Dear Fellow Microbiologists and Colleagues,

I hope you are all doing well and healthy amid the COVID-19 pandemics.

After much consideration of the current situation in the global pandemic which is unlikely to stop in a few months, the Organizing Committee and IUMS have officially decided to have the event 12-16 October 2020 as scheduled but in a hybrid format: ONLINE for the international participants and OFFLINE for the local participants. The decision has been made for the safety of participants with the first priority and to avoid the inconvenience of quarantine. The way of participation may be changeable depending on the pandemic situation in October.

We have been checking all the technical solutions for online conferences with service providers which have excellent virtual platforms and good experiences. We will let you know the information details sooner on how to make your participation most effective and productive.

We will have almost all of the confirmed speakers including keynote and plenary speakers staying with us and more speakers will be invited in the timely and exciting new topics as in the online sessions.

We, in the Organizing Committee, will do our best to make this new type of conference very interesting and rewarding for all the participants and wish you all to be with us at IUMS 2020 Congresses.

Kind regards,

Sang-Ki Rhee, Ph.D.

Chairman

**National Organizing Committee** 

IUMS 2020 Daejeon, Korea