Dear attendants at the IYOG2022 Opening Ceremony,

We are just finishing the arrangements to celebrate the Opening Ceremony of the United Nations International Year of Glass (IYOG2022) in the Human Rights Room of the Palace of Nations in Geneva from 10th to 11th February 2022, with a Welcome Reception at the Intercontinental Hotel on 9th February at 18:30 h. The OC IYOG website, https://iyog2022oc.org/ has been launched and gives a lot of information.

We have maintained the conference venue and dates but have moved to a hybrid approach for speakers, that is, either face-to-face or online using Zoom (22 speakers will present live). We have also consulted attendants to select face-to-face or online participation.

For those not attending in person the Palace Zoom license will only be used by invited speakers. All others should link to the UN WebTV at https://media.un.org/en/webtv/.

Participants attending in person will need to register at Indico.UN so that they can receive a badge granting admission to the site. Participants connected remotely on Zoom or following the webcast do not need to register but all others should use the link https://indico.un.org/event/37050/. First sign in on the website; you will then receive a confirmation email permitting completion of the registration process with all your data. You will need to upload a picture to be approved. After completing the form, you will receive a message confirming receipt and a further email with the approved participation that includes a UNEventPass with a QR code that must be presented along with an identification document to enter to the Palace.

On the days of the event, attendees will have to enter through the Pregny gate (UN Palace main security gate opposite ICRC – International Committee of the Red Cross) to collect their badges by presenting any form of identification. Attendees are recommended to come early, as the mornings are busy. Pregny gate is about 5 minutes’ walk from the Broken Chair - Place des Nations (last stop of tram 15). We include a map with the information.

Concerning Covid-related travel restrictions, Switzerland maintains up-to-date instructions for entry at https://travelcheck.admin.ch/home. Currently, visitors from a short list of African countries are restricted from entering. Travelers from all other countries must present a valid certificate of vaccination upon entry. You should check this web site to confirm if any other test (PCR or antigens) is required for your country. In any case, you will need to complete an entry form before you cross the border, https://swisself.admin.ch/formular.

Please note that currently, some countries may prohibit the departure of their nationals, while others may impose confinement or quarantine on all who arrive in (or return to) the country. Attendants at the IYOG Opening Ceremony are expected to verify and stay informed of the restrictions that apply in their own country.
For attendants needing a PCR or antigens test to re-enter in their countries, we include a link of labs and pharmacies that offer these certificates in Geneva: [https://www.ge.ch/covid-19-se-faire-tester/faire-test-covid-19](https://www.ge.ch/covid-19-se-faire-tester/faire-test-covid-19).

All conference delegates and accompanying persons are invited to participate in the subsidiary events at the Intercontinental Hotel, namely the **Welcome Reception (9th 18:30)** and the **Gala Dinner (10th 19-23)**. The dress code for the Dinner is Black Tie Optional. We also offer a **visit to Museum Ariana**, on Friday 11th 10:00 and an **art glass exhibition** that will be displayed in the Hotel Intercontinental and in the Palace of Nations from 9 to 11th February. We ask you to inform us about possible food restrictions or allergies. The Gala Dinner will consist of a menu including beef and alternative vegetarian dishes. Please, **inform us in advance is you wish a vegetarian menu**.

For all attending the conference we strongly recommend that you take out **suitable travel insurance**. If you have not finished your reservations our travel agency VIAJES NORMATRAVEL, [viagesnormatravel@normatravel.com](mailto:viagesnormatravel@normatravel.com), offers to manage hotel reservations and transport.

We thank you in advance for registering as soon as possible, but in any case before the 4th February.

We commit to making our best efforts to organize a wonderful and unforgettable Opening Ceremony.

Best regards

Alicia Durán  
Research Professor CSIC  
Chair of the UN International Year of Glass