

Legislación Economía



Medicinal use of
Cannabis, analysis
scientific and legal

May 5, 2019, General
Panamanian elec-
tions

The IDB identifies the
challenges and actions
to be taken to consoli-
date the development
of panama

International day
of mother Earth



Labor and productivity: two
challenges for next five years





In this edition

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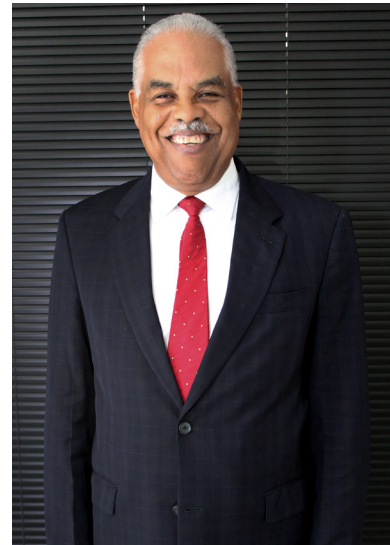
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Editorial

LABOR AND PRODUCTIVITY: TWO CHALLENGES FOR NEXT FIVE YEARS

In this issue of the Journal we have two in-depth analyzes on issues of great impact: May 5, 2019-Panamanian General Elections, and IDB identifies the challenges and actions to be taken to consolidate the development of Panama. We invite our readers to read these contributions.

Having said that, we can briefly go into other important issues that should be considered in this week prior to the elections and in the coming months.

Let's see.

It is evident that the Panamanian economy has been negatively impacted by local and international factors that are affecting the country's growth, such as a slowdown in global trade, the US-China trade war, the increase in interest rates in the bank loans, the expectation generated by the electoral process, the increase in unemployment rates, among other factors.

On the positive side, it turns out that Panama is one of countries with largest direct foreign investment for physical capital and infrastructure, and has a relationship with the People's Republic of China that can represent new investment opportunities.

However, these advantages, the study of Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) also makes a dramatic revelation in the sense of demonstrating a great inequality in the distribution of wealth both at the level of the communities of the indigenous peoples, as well as the communities that are in the same periphery of the capital cities of Panama, Colon and the interior of the Republic.

Therefore, the great challenge facing the country is to significantly improve the quality of the workforce in all sectors and particularly to achieve an increase in the productivity of both employees and employers.

From a positive point of view, we have great challenges in improving the quality of education, but with the great connectivity that country has both in technological and logistics, we can take the great leap by adhering to the best practices in education both at the level of services such as productive, agricultural and industrial activity.

A long-term challenge is progressive elimination of school dropout, the incorporation of thousands of young people who are classified as "ninis" and young people who drop out of schools for early pregnancies to attract them to the productive environment in its various manifestations including; Of course, youth entrepreneurship and the use of different scientific, cultural, gastronomic manifestations that generate rational use of our biodiversity to generate edu-

cation, wealth and respect for our environment.

Within those challenges of great impact, I believe that the one with the greatest future is everything that represents conservation of the environment and in particular, a national effort equivalent to expansion of the Canal, but focused on the conservation of water for productive activities such as the Canal, irrigation, electricity generation and recovery of land for productive activities.

Finally, a differentiating feature in our economy will be mining production - but with the best practices - both metallic and non-metallic, that will enhance all areas where the deposits are located, forming the talents that inhabit those spaces, executing investment projects that benefit the families living there, using environmentally friendly technologies in extractive activities. This would restore the construction industry both in mining projects and in the provision of adequate housing, health facilities, roads, tourism and agricultural production areas and reforestation.

We are then faced with a new country that once and for all overcomes inequality and marginalization, by strengthening local governments significantly reducing the centralization of the city, allowing robust growth of democracy through institutional strengthening and a new generation of political parties that accommodate all ideological currents and also organized forces to protect our environment.

The resources we have left, we need to get rid of the pessimism and work in order to achieve social welfare above the particular economic growth.

It will dawn and we will see... L&E

Invited Writer

Changing paradigms on medicinal cannabis



Dr. Ericka Irene Stahl
Integrative Medicine

According to Darwin, the key point for survival is the ability of the living being to adapt to its environment. To be able to adapt you have to learn to unlearn.

The absolute truth, at least in the area of science, doesn't exist. As resources and research increase, these truths evolve. This is what happened with the cannabis plant, which was banned before it was understood how it worked.

The consumption of cannabis, whether for therapeutic, religious, social or, as raw material, has accompanied humanity for thousands of years.

The first written reference as a medicine is in the pharmacopoeia of the Emperor Shen Nung

2700 a.C. It had a host of uses, antispasmodic, analgesic, for women with premenstrual syndrome, antiepileptic, for asthma, to improve gastrointestinal function and psychiatric symptoms, erectile dysfunction, tonic effect and urinary stones. William Osler, the father of modern medicine, recommended cannabis as the best medicine for migraine. In 1800, cannabis was the most cultivated plant, preceded only by tobacco and cotton. Until 1930 was part of 30 different drug preparations within the United States Pharmacopoeia.

The prohibitionist policy begins in the United States at the end of the Great Depression. According to historians, there are several factors that could influence the creation of "the anti-cannabis campaign". This campaign linked con-

sumption with violence and increased crime.

First factor, it was difficult to replicate exact results with cannabis since its active principles weren't known, for this reason, new pharmacological drugs, considered safer, were gaining popularity. On the other hand, greatest consumption of recreational cannabis occurred in a minority population of African descendants and immigrant Latinos; It should be remembered that the 1930s were characterized by a certain degree of xenophobia and racism. Finally, personal economic interests of entrepreneurs of the time were imposed, whose new products competed against the raw material found in the plant.

Fun fact, in Panama two studies were carried out in different occasions, to verify the effects of increase of violent behavior induced by cannabis. They used the soldiers of the US military bases as guinea pigs. Both studies showed that violent behavior among soldiers was not increased.

In 1942 it withdraws from pharmacopoeia, contrary to the opinion of Medical Associations. In 1961, the UN, in Single Convention on Narcotics includes cannabis, along with heroin, LSD and cocaine as category 1. This means that they are illegal compounds, with high potential for abuse, without therapeutic and risk indications for public health Under this category it is very difficult to carry out clinical studies with the plant.

A year later, in 1962, Professor Raphael Mechoulam, in Israel, discovered tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), which is the only molecule with psychoactive effects. The plant has molecules called phytocannabinoids, each with its different characteristics and effects on the body. Among the best known and studied are cannabidiol (CBD) and THC, but to date more than 100 are known. The main difference between these two is that CBD has no psychotropic effects.

In 1990, Professor Allyn Howlert at the Saint Louis School of Medicine discovered how phytocannabinoids and our body interact through the endocannabinoid system. This system is a group of endogenous receptors that regulate physiological functions such as appetite, pain, muscle tone, sleep cycle, among others. It exists in all vertebrates, is one of the most primitive systems and is completely independent of the cannabis plant. It responds to both phytocannabinoids and to substances produced by the human body itself, endocannabinoids.

Since its prohibition, greatest use of plant has only been recreational, without quality control, modified to increase concentration of THC (psychotropic phytocannabinoid). As history can't be erased, small groups of independent researchers continued to test benefits of cannabis for different diseases. It should be noted that in 1992 was approved by FDA a drug called dronabinol, this is synthetic THC. I still have the doubt, if cannabis doesn't have therapeutic indications, how there is a drug approved by FDA whose active principle is exactly the same as the plant, only synthetic. Dronabinol is used for stiffening in multiple sclerosis and for treating nausea in patients receiving chemotherapy. The problem is that it has many adverse effects. They didn't have anything important, that medicinal cannabis is a plant, with a mixture of phytocannabinoids, CBD modulates adverse effects of THC.

