



Unidad de Astronomía
Universidad de Antofagasta

Facultad de Ciencias
UNIVERSIDAD DE ANTOFAGASTA

Antofagasta, 11 September 2014

Dear Dr. Govender
Office of Astronomy for Development
International Astronomical Union

I'm writing this letter to support Dr. Jaime Forero's application for the creation of an Andean Regional Office for Astronomy for Development. As attested by a related letter submitted by Patricio Rojo, President of the Sociedad Chilena de Astronomía (SOCHIAS, Chilean Astronomical Society), Chile will establish a National Coordination Office (Oficina Nacional de Coordinación, ONC) to efficiently deal with matters related to the Andean Regional Office. The ONC will be kindly hosted by Universidad de Antofagasta (Chile), in the North of the country. The first officer in charge of the ONC will be Farid Char, a member of the astronomy staff at Universidad de Antofagasta.

Recently we received support from the European Southern Observatory to partially fund the ONC for one year. This means that we are able to commit 20 hours/week for this role. Universidad de Antofagasta will commit further to enable the ONC to operate.

Regards,

Eduardo Unda-Sanzana
Director, Unidad de Astronomía
Universidad de Antofagasta