

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

The purpose of this letter is to express the interest of the Sociedad Chilena de Astronomía (SOCHIAS) in Chile on joining and supporting the Andean Regional Office of Astronomy for Development, by establishing a National Coordination Office (Oficina Nacional de Coordinación, ONC).

Our participation will be materialized in the support of the following projects mentioned in the proposal:

- Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCS), as supporters (TF1).
- Continuous participation in global projects, as leaders (TF2)
- Teaching resources for children and teenagers, as supporters (TF2)
- Olympiads and Contests, as supporters (TF2)
- Major public astronomy meetings, as leaders (TF3)
- International events, as supporters (TF3)

The ONC will act as a link between the professional (TF1), educational (TF2) and general public (TF3) community, providing assistance and guiding its efforts in the research (TF1) and outreach (TF2, TF3) fields in astronomy, in the aim to integrate and increase the current collaboration between the countries in the Node. Additionally, the main contact for TF1 tasks, can act as leader for the Andean Graduate Program, described on the ROAD Proposal.

We have also agreed to designate to Farid Char, as a representative of our institutions in all the committees associated with the organization and communication activities inside the Andean ROAD.

Sincerely,



Patricio Rojo
Presidente SOCHIAS