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**BASES AND CRITERIA
TO RECEIVE AND
INFORM INTERNATIONAL
VISITORS INTERESTED
IN ATTENDING THE
1997 MEXICAN
FEDERAL ELECTORAL
PROCESS**



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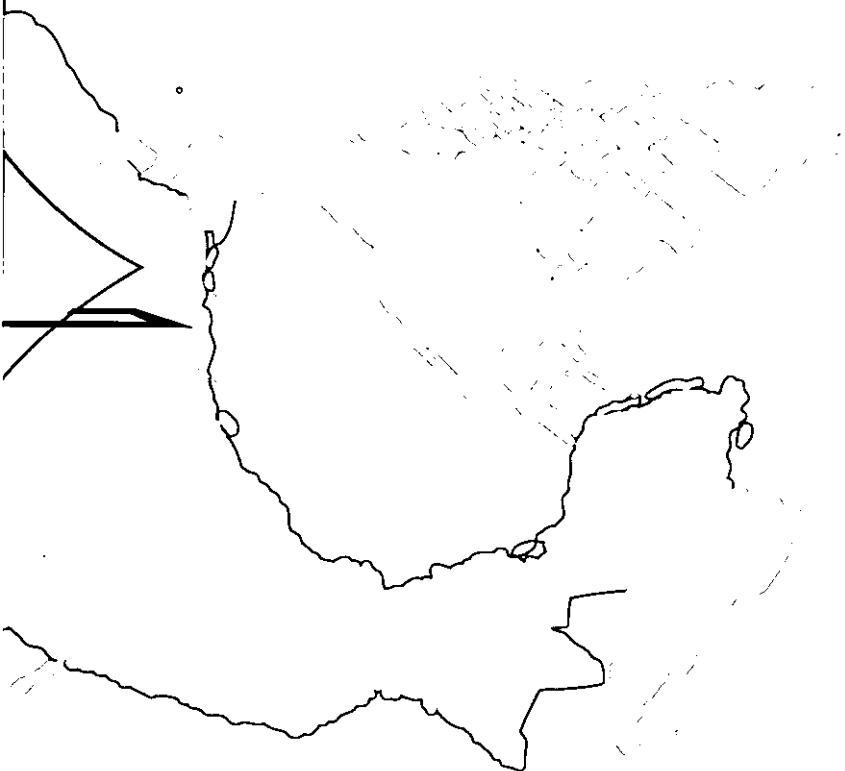
BASES AND CRITERIA
TO RECEIVE AND
INFORM INTERNATIONAL
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IN ATTENDING THE
1997 MEXICAN
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PROCESS



ARTICLE 82

2. The General Council, at the time of the celebration of the federal electoral processes, may invite and approve the rules and guidelines on which the invitation to foreign visitors shall be made for its attention and information, in their acknowledgment of such elections at any of their stages.

**Agreement of the Federal
Electoral Institute General
Council Establishing Bases and
Criteria to Receive and Inform
International Visitors Interested
in Attending the 1997 Mexican
Federal Electoral Process**



GIVEN THE FOLLOWING

- 1. The responsibility for establishing bases and criteria to receive and inform international visitors attending the federal electoral process in any of its stages rests upon the Federal Electoral Institute General Council.**
- 2. The preliminary stage of the 1997 federal electoral process was initiated during the Federal Electoral Institute General Council session held on November 7th of 1996.**
- 3. The Federal Electoral Institute values the interest of international institutions and organizations in attending the federal electoral process in Mexico during its organization and development.**
- 4. In accordance with principles of international relations, it is of the utmost importance for the Federal Electoral Institute to provide the**

international community with relevant information on the Mexican federal electoral processes.

5. The Federal Electoral Institute is interested in maintaining an information channel on the federal electoral process, in order to keep informed all members of the international community interested in the 1997 federal election.
6. In order to establish a context of certainty and order for activities carried out by international visitors attending the 1997 Mexican federal election, it is necessary to establish the corresponding rules.
7. The Federal Electoral Institute will disseminate information about the Mexican federal election to be held on July 6th of 1997 in order to facilitate its analysis in a professional, impartial and transparent manner and prior to the election.

According to the aforementioned considerations, and taking into account articles 1, 33 and 41 of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States, and articles 68, 69, 70 and 73 of the Federal Code of Electoral Institutions and Procedures, in exercise of the authority conferred by article 82, paragraph 2 of the same code, the Federal Electoral Institute General Council issues the following

A G R E E M E N T

First.- The following bases and criteria to receive and inform international visitors attending the 1997 Mexican federal electoral process are established:

First basis.-

1. An international visitor is any foreign individual or organization interested in attending federal elections, having been duly accredited by the Federal Electoral Institute General Council, according to the present bases and criteria.

