

Paris, March 24, 2020

Dear FIP-IFP Colleagues and Friends,

It has become increasingly evident that the outbreak of Coronavirus is affecting us all and presents the greatest challenge that most of us will have faced in our lives and professional careers.

As a truly global organisation, this challenge is felt by FIP-IFP members all over the world. At this time, we are taking the opportunity to demonstrate our selflessness, compassion and creativity as we unite as health care professionals to ensure we emerge together, stronger than ever. We are facing unprecedented short-term challenges but we are also more technically advanced, better connected and more willing to share ideas than we have ever been before.

In the coming days and weeks, it is important that we consider what our roles as health care /medical professionals are and show the world how podiatrists are strong professionals that support our health care systems.

At FIP-IFP secretariat, we are putting all our efforts into supporting our members through these testing times, and will activate and make use of the latest technology and platforms to deliver information, facilitate knowledge-sharing and allow the continued development of global relationships. We will start soon with webinars/online 'conference' to continue to inform and offer high level education.

We are still following closely the current situation and we will by the beginning of April take a formal decision on the next Annual General meeting. The FIP-IFP Board together with the ECP Board has established some guidelines regarding the role podiatrists might play (if supported by their respective governments and if individual protection material is available) to keep on given their expertise and knowledge to high risk patients to avoid future dramatical patient outcomes. because we know we are part of an industry that can change the world for the better.

Let's look after each other and stand together while we are far apart.

Stay well, and I wish you and your families my very best wishes.

Yours sincerely,



Christian Jérôme
President of the International Federation of Podiatrists – Fédération Internationale des Podologues