

17 June 2021

Cancellation of Welcome Reception and Gala Dinner of 17th World Conference on Earthquake Engineering (17WCEE)

The Organizing Committee regrets to announce that Welcome Reception which was planned on September 27th, 2021 and Gala Dinner which was planned on October 1st, 2021 at the venue have now been officially cancelled.

With the current circumstances of COVID-19 in Japan and changing restrictions, the Organizing Committee feel that it is not safe enough to hold these events in September and October. Also, we had to make a decision before the venue cancellation fee occurs in order to avoid financial risk.

We realize this will be disappoint news for many, including ourselves, as Welcome Reception and Gala Dinner are one of the important events for WCEE, and we apologize for any inconvenience this sudden change has caused while we still struggle organizing this big conference under COVID-19 situation.

For those participants who already have paid for Gala Dinner will be offered 100% refund minus transaction fee. Though the refund will be made within two months after the conference, the Organizing Secretariat will be sending out email around beginning of July to ask for your bank account to make the refund. Please kindly check your emails closely during this period.

If you have any question, please contact the Organizing Secretariat (Japan Convention Services, Inc.) at <u>17wcee-regist@convention.co.jp</u>

Sincerely,

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Chair of Organizing Committee of 17WCEE Prof. Kimiro Meguro