

First Circular
January 8, 2009.

40th International Physics Olympiad, Mérida, México, July 11-19th, 2009

Dear leaders, observers and participants, we are very pleased to invite you to attend the IPhO40 in Mérida, México, July 11-19th, 2009. Please find the first circular below.

Presentation

The 40th INTERNATIONAL PHYSICS OLYMPIAD, IPhO2009, will be held in Mérida, México, July 11 to 19th, 2009. The responsibility for selecting the venue corresponds to the International IPhO Body which sent a formal invitation to the Mexico Ministry of Public Education (Secretaría de Educación Pública) which awarded the Mexican Physical Society with the honor of organizing this year's prestigious event. This institution in turn named Dr. José Luis Morán López as the president of the Organizing Committee; Dr. Victor Romero Rochin will be heading the Academic Committee. Likewise, an Honorary Committee including Mexican Authorities at the highest level as well as representatives of the Institutions sponsoring the event is currently being formed.

Invitation to Country's participation

The Organizing Committee is very pleased to invite your country to participate in the IPhO2009. We hope that your country will participate in this important event, the objective of which is to encourage the interest and increase the level of Physics, a branch of the knowledge of utmost importance for the progress of the society.

Requirements for Team Participants

According to the IPhO statutes, each national team will be composed of up to five students and two leaders. The contestants must be students of general or technical high schools, i.e. schools which cannot be considered technical colleges. Students who have finished their high school graduating exams during the year of the competition can participate as team members as long as they have not begun their university studies. The age of the students should not exceed twenty years, as of June 30, 2009. The team leaders should be physics teachers or specialists who can speak English.

Fees and expenses

All participating countries are encouraged to contribute a voluntary fee of \$3,500 USD. This will cover: all official meals, accommodation, and programmed social events during the designated official dates of the Olympiad. Observers and visitors are cordially invited; however payment of the official fees must be made: \$1,200 USD for observers and \$1,100 USD for visitors. Observers are allowed to attend all Olympiad meetings, including the International Board meetings, although participation privileges do not include voice or vote.

Accommodation and Transportation from/to the Airport

Arrangements will be made for participants to stay at the official IPhO hotels in Merida. Transportation from the Merida International Airport to the designated hotels in Merida and vice versa will be provided for by the Organizing Committee at no additional cost during the official arrival and departure dates. An

official meeting place will be established at the Merida International Airport. Transportation for the team, observers, and visitors between their own country and Merida International is the responsibility of each participating country.

IPhO2009 Web-page

The circulars and more information regarding the 40th IPhO can be found on our web site at <http://ipho2009.smf.mx> which will be updated regularly.

Confirmation of Participation

The Organizing Committee is pleased to welcome all countries registering to take part in IPhO2009. The success of this event depends on the participation and involvement of your country. As a first step, please complete the following form: **Confirmation form of participation IPhO2009**. This information is indispensable to send the original letter of IPhO2009 invitation to your Minister of Education or equivalent in your country by postal or special delivery; in addition, this information is necessary to establish communication with the contact person in your country.

Country

Information of the Minister of Education or the equivalent official:

- Ministry:
- Minister:
- Title:
- Full Address:
- E-mail:
- Phone:
- Fax:

Information of the contact person:

- Name:
- Title:
- Full Address:
- E-mail:
- Phone:
- Fax:

Numbers of Delegation Members:

- Numbers of leaders:
- Number of students:
- Number of observers:
- Number of visitors:
- Total number:

Type of computer Key board:

Please send the full form, no later than January 30, 2009 to the following e-mail ipho2009@servidor.unam.mx attention Ma. Luisa Marquina, IPhO2009 Secretariat.

The Organizing Committee looks forward to meeting you in Merida, in July 2009.

Best regards,

Dr José Luis Morán López
President of the Organizing Committee IPhO 2009