

2020年3月10日

会員各位

一般社団法人日本農村医学会 理事長
国際農村医学会 会長
新谷 周三

第21回国際農村医学会学術総会（2020年8月inハンガリー）、中止のご連絡

謹啓 時下、皆様にはますますご健勝のこととお慶び申し上げます。

さて、2020年8月24日（月）～26日（水）に予定しておりました第21回国際農村医学会学術総会（ハンガリー、ペーチ）につきましては、新型コロナウイルスの感染拡大を防ぐため、中止することといたしました。ご準備頂いておりました会員の先生方には、ご迷惑をおかけいたしますが、事情をご拝察頂き、ご了解いただけましたら幸いです。なお、来年（2021年）9月10～12日のセルビア（ベオグラード）における国際農村医学会学術総会は、現時点では開催予定でありますことを申し添えます。

謹白

[第21回学術総会会長の Prof. Istvan Szilard から新谷会長へのレター]

March 4th, 2020

Dear President

I'm writing to inform you about a very difficult decision as a consequence of the Crone Virus epidemic that has reached already the 'very serious' level according to WHO, and the announcement of 'pandemic' is already under consideration. In all of the neighbouring countries of Hungary there are already positive cases, and the situation in North Italy is the most serious one in the region. There is no experience with this virus and it is questionable whether with the improvement of the weather a decline could be expected or not.

In this case on the one hand, we judge as irresponsibility to encourage people to travel into a region with increasing health risk and/or oblige themselves to participate an event when nobody can forecast the health hazards in six month. On the other hand, scientists from Japan, South Korea, Italy etc. would very likely not wanted to take the risk and oblige themselves to join to the IARM Conference in the region with increasing epidemiologic hazard. (A number of events with high prestige were already cancelled or postponed. Even the Olympic games in Japan are still under consideration, as far as I know.) That is the background of the painful decision that we have to cancel the IARM conference planned for August this year. There was no reason for the 'postponement' of it, because for the next year there is already a decision for the conference in Belgrade. I'm seriously disappointed with this development, but it was a collective decision of our leadership.

I and my colleagues would like to ask for your kind understanding.

Yours truly,

Prof. Istvan Szilard