed the birth of a kingdom, Al Musmak the word means a high, strong and stout building – serves as a proud reminder of Saudi Arabia's storied history.



## Turaif - Diriyah

Stunning mud-brick palaces, mosques, and homes make up this UNESCO World Heritage site. Today, the district has been carefully restored to its former glory.

Museums tell the story of the martial settlers in this region, highlight the history of the Saudi state, and delve into the unique Najdi architecture.



## The Edge of the World

One of Saudi's most popular tourist destinations, get the adrenaline from the vertiginous view of the fjord, which marks the surrounding plate.

From the top of the cliffs, you'll spot donkeys racing across the land and may even see camels moving far below — an ancient caravan route once passed through these grounds.



Be sure to take a moment to look down from above the canyon, as it's a truly amazing sight.



# SFDA & Saudi Tourism Ecosystem

SFDA collaborates with the Saudi tourism ecosystem to ensure a professional and enjoyable entertainment experience for all visitors attending the SFDA conference.

Our commitment is to make every aspect of your journey both productive and pleasurable.



## Tourism Landscape in Saudi



# Tourism Landscape in Saudi





# Transportation

## Riyadh Public Transport



The network connects the city through a variety of transport modes, including metro lines, buses, BRT rapid transit (BRT), and feeder buses, offering seamless connectivity across the urban landscape as well as access to key facilities for commuters.

It is committed to delivering a high-quality, eco-friendly service that promotes economic growth and environmental sustainability. By reducing reliance on congested roads, it enhances urban mobility and reduces dependence on private vehicles, making travel across the Saudi capital easier, faster, and more sustainable.



# Transportation

## Unified Platform for Public Fare Services

Taxi is a unified platform for public fare services in Saudi Arabia. The platform connects taxis and public fare companies with transport service applicants.



Uber is widely used in Riyadh, offering flexible ride options ranging from economy to premium services. Users can book rides through the Uber app, with fare estimates available before booking.



Careem is a popular ride-hailing service operating in Riyadh and across the Middle East. It provides a variety of ride options, including economy, business, and premium services, all accessible through its mobile app.

# Transportation

## King Abdul Aziz International Airport



Terminal 5 is the newest terminal which opened in 2014, which is now used by Saudi airlines for domestic flights.

Terminal 3 is a 100,000 square meters (1,076,391 sq ft) rectangular building which can serve 60 narrow-body or 10 wide-body aircraft. Operated by the airport operator Saudi Airport Authority, it is Saudi's first privately run airport terminal and can handle 12 million passengers per year.



# Transportation

## Airport Access

### High-Level & Executive Attendees

King Abdul International Airport (KIA) was opened for operations in late 1986. It is located 105 kilometers (65 mi) north of Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

The airport features multiple terminals, including a dedicated terminal for international flights and another for domestic travel. It offers a range of amenities, including duty-free shops, restaurants, lounges, and business services. KIA also provides various transportation options, such as taxis, ride-sharing services, and car rentals for passengers traveling to and from the airport.

This airport consists of 4 passenger terminals with eight semi-bridges each, can parking for 11,000 vehicles, an additional Royal Terminal, a central control tower and two parallel runways, each is 3,000 meters (9,843 ft.) long.

The land area allocated for this airport is the second largest in the world after King Abdul International Airport. The airport occupies an



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Journal of Health Global Equity  
Health Equity & Drug Access



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