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Secretary of State Division of Corporation 409 East Gaines Street Tallahassee, Florida 32399

REI EDEN NOW ECOLOGICAL INSTITUTE, INC.

Centlemen:

Enclosed please find two copies of the Articles of Incorporation for EDEN NOW ECOLOGICAL INSTITUTE, INC., a Florida Non-Profit Corporation. Also, enclosed please find our check in the amount of ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-TWO AND 50/100 DOLLARS (\$122.50) made payable to the Secretary of State for filing fees of the above mentioned corporation. I have enclosed a self-addressed stamped envelope for the return of a certified copy of the Articles of Incorporation.

Should you have any questions with regard to the foregoing, please contact the undersigned at (305) 669-9535.

truly yours,

David M. Glassberg

DMG/lr enclosures

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ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF FLORIDA NON-PROFIT CORPORATION FOR FOR FOR FALLARMAN, FLORIDA

EDEN NOW ECOLOGICAL INSTITUTE, INC.

I, ANDRES MEJIDES, hereby forms a not-for-profit corporation for charitable and philanthropic purposes, under the provisions of Chapter 617 of Florida Statutes, and do hereby certify the following:

ARTICLE I

NAME OF THE CORPORATION

The name of this corporation is: EDEN NOW ECOLOGICAL INSTITUTE, INC. (the "Corporation"). The principal office of this Corporation is c/o Andres Mejides, 25650 S.W. 197th Avenue, Homestead, FL 33031. The mailing address of this Corporation is c/o Andres Mejides, 25650 S.W. 197th Avenue, Homestead FL 33031.

ARTICLE II

PURPOSES

The general nature of the objects and purposes of this Corporation shall be:

- 1. To generate respect for the interconnectedness of all species on Earth, to provide a place for communion with others seeking the wisdom on the Earth, and to develop a pathway to the virtue of self-empowerment through service.
- 2. To foster an understanding of how sound relationships and interactions between natural and man-made environments is necessary for their continued viability.

- 3. To take a leadership role in the promotion of appropriate technology and use of renewal resources.
- 4. To promote appropriate responses to the challenge of living on Earth without causing unnecessary and irreparable damage to the environment.
- 5. To demonstrate a way of living that tries to give back to the environment as many good things as we take from it.
- 6. To reach a lifestyle that balances the best use of our resources and capabilities with our obligation of stewardship for the Earth.
- 7. To teach an environmental ethic as well as appropriate technology.
- 8. To help people recognize that Earth is populated with a rich diversity of life and that all life forms have an equal role in on-going creation.
- 9. To acquire property by grant, gift, purchase, devise or bequest, and hold and dispose of such property as the Corporation shall require for the benefit of the Corporation and not for pecuniary profit.
- 10. To take, receive, own, hold, administer, distribute and dispose of property of all kinds, whether real, personal or mixed, acquired by gift, devise, bequest or otherwise, for the advancement, promotion, extension or maintenance or such causes and objects or any of them; and, in addition to and not in limitation of the foregoing purposes and powers, the Corporation may acquire, take, receive, hold, own, administer, distribute and dispose of,

gifth or donations of property, real, personal or mixed, designated by the donors for causes or objects hereinabove mentioned, or any or either of them. The Corporation shall be allowed to solicit funds to support the aforementioned activities by soliciting charitable contributions from corporations, partnerships, limited liability companies and other businesses, private individuals, charitable organizations and private foundations, and/or other persons.

- 11. The general purposes for which this Corporation is formed are to operate exclusively for such religious and charitable purposes as will qualify it as an exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3), and to obtain contributions and/or gifts which are deductible pursuant to Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws, including for such purposes the making of distributions to organizations which qualify as tax-exempt organizations under that code. To the end of the foregoing objectives and purposes and any related religious and charitable purposes that may be carried out, performed and accomplished, this non-profit Corporation shall have the power to engage only in such activities as shall not constitute business unrelated to its religious, charitable, literary and educational purposes.
- 12. The purposes for which this Corporation is formed are purely religious, charitable, literary or educational and not for financial gain, and no financial gain shall ever accrue to any person or institution in the conduct of same, but any receipts of

this Corporation in excess of the expenses of operating and maintaining same shall be applied by the Board of Directors of the Corporation to carry out the purpose(s) of this Corporation or any other non-profit tax-exempt charitable organization, as they in their judgment may deem wise.

