ALINE Network Status

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Abstract: ALINE (Latin american Lidar Network) has been officially recognized by WMO (World Meteorological Organization) in early 2013. The effort of establishing a federative lidar network started in early 2000's as the first Workshop was carried on in Camagüey, Cuba. Since the network was in development by attendance in many meeting and official GALION's workshops. Today the number of stations totals 8 measuring systems[1, 2, 3, 4, 5], operational, and at least two developing ones to be deployed in the next two years. ALINE aims to establish a consistent and statistically sound database for enhancement of the understanding of the aerosol distribution over the continent and its direct and indirect influence on climate. In order to achieve these objectives ALINE will have to establish measurement protocols, data assurance programs and cross validation and calibration campaigns to reach full operational and excelence status. The steps to be followed will be presented and discussed to seek for mechanisms to conduct the efforts forementioned and extent the overall scientific approach related to the specific continental needs and features such as intensive biomass burning season camapaigns, ocasional volcanic activities surveillance and long range transport into the continent and among the countries in Latin America.

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