



Date: 16 November 2021
From: NWO-NPP, DAC & APECS-NL
Subject: Polar symposium 2 December 2021 postponed to 17 March 2022

Dear registered participants and speakers of the polar symposium on 2 December 2021,

We regret to inform you that due to the new COVID-19 measures in force from 13 November until 4 December we had to decide to **postpone** our polar symposium planned on 2 December **to 17 March 2022**. This has been a difficult decision for us, but we unanimously agreed it was the right one under the current circumstances. The symposium is not lost, only postponed.

Employers at the moment are once again urging their personnel to work as much as possible at home and only to come to their office when it is absolutely necessary. Visiting a symposium during the current surge of COVID infections nationwide does not qualify for many of us as an absolute necessity. We start to receive signals from participants and our support staff they feel not comfortable attending this event. To stay within current COVID restrictions we could have made adjustments and cancel the socializing parts of our programme. But in doing so we would lose one of the most important parts of our symposium objectives. Facilitating meeting and greeting each other in an informal way as a networking polar community. We were not prepared to do so.

We hope and trust you understand and support our decision. In a short time we will contact all registered participants with a request to register again for a new date and an adjusted programme. We give it another chance, we hope you are with us again on 17 March next year.

Title: For Sustainability in the Polar Regions !?
Date: 2 December 2021
Location: Museon, Stadhouderslaan 37, 2517 HV, The Hague.

Start	Finish	Levi Lassen Hall	Studio Hall	Panorama Hall	Garden Hall	Waterlab
9:30	10:00	Registration				
10:00	11:15	Plenary opening session				
11:15	11:45	<i>Coffee break/posters/networking (around the sperm whale)</i>				
11:45	13:00	Session: Ice	Session: Russia's Arctic Council Chairmanship and the role of observer state	Session: Life		Session: Teenager College
13:00	14:00	<i>Vegetarian lunch/posters/networking (around the Spermwhale)</i>				
14:00	15:15	Session: Science & Ships	Session: Climate science for sustainable development	Session: Tourism	Session: HiRISE	
15:15	15:45	<i>Coffee break/posters/networking (around the sperm whale)</i>				
15:45	17:00	Plenary closure session				
17:00	18:00	<i>Drinks and reception and posters (around the Spermwhale)</i>				
18:15	20:00	Cultural side event at Omniversum				

