31 January 2020

Dear colleagues and friends,

The coronavirus infection in China seems to be worsening by the hour, and the outbreak has now been declared by the World Health Organization (WHO) as a global emergency.

In addition to these health concerns, the SFRRI Executive and the SFRRI Taiwan 2020 organizers are concerned that many invited speakers, presenters and delegates will cancel their attendance at the meeting. We had expected that many students and young scientists from mainland China would attend the meeting, but in all likelihood, they will not be allowed by the authorities to leave the country.

Thus, the SFRRI Executive (Giovanni Mann, Patricia Oteizia, Lin Mantell, Shinya Toyokuni) has urgently liaised and discussed what actions to take and Lin Mantell has been in telephone contact with the SFRRI Taiwan 2020 organizers.

Together we have taken the decision to postpone the SFRRI Taiwan 2020 meeting scheduled for 17-20 March 2020.

At this stage we cannot specify a new meeting date but would expect to be able to confirm a new meeting date by latest this summer.

With warm regards,

Prof. Jose Vina
President SFRR International

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