



SISTEMA DE COOPERACIÓN ENTRE LAS FUERZAS AÉREAS AMERICANAS

Dear American Air Force Chiefs, liaison teams and friends,

I am writing to extend my warmest congratulations on the occasion of the 62nd Anniversary of the System of Cooperation among the American Air Forces (SICOFAA). It is a great honor to celebrate this milestone with you, not only as members, but as those who possess the unique ability to integrate and lead such a prominent and extraordinary System. Thus established by your mentor, we recall some of his indelible words, "Through collaboration and cooperation, SICOFAA has proven to be a fruitful forum for enhancing regional security and stability, and promoting mutual understanding and respect among our nations." - General Thomas D. White, USAF.

During the last 62 years, the first fifty years were devoted exclusively to the development of capabilities and the standardization of processes and procedures, which precisely would help the so-called security of the continent, as General White had predicted. In this period, what really took place was the practice of institutional friendship, the result of which was the building of solid trust among SICOFAA members. However, we have become an essential organization for improving cooperation, interoperability and coordination among the Air Forces of the Americas, especially in its current focus, humanitarian aid.

So, reflecting on SICOFAA's history and achievements, the question arises: Are we on the right track? What does the future hold? As to the first question, after studying the origins and development of SICOFAA, the answer is yes. However, as for the second, I would say that the fairest answer lies in looking outward, after getting to know ourselves. Through joint exercises, training activities and conferences, SICOFAA has not only fostered strong friendly relations between air forces, promoting peace and security in the region, but also prepared for their possible destinies.

SICOFAA will continue to play a vital role in advancing our collective interests and it is essential that we work together to address new challenges or threats. However, I would like to highlight a more recent perspective, as this System is increasingly seen as a good systemic model whose practices are successful because of its simplicity, continuity and commitment to remaining appropriately focused, apolitical and voluntary. Although these past successes have been maintained to this day, many organizations turn to us today, seeking information and advice. I would therefore like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude for your continued commitment to SICOFAA and for the vital role you and your respective air forces play in ensuring the success of an organization that today is focused on a joint effort for humanitarian relief.

On behalf of the Permanent Secretariat, I wish you all the best of success as you continue your important work in safeguarding the skies of the Americas. United Allies!

Cordial and respectful greetings,



MICHAEL D. INGERSOL, Colonel, USAF
Secretary General, SICOFAA