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WRO
world rescue
organisation

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Dear colleagues

On behalf on the WRO Executive committee, I write to inform you that following WRC2020 Skype on the 15th April with the representatives of NAVRA and Miami Dade Fire & Rescue Department, we have received confirmation that the 2020 World Rescue Challenge, in Miami will be cancelled because of COVID-19, the Executive agree and recognise why our Hosts have taken this difficult decision.

For all of us, this was a difficult decision to take, but considering the actual circumstances, we are convinced that this is only reasonable and fair option. Indeed, rescue and emergency services all around the world are at the front line in the fight against the coronavirus. The majority of the national challenges as qualifying events for the world rescue challenge have also had to be cancelled. For many of the team members, adequate training to prepare the world rescue challenge is difficult if not impossible for the moment. Due to travel restrictions, it is uncertain if teams, assessors and officials would be able to travel to Miami in October.

After consultation of all the designated hosts for the upcoming events, the WRO Executive committee has decided to move back all challenges for one year. Thus, WRC 2021 will now be held in Miami between the 2nd and 7th November 2021, WRC 2022 in Luxembourg, WRC 2023 in Lanzarote and WRC 2024 in Azores.

I would like to sincerely thank everyone within the concerned organizations who have accepted and supported this proposal. The WRO Executive committee is aware of the commitments that the different hosts have already taken to organize the events as initially planned. We are convinced that the proposed and accepted solution permits the different hosts to benefit as much as possible from the work already done. The fact that all organizations have accepted the solution shows the solidarity and the unity that exists between our member organizations in these difficult times.

When we celebrated together last year in La Rochelle the 20th anniversary of the World Rescue Organization, no one would have imagined that 2020 would become the first year since the foundation of the WRO, not to have a World Rescue Challenge. If we continue to stand together and support each other, I am convinced that we will overcome this stern test for the WRO and all its member organizations.

Best wishes
Paul



Paul Schroeder
Chair WRO

CC
WRO Executive
WRO Committee members
NAVRA
Miami Dade Fire Department
Partner Organisations