



INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MEDICAL PHYSICS (IOMP)

Member of the International Union of Physical and Engineering Sciences in Medicine
(Union Member of the International Council for Science)

www.iomp.org

President

Prof. Madan M. Rehani

Director, Global Outreach for Radiation Protection, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, USA
madan.rehani@gmail.com
mrehani@mgm.harvard.edu

Vice President

Prof. John Damilakis

Chair of Medical Physics Department, School of Medicine, University of Crete Iraklion, Crete, Greece
john.damilakis@med.uoc.gr

Secretary-General

Prof Eva Bezak

Professor in Medical Radiation Director, Translational Cancer Research Centre Cancer Research Institute and School of Health Sciences University of South Australia Adelaide, SA, Australia
sg.iomp@gmail.com

Treasurer

Dr. Ibrahim Duhaini

Chief Medical Physicist & RSO Rak Hariri University Hospital MP Instructor at the Lebanese University Beirut - Lebanon
treas.iomp@gmail.com

To: IOMP Council

7th October 2020

Dear IOMP Council,

Hope you are all safe and well in the current difficult circumstances caused by the COVID-19 global pandemic.

Unfortunately, the pandemic is also impacting on the activities of IOMP and its partners, including the International Union for Physical and Engineering Sciences in Medicine (IUPESM) and their combined activities such as the IUPESM World Congress 2021, planned to be held in Singapore in June next year.

IUPESM (and therefore IOMP) has been asked by the World Congress Organising Committee (COC) to postpone WC2021 by about one year, as COVID-19 situation indicates that holding the congress at prescheduled dates will imply significant financial loss as the attendance will be very small due to travel restrictions imposed by most governments around the world. As such the postponement is inevitable. COC tried with Singapore Convention Centre for dates in early part of 2022, but they could not get any dates as most major conferences of 2021 have decided to move to 2022. Ultimately they could only get the slot of 11-17 June 2022. Even for this slot they wanted confirmation by 8th October 2020. We were hard pressed to discuss this issue in ExCom of IOMP and in Administrative Council of IUPESM. After deliberations of pros and cons, there was unanimous decision of accepting the proposal of COC and AC of IUPESM to accept the dates of 11-17 June 2022. We discussed implications of this decision and the ExCom unanimously arrived at following decisions to mitigate the effects of the pandemic on the continuation of IOMP activities:

- a) WC2024 will be postponed by ~12 months to 2025.
- b) The next International Congress on Medical Physics (ICMP) will be held in the second half of 2023 or even early 2024.
- c) All subsequent meetings (ICMP, IUPESM WCs) will re-start triennially as per usual from 2022.
- d) The next IOMP ExCom elections will be held in conjunction with IUPESM WC2022 and thus will be delayed by one year to avoid any disruption in the cycle with WCs and ICMPs.
- e) The term of the current ExCom will be extended by 12 months – till the WC2022.

We hope you kindly understand these measures that need to be taken to ensure both the safety of our members as well as mitigation of any financial risks/losses that could be imposed on IOMP, should WC2021 be held as originally planned in June 2021. These amendments also ensure timely restart of regular IOMP election and meeting cycles.

Please feel free to contact us if you may have any questions.

Wishing you all the best and keep safe.

Prof Madan Rehani
President, IOMP on behalf of ExCom of IOMP

Prof Eva Bezak
Secretary General, IOMP