

## Kigali Regional Congress Postponed to December 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> 2020

Dear members, colleagues and partners,

FIGO (International Federation Gynecology and Obstetrics), the African Federation of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (AFOG), and the Rwanda Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (RSOG) have consulted with our local partners, the Rwanda Convention Bureau and the Rwandan Ministry of Health, to review the possibility of holding an international event in Rwanda in the next three months. Disappointingly, we have come to the conclusion that due to the risks associated with the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), holding a successful event would be not be feasible.

This decision to postpone our Regional Congress has not been taken lightly, however together we have come to the conclusion that possible travel bans and restrictions on gatherings, plus the increasing need for health workers to be serving their local communities, means that the best option is to postpone.

We would like to express our gratitude to our members, speakers, registered participants, partners, sponsors and exhibitors for their patience and support at this time.

The Regional Congress in Kigali will now take place from **13**<sup>th</sup> **December to 15**<sup>th</sup> **December**. The venue of the Regional Congress remains the same: <u>Kigali Convention Centre</u>, with some workshops taking place at remote locations, as before.

FIGO and the Congress Organising Committee are working with speakers and partners to ensure as much of the programme can be carried through to our rescheduled Regional Congress. We will take the postponement as an opportunity to make the Regional Congress even better, to ensure we showcase clinical best practice, share the latest findings in research and innovation, and to influence policymaking and ensure human rights in the field of global women's health.

FIGO and the Congress Organising Committee will be in touch with all stakeholders shortly, ensuring everyone has enough time and information to join us in Kigali in December if possible. Our <u>website</u> will be updated in due course with key changes, including new registration deadlines and conditions. We will also be adding a '<u>Frequently Asked Questions'</u> page to the website.

We apologise if the postponement of our Regional Congress in Kigali has caused any inconvenience, and we hope that postponing for six months will give everyone enough time to change their plans and join us in Kigali. Please get in touch at <u>congress@figo.org</u> with any additional questions you might have.

We wish our members, doctors, nurses, midwives and all medical communities all the best in the upcoming months, and we are looking forward to seeing you in Kigali in December.

Yours sincerely,

Kigali 2020 Regional Congress Organising Committee FIGO (International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics) African Federation of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (AFOG) Rwanda Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (RSOG)

