



GLOBAL WTERT COUNCIL, INC.

TECHNOLOGIES FOR SUSTAINABLE WASTE MANAGEMENT

New York City, April 23, 2020

Dear friends, most of us have chosen to work in a least glamorous but essential urban task: The management of wastes. I am writing to you from one of the epicenters of the COVID terror attacking the whole planet. Those of us at the top of the sanitation pyramid have the luxury of working from the comparative safety of our homes. However, there are millions of unsung first responders: The sanitation workers who are collecting humanity's trash and the operators of waste to energy power plants, landfills and recycling plants. Of those heroes, the least exposed to the mortal peril are WTE workers who are physically separated from the feedstock to their plant. The most exposed are collection personnel and people working in recycling plants where "recyclable" objects must be sorted out manually. This fact was recognized by the advanced city of Milano where "persons with COVID symptoms are requested to dispose recyclable objects in their trash bags".

The silver lining of the virus attack, for sustainable waste management in the future, is that it is highlighting the need for high temperature technologies that surely [destroy all pathogens](#).

Life will go on after the virus tsunami: The 8th International Sustainable Waste Management Conference in the historic city of Thessaloniki, Greece, to be chaired by Prof. Maria Loizidou of WtERT-Greece, has been postponed from June to [September](#).

With best wishes for a healthy and pleasant summer,

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WtERT organizations (in alphabetical order): Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Germany, France, India, Italy, Turkey, U.K., U.S.A.