

23rd June 2020

In April of this year and given the global COVID-19 situation, NZIFST and the IUFoST made the unavoidable decision to postpone the IUFoST2020 Congress scheduled for August 2020 in New Zealand.

Since that time we have reviewed a range of options, looking for a pathway for this significant 20th World Congress to go ahead. Heartbreakingly, we have been defeated by Covid19 and its attendant uncertainties (not least international travel for delegates and speakers) and therefore regretfully advise that the **IUFoST 20th World Congress** is now **cancelled**.

The 21st World Congress is scheduled for Singapore in 2022 and we hope to see you all there.

NZIFST waited nearly 50 years for the opportunity to host this World Congress so you will understand that after years of planning, making this difficult decision has been devastating.

For IUFoST, the World Congress brings together the international food science community every second year. Sadly, in 2020, important networking opportunities have been lost. However, IUFoST is pursuing certain scientific activities related to the congress themes. IUFoST will be in touch about these soon, as well as details for the Academy Fellows' virtual induction ceremony, congress competitions, and several other matters normally associated with the IUFoST world congresses.

We apologise to delegates, exhibitors, sponsors, speakers, students and competition entrants and ask for your understanding. Our team will be working through the cancellation arrangements with you over coming days in a series of group-specific communications.

To all other Adhering Bodies of IUFoST, we are sorry for this outcome, in a situation beyond our control, and hope to see many of you in Singapore in 2022.

Sending our best wishes during this challenging time.

Ngā mihi nui | Kind Regards

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