



ASSOCIATION DES SECRETAIRES GENERAUX DES PARLEMENTS
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Bern (Switzerland), 12 March 2020

Dear Colleagues,

It is with regret that I must now inform you of the cancellation of the next meeting of our Association, which ought to have been held in Geneva from 17 to 20 April 2020.

As I told you in my letter a few days ago, discussions were being held at the highest level within the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) over whether or not to press ahead with the 142nd Assembly of the IPU in view of the developing Coronavirus pandemic. Since it was unfortunately not possible to guarantee the safety of all participants from the possible threat of illness, the IPU has now decided to cancel its session.

Now that the IPU session has been cancelled, for reasons with which of course I fully agree, we must also cancel our meeting. In fact our Association's rules leave no room for doubt here, as they specify that our meetings should take place each year concurrently with those of the IPU (Rules 11).

The topics already on the agenda promised to yield some very interesting debates; we will of course carry these forward to a future session. We will let you know the dates and arrangements for our next meeting as soon as we possibly can.

I am very sorry that I will not be able to meet you in Geneva in April, although I am sure you agree with me that this is the responsible choice.

Yours sincerely,

Philippe SCHWAB
President of the ASGP