



Virtual meeting, 14 July 2020  
(12.00 Greek time)

## Meeting Of The I.A.O. International Secretariat and Committee Chairpersons And Rapporteurs

### Press release

The meeting of the I.A.O. International Secretariat and Committee Chairpersons and Rapporteurs for the first time was held virtually (video conference) on July 14 at 12.00 (local time in Greece).

Members of Parliaments from twenty I.A.O. Member-States participated at the virtual meeting.

The I.A.O. Members exchanged views on the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic that affected their countries and all of humanity causing all the planned I.A.O.'s activities to be postponed.

Additionally, they discussed the issue on the decision of the President of the Republic of Turkey, Mr. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan on the conversion of Hagia Sophia into a mosque and issued a relevant **Statement**.

Following the joint report of the President of the General Assembly and the Secretary General regarding the organization of the 27th I.A.O. General Assembly, the decision was taken to hold this year's General Assembly, due to extraordinary circumstances in the island of Crete, Greece on 17 - 21 September 2020, once the conditions allow it. The main topic for discussion at this year's General Assembly is: *"The world's future, the future of Europe after the pandemic"*.