

Wednesday, 16 December 2020

Dear Governing Members,

I hope you are keeping well in these challenging times.

As you know, earlier this year we contacted you to advise that the IWA World Water Congress & Exhibition in Copenhagen, Denmark would be postponed from 2020 to 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Given this unprecedented situation continues and owing to the broader uncertainty around live events and international travel, the IWA Board of Directors have had to review the timing of the congress again.

Having given this deep consideration, we have decided on a further **postponement of the next IWA World Water Congress to September 2022**. We are delighted to confirm that it will still be held in Copenhagen.

In addition, we plan to hold a **significant virtual congress in Q2 of 2021**, with more details to follow shortly. In terms of future iterations of the WWCE in 2024 and beyond, an announcement will follow in due course after consultation with the Toronto and Glasgow teams.

We apologise for any inconvenience caused by this change. However, we hope that making this decision now gives participants, exhibitors, sponsors and speakers a greater degree of certainty, and helps to enable your attendance in 2022. A well-attended congress is of course hugely important to the IWA for a few reasons. This includes our commitment to hosting a flagship event to showcase the importance of our sector and to facilitate networking within our diverse and global membership.

A huge amount of planning and preparation goes into the event. Your contribution to this is crucial and I appreciate it greatly. With the new date set, I look forward to us all working together to staging another fantastic IWA World Water Congress & Exhibition.

On another matter, we will be organizing a virtual General Meeting for all of you on 21 April 2021, where I will hand over the Presidency to Tom Mollenkopf as the new President of IWA. At this virtual General Meeting, we will also conduct the elections for two Vice-Presidents and the changeover to a new Board of Directors. **Please do “save the date - 21<sup>st</sup> April 2021, in your diary”.**

On behalf of all the IWA Board of Directors, I wish you well in these uncertain times, and look forward to seeing you all sometime soon. The IWA team will of course be more than happy to discuss any query that you may have.

Kind Regards,



Diane d'Arras  
President, International Water Association