In 2017, the National Academy of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine of the United States published the conclusions of a review of 24,000 clinical studies. The functions for which medicinal cannabis has sufficient evidence are, palliative management of pain, appetite and mood in patients who use chemotherapy. This category includes patients with HIV, since the medications they take have adverse effects similar to those of chemotherapy. Other clear indi-

cations are refractory epilepsy to medications, stiffness in patients with multiple sclerosis and chronic pain, especially neuropathic pain. Neurology studies continue to confirm their indication in Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, Tourette's syndrome and anxiety disorders. Diseases such as Irritable Bowel Syndrome and fibromyalgia are still under study. Its potential as an antitumor is very promising, although to affirm it, more evidence is needed.

During last decades interest in medicinal cannabis has been increasing. Leading research countries such as Israel, United States, Canada and Switzerland, among others, have issued statements of support to continue research and developments in this regard. Germany already included medical cannabis within its public health protocols. There is growing curiosity in the scientific community about importance of endocannabinoid system. Among the most important characteristics of medicinal cannabis are wide safety margins and clinical efficacy in a wide variety of diseases.

Latin America has been the propeller of the movement. In the last two years there have been several countries such as Argentina, Chile, Brazil, Colombia and Mexico in favor of its use.

This year, the FDA approved the first drug made from a standardized extract of the plant, it is only CBD and is called Epidolex. Naboximol, from the same pharmaceutical company, GW Pharma, is a mixture of THC with CBD, which is waiting to complete the studies to get FDA approval, however, it is already on sale in 28 countries. Both products have very high prices. On October 31, 2017, first draft of law number 149, currently 595, was submitted to the Na-

tional Assembly of Panama. "It dictates measures to regulate the medicinal and therapeutic use of cannabis and its derivatives...". The potential for economic growth that medical cannabis could represent for Panama can't be ignored. According to New Frontier Data, economic analysts of cannabis in the world, published that, in year 2018, legal market represented for the United States 10.3 billion dollars. The biggest problem in Panama is in the poor education on the use and safety of cannabis. It must be observed as it is, a mixture of chemical compounds that interact with the body, which at appropriate doses relieve symptoms. Like any other substance, it has clear indications, contraindications and adverse effects, none lethal since there is no overdose. Its use should be guided by a trained doctor and by the route of administration indicated by the doctor, usually orally in the form of drops.

It's a mistake to confuse medical cannabis with recreational cannabis. Although it is the same plant, quality standards, phytocannabinoid concentrations, quantity, time and manner of use are completely different. All pathologies in which it is used are chronic, with exception of some cases in children, age where medicinal cannabis can be most useful is in adults. Like any medication, risk of individual benefit is analyzed in each patient and the decision is made to use it or not.

Every change of paradigm starts sowing curiosity. Promoting that you begin to talk about the subject, discuss it, study it are the first steps for citizens to make an informed decision about the use of medicinal cannabis. *L&E*

THE MEDICINE AND THERAPEUTIC USE OF CANNABIS IN PANAMA



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Cannabis sativa or marijuana as it is commonly known is a herbaceous species of the family Cannabaceae; Originally from the Himalayan mountain ranges, Asia, it is an annual and dioecious plant.

Humans have cultivated this plant since pre-historic times for its many uses: as a source of textile fiber, to extract the oil from its seeds, as a medicinal plant there are written records about this use dating from 2737 BC and as a psychotropic and mystical and spiritual tool.

Today, it has been and is the subject of debate and controversy for decades. Virtually all countries have the inauguration of laws concerning the cultivation, possession, sale and consumption of cannabis. Non-psychoactive

products (for example, fiber and seeds) are legal in many countries, and in them the authorities can give licenses for cultivation aimed at these purposes. The grass, however; It is a controlled substance in almost everyone, although there are exceptions for medical reasons.

Panama, being a country that takes measures for its development and consent to the changes that must be made to continue in the field of health and scientific currently discusses Bill 595 that dictates measures to regulate medicinal and therapeutic use of Cannabis and its derivatives, it precedes this bill, law 14 of May 19, 2016, which currently regulates activities and use of controlled substances for medical and/or scientific purposes and dictates other provisions, the same has as a regular objec-

tive the production, manufacture, conditioning, storage, export re-export, import, distribution, trade, dispensing, customs transit, disposal and use, of narcotics and psychotropic; this law doesn't mention tacitly the use of medical cannabis, and this is why the introduction to its regulation with the bill 595. The commission of Work, Health and Social Development decided the creation of a sub-commission for development of the subject, given that it is a sensitive issue and special knowledge is needed to deal with it. In this case, expert doctors in the field, including Dr. Raquel Peyaure, who was advisor to the National Narcotics Fund in Colombia, as well as being a legal promoter that allows the medicinal use of cannabis in Uruguay, as well as foundations such as Foundation of Rheumatoid Arthritis of Panama, Luces Panama Foundation, among others, have participated in the discussion of the law project.

The Ministry of Health (MINSa), the Cannabis Association of Panama (ACAPAN), the Ministry of Agricultural Development (MIDA), the Social Security Fund (CSS), the Association of Pharmacists, the Psychiatry Association have all taken part in the dialogue and the exchange of criteria. and others.

The content of the bill has been prepared in detail to make use of cannabis in a medicinal and not recreational way as many thought.

For the time being it contains the proposed law project with the objective, definition and defined the licenses that are allowed, their regulations and sanctions in case the steps according to the law are omitted.

The draft draft of the draft law contains

five titles which are divided as follows:

1. General provisions.
2. Control and surveillance system, records and licenses.
3. Prohibitions, cancellation and penalties.
4. Advisory Board.
5. Final provisions.

In the first title is divided into two chapters, the first being the framework of the bill's objective is to establish the use of cannabis for medicinal purposes to treat a number of conditions such as epilepsy, seizures, different types of chronic pain, including cancer, as well as establishing mechanisms for supervision of all regulated activities related to cannabis, establishing safety, quality and surveillance standards for products that are imported, exported, manufactured and marketed, including from the crop derived from cannabis, promotion of study and research to increase scientific knowledge about cannabis, which would allow the development of laboratories and best practices in the field of science and encourage the agro-industrial development of medical cannabis in all its facets, understanding as such regulations must be strictly necessary to carry what s controls due according to international conventions.

The second chapter presents the definitions that will be used.

In title two mention is made of control and surveillance system, registration and licenses, first chapter being control and registration authorities that it would recognize.

Certainly, the bill has been prepared looking at a future direction of the industry that we

could be exposed in terms of the production and commercialization of Medicinal Cannabis, since it has been taken into account that not only the Ministry of Health, through of the National Directorate of Pharmacies and Drugs is the competent authority, as well as Ministry of Agricultural Development, but also cooperation between the National Customs Authority and the Ministry of Commerce and Industries.

In chapter two it mentions the licenses that would be recognized, so far four of them:

- a) License for the import of cannabis derivatives for marketing purposes.
- b) License for the manufacture of cannabis derivatives.
- c) License for the use of seed and crops of cannabis plants.
- d) License for scientific research.

As for the third, fourth, fifth, sixth chapters would be the specifications of the use of each of these licenses.

