



Circular Communication to Members of the Scientific Committee
IWC.SC.224

Scientific Committee Meeting – Coronavirus

The following information is for those intending to travel to the IWC's annual Scientific Committee meeting SC68B in Cambridge, UK in May. It relates to novel coronavirus (COVID-19).

As you will be aware, novel coronavirus has spread from Hubei Province, China, to a large number of other countries. The situation is fluid and it's impossible to predict how it will develop over the next few months.

For this reason, all participants planning to travel to the Scientific Committee meeting are asked to monitor and act according to their own national government's travel restrictions and guidance.

Please note that the reply form sent with the initial invitation to potentially funded Invited Participants states:
(a) Participants to this meeting are responsible for their own travel insurance.

Please inform secretariat@iwc.int immediately if there are any advisories in place that are likely to affect your travel to the UK (including transit countries).

We will be closely monitoring all UK government announcements and guidance and will keep you informed of any developments that may affect the Scientific Committee meeting.

The following information from the World Health Organisation and UK Government may be helpful:

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public>
<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>
<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Dr Rebecca Lent
Executive Secretary

c.c. Accredited observers to the IWC