

Dear Members of the ISI Community,

First of all, I would like to thank the many people who submitted proposals for Invited Paper Sessions (IPS) for the next ISI World Statistics Congress in Marrakech, Morocco, in July 2017. The number of submissions we received so far (and we keep receiving!) is really very high, well beyond our expectations. At the same time, I keep receiving messages from potential organisers who are asking for an extension, either because they are still waiting for answers from potential speakers or due to technical problems.

The Scientific Programme Committee (SPC) has decided to extend the deadline to 29 February 2016. After this date, we will not be able to accept any new IPS proposals. You will be able to make changes, such as adding speakers, to IPS proposals that are already submitted until 15 March.

Based on the messages I received in the last few weeks, here are some suggestions and comments about the technical problems some of you experienced:

- 1) An account has to be created on the website before you can create a proposal;
- 2) Saving is possible only after adding an organiser and at least 1 speaker;
- 3) It is better to use Firefox rather than Chrome or Internet Explorer;
- 4) The system gives error messages when trying to do something after long inactivity;
- 5) No abstracts of individual papers are requested at this stage;
- 6) The system does not always accept addresses and phone numbers (these are not needed at this stage).

To access the submission system please use the following link: <http://bit.ly/1YDnoAE>

The Local Organising Committee is working to improve the functionality of the system. If you have problems that you are not able to solve, feel free to contact me at [SPC.chair@isi-web.org](mailto:SPC.chair@isi-web.org).

Best regards,

Fabrizio Ruggeri  
Chair, ISI Scientific Programme Committee for Marrakech WSC 2017