- 13. The foregoing purposes shall be construed as both objects and powers and the foregoing enumeration of specific purposes shall not be held to limit or restrict in any manner the powers of this Corporation.
- 14. To do and perform any and all acts of services that may be incidental or necessary to carry out the above purposes.
- 15. To engage in any lawful act or activity for which a not-for-profit corporation may be organized under the laws of the State of Florida.

ARTICLE III

MEMBERS

Unless the By-Laws provide otherwise, this Corporation shall not have any Members. Qualifications, voting, and the rights of Members, if any, in the manner of their appointment or election, shall be set forth in the By-Laws of the Corporation. Such Members, if any, may be composed of one or more classes, with such differences and qualifications, voting rights and manner of election for appointment as shall be set forth in the By-Laws. Since the Corporation shall not have any Members, the Board of Directors shall possess all of the powers that the Members would otherwise have, including, but not limited to, the power to elect

and appoint Directors and the power to amend these Articles of Incorporation.

ARTICLE IV

TERM OF EXISTENCE

This Corporation shall have perpetual existence.

ARTICLE V

OFFICERS, SUBSCRIBERS AND INITIAL DIRECTORS

The names and addresses of the officers, subscribers and initial Board of Directors are:

Names	Addresses
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Andres Mejides 25650 S.W. 197th Avenue

Homestead, FL 33173

Yvonne Mejides 18821 S.W. 309th Street

Homestead, FL

Diane Winter 8601 S.W. 127th Street

Miami, FL 33156

Cynthia Howe-Mejides 25650 S.W. 197th Avenue

Homestead, FL 33173

No Director shall receive reimbursement for any expenses incurred, except as authorized and approved by the Board of Directors.

CORPORATE OFFICERS. The Board of Directors shall elect the following officers: President, Vice President(s), Secretary and Treasurer, and such other officers as the By-Laws of this Corporation may authorize the Board of Directors to elect from time to time. Initially, such officers shall be elected at the first annual meeting of the Board of Directors. Until such election is held, the following persons shall serve as corporate officers:

Nameo	Vqqronaca
President: Diane Winter	8601 S.W. 127th Stroot Miami, FL 33156
Chief Executive Officer and Vice-President: Andres Mejides	25650 S.W. 197th Avenue Homestead, FL 33173
Vice-President and Treasurer: Yvonne Mejides	18821 S.W. 309th Street Homestead, FL 33173
Vice-President and Secretary: Cynthia Howe-Mejides	25650 S.W. 197th Avenue Homostead, FL 30301

ARTICLE VI

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The management and control of the Corporation shall be vested in the Board of Directors, whose number, powers, function, jurisdiction, duties and responsibilities shall be as follows:

- 1. <u>Number of Directors</u>: There shall not be less than three (3) Directors. The Board of Directors shall have the power to elect additional Directors. The minimum number of Directors may be increased in accordance with the needs of the Corporation, as determined from time to time by the Board of Directors.
- 2. <u>Initial Directors</u>: The initial Directors, as set forth in Article V, hereof, shall be deemed to have been set in office as of the time these Articles are approved and filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Florida. These Directors shall serve until the next annual election of Directors and until their successors shall be qualified or until their earlier resignation, removal or death.
- 3. <u>Vacancy in Board of Directors</u>: In the event there is a vacancy on the Board of Directors prior to said annual election,

whether caused by resignation, removal, death or expansion of the Board, or termination as hereinafter provided, the Board of Directors then serving shall elect the number of Directors needed until the vacancy or vacancies shall have been filled.