In the third title are the prohibitions, cancellation and sanctions, non-compliance with established norms; prohibitions that holders of licenses that were granted have and causes that would be considered for the cancellation of the license.

Likewise, it establishes that it will be subject to the provisions of law 14 of May 19, 2016 regarding sanctions, as well as if necessary, the criminal regulations that may be applicable.

The fifth title is the Advisory Board which is attached to the Ministry of Health, it will be responsible for the design and monitoring of the objectives of the law, the commission is being discussed who would be those

who should remain in it, as soon as functions we can mention that one of them so far is the development of a National Program for the use of Cannabis for medical and therapeutic purposes which should establish policies, educational, social and training for patients, family members, doctors; At the moment, its various objectives are still being discussed.

In the fifth chapter, which are the final provisions, it was taken into account that several of the texts of our legislation must be modified so that they do not conflict with each other, adding two numerals to article 7 of Law 14 of 19 of 2016, these Numerals specifically mention the functions that the Department of Controlled

Substances, attached to the National Directorate of Pharmacies and Drugs in regard to Cannabis and modifies art. 194 of the Sanitary Code which to date prohibits sowing, cultivation and harvesting of Cannabis in the first paragraph.

Regarding the acceptance of the draft law, the Ministry of Health, through the Deputy Minister in charge of Health, Dr. Itza Barahona de Mosca, sent a note to the subcommittee in which she maintains that they don't agree with the Draft Law, because it is a substance subject to international control and whose use does not have sufficient scientific evidence or formal approval by the World Health Organization (WHO), which is very contradictory to what was communicated by the WHO in January 2019. They announced their recommendation to governments to eliminate cannabis and cannabis resin from Schedule IV of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs.

This list contains narcotics that are considered particularly dangerous and of no therapeutic importance.

Specifically, the WHO drug experts now recommend withdrawing cannabis from Agenda IV of the Convention on Narcotic Drugs and placing it in a less restrictive one, Agenda I.

According to the recommendations, cannabis should be inspected at a level “that prevents damage caused by its consumption and, at the same time, does not act as a barrier to access and research (...) for medical use.”

The report is the result of a meeting of the Expert Committee on Drug Dependence of the WHO (ECDD) between November 12 and 16, 2018 and endorses the therapeutic potential of cannabis preparations for the treatment of pain and other medical conditions such as epilepsy and spasticity associated with multiple sclerosis.

The recommendations, expected for December, have arrived a little later. The UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) planned to address the modification of the status of cannabis at its annual meeting next March, but due to the delay in the report could leave it by 2020 and thus give more time to member states.

On the other hand, several testimonies have been given by patients or relatives of patients who have needed Cannabis in their time to relieve pain; an example of them are patients with epileptic seizures that with a medicated dose of cannabis have been able to go from 10 or more epileptic seizures a day to none during the day.

In the same way doctors who have helped the discussion in the preliminary draft have expressed their agreement with the same, an example is the Dr. Sandra Car-

rillo, specialist in the matter, and who said to agree with the project on legalization of cannabis for the treatment of various conditions.

Positions have been defined as an alternative treatment for sick people suffering from conditions such as epilepsy, seizures of different types and chronic pain.

Similarly from the industrial point of view we can see how countries like Uruguay, Chile and Colombia already have investments from multinationals in Canada and the US, the progressive legalization of medical marijuana in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean has created a market whose potential begins to attract investments from Canada and the United States; only this month we have seen how Colombia and Uruguay have expanded to the European market in Germany, this would encourage the agroindustry for a coordinated production and within the framework of the law.

The primary importance of this law project is human benefit, that they have access to medication which would significantly improve the quality of life of many people.

So far the president of the parliamentary body, Crispiano Adames, stressed that the draft law is defined with the contribution of the sectors mentioned above and others who participated in a multi-month dialogue in a subcommittee.

The parliamentary unit will render a report to the president of commission, so that the decision to continue the bill for discussion in the Legislative Assembly is allowed. *L&E*

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Norms of INTEREST

INCENTIVES IN TOURISTIC ACTIVITY ARE EXTENDED



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Law 82 of April 18, 2019, modifies Law 80 of 2012 that dictates rules of incentives for the promotion of tourism and these modifications fall on:

1. Article 4 before the reform, indicated that incentives would apply to establishments and tourist accommodation buildings located outside district of Panama, now it is specified that they may be new or that they are operating and the term is extended for the Registration in the National Registry of Tourism until December 31, 2025, granting an additional term of five years.
2. For incentives for accreditation in the tourist quality certification, the term for registration in the National Registry of Tourism is also extended until December 31, 2025, as well as, for effect of the right to obtain tax incentives, whose term doesn't have a specific completion date, as provided in articles 9 and 25, as amended.
3. With regard to incentives for companies that invest in tourism, it has been established that the incentive will be granted until December 31, 2020 for investors who aren't directly or indirectly linked to tourism companies and who are not products of the fractionation of a company into several juridical persons or affiliates or subsidiaries of tourist companies. Before the reform, this incentive was granted until December 31, 2016.
4. Travel agencies operating tourism, the tax incentive expires on December 31, 2020 and motor vehicles must be labeled with the company logo. *L&E*



PERSONAL DATA PROTECTION

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In recent days, Law 81 of March 26, 2019 on Protection of Personal Data was approved, which aims to establish the principles, rights, obligations and procedures that regulate the protection of personal data, considering their interrelation with privacy and privacy. other rights and fundamental freedoms of citizens, by natural or legal persons, of public or private law, lucrative or not, that treat personal data in the terms contained in the norm in reference.

Law 81 establishes that the databases found in our country that store or contain personal data of nationals or foreigners or that the data controller is domiciled in the country are subject to the rules contained in the Law or the regulation.

However, database of subjects regulated by special laws is excluded, provided that these laws that regulate it or its regulations

that develop them establish minimum technical standards necessary for correct protection and treatment of personal data.

On the other hand, it is established that transfer of original personal data stored in national territory, which are of a confidential, sensitive or restricted nature, that receive a cross-border treatment, will be allowed whenever a person responsible for the destination and storage of data or custody of them comply with data protection standards required by Law 81 or can demonstrate that they comply with the standards and norms of protection of personal data equal or superior to those required by the aforementioned Law.

The following cases are excepted from the aforementioned requirements: (1) **when the owner has granted his consent for the transfer;** (2) **when the transfer is necessary for the execu-**

tion or execution of a contract concluded or to be celebrated by the interested party in its interest; (3) when it comes to bank transfers or money or stock exchange or the stock market; and (4) in the case of information whose transmission is required by law or in compliance with international treaties ratified by Panama.

It is worth mentioning that there is an obligation to establish protocols, processes and procedures for the management and safe transfer of data that includes the appropriate security methods.

Sensitive data can't be transferred except: 1. With the explicit consent of the owner. 2. When necessary to safeguard the owner's life. 3. When necessary for the recognition, exercise or defense of a right in a judicial process; 4. When it has a historical, statistical or scientific purpose.

Holders of personal data to exercise on those responsible for database management are recognized: 1. **Right of Access.** 2. **Right of Rectification, that is, to be able to access and request correction, modification or update.** 3. **Right of Cancellation, refers to request data deletion).** 4. **Right of Opposition, refusal to provide or revoke your consent).** 5. **Right to Portability, obtain a copy of personal data in a structured manner, in a generic and commonly used format, which allows it to be operated by different systems and/or transmit them to another person in charge.**

Those responsible and custodians of databases that transfer personal data stored in database to third parties must keep a record of them, which should be available to the National Authority of Transparency and Access to Information (ANTAI), in case that it requires it.

Law 81 creates the Council for Protection of Personal Data, which has among other functions to advise the National Authority of Transparency and Access to Information in relation to the Law, recommend public policies, evaluate cases

that are presented to it for consultations and develop internal regulations and is confirmed by:

1. **Minister of the Ministry of Commerce and Industries;**
2. **General Administrator of the Consumer Protection and Defense of Competition Authority;**
3. **General Director of ANTAI;**
4. **Ombudsman, or whoever he designates;**
5. **A representative of the National Council of Private Enterprise (CONEP);**
6. **A representative of the National Bar Association;**
7. **A representative of the Banking Association of Panama;**
8. **A representative of the Electoral Tribunal;**
9. **A representative of the Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Agriculture of Panama.**

The ANTAI will be responsible for sanctioning natural or legal person responsible for handling the personal data, as well as custodian of the database when it is proven that rights of the owner of personal data have been infringed and sanctions are established between B/.1,000.00 and up to B/.10,000.00 depending on the severity of the fault.

Similarly, person responsible for processing of personal data must indemnify patrimonial and/or moral damage that could be caused by the improper treatment of personal data.

Finally, we must comment on Law 81, which will come into force two years after its promulgation, as of April 1, 2001 and must be regulated by the Executive Branch in coordination with the National Authority of Transparency and Access to Information.

We can conclude by pointing out that the purpose of this law is to protect the personal data that citizens have provided to various platforms, which can not be provided to third parties, without the express authorization of the owner or as a result of a judicial investigation. *L&E*

WORK PERMITS FOR FOREIGNERS OF FRIEND COUNTRIES WILL BE PROVISIONAL



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The Ministry of Labor and Labor Development by Executive Decree No. 9 of April 23, 2019 modifies Executive Decree No. 140 of August 2, 2012 that regulates work permits for foreign workers, as nationals of specific countries that they maintain friendly, professional, economic and investment relations with Panama.

Executive Decree No. 9, provides that foreigners who are under this migratory category may apply for a work permit, providing among other requirements an authenticated copy of the card in process, that is, that opens the possibility of opting for this permit for those foreigners who are still processing the permanent resident permit before the National Immigration Service.

It should be noted that before the reform the foreigner could not apply for the permit un-

til they will have permanent residence, which under this category, is obtained approximately six months after the application was submitted to the National Immigration Service.

Another aspect to be highlighted is that the permit will be granted for a period of three years and before the reform the permit was granted for an indefinite period, which was a clear advantage for foreigners who were in this migratory category.

We believe that reforms to the norm are correct, since they make more fair treatment for foreign workers who are in other categories, to whom the work permit is granted for the term of an extendable year and to obtain a permit of indefinite work must have been ten years since he was granted the provisional permanent resident permit. *L&E*



DUPLICATE OF WORK PERMIT CARD

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With approval of Resolution No.166-DM-19 of April 17, 2019 issued by the Ministry of Labor and Labor Development, foreign personnel with a work permit may request the issuance of a duplicate of the card in case of theft, theft, deterioration or loss.

We can comment that the issuance of aforementioned Resolution regulates an issue that represented a problem when one of the situations mentioned was presented, since the legislation doesn't contemplate the replacement of the work permit card. *L&E*

RECURSOS BIOLÓGICOS Y GENÉTICOS



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With approval of Executive Decree No.9 of March 26, 2019, the regulations for access and control of the use of biological and genetic resources and the associated traditional knowledge, where applicable, for scientific research for commercial and non-commercial purposes are approved. In Panama.

The Executive Decree regulates the access and control of the use of biological and genetic resources, in order to make a fair and equitable distribution of the benefits derived from the use of biological and genetic resources, with the exception of the human species, in ex situ or in situ conditions, of which Panama is a country of origin or provenance, are wild and their derivatives.

Within this group, it includes migratory species that due to natural causes are found in the national territory, as well as access to knowledge, innovation and traditional practices of indigenous peoples and local communities associated with the resource.

Similarly, the Decree in reference also regulates the control of the use of genetic resources and traditional knowledge, both Panamanian and other countries that are part of the Nagoya Protocol in Panama.

The competent national authority to regulate, regulate and control the access and use of

biological, genetic and derivative resources in general, with the exception of the human race, shall be the Ministry of the Environment and access to said resources shall be subject to obtaining the respective access authorization granted by the competent authority.

Two types of access requests for scientific research have been established, these being the request for access to biological resources and access to genetic resources, which includes two categories of non-profit genetic resources for profit and non-profit genetic resources.

Failure to comply with the norm and the authorization will result in the application by the Ministry of the Environment of sanctions ranging from written reprimand, fine, disqualification to subscribe with the State access to biological, genetic resources and their derivatives to the cancellation of the resolution of access and the return of biological and genetic resources to the Ministry of Environment.

It is worth mentioning that the aforementioned rule arises from the need to regulate Law 57 of 2012, which approves the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits arising from its use in the Convention. on Biological Biodiversity, done in Nagoya on October 29, 2010. *L&E*

CATALOG OF ALERT SIGNALS FOR PREVENTION OF OPERATIONS RELATED TO FINANCING OF TERRORISM

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On March 19, 2019, the Superintendency of Banks approved Agreement No. 001-2019 that includes the catalog of warning signals for the detection of operations related to the financing of terrorism, establishing that the Agreement will apply to the following subjects bound:

a. Banks and/or banking groups.

b. Trust companies.

c. Financial companies.

d. Leasing or financial leasing companies.

e. Factoring companies.

f. Issuers or processors of debit, credit and prepaid cards, whether they are natural or legal persons, including those that issue and operate their own cards.

g. The issuing entities of means of payment and electronic money.

h. Agricultural Development Bank.

i. National Mortgage Bank.

j. Savings and loans for the home.

k. Other corporate services performed by fiduciary companies.

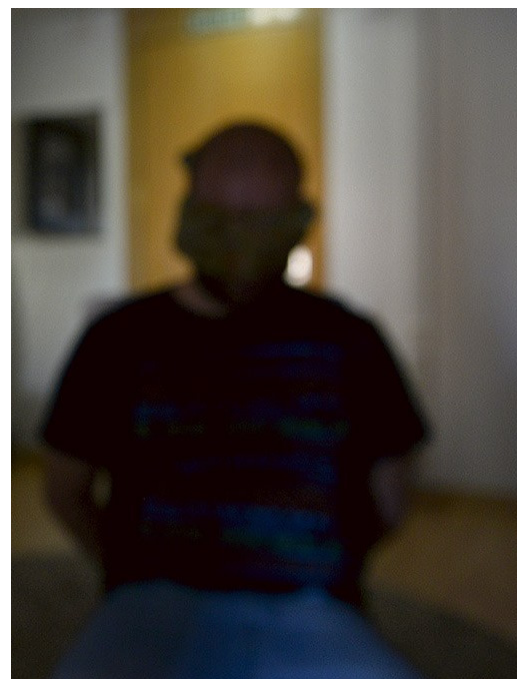
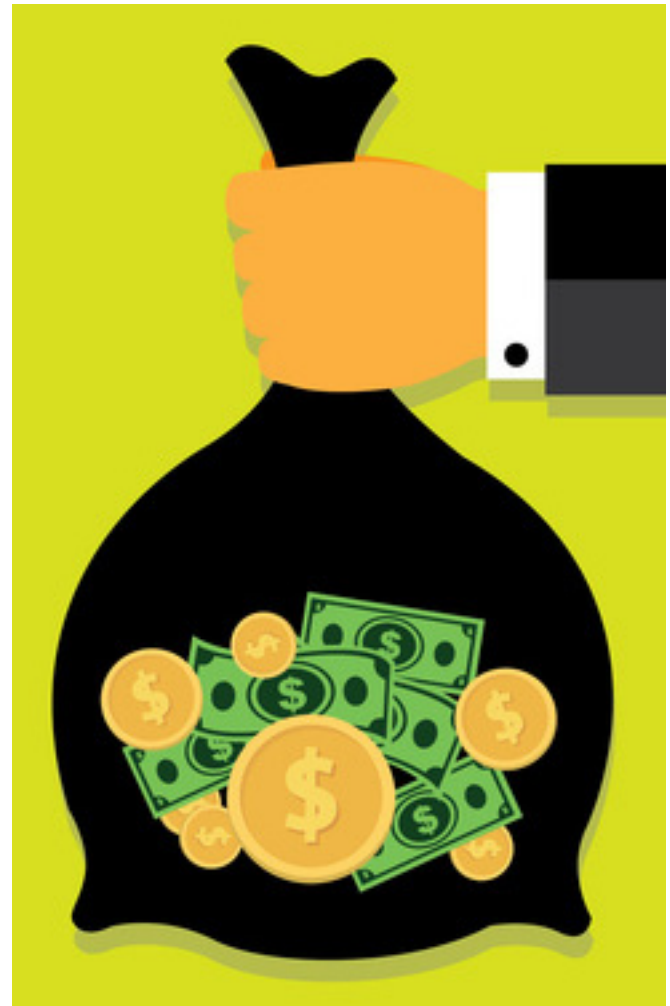
It has been arranged that the catalog of signals contains those behaviors of the client or companies, as well as the characteristics of certain financial operations that could lead to detect a suspicious operation related to the Financing of Terrorism, which is not necessarily listed in this Agreement. .

On the other hand, the obligated subjects

must examine with special attention the operations and/or behaviors that are indicated in the present Agreement, in order to determine, taking into account other signals, factors and criteria, if they constitute suspicious transactions linked to the risks to financing terrorism.

The signal catalog includes a plural number of alerts, among which are: 1. Alerts related to customer behavior. 2. With the economic profile of the client. 3. With geographic factors. 4. Transactions related to extortive kidnapping. 5. With the expense activity. 6. Products of services. 7. With non-profit organizations. 8. With commerce and commercial entities. 9. Warning signs related to the illegal trade of antiquities / cultural heritage. 10. Warning signs related to the oil and gas industry.

The Agreement arises from the Recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) that constitute a consistent international standard that countries must implement effectively through legal, regulatory and operational measures in order to have a solid national system that allow combating money laundering, financing of terrorism and financing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. *L&E*





Superintendencia
de Bancos de Panamá

CATALOG OF ALERT SIGNALS FOR MONEY REMITTANCES AND HOUSES OF EXCHANGE

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In order to comply with the purpose of complying with guides and compendiums of relevant risk indicators dictated by the Financial Analysis Unit (UAF), the Superintendency of Banks issued the Prevention Agreement for other Financial Obligatory Subjects No.001-2019 of March 26, 2018, by which the Catalog of Alert Signals for the Detection of Suspicious Operations related to Money Laundering, Terrorist Financing and Financing of Proliferation of Weapons is established. Massive Destruction for money remittance and money exchange companies.

The agreement in question, will be applied to the following obligated subjects: 1. Money remittance companies, whether or not its main activity. 2. Exchange houses, in any of its forms, either through physical delivery or purchase of future contracts, whether or not its main activity.

In this order of ideas, the catalog of warning signs is adopted, with the purpose that money remittance companies and exchange houses can detect and/or prevent suspicious transactions related to money laundering, financing of terrorism and financing of the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

Thus we see that the catalog of warning signs contained in this Agreement offers a list of

examples of operations that may be linked to money laundering, financing of terrorism and financing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, without prejudice to other models that can be established by the obliged subject.

Consequently, money remittance companies and exchange houses must define particular criteria linked to alerts, depending on the nature of their operations.

Likewise, obligated parties must examine with special attention any operation or behavior indicated in this Agreement for the purpose of determining, taking into account other signals, factors and criteria, if they constitute suspicious transactions linked to the risks of money laundering, financing of terrorism and financing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

Within the Warning Signs in General, those related to the identification of the client are framed; those related to the characteristics of the operation of the client's behavior; related to the characteristics of the cash, those related to the origin or destination of the operation in the case of transfers and risks related to suspicious behavior of the employees or agents of the obliged subject, warning signs related to the terrorism financing. *L&F*

REINFORCE THE PREVENTION OF MISUSE OF BANKING SERVICES

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The Superintendency of Banks issued Agreement No. 002-2019 of April 11, 2019, which modifies Agreement No. 010-2015 on prevention of the improper use of banking and fiduciary services.

The amendments are mainly focused on Articles 14 and 15 of Agreement No. 010-2015, which are related to due diligence for natural and legal persons, in which aspects related to the fiscal offense are included as a predicate offense of money laundering. assets, since both nationals living abroad and foreigners must provide the tax identification number of the country or countries where it is a taxpayer in order to keep the information updated.

They must also ask the client for an affidavit stating that the inflows and outflows that are made to the financial institution meet and comply with the tax obligations in their country or countries of fiscal residence.

On the other hand, in the case of foreigners, belonging to jurisdictions with which Panama has signed international agreements that allow the exchange of information on tax matters, the bank and the fiduciary should ensure that they have the information of the country and the number of tax identification of the country or countries where it is a taxpayer.

Another modified article is number 30 on suspicious transactions in the sense that banks and fiduciary companies should communicate to the UAF the attempts to carry out operations, which are suspected to be related or linked to the crimes of money laundering, financing of terrorism and financing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

The banking and fiduciary entities have been granted an adaptation period until May 15, 2020 to comply with the amendments related to Articles 14 and 15. *L&E*

IV. CONSULT, DOCTRINE AND JURISPRUDENCE

MAGISTRATES OF THE ELECTORAL TRIBUNAL REVOKE THE CANDIDACY OF FORMER PRESIDENT RICARDO MARTINELLI ON RESOLVING AN APPEAL RESULT PRESENTED AGAINST THE JUDGMENT NO. 10-2019-J5E-1P-EG OF APRIL 11, 2019 OF THE FIFTH ELECTORAL COURT

COMPETENCE: Electoral Tribunal

DATE: April 25, 2019

Ailen Galván - Attorney
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Seen:

An appeal was filed by Jonathan Jair Carrión Sclopis, José Luis Carrera A., and Daniel Ramírez Lasso, against Resolution 10-2019-J5E-11-EG of April 11, 2019, issued by the Fifth Electoral Court, by means of which demands of challenge of nomination of Mr. Ricardo Alberto Martinelli Berrocal, to the positions of mayor of District of Panama and deputy of circuit 8-8, province of Panama, by the Democratic Change and Alliance parties were dismissed.

The motivation of the three appeals lodged is based on the fact that Mr. Ricardo Martinelli doesn't comply with the residence requirement established in the electoral regulations,

and that what was resolved in the first instance was that it was an affectation due to force majeure and with exception to the common rules of residence, but plaintiffs indicate that these exceptions do not apply to this isolated act due to commission of a crime of a citizen resident in Panama, but of a fact linked to others and that this applies more when they are unavoidable and unpredictable facts, and preventive detention is an act that can be avoided or prevented.

In addition to the fact that Ricardo Martinelli himself voluntarily requested both diplomatic and territorial asylum to the government of the United States of America, which considers for actors a tacit action of former presi-

dent to reside permanently outside, since the person can't return to their country of origin until causes that gave rise to their condition (well-founded fears) have disappeared. They also indicate that the Court of first instance equivocally pronounces on the previous challenges to which they can be accepted, since in the electoral legislation there are two moments to contest, and one of them is when it is unknown who the future candidates will be. they know the candidates proposed by the political parties to the various positions of popular election.

And that once Martinelli returns to Panamanian territory due to extradition, on June 11, 2018, the date of the elections is not met the previous year established by the Electoral Code and the Political Constitution.

Faced with these appeals, Mr. Alma Lorena Cortés and Mr. José Luis Parada Beitia presented their respective opposition, requesting the dismissal of the appeals filed and the request to keep the resolution appealed in all its parts.

OF THE CONSIDERATIONS OF THE MAGISTRATES

It should be noted that, firstly, project presented to resolve the appeals filed was under presentation of Judge Heriberto Araúz Sánchez, but Magistrates Eduardo Valdés Escoffery and Alfredo Juncá Wendehake, didn't share this project where the decision appealed was confirmed and that because they are the majority of votes a counterproject was drawn up to decide on the controversy in question.

The magistrates begin by making a summary of first instance ruling stating that it was based on the fact that Mr. Ricardo Martinelli did extensively comply with the residence time (one

year before election for the position of mayor and one year before the date in application was firm within the party that nominated him, in the case of deputy), since it is in the electoral register of the circuit 8-8 since 1993, and because it wasn't challenged between May 16 and June 15, 2018, period established in the electoral calendar to contest the residence that voters had in preliminary electoral roll for the elections of May 5, 2019. And that residence time required as a candidate must be computed against the date on which he acquired residence in final register, according to judgment appealed.

And that ruling held that electoral authority granted registration to the proposed candidate on the grounds that it expressed or implicitly accredited residence required by law, and that for this reason the decision was final because it had not been challenged...

Within motivations of magistrates of the Electoral Tribunal we find factual and legal grounds, consider that the Judge of first instance's ruling is mistaken regarding the matter of the residence time of Mr. Ricardo Martinelli, since:

- There is no differentiation between the figures of place and time of residence, which are totally different and are analyzed in procedurally diverse moments; and,
- It unduly applies concept of force majeure to the detention of the challenged in the United States of America.

Regarding issue of difference between a challenge to place of residence and the time of residence; they indicate that it is a public fact, and that it appears in archives of the Electoral Tribunal that Mr. Ricardo Martinelli is registered in the electoral registry of the San Francisco Corregimiento since 1993; but that this has nothing to do with the real controversy of the matter, since what must be proved is that the challenged

candidate lived in said corregimiento from one year before the date on which his nomination as deputy was finalized, or a year before May 5, 2019, for his nomination as Mayor.

They consider that the judge of first instance didn't value evidence provided and adduced, since they show that challenged, despite being registered in the electoral register of the San Francisco Corregimiento, states that he didn't reside physically in it during previous year. he is required for viability of his candidacies.

In the present ruling, it is clarified that it is not the same to be a voter and a candidate, and that one errs in this sense, since every candidate is first a voter; In order to be a candidate, a plurality of requirements is required, including one year of being a resident (elector and physically) in the constituency corresponding to the election or the date in which the application was signed, depending on the position.

They point out that the residence time required by Panamanian legislation only applies to candidates and therefore, it is at this moment that it can be challenged.

Summary that within the requirements established in the Political Constitution to be distributed at the time it is registered in the electoral register of the circuit and residence in it, from one year before its application, once the events of selection of candidates for popular election posts that occur after the closing of the electoral register.

In the case of former President Ricardo Martinelli, there are documents that certify his condition in that he didn't reside in the country one year before the elections of May 5, 2019, such as certificate of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs where date of extradition, certificate of penitentiary system that certi-

fies from when he is detained, and Migration certificate that contains migratory movements.

Clarifies the ruling that although it is true that every citizen can leave the country without affecting their registration in judicial register, in this case a judicial issue was verified abroad, in which he demonstrated his reluctance to return to the country . And proof of this is that at the request of the Supreme Court of Justice for the extradition of the former president, and subsequent detention on June 12, 2017, he voluntarily decided to oppose request to be extradited and not return to Panama, who was willing to remain detained in a federal detention center in Miami, United States. And through several letters, prepared by the former president where he indicated that he would use all the legal tools at his disposal to avoid extradition. On May 23, 2018, former President Ricardo Martinelli voluntarily changed his position and accepted extradition, which he returned to Panama on June 11, 2018, after the formalities were completed.

For what the magistrates conclude that the same action of the former president as to his resistance to return to Panama that prevent him from fulfilling the requirement of residence time for the position of mayor.

They point out that when we talk about the concept of force majeure, our Civil Code explains it as a situation caused by acts of man, to which it has not been possible to resist, such as the acts of authority exercised by public officials, the seizure by enemies and other similar ones.

Under all these grounds the magistrates of Electoral Court Revoke in all its parts the judgment of first instance, dismissing challenge against candidacies of Mr. Ricardo Martinelli to the position of Mayor of the District of Panama, for alleged violation of the parity in the same, postu-

lated by the Democratic Change and Alliance parties; It accepts the challenges against the candidacies of Mr. Ricardo Martinelli, to the positions of Mayor of the District of Panama and Deputy for the circuit 8-8 of Panama, postulated by the parties Democratic Change and Alliance, for not complying with the requirement established in numerals 5 of articles 290 and 291 of the Electoral Code, and as a result of this, they are declared null and void as illegal.

At the same time, incidents of disqualification presented by the lawyer Alma Cortés against the judges Alfredo Juncá Wndehake and Eduardo Valdés Escoffery were rejected outright. and points out that the ballot that will be used for the elections of May 5, 2019 will indicate that for Deputy from 8-8 for the Democratic and Alliance, Mrs. Omaira “Mayín” Correa will take the place of the challenged without substitute; and for the position of mayor of the District of Panama will be Mr. Sergio “Chello” Galvéz Evers, without substitute, replacing the exmandatario Ricardo Martinelli.

OF THE VOTE SAVING

Magistrate Heriberto Araúz Sánchez, didn't share decision adopted by the rest of the judges of the Electoral Tribunal as to revoke in all its parts the judgment of first instance, and on the contrary is in agreement with the resolved to reject outright recusations presented by the lawyer Alma Cortés.

Indicating that electoral law regarding the basis of controversy is quite clear and allows to conclude that Ricardo Martinelli is a suitable candidate and can participate in general elections to be held on May 5, 2019, both for the position of Deputy and mayor, because there are legal and regulatory constitutional arguments that support this.

He explains that electoral norm states that “Candidates who are candidates can only be challenged because of the residency requirement if they don't have the time required, depending on the position they aspire to.” He continues indicating that Political Constitution establishes the requirements to be a deputy, and that in the fifth requirement is the express rule: “Be a resident of the corresponding electoral circuit, at least one year immediately prior to the nomination” and that the same is indicated by the Electoral Code in numeral 5 of article 290, as in Article 50 of Decree 12 of March 21, 2018, which adopts the electoral calendar and regulates the General Elections of May 5, 2019.

Judge Araúz disagrees with all the grounds for the other judges, questions the word residence from the electoral point of view and whether there is any legal or regulatory rule that defines what is entangled by the habitual residence of the elector or the candidates.

It states that Electoral Code establishes exceptions regarding residence and provides that “For the purposes of residence dealt with in previous articles, it will not affect period of residence”; Therefore, it considers that the period of residence will not be affected or interrupted if, one year after election or postulation, person is conditioned by one of exceptions established by the electoral law, giving as an example if a person had to be operated outside the country.

Regarding the definition of force majeure, it establishes that Civil Code supports its theory by indicating that the situation produced by acts of man such as acts of authority exercised by public officials. And that is related to fortuitous cases.

And it supports that extradition process originated under Panamanian authority order, therefore, there is no legal basis that prevents candidacy of Ricardo Martinelli. *L&E*

THE TAX ADMINISTRATION HAS FACULTY, AUTHORITY AND AUDIT FUNCTION TO CARRY OUT EVERY TYPE OF REVISION IN THE EVALUATION STAGE OF THE APPLICATION OF NO APPLICATION OF CAIR.

COMPETENCE: TAX ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL

DATE: March 15, 2019

MAGISTRATE: Marion Lorenzetti

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The law firm RDM & ASOCIADOS, civil society of lawyers, on behalf of REPUESTOS INTERNACIONALES, S.A., filed an appeal against resolution No. 201-2438 of February 2, 2015, issued by the Directorate General of Revenue Ministry of Economy and Finance.

The legal representative of the taxpayer supported application for non-application of alternative calculation of income tax for period June 1, 2013 to May 31, 2014, stating that for the year 2014 they had a loss of approximately B/. 675,031.67, complying with the budget included in the law, regarding the non-application of the Cair.

The Directorate General of Revenue, rejected the application for non-applica-

tion of Cair by resolution No. 201-2438.

By resolution No. 201-2211 of April 2, 2017, the General Directorate of Revenues maintained in all its parts resolution 201-2438 where it rejected the application for non-application of the Cair, stating that it is not possible to enter the fund of the appeal because the taxpayer didn't comply with the tax regulations at the time of the presentation of the application for non-application of the Cair.

The legal representatives of the taxpayer filed an appeal in an opportune time against resolutions No. 201-2438 and No. 201-2211, which was admitted through resolution N0. TAT-ADM-332.

CONSIDERATIONS OF THE COURT

Regarding the issue that occupies the Court states that rules applicable in this case would be Article 699 of the Tax Code specifically the numeral no. 1, as well as article 133e of Executive Decree 170 of October 27, 1993.

In this sense, the General Directorate of Revenues will establish the documents that must accompany the aforementioned application for non-application of Cair. The alternative calculation of income tax constitutes an application of a regime on a taxable income to legal persons as long as it exceeds the sum of B/. 1,500,000.00 per year, however the law has established two cases in which it can be requested the non-application of the alternative calculation of the tax.

The plaintiff party by noting that the amount reported in the sworn statement of income for the period 2014, as other expenses in relation to the depreciation of fixed assets of the company don't correspond to any particular provider.

In this sense, it is appropriate to emphasize that the taxpayer presented all the requirements demanded by article 1333 Executive Decree 170 of October 27, 1993, together with the application for non-application of the Cair, in the judgment of the Tax Administrative Tribunal considers that the General Directorate of Revenue should proceed

with the analysis of the reconsideration appeal. Once the situation has been analyzed and given that the taxpayer presented all the required evidence with the application for non-application of Cair for the 2014 fiscal period and the documents presented at the reconsideration appeal phase, the Court considers that, in effect, the Resolution No. 201-2438 of February 2, 2015 and its confirmatory act.

RESOLUTIVE PART

The **TAX ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL DISPOSE;** revoke Resolution No. 201-2438 of February 2, 2015 and Resolution No. 201-2211 of April 12, 2017, both resolutions issued by General Revenue Directorate of the Ministry of Economy and Finance.

VOTE SAVING

By the magistrate allan poher barrios

The Magistrate states that although it is true that he agrees with the operative part in this act, he considers it necessary to explain the position of the Administrative Tribunal in reference to the power of the Tax Administration; this is why it is not in accordance with what is expressed in the following paragraph of the operative part, we must remember that although it is true, there are control mechanisms established in the legal system, considers that the time to comply with this faculty is not precisely during the

evaluation of Cair's non-application requests.

The applications for non-application of Cair are subject to a review or analysis by the tax authorities of the Tax Administration, the review of the requests are mechanisms of control of desktop whose system they use for this is the ETAX-2 system.

The Tax Administration has a period of up to 6 months to resolve or dictate a resolution on application for non-application; this time is precisely for review and thus be able to request taxpayer documents that are necessary to perfect the request.

The tax administration if it has the faculty, power and auditing function to review all types of documents in the evaluation stage of the application for non-application of Cair and any other type of request of a fiscal nature.

PERSONAL OPINION

I believe that the General Directorate of Revenues should have carried out a more in-depth analysis of Cair's application for non-application, before issuing a resolution rejecting said request stating that the taxpayer had not complied with the filing of the requirements to that request; However, if these are the reasons for rejection, the Tax Office should request the taxpayer for the additional requirements and thus give him the benefit of being able to correct his request. *L&E*



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PRESCRIPTION OF DOMAIN, ORDINARY OR EXTRAORDINARY?

COMPETENCE: Supreme court of justice, action of unconstitutionality.

FECHA: February 2018

SPEAKER: Mgdo. Jerónimo Mejía E.

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RELEVANT BACKGROUND OF THE DEMAND FOR UNCONSTITUTIONALITY

According to the promoter of the unconstitutionality claim, Finca 4011 with location code 8709, section of the horizontal property, Province of Panama, PH Don Omar Building, was owned by Mrs. ROSARIO OLLER DE SARASQUETA (R.I.P.). The appellant points out that Mrs. REYNELDA CAMAÑO instituted a labor proceeding for unjustified dismissal against ROSARIO OLLER DE SARASQUETA (RIP), which culminated with SELF No. 169 OF JULY 5, 1991 of the SECOND WORKING JUDGMENT OF THE FIRST SECTION, through which the aforementioned LA FINCA was awarded to Mrs. REYNELDA CAMAÑO.

It is clear from records in case that, at the time of seizure and the auction, LA FINCA was encum-

bered with a property mortgage in favor of the FIRST BANK OF ISTMO, S.A., today BANISTMO, that bank demanded unconstitutionality of the Order of Attachment No. 169 OF JULY 5, 1991 of the SECOND WORK JUDGMENT OF THE FIRST SECTION, arguing that the bank wasn't summoned or notified of the labor executive process, despite having the status of mortgagee and anticrético. By means of JUDGMENT OF MAY 11, 2009, published in Official Gazette N "26500, Supreme Court of Justice declared the aforementioned Writ of unconstitutional Embargo.

After the ruling of May 11, 2009, of the Plenary of the Supreme Court of Justice, Mrs. REYNELDA CAMAÑO filed a lawsuit demanding the acquisition of title over LA FINCA, which was decided by SENTENCE No. 51 OF OCTOBER 28 OF 2014 OF THE FIFTEENTH COURT OF THE CIVIL CIR-

CUIT OF THE FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF PANAMA whose unconstitutionality is demanded.

