

# N98000007135

Senate Research  
Requestor's Name

Address

City/State/Zip

Phone #

Office Use Only

**CORPORATION NAME(S) & DOCUMENT NUMBER(S), (if known):**

1. Free Trade Area of the Americas  
(Corporation Name) (Document #)
2. (FTAA) Administrative  
(Corporation Name) (Document #)
3. Secretariat, Inc  
(Corporation Name) (Document #)
4. \_\_\_\_\_  
(Corporation Name) (Document #)

FILED  
98 DEC 15 PM 4:02  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

- ☒ Walk in    ☐ Pick up time \_\_\_\_\_    ☒ Certified Copy  
☐ Mail out    ☐ Will wait    ☐ Photocopy    ☐ Certificate of Status

NEW FILINGS	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Profit
<input type="checkbox"/>	NonProfit
<input type="checkbox"/>	Limited Liability
<input type="checkbox"/>	Domestication
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other

AMENDMENTS	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Amendment
<input type="checkbox"/>	Resignation of R.A., Officer/ Director
<input type="checkbox"/>	Change of Registered Agent
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dissolution/Withdrawal
<input type="checkbox"/>	Merger

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\*\*\*\*\*78.75 \*\*\*\*\*78.75

OTHER FILINGS	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Annual Report
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fictitious Name
<input type="checkbox"/>	Name Reservation

REGISTRATION/ QUALIFICATION	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Foreign
<input type="checkbox"/>	Limited Partnership
<input type="checkbox"/>	Reinstatement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Trademark
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other

W-27083  
TS

Examiner's Initials



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Sandra B. Mortham  
Secretary of State

December 15, 1998

SUNSTATE RESEARCH

SUBJECT: FREE TRADE AREA OF THE AMERICAS (FTAA)  
ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARIAT, INC.  
Ref. Number: W98000028083

We have received your document for FREE TRADE AREA OF THE AMERICAS (FTAA) ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARIAT, INC. and your check(s) totaling \$78.75. However, the enclosed document has not been filed and is being returned for the following correction(s):

Corporations may file using only the corporate name. Please delete any reference to the "doing business as name" in your document. If you wish to register your fictitious name, you may do so by filing the enclosed application and submitting the appropriate fees to this office.

Please return the original and one copy of your document, along with a copy of this letter, within 60 days or your filing will be considered abandoned.

If you have any questions concerning the filing of your document, please call (850) 487-6927.

Tracy Smith  
Document Specialist

Letter Number: 698A00059100

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98 DEC 17 PM 2:44  
FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

*Corrected -  
Please have  
dated  
12/15/99*

**ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF  
FREE TRADE AREA OF THE AMERICAS  
ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARIAT, INC.**

(a Florida corporation, not for profit)

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SECRETARY OF STATE  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

The undersigned, acting as incorporator of a Corporation pursuant to Chapter 617, Florida Statutes, adopts the following Articles of Incorporation for such corporation:

**ARTICLE I**

**Name and Location of Principal Office**

The name of the corporation is Free Trade Area of the Americas Administrative Secretariat, Inc., a Florida corporation, not for profit. Its initial office shall be at James L. Knight Center, 3rd Floor, 400 S.E. Second Avenue, Miami, Florida 33131-2117.

**ARTICLE II**

**Term**

The corporation shall exist perpetually until dissolved by due process of law.

**ARTICLE III**

**Incorporators**

The name and address of the Incorporator of these Articles of Incorporation is Michael A. Silva, 201 S. Biscayne Boulevard, 1500 Miami Center, Miami, FL 33131.

#### ARTICLE IV

##### General Purposes

The purposes for which the corporation is organized are exclusively religious, charitable, scientific, literary, and educational within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law.

#### ARTICLE V

##### Activities Not Permitted

Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the corporation will not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on by (a) a corporation exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law or (b) a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or any other corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law.

#### ARTICLE VI

##### Dedication and Distribution of Assets

No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of any Member, Director, or Officer of the corporation or any private individual (except that reasonable compensation may be paid for services rendered to or for the corporation affecting one or more of its purposes) and no Member, Director, or Officer of the

corporation or any private individual shall be entitled to share in the distribution of any of the corporate assets upon dissolution of the corporation.

In the event of dissolution, the residual assets of the corporation will be turned over to one or more organizations which themselves are exempt as organizations described in section 501(c)(3) and 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or corresponding sections of any prior or future Internal Revenue Code, or to the Federal, State, or local government for exclusive public purposes.

## ARTICLE VII

### Management of Corporate Affairs

(a) Board of Directors. The powers of the corporation shall be exercised, its properties controlled, and its affairs conducted by a Board of Directors. The corporation shall have three (3) Directors initially. The number of Directors of the corporation may be increased or diminished from time to time by the Bylaws but shall never be less than three (3). The method of selection of Directors is stated on the Bylaws of this corporation.

The Directors named herein as the first Board of Directors shall hold office until the first meeting of Members at which time an election of Directors shall be held.

Directors elected at the first annual meeting, and at all times thereafter, shall serve for a term of one year or until the first annual meeting of Members following the election of Directors and until the qualification of the successors in office. Annual meetings shall be held at the principal office of the corporation, or at such other place or places as the Board of Directors may designate from time to time by resolution.

