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All set for Haj Guidance conference

KUALA LUMPUR, Fri. - Preparations for the First Conference on Haj Guidance next week are on schedule as committees in charge work day and night to ensure a successful meeting.

The media and publicity committee had their weekly meeting today and went over important details like the media centre's requirements and the official launching.

The conference, to be held at the Palace of the Golden Horses hotel, will start on Sept 30 and end on Oct 2.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad is scheduled to launch the conference which will be closed by his deputy, Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

Tabung Haji general manager (corporate communications) Shahrudin Abu Bakar said nearly 150 delegates from 50 Islamic countries are expected to attend the first conference on pilgrims management.

"The delegates are scheduled to arrive on Sept 28," he said.

On Sept 29, the conference's media centre would be launched by Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Abdul Hamid Othman.

The media centre will have fax machines, telephones, Internet access, photo room and transmitting facilities.

The Saudi Arabia Government is impressed with the way Malaysia prepared its pilgrims and managed the ritual every year.

By having the conference here, Saudi Arabia hoped other countries would emulate Malaysia's system of haj management.

For more information, those interested can visit the website [www.bernama.com/haj](http://www.bernama.com/haj).

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