1. Argument

"Extraordinary times call for extraordinary measures. The COVID-19 pandemic is the greatest threat to humanity since the Second World War. The fate of billions of people, and potentially millions of deaths, is at stake, particularly in developing countries. I agree that COVID-19 is "the fight of a generation". For this reason, the world community has taken and continues to take extraordinary and necessary measures. More than half of the world economy is stuck and the resulting economic fallout is creating major stress in fragile economies. Economic hardship is on the rise. Much of the global economy is stalled and 191 countries have closed schools, affecting 91% of all learners worldwide. The ILO predicts a huge number of job losses, while people in many countries are falling into poverty, reversing a decade or more of progress in poverty reduction. For the first time since 1990, the Global Human Development Index will decline. G20 countries are implementing a standstill on sovereign debt service in 2020 for the world's poorest countries, and further extraordinary debt relief is likely to follow. These words paraphrased by António Guterres, the Ninth Secretary-General of the United Nations, provide sufficient justification for the seriousness caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. He went on to say: "The future, however, presents us with an unparalled opportunity to design and build more inclusive and accessible societies."

It is in response to this glimmer of hope that this call for papers for a special issue of the International Journal of Management and Applied Economics (JMAE) is issued. JMAE is the journal of the Faculty of Economics and Management of the University of Dschang in Cameroon, created in 2018. It publishes two issues each year, one of which is published every semester. In line with international publication standards through a double-blind evaluation, JMAE carries out a rigorous selection of articles and is composed of two folders: one in Economics and one in Management Sciences.

2. Axes of the special issue

This special issue is a continuation of the promotion of research both nationally and internationally. It seizes the opportunity offered by the most deadly health crisis since the Second World War to give researchers the opportunity to question their knowledge in order to draw the first lessons from this unprecedented crisis, while looking to the future before making recommendations for a refoundation of this knowledge. The lines of research that it addresses are diverse and varied and revolve around case studies or country studies, impact studies, response measures, consequences and measures of resilience, economic recovery and
prospective for a stronger national and international economy. Specifically, ten non-exhaustive themes have been selected:

**Axis 1: The COVID-19 pandemic and the digital economy**
**Axis 2: The COVID-19 pandemic and the aggravation of poverty and inequalities**
**Axis 3: The COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on education and the labour market**
**Axis 4: The COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on the organization of companies**
**Axis 5: The COVID-19 pandemic and the behaviour of investors on the markets**
**Axis 6: Marketing and advertising in health crisis situations**
**Axis 7: The COVID-19 pandemic and macroeconomic impacts (economic growth, budget deficit, foreign trade, capital flows, monetary and financial stability, foreign exchange reserves, raw materials, migration and health system)**
**Axis 8: The COVID-19 pandemic and the quality of the environment**
**Axis 9: The COVID-19 pandemic and response and recovery measures**
**Axis 10: The COVID-19 pandemic and the lessons of the history of health crises**

In view of the abundance of articles and their relevance, two volumes of this special issue can be envisaged.

### 3. Terms and conditions of submission

Draft articles (preferably full text or work in progress of up to 25 pages), can be sent in English or French. Proposals should be sent no later than **31 August 2020** to: ongoema@yahoo.fr with a copy to jrfeudjodem@yahoo.fr and paningaye@yahoo.fr.

### 4. Standards for the presentation of draft articles

The format for the submission of draft articles must comply with the standards for the presentation of articles submitted to the JMAE in the appendice.

### 5. Important dates to remember

- Opening of the call for contributions: **1 June 2020**
- Deadline for submission of draft articles: **31 August 2020**
- Notification to authors of selected draft articles: **15 September 2020**
- Deadline for submission of corrected versions of draft articles: **15 October 2020**
- Exchanges and tests with the authors: **15 October - 30 November 2020**
- Date of publication of the special issue: **end of December 2020**

The Director of Publication