



International Indian Ocean Science Conference

16-20 March, 2020
Goa, India

06 March, 2020

Dear Sir/Madam,

Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), Government of India in collaboration with UNESCO-Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) and Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research (SCOR) were all set to organize an International Indian Ocean Science Conference (IIOSC-2020) at National Institute of Oceanography (NIO), Dona Paula, Goa, India during 16-20 March 2020. IIOSC-2020 was intended to become a major event to assess the scientific progress of knowing the Indian Ocean is all aspects of major importance for riparian nations and the whole world. Nearly 400 delegates from 21 different countries, including India, had planned to attend this conference.

The recent outbreak of COVID-19 and its spread in many countries of the world, along with the guidance received from UN and Governments, called for precautionary measures with regard to the IIOSC-2020. The Local Organizing Committee in consultation with IOC-UNESCO and SCOR were forced to take a decision on 4 March 2020 to postpone the IIOSC-2020 till further notice. The organizing committee, with all concerned, will review the situation and announce new dates towards the later part of 2020.

The science to be considered at IIOSC-2020 is of key importance for wellbeing of people. We express our solidarity with the delegates and most humbly request you to come forward and support the cause of IIOSC-2020 in this difficult time. It would be a generous and highly appreciated gesture if you could extend the validity of the tickets to the participants of the IIOSC-2020 till 31 December 2020. In the event of cancellation, you may please consider full reimbursement or cancellation with minimum possible penalty. This will help the delegates to reduce their losses to a reasonable extent.

Your kind humane gesture in this time of crisis will reaffirm the faith in global community.

Thank you for your support.

Yours Sincerely,

(Dr. Marie-Alexandrine Sicre)
SCOR, President

(Dr. Vladimir Ryabinin)
UNESCO-IOC Executive Secretary
Assistant Director General, UNESCO

(Dr. S.S.C. Shenoi)
Director, INCOIS,
Ministry of Earth Sciences

To: All Airlines and their offices

