

**TO ALL NATIONAL COMMITTEES
TO ALL TECHNICAL COMMITTEES, SUBCOMMITTEES, SYSTEMS COMMITTEES AND
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEES
TO THE OFFICERS OF THE CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT SYSTEMS**

Dear Sir/Madam,

IEC 2020 GENERAL MEETING – CHANGE DUE TO COVID-19

We are living in very challenging times as a consequence of the pandemic coronavirus, which is resulting in many changes to our traditional way of working. What hasn't changed however is our concern for the wellbeing of our members, experts and employees.

In view of the rapid global spread of Covid-19 and the unpredictable evolution of this health emergency, the Swedish National Committee of IEC has approached the IEC President and General Secretary with a view to sharing the economic risk related to the organization of the IEC General Meeting 2020, scheduled to take place in Stockholm from 5 to 9 October 2020, with technical meetings from 28 September.

After thorough analysis by the Swedish NC and by the IEC Executive Committee (ExCo) of the situation and of the financial exposure linked to the organization of the General Meeting 2020, we have come to the conclusion that pursuing the preparations for the General Meeting 2020 to take place in Stockholm would result in an undue financial burden, should we be forced to a late cancellation due to the pandemic coronavirus.

ExCo has therefore instructed the Central Office to prepare alternative arrangements for a reduced General Meeting in 2020 (i.e. management meetings only) to be held in Switzerland during late 2020, at a date and place yet to be determined.

IEC Central Office will also be in contact with the relevant Technical Committees to help them make alternative arrangements so they can continue their work in a timely manner. As much as we regret the current situation, we still want to do our utmost to continue IEC work, albeit in a different way. Many of our physical meetings have already been turned into virtual ones so we can all continue our business activities wherever possible.

Both IEC ExCo and the Swedish NC very much regret this situation. However, given the current global circumstances which are beyond our control, we hope we can count on the understanding, solidarity and flexibility of the IEC community.

We send you and your families our best wishes during this difficult time.

Yours sincerely,

Yinbiao Shu
IEC President

Philippe Metzger
General Secretary & CEO

PME/kpe