



Important Announcement: 2020 Academy of International Business (AIB) Annual Meeting

The AIB Board has decided to move the 2020 conference to Miami, USA. Undoubtedly, members have followed recent turbulent events in Hong Kong with concern for all involved. The Board has kept an eye on these events, and has now judged there are significant questions about the feasibility of hosting the AIB Annual Meeting in Hong Kong, July 2 - 6 next year.

Our host school in Miami, Florida International University, has kindly agreed to move forward their planned 2021 hosting of the AIB Annual Meeting by a year. In making this change, however, the dates of the 2020 Annual Meeting remain unchanged.

Thus, to recap, **the AIB Annual Meeting will be held in Miami, USA, July 2-6, 2020.**

AIB is an association of people that care about business across borders. Our members deeply appreciate cross-national contact, and this decision was taken only after much thought and monitoring of the situation in Hong Kong.

We decided to move the conference in light of several major considerations:

- ♦ The conference dates of July 2-6 could not be moved, and would fall immediately after the July 1 public holiday, a key date associated previously with substantial protests in Hong Kong.
- ♦ The protests have been characterized by disruption of transportation avenues. Were the protests to continue, just as attendees sought to reach the conference venue, the airport and/or subway likely would be unavailable for use.
- ♦ AIB routinely obtains insurance coverage for events. Civil disturbances are NOT included in our coverage, given that disturbances have already persisted for some time. Later cancellation of the Hong Kong conference would result in exclusion from insurance cover, resulting in significant financial liability for the AIB.

Thus, we decided to put having the conference in Hong Kong on hold. Support from the consortium of host schools in Hong Kong has been outstanding, and we hope to be able to return to Hong Kong in the foreseeable future, subject to greater certainty about the evolving situation and risks related to travel and insurance.

We are grateful to Florida International University for its willingness to host the 2020 Annual Meeting at short notice. We appreciate that this confronts FIU with a tight timeline for planning and fundraising. AIB will work closely with FIU over the next 9 months to ensure AIB 2020 Miami will be an enjoyable and memorable conference.

Some practical details still need resolution. We will update the [AIB 2020 Conference Page](#) as we finalize arrangements. The **submission deadline** for the AIB 2020 conference remains **December 2**.

We deeply appreciate the flexibility and understanding that our partner institutions have shown in this difficult decision. We take comfort that our membership is uniquely suited to appreciating the reasoning behind our thinking.

We look forward to your paper submissions. We look forward to seeing you in Miami next July!