

NOTICE

The General Council, the highest governing body of the Federal Electoral Institute, a public, autonomous, and permanent institution, independent regarding its decisions and functions, with legal 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 118, paragraph 2 of the Federal Electoral Code of Institutions and Procedures, and according to the 2nd basis of the Agreement of the Federal Electoral Institute's General Council establishing the bases and criteria to receive and inform international visitors interested in attending the 2008-2009 Federal Electoral Process, issues the present notice according to the following

BASES

I. General Bases

1. The present notice is addressed to any person who is not a Mexican citizen, interested in learning about the development of the 2008-2009 Federal Electoral Process, as well as to representatives of:
 - a. International organizations.
 - b. Continental or regional organizations.
 - c. Legislative bodies from other countries.
 - d. Governments of other countries.
 - e. Electoral authorities from other countries.
 - f. Political parties and organizations from other countries.
 - g. Higher education, research and academic institutions from other countries.
 - h. International organizations specialized in activities of electoral cooperation or assistance.
 - i. Foreign private organizations or non-governmental organizations specializing in activities related to political and electoral issues or to the defense and promotion of human rights.
2. International visitors will be able to attend and obtain information about the development of the 2008-2009 Federal Electoral Process at any stage or in any location throughout the country.
3. International visitor applications can be submitted to the Presidency of the General Council as of the publication of this notice. The deadline to submit applications will be the 23rd of June 2009. Every applicant must also submit a copy of the main page of his/her passport and a 3 x 2.5 centimeter clear photograph.
4. Application forms are available at the International Affairs Unit of the Federal Electoral Institute at 4124 Periférico Sur, Fourth Floor, Col. Ex Hacienda de Anzaldo, Delegación Álvaro Obregón, 01090 Mexico City, as well as the individual offices of the Local Councils of the Federal Electoral Institute in each state, in Mexican embassies and consulates in other countries, and on the World Wide Web page of the Institute: www.ife.org.mx
5. Documentation mentioned in number 3 can be personally delivered, sent by mail or courier service or faxed to IFE's International Affairs Unit at 4124 Periférico Sur, Fourth Floor, Col. Ex Hacienda de Anzaldo, Delegación Álvaro Obregón, 01090 Mexico City, Phone (52-55) 5628-4888, Fax (52-55) 5449-0448. If an applicant is able to send his/her application form and other documents electronically, including his/her scanned handwritten signature, he/she can mail the application to rafael.rivapalacio@ife.org.mx.

6. In order to be accredited by the Federal Electoral Institute, foreign applicants must meet the following requirements:
 - a. To fill in and submit an individual application form to the President of the General Council, making sure they fulfill all the requirements and enclosing the requested documentation, according to number 3 of the present notice.
 - b. To pursue non-lucrative purposes.
7. Within 13 working days after their submittal, the International Affairs Unit will ponder every application duly filled in and received on time.
8. Applicants will be notified about the result of their application in due time through notification from the Chief of Staff of the International Affairs Unit. Accreditation notifications will be sent via fax or electronic mail to the telephone numbers and addresses provided by applicants in their application forms.
9. Once the applicant has received IFE's formal notification on the approval of his/her accreditation, he/she will have to fulfill the required immigration formalities at the Mexican consulate nearest to his/her residence, or in Mexico at the offices of the National Institute of Immigration, according with immigration laws and the General Fees Law.
10. Once the latter formalities are fulfilled, and Saturday July 4th 2009 at the latest, registered international visitors will collect their official badges at a special stand in the premises of the Federal Electoral Institute. Such badges are required for proper identification and will also facilitate their activities during the election process. It will be necessary to show a copy of the appropriate visa to obtain the badge. The possibility of claiming the badge in any other location will require a special request made at least ten days in advance, and will depend upon availability.
11. The Institute's Presidency will timely inform federal electoral authorities and national political parties about the characteristics of the accreditation as international visitor.
12. National political parties and national political groups, as well as electoral alliances, observation organizations, and all Mexican civil institutions and associations specialized on or interested in the matter, will be able to distribute the present notice and invite foreign citizens fulfilling the requirements established in the bases and criteria approved by the General Council.

II. ALLOWED ACTIVITIES FOR INTERNATIONAL VISITORS

1. International visitors will be able to learn about the development of 2008-2009 Federal Electoral Process, at any of its stages throughout the country.
2. Having the purpose of gathering additional background information about federal electoral laws, institutions and procedures, accredited international visitors can request through the International Affairs Unit an appointment to interview or meet with officials from the Federal Electoral Institute on the national level. In other states, international visitors can make the same request to presidents of the local and regional councils, who will ponder and answer them, and within five days will inform the President of the General Council.
3. National political parties and national political groups, as well as electoral alliances, will be able to provide international visitors with information about their electoral platforms, as well as relevant documents about the electoral process or their political organization.

4. Depending on availability, the International Affairs Unit will provide the necessary general support so that registered international visitors will be able to adequately perform activities described in previous paragraphs, always informing this to the General Council informed about such activities.

III. INTERNATIONAL VISITORS' OBLIGATIONS

During their stay in the country and in developing their activities, accredited international visitors must fulfill the following duties:

1. Not to interfere in any way with activities of the electoral authority, political parties or their candidates, Mexican citizens and with any political affair of the country.
2. At all times and under all circumstances comply with Mexican law and other legal dispositions applicable during their stay in the country.

IV. ANY ISSUE NOT CONSIDERED IN THE PRESENT NOTICE WILL BE SOLELY RESOLVED BY THE INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS UNIT, PRIOR CONSULTATION WITH THE PRESIDENCY OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL.

Mexico City, December 22nd 2008

**THE PRESIDENT COUNCILOR OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL
LEONARDO VALDÉS ZURITA**

**THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE FEDERAL ELECTORAL INSTITUTE
EDMUNDO JACOBO MOLINA**