- 4. Annual Meeting: At the annual meeting of Directors, which shall be held at 8:00 p.m. on the first Monday in February of each year, at such a place as the Board of Directors may designate from time to time by resolution, the Board of Directors then serving shall elect the number of Directors needed until all positions on the Board of Directors have been filled.
- 5. <u>Moting</u>: Except as required by law, the voting power of this Corporation shall be vested only in the Board of Directors. The actions of the Board of Directors, including, but not limited to, the removal of a Board Member for cause, shall be with the concurrence of at least two-thirds vote of the members constituting the Board of Directors.
- 6. Corporate Powers: All corporate powers shall be exercised by or under the authority of and the management of the Corporation in all of its affairs, shall be vested solely in the Board of Directors, without limitation, except as may be limited by law, these Articles and/or the By-Laws of the Corporation. All payment(s) for the Corporation's operations and for the Corporation's expenses and costs shall be approved by at least two (2) members of the Board of Directors. Moreover, all checks written on behalf of the Corporation, shall be executed by two (2) members of the Board of Directors.

7. Membership: If applicable, the Board of Directors shall be responsible for the maintenance of the Corporation's Membership, as well as the maintenance of Membership standards. In the event the Board of Directors, after due examination, shall decide that a Member no longer fulfills the requirements and/or standards for Membership, his or her Membership shall be terminated and he or she shall be properly notified. Any decision of the Board of Directors shall be final and not subject to appeal.

ARTICLE VII

By-Laws

- 1. The power to adopt, alter, amend or appeal the By-Laws shall be solely vested in the Board of Directors, and the By-Laws shall be adopted at the first meeting of the Board of Directors. Any amendment to the By-Laws shall be binding on all Members, if any, of this Corporation.
- 2. Upon proper notice the By-Laws may be made, altered, or rescinded upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board of Directors present at any regularly or properly scheduled Board of Directors' Meeting.

ARTICLE VIII

<u>AMENDMENTS</u>

These Articles of Incorporation may be amended or changed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board of Directors who are in attendance at any regular or special said Board of Directors' Meeting called for that purpose, provided due notice of such

proposed changes shall have been made at least two (2) weeks preceding the time of such Meeting.

ARTICLE IX

REGISTERED OFFICE AND REGISTERED AGENT

- 1. The County in the State of Florida where the principal office of this Corporation shall always be is Dade County, Florida, with its present principal office located at: 25650 s.W. 197th Avenue, Homestead FL 33031.
- 2. The name and business address of this Corporation's Registered Agent is:

David M. Glassberg, Esquire 1450 Madruga Avenue, Suite 302 Coral Gables, FL 33146

ARTICLE X

NON-PROFIT STATUS

No part of the net earnings of the Corporation shall inure to the benefit of any individual(s).

ARTICLE XI

POWERS

To the end that the foregoing purposes and any other related religious and charitable purposes and objects may be carried out, performed and accomplished, and to obtain funds or income for said religious and charitable purposes, this Corporation shall have the power to:

1. Acquire, either by gift, grant, purchase, devise or bequest, and to hold, own, manage, sell, grant, convey, mortgage, pledge, or otherwise encumber, lease, improve and dispose of real,

personal or mixed property, wheresoever situated; to operate said properties, or any part thereof, or any business it may acquire in any location, in the name of the Corporation or in any other manner, and for its benefit and in its behalf through such persons or agents as it may determine or select from time to time by majority action of the Board of Directors; to receive donations, gifts, and endowments, and to administer the same; all such real, personal and mixed property so acquired or received by gift, grant, devise, bequest or donation shall be used and employed, however, for religious, educational and charitable purposes and not for pecuniary profit of any Individual(s).