Second basis.-

1. The Federal Electoral Institute will not issue any direct invitation to those international individuals or organizations interested in attending the developments of the 1997 Mexican election process, but rather publish a notice addressed to the international community in general, so that they can timely obtain their accreditation as international visitors. This notice will start as of March of 1997 at the latest.
2. The notice will be directly addressed to:
 - a. Representatives of international organizations.
 - b. Representatives of continental or regional organizations.
 - c. Representatives of legislative bodies from other countries.
 - d. Government representatives from other countries.

- e. Representatives of bodies endowed with electoral authority from other countries.
 - f. Representatives of political organizations and parties from other countries.
 - g. Representatives of higher education, research and academic institutions.
 - h. Representatives of organizations specialized in activities of electoral cooperation or assistance.
 - i. Representatives of private or non-governmental organizations which carry out activities related to political and/or electoral issues or to the defense and promotion of human rights.
 - j. International professionals whose noted reputation and expertise stem from their contributions to international peace, cooperation, and international development, or from their contributions to the humanities, science and technology.
3. The Federal Electoral Institute will ask for the support of the different agencies of the Mexican government in order to circulate the notice mentioned in paragraph one of this article, at national and international levels. Government offices will also be asked to help and facilitate the entry of all those international visitors accredited as such into the country.
 4. Political parties and political groups, as well as observation organizations and all mexican civil institutions and associations specialized on or interested in the matter will be able to circulate

the notice and invite international professionals or organizations fulfilling the requirements established in the present bases and criteria, for them to fill in their application to be accredited as international visitors.

Third basis.-

1. Interested international professionals or organizations will have a deadline beginning from the publication date of the present notice until June 21st of 1997, to submit their international visitor application before the President of the Federal Electoral Institute General Council.
2. For such purpose, the Executive Secretariat will issue a special application form enclosed with the notice that will be available from the offices of the Executive Secretariat, the individual offices of the 32 Local Councils of the Federal Electoral Institute, and in Mexican embassies and consulates around the world.

Fourth basis.-

1. In order to be accredited by the Federal Electoral Institute General Council, applicants must meet the following requirements:
 - a. Recognized integrity and prestige in any activity related to political and/or electoral activities, or the promotion and defense of human rights.
 - b. To be a non-profitable organization or individual.

- c. Must present full legal identification while representing an organization or institution.

Fifth basis.-

1. International professionals or organizations fulfilling the requirements established in this agreement and who submit their application readily and on time, will be accredited by the Federal Electoral Institute General Council.
2. The Executive Secretariat will issue the corresponding accreditation, as well as the badges which will be distributed among the accredited international visitors in order to verify the identity of international visitors and facilitate their activities during the election process. The Executive Secretariat will inform the electoral authorities, as well as the representatives of political parties before the General Council about the aforementioned accreditations.

Sixth basis.-

1. International visitors will be able to attend and obtain information about the developments of the 1997 Mexican federal electoral process during any stage or in any location throughout the country.

Seventh basis.-

1. International accredited visitors will be assisted by the authorities of the Federal Electoral Institute in order to carry out the following activities:

- a. Meetings with electoral authorities and officials to gather background information about Mexican electoral laws, institutions and procedures.
 - b. Meetings with political party representatives or candidates to obtain information about their organizations and platforms, once they have explicitly consented.
 - c. Meetings with representatives of political groups to obtain information about their organization and activities, once they have explicitly consented.
2. Political parties and groups will have the right to present their statements regarding the electoral process to international visitors, and also to provide them with printed materials on the electoral process itself or their political organization.
 3. The Executive Secretariat will distribute among accredited international visitors institutional documents which could be of interest to them or be useful to better understand the Mexican political-electoral system.

Eighth basis.-

1. Depending on availability, the Executive Secretariat will provide the necessary general support so that registered international visitors will be able to adequately perform activities permitted to them, keeping the General Council informed about such activities.

2. Accordingly, the Executive Secretariat will adopt due measures to assist and direct accredited international visitors from March 1st until July 13th of 1997.
3. The Federal Electoral Institute will not be accountable for any disbursement incurred by international visitors during their stay and activities in Mexico.

