Dear Dr. Côté,

I have submitted your proposal for a Working Conference of Working Group 6 to the Board of IMIA which met in Bordeaux, March 21-23, 1991.

From the reactions of Salah Mandil and J.R. Scherrer, as well as from the other members, I had the impression that the meeting may be somewhat premature for it to be called a true Working Conference and that more preparations were still needed. Your document is, I believe, in agreement with this statement since it is entitled "preliminary plan".

A follow-up conference to the successful Ottawa and Geneva Conferences shall certainly be organized. The topic is of high interest. However, it appears, at least to me, that quite a lot of preparatory work still needs to be done for this to take place in November 1991 in Washington DC.

The dates which you propose are difficult for Jean Raoul and Salah as well, since they have to attend the IMIA Board and General Assembly Meetings in view of their involvement with Medinfo '92 and other matters.

Would it not be better to postpone the Conference to a later date and to use the meeting in Washington to make further preparations?

I would appreciate it very much if you could contact Jean Raoul and Salah to discuss these items further.

Sincerely Yours,

Prof. Dr. J.L. Willems
President fo IMIA

c.c. Prof. Dr. J.R. Scherrer
Dr. Salah Mandil
April 18, 1991

Dr. J.L. Willems
President, I.M.I.A.
Afdeling Medische Informatica
University Hospital Gasthuisberg
49, Herestraat
3000 LEUVEN, BELGIUM

Subject: Cancellation of Washington WG-6 International Working Conference.

Dear Doctor Willems,

It is with profound regret that I must tell you that the WG-6 International Working Conference scheduled for Washington in November, 1991 is cancelled.

The IMIA Board, the sponsoring organization, which met in Bordeaux recently, strongly recommended the postponement of this conference due to the scheduling conflicts of some participants.

There remains intense interest in medical data modelling, the topic planned for this conference. An alternative forum for the discussion of these topics is being actively pursued.

I must apologize to you for any inconvenience this cancellation may have caused.

I will keep you informed of our progress.

Sincerely yours,

Roger A. Côté, M.D.
Chairman of WG-6
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