

Statute

On the Name

The Association is called *Asociación Latinoamericana y del Caribe para Estudios de Aerosoles* in Spanish and *Association for Aerosol Studies in Latin America and the Caribbean* in English and will be also identified by the acronym ALACEA.

On the Objectives

The Association has the following objectives:

- a) To promote, support, and disseminate research on aerosols in all aspects in Latin America and the Caribbean in an inclusive manner,
- b) To encourage interdisciplinary cooperation among the members of the Association and with the international community seeking to encourage the exchange of ideas,
- c) To communicate and make visible the information and scientific evidence resulting from research and studies in the region with the members of the Association, environmental authorities, and the public,
- d) To promote interdisciplinary and intersectoral cooperation among members, and the relationship with other organizations,
- e) To promote the training of young researchers in the region and open spaces for their development and professional projection.

The objectives of the Association must be linked to specific activities that allow its fulfillment and its reason for existing. Said activities will be proposed by the Executive Council, and the sub-committees and working groups required for efficient implementation.

On the Members

The Association is made up of:

- a) Regular members
- b) Student members

To become a member, one must i) demonstrate that they are working (carrying out studies, research, or legislation) on issues related to aerosol, ii) have the will to contribute to the Association and contribute to its development, and iii) have an inclusive attitude, not discriminating against any member because of their race, gender, religion or socioeconomic situation.

On the rights of Regular Members

Regular Members are professionals conducting studies and research on aerosols in any of its aspects. Their rights include:

- a) to vote at Association meetings
- b) to participate in events organized by the Association
- c) to be elected to be part of the Executive Committee
- d) to be elected to participate in sub-committees and working groups of the Association

e) to participate as a volunteer in at least one annual activity organized by the Association

f) to suggest activities according to the mission of the Association

g) to propose initiatives for the dissemination of scientific information and participate in them

Membership will be lifelong and will expire upon death or by communicating the resignation in writing to the Executive Council.

On the rights of Student Members

Student members are those who are pursuing postgraduate studies in areas related to aerosol research. Postdoctoral members are professionals who, when joining the Association, do not yet have a place in universities and/or advanced study centres. Their rights include:

a) to vote at Association meetings

b) to participate in events organized by the Association.

c) to be elected to participate in sub-committees and working groups of the Association

d) to participate as a volunteer in at least one annual activity organized by the Association

e) to suggest activities according to the mission of the Association.

f) to propose initiatives for the dissemination of scientific information and participate in them

Student Members may request their change to Regular Members upon obtaining the degree.

Membership will be lifelong and will expire upon death or by communicating the resignation in writing to the Executive Council.

On the components of the Association

a) The community of members, being able to congregate in at least one annual meeting

b) The Executive Council (EC)

On the Annual Meeting

The members of the Association will be summoned by the EC to participate in an annual meeting, which will be held in a hybrid format to facilitate the participation of members and be as inclusive as possible. The call will be sent at least four (4) weeks in advance and will include the agenda for the meeting. The meeting may take place within the framework of an academic event. Additional/extraordinary meetings may be called by the EC or by the request of at least 20% of the members of the Association.

The goal of the annual meeting may include:

a) The election of the officers of the EC, if needed

b) Information on the activities carried out

c) Changes to the Association's statutes

d) The dissolution of the Association

Decisions during the annual meeting will be made by a simple majority of the members connected to the platform used to carry it out. This will ensure that as many members as possible can participate. The absent members will accept the decisions made those in attendance.

On the Executive Council

The Executive Council (EC) consists of 13 members, including a President, Vice-President, Secretary and 10 Council Members. At least one of the members of the EC will be an early career scientist. In addition, the representation of the different topics, sectors and geographical areas will be sought to have a greater diversity in the CE.

The members of the EC will be elected by the membership during the annual meeting. The term of office will be two (2) years, with the possibility of re-election for another two (2) years. There will be no economic remuneration for belonging to the CE.

The EC is responsible for:

- a) The organization of the annual meeting and extraordinary meetings, as well as the organization of the vote during the meetings.
- b) The design and execution of activities that help achieve the objectives of the Association, in conjunction with the existing sub-committees and working groups.
- c) The designation of sub-committees and working groups for specific activities.
- d) The organization of conferences, workshops and/or thematic symposia.
- e) The admission of new members.
- f) The dissemination of information through infographics, online newsletters and other means.
- g) The design and maintenance of the Association's page.

The decisions of the EC will be made by simple majority and in the event of a tie the President will have the deciding vote.

On changes to the Statute

The community of members has the right to suggest changes to the Statute that lead to a greater development and effectiveness in the activities of the Association. To carry out changes, it is required that there be a proposal from the EC or from at least 20% of the members of the Association.

Regular reviews of the Statute are contemplated every 5 years, to ratify the current Statute or to introduce changes. The proposed changes will be socialized to all members of the Association for feedback ahead of a vote for a maximum period of eight weeks.

Changes in the Statute must be approved by the vote of 75% of the members of the Association. The vote will take place in an extraordinary meeting to be carried out in a hybrid mode to reach the largest possible number of members. If the quorum of 75% is not achieved, the membership may decide whether to accept the change with only those present or whether to call a new meeting.