Ninth basis.-

1. When carrying out activities defined in the aforementioned sixth and seventh bases, international visitors must comply with the following obligations:
 - a. Not to interfere in any way with Mexico's political affairs.
 - b. Not to interfere in any way with activities performed by the electoral authority, the political parties and their candidates, and the Mexican citizenry.
 - c. Carry out their activities in a serious, respectful and responsible manner.
 - d. At all times and in all circumstances comply with Mexican law and other legal dispositions applicable during their stay in the country.

Tenth basis.-

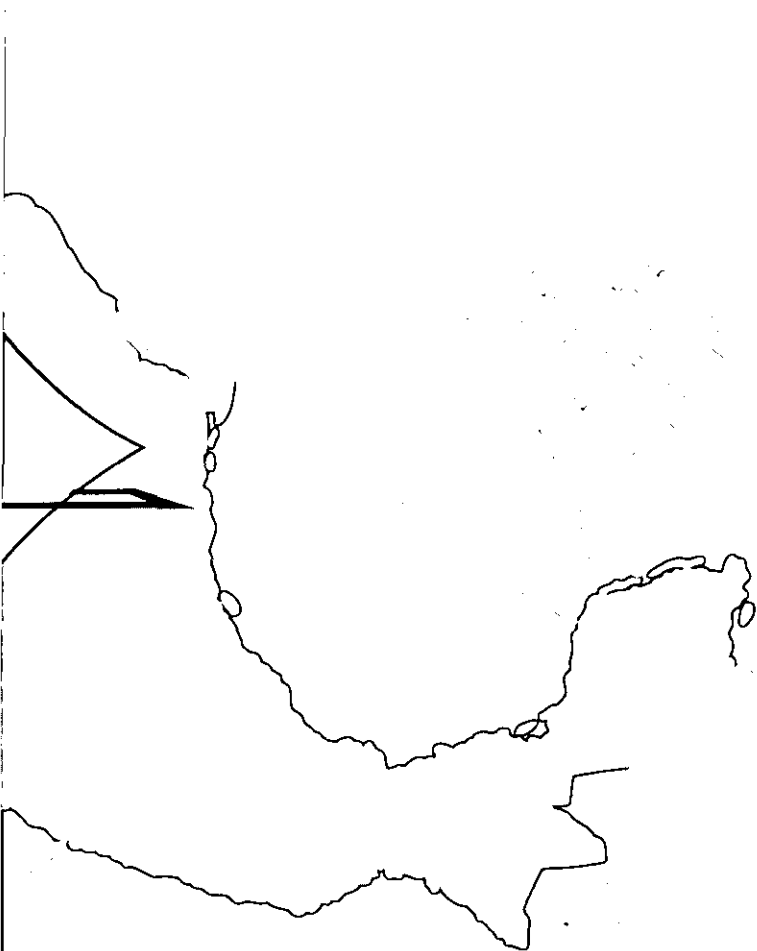
1. Accredited international visitors not complying with the obligations established in these bases will have their accreditation revoked by the respective electoral authorities.

2. Political parties or political groups will be able to request the General Council to revoke the accreditation of any international visitor after providing enough proof for such revocation.
3. If any of the previous provisions is to be applied, the Federal Electoral Institute will inform the Secretaría de Gobernación (Ministry of the Interior) as well as other respective authorities, in order for them to decide upon the stay within the national territory of registered international visitors to the 1997 federal election process who have violated the constitutional and legal framework, according to what is stated in article 267 of the Federal Code of Electoral Institutions and Procedures.

Second.- The present agreement is to be published in the official gazette of the federation.

The present agreement was approved by the Federal Electoral Institute General Council extraordinary session of February 21st of 1997.

**Notice to International
Professionals or Organizations
Interested in Attending the 1997
Mexican Electoral Process**





The General Council, the highest governing body of the Federal Electoral Institute, a public, autonomous, and permanent institution, independent for its decisions and functions, with juridical status and patrimony of its own, endowed with electoral authority and responsibility of organizing the Mexican federal elections, in exercise of the authority conferred by article 82, paragraph 2 of the Federal Code of Electoral Institutions and Procedures, and according to the 2nd basis of the agreement of the Federal Electoral Institute General Council establishing bases and criteria to receive and inform international visitors interested in attending the 1997 Mexican federal electoral process, issues the present notice according to the following

