

# FEALC-UIS

Letter requesting the acceptance of Federación Espeleológica de América Latina y del Caribe (FEALC) as a associated organization within UIS under the Article number 8 of the Internal Regulations of the UIS

REQUEST FOR  
ASSOCIATED  
AFFILIATION



# FEDERACIÓN ESPELEOLÓGICA DE AMÉRICA LATINA Y DEL CARIBE

Founded in 1983 - Viñales, Pinar del Río, Cuba  
... **where caving is solidarity**  
Nonprofit Organization 320893  
Puerto Rico State Department

[www.fealc.org](http://www.fealc.org)

**President**  
REF. FEALC-001-06-19

## COMITÉ EJECUTIVO 2018-2022

### Presidente

Efraín MERCADO  
(Puerto Rico)

### Vicepresidente

Juan Manuel MORENO  
(Colombia)

### Secretaría General

Addy LORIA  
(Mexico)

### Secretarios Adjuntos

Divaldo GUTIÉRREZ  
(Cuba)

Erick MÉNDEZ  
(Costa Rica)

Marcelo RASTEIRO  
(Brasil)

Rafael CARREÑO  
(Venezuela)

Raúl Vicente CARRIZO  
(Argentina)

June 19, 2019

Meeting of the Executive Committee of the FEALC  
35th Brazilian Congress of Speleology  
City of Bonito  
Mato Grosso do Sul  
Federative Republic of Brazil

### Subject:

Agreement of the Executive Committee of FEALC to become an Associated Organization, according the terms established under the Article number 7 of the Internal Regulations of the UIS.

**Article 1** *about the intention of FEALC to stretch the ties with UIS thru an agreement as a Cooperative Organization.*

Federación Espeleológica de América Latina y del Caribe, Inc. (from now on FEALC), is a nonprofit speleological organization created in 1983 in the Marina Azcuy Culture House, in the valley of Viñales, Pinar del Río, with the objective of information exchange on the development of speleology among its member countries, according article number 1 of its foundational statutes. FEALC is composed of 15 Latin-American and Caribbean countries. It is officially registered at the State Department of Puerto Rico under the law number 164 of December 16, 2009. Registration was done as a nonprofit organization with the ID number 320893 and is an active organization according to the law.

It is FEALC's desire to strengthen ties of speleological friendship and coordination of activities that result in the development of stable speleology in Latin America and the world. For this to be possible, FEALC respectfully requests the UIS Bureau to accept it within the terms set out in Article 7 of the UIS Internal Regulations, in its later edition, as an Associated Organization. FEALC understands that this agreement is subjected to the goodwill of both organizations and the corresponding clauses of both The UIS and FEALC.



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*continuation*

## Article 2 *on the composition of FEALC*

FEALC is a speleological organization with a governance structure equal to or like that of the UIS. The structure includes: (1) a chairperson, (2) a vice-president, (3) a general secretariat, and (4) five deputy secretaries. Like the UIS, it has a national delegate and one alternate delegate for each member country. Member countries submit their requests for acceptance by letterhead from the speleological organization requesting its inclusion and being ratified at a general assembly or CEALC held every four years.

The FEALC Bureau is made up of the following people for the period 2018-2022

President: Efraín MERCADO, Puerto Rico

Vice-President: Juan Manuel MORENO, Colombia

General Secretariat: Addy LORIA, Mexico

Deputy Secretaries:

Divaldo GUTIÉRREZ, Cuba

Erick MÉNDEZ, Costa Rica

Raul Vicente CARRIZO, Argentina

Marcelo RASTEIRO, Brazil

Rafael CARREÑO, Venezuela

FEALC has commissions and develops cave rescue training activities through its Latin American School of Cave Rescue (ELE) in all its countries that request it and at no cost to the member country. Member countries receive information on how to organize their national cave rescue commissions.

## Article 3 *On the intention of FEALC to actively promote the International Year of Caves and Karst in 2021.*

It is the intention of FEALC, being the largest speleological organization in Latin America and the Caribbean, to promulgate among its member countries the UIS's effort to celebrate the International Year of Caves and Karst (IYCK 2021) and to participate in any other agreed and joint effort for the improvement of caving within and outside Latin America and the Caribbean.



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*continuation*

Article 5 *On the implementation of the UIS Code of Ethics and the FEALC Code of Ethics*

Since both organizations have a Code of Ethics, there is the provision of their faithful compliance in both directions. The FEALC Code of Ethics is more extensive and includes activities specific to the countries that make up the FEALC. Our code will have pre-eminence, and everything not covered by the FEALC Code will be covered by the UIS Code.

Article 6 *On the validity of this agreement and the non-binding clauses*

FEALC understands that both organizations, FEALC and UIS, are sovereign and as such the agreements established are not binding on the autonomy of operation. Both FEALC and UIS, through their Executive Committee may cancel this agreement upon written notice thirty working days prior to cancellation. It is understood that this is an agreement in good faith and in good leadership and both organizations are committed to safeguarding their interests and the good image among them.

Article 7 *Implementation and implementation*

This agreement will be implemented and put into force once accepted by the Executive Committee of FEALC and UIS, duly initialed by its presidents and secretaries-general. Copy of it will stay in the archives of both organizations through their respective general secretaries. Both organizations undertake to disclose the agreement in their respective official bulletins. An English-translated copy shall be provided in a timely manner to the UIS.

Approved in the city of Bonito, Mato Grosso do Sul, Federal Republic of Brazil, at June 19, 2016.



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## Certification

OF THE DOCUMENT  
According FEALC Executive Bureau Internal Regulations

This is to certify that the documented titled “FEALC-UIS request for associated affiliation” is official, authentic and was generated by the president and the general secretariat of the FEALC in good faith. Hereby we authenticate the document by means of our signatures.

At 2100 hours of June 19, 2019, in the Bonito City Convention Center, Mato Grosso do Sul, Federative Republic of Brazil.

Respectfully,

Capt. Efraín MERCADO, President

Dra. Addy LORÍA, Secretary General

Copy:

- Dr. Prof. Juan Manuel MORENO MURILLO, vice-president of the FEALC
- Dr. Prof. Fadi NADER, Secretary General of the UIS
- Dr. Prof. George VENI, President of the UIS
- Dr. Zdenek MOTYČKA, Vice-president of Administration of the UIS