



ICOH 2024

**Enhancing Occupational Health
Research and Practices**

Closing the Gaps!

**Information intended for ICOH Colleagues,
and ICOH2024 Congress Participants and Congress Partners**

On Friday, September 8, 2023, Morocco was struck by an earthquake.

The ICOH2024 Organizing Team offers its deep condolences to all the families of the casualties. We stand united in this time of adversity, with our thoughts and prayers with the thousands of families affected by this tragic event. We regret and mourn the many fatalities and injuries. The death toll has passed 3 000 and there are over 5 500 people injured, mostly in the province of Al Haouz, which has seen the highest number of casualties. At the same time, we would like to salute the outstanding mobilization efforts of the Moroccan people as well as its government in a great solidarity spirit under the guidance of His Majesty King Mohammed VI.

We also want to express our heartfelt thanks for the messages of sympathy, concern and support from our ICOH colleagues and friends worldwide. Your kind thoughts mean a lot to us!

As we face this unprecedented challenge, we also believe in the resilience and strength of the Moroccan nation. We are committed to supporting the recovery and rebuilding efforts, as well as the continuation of economic activity that is vital for our local communities. The ICOH2024 Congress is not only an opportunity to showcase the role of occupational health solutions for a sustainable future, but also a platform to express ICOH members' solidarity and generosity!

The earthquake seriously affected rural areas in the High Atlas Mountains, with the epicenter located 70 km southwest of Marrakesh. We want to reassure you that the earthquake had a minimal impact on Marrakesh itself. Very few homes were damaged in the old Medina. The city's overall infrastructure, including the conference venue "Palais des Congrès de Marrakech" and accommodation, transport, banking, internet and telephone systems remain fully operational. Moroccan airports are all operating normally. All over the country, public places, restaurants, shops, cultural spaces, museums... are open and functional.

The organization process of the ICOH2024 Congress was not impacted by this natural disaster. Indeed, to date more than 1 500 colleagues from 82 countries, have expressed their will and commitment to contribute to the scientific program - a very promising figure for the success of the Congress.

ICOH2024 will take place in Marrakesh, as scheduled, from April 28 to May 3, 2024.

Thank you for your understanding, and we look forward to welcoming you next Spring in Marrakesh.

Sincerely,

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34th International Congress on Occupational Health

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