



June 8, 2020

Dear Members of CORESTA

It is with great regret that I have to inform you that, after careful consideration, the Board has decided to cancel the CORESTA Congress 2020 in Vienna, Austria.

The COVID-19 pandemic has been putting the CORESTA Congress 2020 at such a risk that the Board considered that there was no other viable option. Even if government restrictions on international travel are lifted, attendance is likely to be poor considering that many companies would be unlikely to authorize their employees to travel for non-business critical meetings. Individuals may also feel reluctant to travel, especially internationally. The Board also considered having a smaller Congress, or postponement to 2021, but for various reasons neither of these are viable alternatives given the current situation, and that the situation of COVID-19 in 2021 is still uncertain.

Because of the cancellation, the Board, together with the Secretary General and advice of legal counsel, are evaluating the best way to organize the General Assembly, as required under the CORESTA statutes. The Board is also investigating how to handle the elections for the Board as well as the Scientific Commission. We will write to you again once the Board has concluded its evaluation of options.

As CORESTA received a respectable number of abstracts for oral presentations and posters, though lower than previous years, the Scientific Commission is looking into other means for allowing scientists to present their work.

I hope you have understanding for the time needed to address the above-mentioned issues in a legally correct as well as an acceptable way for the members.

Sincerely,

Huub Vizée
President of the CORESTA Board