Any action required or permitted to be taken by the Board of Directors under any provision of law may be taken without a meeting if all Members of the Board shall individually or collectively consent in writing to such action. Such written consent or consents shall be filed with the minutes of the proceedings of the Board and any such action by written consent shall have the same force and effect as if taken by unanimous vote of the Directors. Any certificate or other document filed under any provision of law which relates to action so taken shall state that the action was taken by unanimous written consent of the Board of Directors without a meeting and that the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of the corporation authorize the Directors to so act. Such a statement shall be prima facie evidence of such authority.

The names and addresses of such first Members of the Board of Directors are as follows:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
Maria Camila Levia	Miami Free Zone 2305 N.W. 107th Avenue Suite 107 Miami, Florida 33172
Hal Sumrall	Economic Development Commission of Mid-Florida 200 East Robinson Street Suite 600 Orlando, Florida 32801
Dr. Corinne B. Young	University of Tampa 401 West Kennedy Boulevard Tampa, Florida 33606

(b) Corporate Officers. The Board of Directors shall elect the following Officers: President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary and such other Officers as the Bylaws

of the corporation may authorize, from time to time, the Directors to elect. Initially, such Officers shall be elected at the first annual meeting of the Board of Directors.

## ARTICLE VIII

### Indemnification

Every person who now is or hereafter shall be a Director or Officer of the corporation shall be indemnified by the corporation against all costs and expenses (including counsel fees) hereafter reasonably incurred by or imposed upon him in connection with, or resulting from, any action, suit or proceedings of whatever nature, to which he is or shall be made a party by reason of his being or having been a Director or Officer of the corporation (whether or not he is a Director or Officer of the corporation at the time he is made a party to such action, suit or proceeding, or at the time such cost or expense is incurred by or imposed upon him) except in relation to matters as to which he shall be finally adjudged in such action, suit or proceeding to have been derelict in the performance of his duties as such Director or Officer. The right of indemnification herein provided shall not be exclusive of other rights to which any such person may now or hereafter be entitled to as a matter of law.

## ARTICLE IX

### Membership

The membership of the corporation shall consist of all persons hereinafter named as Directors and all other persons as, from time to time hereafter, may be elected to membership by the Board of Directors. Qualification for membership shall be satisfied by

all persons expressing an interest in the purposes of the corporation. The Directors shall from time to time prescribe form and manner in which application may be made for membership, and members may be admitted by the Board of Directors only. The authorized number of the Members of the corporation, the different classes of membership (if any), the property, voting and other rights and privileges of members, and their liability for dues and assessments and the method of collection thereof shall be set forth in the Bylaws.

#### ARTICLE X

##### Bylaws

The Board of Directors of the corporation may provide such Bylaws for the conduct of the business of the corporation and the carrying out of its purposes as such Directors may deem necessary from time to time. Upon notice properly given, the Bylaws may be amended, altered or rescinded by majority vote of the Directors present at any regular or special meeting called for that purpose, subject to any limitations set forth in the Corporations Not for Profit Law of Florida concerning corporate action that must be authorized or approved by Members of the corporation.

#### ARTICLE XI

##### Amendments to Articles of Incorporation

An amendment to these Articles of Incorporation may be proposed by any Member of the corporation, but such amendment may be adopted only after receiving an affirmative vote of the majority of the Board of Directors.



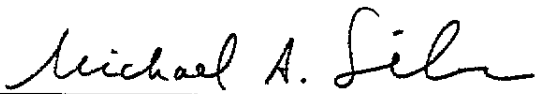
ARTICLE XII

Initial Registered Office and Agent

The name and address of the initial registered agent of the corporation is Corporation Company of Miami, 201 S. Biscayne Boulevard, 1500 Miami Center, Miami, FL 33131.

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TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has made, subscribed and acknowledged these Articles of Incorporation on this 14<sup>th</sup> day of December, 1998, for the purpose of forming the corporation not for profit under the laws of the State of Florida.

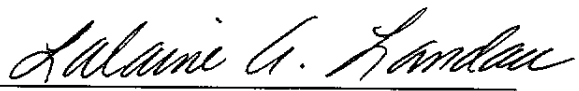
  
Michael A. Silva, Incorporator

**ACCEPTANCE BY REGISTERED AGENT**

HAVING BEEN NAMED TO ACCEPT SERVICE OF PROCESS FOR THE ABOVE STATED CORPORATION, AT THE PLACE DESIGNATED IN ARTICLE XII OF THESE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION, THE UNDERSIGNED AGREES TO ACT IN THIS CAPACITY, AND FURTHER AGREES TO COMPLY WITH THE PROVISIONS OF ALL STATUTES RELATIVE TO THE PROPER AND COMPLETE PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES.

DATED THIS 14<sup>th</sup> DAY OF DECEMBER, 1998.

CORPORATION COMPANY OF MIAMI

By:   
LALAINE A. LANDAU, ASSISTANT SECRETARY  
for CORPORATION COMPANY OF MIAMI  
(Registered Agent)