



Apeldoorn, 2 March 2020

Dear ECCEN participant,

It is with deep regret that we have to inform you that we, in the wake of the growing worldwide concern surrounding the outbreak of coronavirus, have decided to postpone the ECCEN conference, planned 4 – 6 March 2020.

Considerations

Although there is, at this moment, no official restriction for travelling, we consider the situation as vulnerable. Since last week we received several cancellations from participants and a speaker, all regarding the corona virus and in one case directly related to a corona virus infection. New developments later this week might lead to new government regulations with the ultimate consequences of a restriction for leaving our country or re-entering your home country. Besides that, it is not possible for us to assess exactly the risk we take by organizing a meeting for attendees from 18 different regions and the international traffic that comes with it. We feel responsible to take in account seriously the health and safety of all of us. Our sympathies at this time are with those affected all around the world.

We recognize that the timing of this decision has significantly inconvenienced many of you. However, this decision was made out of deep concern for the health and well-being of all of us involved in this conference.

Having spent the past year preparing for the conference with our speakers, staff and students we're genuinely disappointed not to be able to host you at this time. We can also understand your feelings of disappointment about this development. We want to thank you all for your prayers, support and willingness to visit the conference and we hope we can organise the conference later for you.

Implications

We realise this decision will have implications for all of us. We have to cancel the hotel rooms/host families and as organising institutions we take our responsibility for it. Visitors who already paid for the conference will be refunded by VGS. Participants who should have paid afterwards will not receive an invoice.

We recommend you to contact your travel agent to try to get your ticket refunded or rebooked.

If you, in spite of the cancellation, still will be in the Netherlands, please let us know ASAP, so we can help you to make a program and keep your accommodation.

Confirmation

To make sure for us that everybody reads this message, please send us a confirmation of receipt as a reply to this email.

Contact

If you do have any question, please contact us via Pieter Moens +31630585500 or Jaap Braaksma +31652581143 or via e-mail info@eccen.eu.

Regarding new dates, we will inform you as soon as possible.

We thank you all for your friendship and collaboration for the sake of Christian education. Let us keep praying for each other and especially for those affected by this situation.

Warm greetings and blessings,

Pieter Moens
Chairman steering group ECCEN