



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT - NR 12

Lund, 17 June 2020.

Dear Colleagues, Dear Friends,

Unfortunately we are not going to meet in Helsinki June 25-27 and as most of you already have presumed there will be no meeting in October in Berlin and we all know why. The corona virus is still here and we are all in the risk group and should stay in some type of quarantine and not travel. There is nothing we can do about that.

So for us, the year 2020 has become an *annus horribilis* and not an *annus mirabilis*.

Consequently, there will be no face to face meetings in 2020. But, hopefully the planned meetings of 2020 can take place in 2021 instead. Just moved one year!

As you well know the Bureau and the Assembly meetings scheduled in March were instead accomplished via internet.

You all participated very well and I would like to thank you and the secretariat for the efficient way it was done. That might be a good knowledge for us in the future if restrictions prevail.

Let us hope that next year there will be a meeting as usual in Paris in late February or March followed by a meeting in Helsinki in June as well as one in Berlin in October.

I got a poem from a friend of mine I would like to share with you.

*We fell asleep in one world, and woke up in another.
Suddenly Disney is out of magic,
Paris is no longer romantic,
New York doesn't stand up anymore,
The Chinese wall is no longer a fortress, and Mecca is empty.*

Hugs & kisses suddenly become weapons, and not visiting parents & friends becomes an act of love.

Suddenly you realize that power, beauty & money are worthless, and can't get you the oxygen you're fighting for.

The world continues its life and it is beautiful. It only puts humans in cages. I think it's sending us a message:

"You are not necessary. The air, earth, water and sky without you are fine. When you come back, remember that you are my guests. Not my masters."

Until we see each other in person again, I say:

Keep your head cold, your heart warm and your hands clean!

And if the restrictions make you unhappy, play the fifth symphony of van Beethoven (born 250 years ago) and look at the bicycle ride. Hopefully that will cheer you up.

You have it here (skip the publicity) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vcBn04lyELc>

Happy summer!

Rune Rydén

(enjoying my garden !)

