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For the attention of ICOM National Committee
Chairs and Secretaries

Paris, 5 November 2020

Subject: The Effect of New Covid-19 Restrictions on the Secretariat

Dear Chairs and Secretaries of ICOM National and International Committees, Dear Colleagues,

I hope that you, your families and your colleagues are all keeping well at this difficult time for museums and museum professionals all over the world.

In order to control the spread of the COVID-19 virus, the French authorities have re-imposed restrictions which will be in place from Friday 30 October until Tuesday 1 December at the earliest. In accordance with the national health and safety protocol, all employees have been advised to work from home, where possible.

The health and safety of our staff is of the highest importance and so, taking into account the government's recommendations, I have decided to ask our staff to work from home for the duration of the lockdown. The Secretariat can still be contacted by email or video-conferencing.

This situation will affect our daily work practices, not least because the Secretariat will be moving offices in November, as transport companies are allowed to continue to work during this period. The move cannot be done while staff are working remotely and will therefore be temporarily postponed.

As a result, over the coming weeks, it will take longer to produce and send ICOM cards. I would therefore like to ask you to let new members, who have recently paid their fees for 2021 will do so in the coming weeks, know that they may experience some delays. Once you have received their contribution, you can issue them with a payment certificate, until their card has been issued.

You should have already received the 2021 stickers, which were sent in the first half of October. From now on, you can send them to members who have renewed or will renew their membership for 2021, depending on the restrictions that are in place in your country due to the pandemic.

I would like to thank you in advance for your understanding and assure you that we remain available to offer support and assistance during this period.

Best regards,



Dr Peter KELLER
Director General