BASES

I. General

1. The present notice is addressed to the following interested parties:

- a) Representatives of international organizations.
 - b) Representatives of continental or regional organizations.
 - c) Representatives of legislative bodies from other countries.
 - d) Government representatives from other countries.
 - e) Representatives of bodies endowed with electoral authority from other countries.
 - f) Representatives of political organizations and parties from other countries.
 - g) Representatives of higher education, research, and academic institutions.
 - h) Representatives of organizations specialized in activities of electoral cooperation or assistance.
 - i) Representatives of private or non-governmental organizations which carry out activities related to political and/or electoral issues or to the defense and promotion of human rights.
 - j) International professionals whose noted reputation and expertise stem from their contributions to international peace, cooperation, and international development, or from their contributions to the humanities, science and technology.
2. International visitors may attend the 1997 Mexican electoral process during any stage

or in any location throughout the country, in accordance with paragraph 2, article 82 of the Federal Code of Electoral Institutions and Procedures, and the corresponding agreement of the Federal Electoral Institute General Council.

3. Interested people and organizations will have a deadline beginning from the publication date of the present notice until June 21st of 1997, in order to submit their written application to be accredited as international visitors, before the President of the Federal Electoral Institute General Council, either directly or through the Mexican embassies and consulates in other countries.
4. Application forms are available from the Executive Secretariat of the Federal Electoral Institute (address: Viaducto Tlalpan 100, Esq. Periférico Sur, Col. Arenal Tepepan, Delegación Tlalpan, Distrito Federal, C.P. 14610, México. Telephone numbers: 655-33-48, 655-32-56), the individual offices of the Local Councils of the Federal Electoral Institute in the states throughout Mexico, and in Mexican embassies and consulates in other countries.
5. In order to be accredited by the Federal Electoral Institute, applicants must meet the following requirements:
 - a) Recognized integrity and prestige in any activity related to political and/or electoral activities, or the promotion and defense of human rights.
 - b) To be a non-profitable organization or individual.

- c) Must present full legal identification while representing an organization or institution.
6. Once the application is approved by the Federal Electoral Institute, the appropriate accreditation will be issued, and the applicant will be immediately notified. Accreditation badges will be distributed in order to verify the identity of international visitors and facilitate their activities during the election process. Electoral authorities and political parties will be timely notified about the features and expiration date of the aforementioned accreditations.
7. Political groups and political parties, as well as observation organizations and all Mexican civil institutions and associations specialized on or interested in the matter will be able to circulate the present notice and invite international professionals or organizations fulfilling the requirements established in this notice.

II. Activities permitted to international visitors

1. International visitors will be allowed to carry out the following activities:
 - a) Meetings with electoral authorities and officials to gather background information about Mexican electoral laws, institutions and procedures.
 - b) Meetings with political party representatives or candidates to obtain information about their organizations and platform, once they have explicitly consented.

- c) Meetings with representatives of political groups to obtain information about their organization and activities, once they have explicitly consented.
2. Depending on availability, the Federal Electoral Institute will provide the necessary general support, so that accredited international visitors will be able to adequately perform the aforementioned activities. These activities may commence from the moment of registration until July 13th, 1997.
3. The Federal Electoral Institute will not be accountable for any disbursement incurred by international visitors during their stay and activities in Mexico.
4. Mexican political parties will have the right to present their statements regarding the electoral process to the accredited international visitors, and also to provide them with printed materials on the electoral process itself or on their political organization.

III. Obligations of international visitors

1. International visitors must comply with the following obligations:
 - a) Not to interfere in any way with Mexico's political affairs.
 - b) Not to interfere in any way with activities performed by the electoral authority, the political parties and their candidates, and the Mexican citizenry.
 - c) Carry out their activities in a serious, respectful and responsible manner.

- d) At all times and in all circumstances comply with Mexican law and other legal dispositions applicable during their stay in the country.
 2. Accredited international visitors not complying with the obligations established by Mexican laws and regulations on the matter agreed upon by the General Council, will have their accreditation revoked by the respective electoral authorities. The Secretaría de Gobernación (Ministry of the Interior) and other respective authorities will be informed accordingly, in order for them to decide upon the stay within the national territory of these accredited international visitors.
- IV. Any issue not considered in the present notice will be resolved only and finally by the Federal Electoral Institute General Council.

Mexico City, March 4th of nineteen ninety seven.

THE PRESIDENT COUNCILLOR
OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL

JOSE WOLDENBERG KARAKOWSKY

THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
OF THE FEDERAL ELECTORAL INSTITUTE

FELIPE SOLIS ACERO

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