

Consulate General of Ecuador in Montreal

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Many thanks for your generous commentaries on our February Bulletin and we are very grateful for your contribution, since now we have more than 25,250 visits on our WEB site in the three languages: [English](#), [Spanish](#), and [French](#).

A summary of our economic news: The trade balance started this year with a good start showing a surplus of 28.1 million dollars US. At the same time new oil reserves have been found and it is predicted that it will generate 538 million dollars US. Also, the bid for oil had 37 inscriptions by firms for 4 areas of the Amazon that count on more than 900 million reserves. On the other hand, the 10th round of oil has a preliminary expected of 3,000 million dollars, and the Estate own [Petroecuador](#) announced that it will sell 108,000 barrels daily to USA, France, and Jamaica. Also, on other important works that are in place:

- [The construction of the 200 kilometers gas-line that will connect Ecuador with Peru.](#)
- [The construction of the south tunnel in the *Interoceanica* Highway](#)
- [The new bridge over the Mira River that will unite 30 communities.](#)

Interesting shows are been organized. Guayaquil has been selected to host the International Fair of Tourism while in Quito the fair on Wood and Design was a complete success. Also, other new services that are related to economic activities were created:

- [Miss Universe; an event that moves all kinds of business.](#)
- [The free trade zone in Quito increases its activities.](#)
- [The Swedish pharmaceutical Novartis impulses research in Ecuador.](#)
- [The strong sell of stocks in the stock market of Quito and Guayaquil.](#)

Finally the Spanish government forgave 25% of the foreign debt, 50 million dollars US. To know more on this subject we suggest you read the latest news bulletin that our ministry has just released.

On cultural events, music has been the theme for this month:

- [The 3rd International Sacred Music Festival in Quito, with participations from Europe, the Americas and Asia.](#)
- [Two new masterpieces in Sacred Music Festival.](#)
- [Voices from Ecuador and the United States in the Casa de la Cultural of Guayas.](#)
- [A historic concert of Ecuadorians in the Vatican.](#)
- [The Ninth Symphony of Beethoven with its 250 musicians in the Sucre Theater.](#)
- [The National Symphony goes on a tour to Argentina and Chili.](#)
- [Cesar Guacan receives the title of Luthier – Master in the manufacturing string instruments.](#)

Here are some of the works that took place in different cities in the country;

- [The reconstruction of the 102-year-old “Casona” in Sangolqui.](#)
- [The Municipal Library “Pedro Carbo” of Guayaquil celebrated its 142 birthday.](#)
- [The General Cemetery of Guayaquil of 1823, its history of love and fright.](#)
- [The Welcome Plaza, another work for Quito.](#)
- [The North of Quito gets its green space back.](#)

Also in painting, the VIII International Biennial of Cuenca already started its preparations:

- [Biennial of Cuenca will united 21 countries.](#)
- [Artists start to arrive for the Biennial of Cuenca.](#)

Some celebrities were honored;

- [Edna Iturralde, Ecuadorian author,](#)
- [An Iranian lawyer Shirin Edadi, Nobel Prize winner of peace in the 35 World Congress of the International Federation of Human Rights in Quito.](#)
- [25 years of the death of Benjamin Carrion.](#)
- [El Quinche: a parade for the 400 years of the arrival of the Virgin.](#)
- [The Virgin; 400 years at El Quinche](#)

Also the country's science and technology was seen at the Centre of Expositions of Quito.

- [VII Science, Technology and Innovation Fair](#)
- [150 projects in the Fair](#)
- [Welcome to the Science Fair](#)

To conclude this section, after 55 days, Camilo Luzuriaga finished its historic film on the national independence and the VIII Spanish Horse Fair in the *Hacienda El Refugio*, close to Quito, welcomed 2,500 visitors daily.

Some sports news that should be mentioned:

- [Jefferson Perez, another victory in the Walking Grand Prix of the International Association of Track and Field.](#)
- [Ecuador, host of world surfers](#)
- [The tournament in Salinas had 300 athletes from 27 different countries.](#)

- [Australia, World Champ in Surfing in Salinas.](#)

For the Easter holidays we have gorgeous places for ecotours and adventure:

- Magic Esmeraldas
- [Different tours in Guayas](#)
- [From Manabi come the fish for the particular palette.](#)
- [The adventure is the goal in the Canande jungle](#)

Quito has the last details on the arrangement of the Miss Universe event and the American TV network, NBC, will transmit this event to [180 countries and some 1600 million viewers.](#)

If you have more information, we would appreciate it if you could share it with us. Feel free to share this news bulletin. Have a great day!

[ECUADOR - HOST OF MISS UNIVERSE 2004](#)