- 2. Formulate and adopt By-Laws and to alter and rescind the same, provided, however, that said By-Laws shall be agreeable to, within and not beyond or contrary to the powers herein granted, or to any laws of the United States or State of Florida.
- 3. And in general, to possess and exercise all the rights, privileges, immunities and prerequisites now or hereafter authorized by or under the provisions of the laws of the State of Florida.
- 4. Notwithstanding anything contained herein to the contrary, the powers of this Corporation are expressly limited to those of any organization described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

ARTICLE XII

MEETINGS

- 1. The annual meeting of the Board of Directors shall be held as may be provided in Article VI.4. above.
- 2. The Corporation may provide in its By-Laws for the holding of additional regular meetings and/or any special meetings, and shall provide notice of such meetings.
- 3. The percentage of the members of the Board of Directors necessary to constitute a quorum for the holding of any Meetings shall be determined in the By-Laws.

ARTICLE XIII

DISTRIBUTION OF ASSETS UPON DISSOLUTION

This Corporation may dissolved only pursuant to the agreement of two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Board of Directors. In the event of such dissolution, the Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provision for paying all of the liabilities of the Corporation, dispose of all of the assets of the Corporation exclusively for the purposes of the Corporation in such manner, or to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for religious, charitable, educational, literary or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Laws), as the Board of Directors shall determine. Any of such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the Circuit Court of Dade County, Florida,

if Dade County is then the location of the principal office of the Corporation, or by Circuit Court (or equivalent thereof) of the County in which the principal office of the Corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as the said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

ARTICLE XIV

DEDICATION OF ASSETS

The property of this Corporation is irrevocably dedicated to religious and charitable purposes and no part of the net income or assets of this Corporation shall ever inure to the benefit of any Director, Officer and/or any private individual, except for reasonable compensation for services actually rendered.

ARTICLE XV

SELF-DEALING

Any other provision hereof to the contrary notwithstanding, the corporate income for each taxable year must be distributed at such time and in such manner as not to subject the Corporation to tax under Internal Revenue Code Section 4943(c), from making any investments in such manner as to subject the Corporation to tax under said Internal Revenue Code Section 4944, and from making any taxable expenditures (as defined in said Internal Revenue Code Section 4945(d).

ARTICLE XVI

INDEMNIFICATION

The Corporation shall indemnify all of its officers and directors, and may indemnify any employee or agent, and may indemnify any employee or agent, to the fullest extent permitted by Section 617.0831, Florida Statutes.

ARTICLE XVII

AMENDMENT OF ARTICLES

Amendments to these Articles of Incorporation may be proposed by a resolution adopted by the Board of Directors.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Undersigned, being the sole Subscriber and Incorporator of this Corporation, for the purpose of forming this non-profit Corporation under the laws of the State of Florida,

has badged these Articles of Incorporation to be executed at Minmi, Wierick, thus 3 th day of April, 1996.

ANDRES MEDITLES, ANCORPORATOR

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COUNTY OF TASE

The foregoing Anticles of Incorporation were sworn to, subscribed and acknowledged before me this 30th day of April, 1996, by AUDRES MEJIDES, Incorporator and Sole Subscriber, personally amown to mo.

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Florida State of

My Commission Expires:

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CERTIFICATE DESIGNATING PLACE OF BUSINESS OR

DOMICILE FOR THE SERVICE OF PROCESS WITHIN THIS STATE

This certificate is submitted in compliance with Florida Statutos. Sections 607.0501 or 617.0501, DAVID M. GLASSBERG, desiring to incorporate under the Laws of the State of Florida with its principal office in the City of Miami, County of Dade, State of Florida, as indicated in its Articles of Incorporation, has appointed DAVID M. GLASSBERG, whose address is: 1450 Madruga Avenue, Suite 302, Coral Gables, FL 33146, to accept service of process upon the above-stated Corporation in the State of Florida.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Having been appointed Registered Agent to accept Service of Process for the above-stated Corporation, at the place designated in this certificate, I hereby accept to act in said capacity, and agree to comply with the provisions of all statutes relating to the proper and complete performance of my duties, and I am familiar with and hereby accept the obligations of my position as Registered Agent.

Bv:

DAVID M. GLASSBERG, Registered/Agent

Dated: April 30, 1996

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