Vienna, August 24, 2020

Dear Vis Moot Community,

Covid-19 has and continues to impact our world in quite extraordinary ways. Our thoughts are particularly with those members of the Vis Moot Community who have been directly affected.

There remains considerable uncertainty about the extent to which international travel will be possible in the foreseeable future, and indeed general uncertainty as to whether even at Easter next year it would be possible to have a gathering of 4,000 people from all over the world. All over the world we see examples of governmental restrictions being lifted and then re-imposed again; and whilst we very much hope Vienna will not be subject to restrictions like room capacities and group sizes at Easter it is just impossible to know. As such we have made the decision that the 28th Vis Moot will also be the 2nd Virtual Vis Moot. We hope that in making this decision early and well in advance, teams and arbitrators will have certainty.

This early decision also allows much greater opportunity to deal with planning and logistics from an organisational perspective. More details will be released as they are determined regarding the hearings specifically, such as the platform that will be used.

The memoranda competitions will proceed as normal. There will be a reduced registration fee of €400 per team.

We remain very firmly committed to the benefits and the educational value of bringing all participants together for in person hearings, and so this decision has been a difficult one. Although, we would have been delighted to see you all in person in Vienna, we feel it is the right decision for this coming moot. Your health comes first. We hope and plan that we will return to our traditional approach to oral hearings at the 29th Moot in 2022.

The Vis Moot Directors
d and the Association for the Organisation and Promotion of the Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot