Memorandum on establishing and cooperation:

International Academy of Karst Sciences

1. Definition:

The International Academy of Karst Sciences is a consortium of member institutions and organizations dedicated to realizing the purposes outlined below.

2. Organization:

- members: scientific institutions and organizations, membership approved by the executive
- executive board: 5-9 members representing the international karst sciences community;
- advisory board: individuals, distinguished scientists.

3. Purposes:

- to increase the understanding of unique principles and characteristics of the karst environment;
- to promote interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary research of karst;
- to establish a network of karst research institutions and organizations to exchange information and share resources;
- to promote international education in karst sciences;
- to raise the general awareness of the importance and uniqueness of karst; and
- to promote good practice in karst sciences and the management of karst.

4. Relationships with existing organizations:

- no activity of the IAKS should restrict or interfere with the activities of its members. The members act in accordance with the legislation of their own country. The activities of IAKS are determined by the executive board acting on behalf of the members.
- 5. Resignation From Membership
- Members can resign from membership upon an advance notice to the IAKS.

6. Entry into Force

This memorandum enters into force on the date of signature.

Prof. Dr. A. Murat Tuncer

Rector of the Hacettepe University

International Research and Application Center For Karst Water Resources - Hacettepe Representing the

University

Turkey

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International Academy of Karst Sciences

Signed by

Associate Professor Jo De Waele Co-Director Italian Institute of Speleology Italy

Professor Amos Frumkin Head of the Israel Cave Research Center The Hebrew University of Jerusalem Israel

Dr. Chris Groves
Distinguished Professor of Hydrogeology and Director
Hoffman Environmental Research Institute, Western
Kentucky University
USA

Dr. Janet S. Herman President Karst Waters Institute USA

Dr. Pierre-Yves Jeannin
Executive director
Swiss Institute for Speleology and Karst studies,
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Switzerland

Professor, executive deputy director of IRCK Cao Jianhua Director of the division of Karst dynaimes, Insitute of Karst Geology Insitute of Karst Geology, the Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences, International Research Center on Karst, under the auspices of UNESCO China

Dr. Olga Kadebskaya
 Senior scientist
 Organization of Russian academy of sciences Mining institute Ural branch RAS
 Russia

PhD Alexander Klimchouk
Director
Scientific-Research Centre "Ukrainian Institute of
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Professor Andrzej Kowalczyk
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