



## **PRESS RELEASE**

**12 March 2020**

### **ITF announces postponement of all ITF events until 20 April 2020**

The ITF COVID-19 Advisory Group has been continuously monitoring the global spread and impact of the COVID-19 virus, in consultation with medical, travel and security experts as well as the relevant international and national authorities. We are aware this situation is evolving on a daily basis.

Following today's ATP announcement and based on our discussions with both Tours, the ITF is taking the precautionary measure to postpone all ITF-owned and sanctioned events, across the men's and women's ITF World Tennis Tour, the ITF World Tennis Tour Juniors, the Uniqlo Wheelchair Tennis Tour, ITF Beach Tennis World Tour, and ITF Seniors Tour. This will be reviewed on a weekly basis but no ITF events will take place until at least the week of Monday, April 20. We will work closely with our partners and other stakeholders, Regional and National Associations, to determine suitable alternative dates, with the goal of enabling the resumption of playing opportunities across each category as soon as the situation allows.

Professional tennis is a collaboration between the ITF, the ATP and the WTA. Our respective organisations will therefore work hard to keep those affected informed and to minimise disruption to playing schedules and rankings.

The health and safety of players, player support teams, event staff and spectators must be the priority. It is not possible to predict the length of time that tennis as a whole will be affected by COVID-19, but we will continue to monitor the situation and act accordingly.

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The International Tennis Federation (ITF) is the world governing body of tennis. Founded in 1913 as a not-for-profit organisation, its purpose is to ensure long-term growth and sustainability, delivering tennis for future generations in association with its 210 member nations. The ITF oversees the rules and regulations that govern international and national competition. The ITF is responsible for the worldwide development of tennis through its Development Programme, its Science and Technical department which monitors equipment and technology, and its Officiating department which oversees the education and advancement of officials. The ITF organises over 1,500 weeks of men's, women's and junior tournaments on the ITF World Tennis Tour, and manages the ITF Juniors team competitions, ITF Beach Tennis Tour, UNIQLO Wheelchair Tennis Tour and the ITF Seniors Circuit. The ITF is the owner and rightsholder of the two largest annual international team competitions Davis Cup, and Fed Cup by BNP Paribas, comprising the World Cup of Tennis and manages the Olympic Tennis Event on behalf of the IOC. The ITF upholds the highest standards of integrity and manages the Tennis Anti-Doping Programme on behalf of the sport and is a partner in the Tennis Integrity Unit. Visit [www.itftennis.com](http://www.itftennis.com), [www.twitter.com/ITF\\_Tennis](https://www.twitter.com/ITF_Tennis), [www.Facebook.com/InternationalTennisFederation](https://www.Facebook.com/InternationalTennisFederation)