The aforementioned Judgment declares that REYNELDA CAMAÑO has acquired by extraordinary acquisitive prescription the domain of LA FINCA.

INFRINGED CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS AND CONCEPT OF INFRINGEMENT

In accordance with the plaintiff, the Judgment whose unconstitutionality is claimed violates Articles 32 and 47 of the Political Constitution, whose tenor is the following:

Article 32. “No one shall be tried, except by a competent authority and in accordance with legal procedures, and not more than once for the same criminal, administrative or disciplinary case.”

Article 47. Private property acquired under the Law is guaranteed by legal or natural persons.

With regard to article 32 of the Constitution, appellant expresses that it is violated because:

1. By declaring that applicant has acquired by extraordinary statute of limitations LA FINCA, it also adjudicates irregularly, without complying with legal procedure, since “by ruling of unconstitutionality issued on May 11, 2009 both ownership and possession were erased.

and she was forced to replace a procedure in the same labor court, also because of the natural or civil interruption of the prescription, the legal term of possession and prescription didn't occur, Mrs. Camaño couldn't have the same condition at the same time of owner/owner and at the same time possessor with owner's spirit.

2. The Fifteenth Judge of the Civil Circuit “... was obliged to summon and transfer her to the Succession of Rosario Oller de Sarasqueta and the mortgagee bank.

3. THE FARM whose prescription is declared always was and still remains outside the trade in accordance with Article 1647 of the Judicial Code, since on it weighs an Auto of Enrollment registered since 2012, decreed in favor of the FIRST BANK OF ISTMO, S.A., today BANISTMO, S.A. “

With regard to article 47 of the Fundamental Law, it states that it is infringed because the defendant ruling irregularly strips the succession processed by the TENTH SECOND COURT OF PANAMA “... without meeting the requirements for the ordinary prescription or extraordinary acquisitive domain and without the applicant having stated what type of prescription was intended. “

OPINION OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

By admitted the claim, he was transferred to the ADMINISTRATION PROCURATURÍA who issued the concept through VISTA N538 OF MAY 19, 2016, recommending that claim of unconstitutionality presented by the LCDA be declared

non-viable. ROSARIO SARASQUETA, Your position is based on the fact that, based on the evidence provided by the plaintiff "... it is not possible to determine with certainty the exhaustion of all legal remedies against the jurisdictional act that is being challenged ...", what is not sure that said act is firm or enforceable.

ALLEGATIONS OF THE INTERESTED PARTS

1. No one can prescribe himself a farm.
2. The property right is exclusive of the right of possession because it or is the owner or is the possessor of good faith.
3. Finca 4011 of PH is out of business since 1991 and even seized, so it can't be subject to a statute of limitations.
4. The contested judgment constitutes contempt of ruling of June 28, 2012, which contains compliance with unconstitutionality ruling of May 11, 2009.
5. LA FINCA was awarded by prescription without citing the creditor bank or the succession of ROSARIO OLLER DE SARASQUETA (r.i.p.).

Among other allegations ...

CONSIDERATIONS AND DECISION OF THE CASE

The Court has carried out an analysis of the legal situation and shares what was stated in the aforementioned Judgment No. 51 of October 28, 2014. In effect, the Civil Code regulates the acquisition of possession as a legal institution by virtue of which acquire property title when a person has possessed, in time and in the manner prescribed by law, movable or immovable property.

In that sense, the Civil Code regulates the prescription of the domain and other real rights from article 1668 onwards, which establishes in the first paragraph that: "By the prescription they are acquired, in the manner and with the conditions determined in the law , the domain and other real rights ".

This Code regulates ordinary and extraordinary prescription of domain. The first takes place when a person possesses, in the spirit of the owner, publicly, peacefully and uninterruptedly for ten (10) years - among the present - and twenty - among absentees, real estate in good faith and with just title (article 1679 and 1694 of the Civil Code). The second, that is to say, the extraordinary prescription of dominion, occurs when a person possesses, in the spirit of an owner, for fifteen (15) years, in a public, peaceful, uninterrupted manner, without the need of a title or in good faith, and without distinction between present and absent, real estate. The ordinary requirement of domain what pur-

sues is to perfect a title, which for some reason has an imperfection or defect, but which is legally sufficient to transfer to the possessor who holds it, the domain or right. Well, as has been said, since 1991, Mrs. REYNELDA CAMAÑO possessed the owner of LA FINCA in a public, peaceful, uninterrupted manner for more than 15 years, during which time she held and exercised acts of ownership over LA FINCA, because he leased it -following the corresponding fees-, made improvements, paid expenses for maintenance fees and paid the bills for basic services such as electricity, water, etc.

The extraordinary prescription of acquisition of ownership, as an institution through which the domain of real estate is acquired, is specified when a person possesses, in the spirit of an owner, for at least fifteen (15) years, in a public, peaceful and uninterrupted way a real property For this reason, the judgment in which it is recognized that the acquisition of ownership has occurred is merely declarative of the domain that has taken place on the day when the fifteen (15) years are fulfilled under the conditions required by law.

In this regard, in its judgment of August 21, 2014, the Civil Chamber of the Supreme Court of Justice has stated that: "... the ruling that resolves the process of statutory acquisition of title is declarative, that is, its judicial recognition it goes back to the moment in which the

period of time for usucapir the good is fulfilled.

From this point of view, extraordinary acquisition requirement of ownership of LA FINCA took place in 2006, since the possession of it -in terms required by the Civil Code- by Mrs. REYNELDA CAMAÑO began in the year 1991 and it continued until a time after the issuance of unconstitutionality ruling of May 11, 2009, but the fifteen (15) years had been fulfilled in 2006. In that sense, the judgment now appealed did well to declare that said lady I had won by acquisitive prescription LA FINCA.

Therefore, the action of unconstitutionality, it was declared that judgment No. 51 of October 28, 2014 issued by the Fifteenth Court of the Civil Circuit of the First Judicial Circuit of Panama is not unconstitutional.

PERSONAL OPINION

We are before an interesting case that, in spite of all the nuances outlined by both parties, it was reached a decision consonant with the legal reality of the possessor, it is important to highlight the way that the court clarifies the marked differences between both prescriptions and leaves no doubt some, in the correct way to apply the rule, it is enough to say that each one must take care of their assets in the appropriate way, in order to avoid long-term negative consequences, in which they are ultimately involved with unfavorable results. *L&T*



ADOPTION

A decision that changes lives

Janeth García - Legal Assistant
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Illusion, joy, emotion and a little fear when making a decision like this. That set of feelings that are experienced with the longing for that first encounter with that child that will be part of your life.

In society there are different realities, stories, motivations and different points of view on how to start a family. Many times the children are born, but they can't be offered love or meet their needs as it should be, in other cases we want these children with so much strength, but they never arrive, then in that same moment you think about that option as it is the adoption.

Adoption can be defined as the act of courage, respect and love for life, since, the most important thing is the dedication and effort you make to make that human being feel loved and respected, despite what in his birth and his past has passed.

The National Directorate of Adoptions in Panama defines adoption as a legal institution of permanent protection, public order and social interest constituted as a last measure of protection in favor of the son or daughter who is not by consanguinity and who restitutes the right to be part of a family.

The law has a fundamental role in this process, since adoption is a measure of protection for minors who are in a state of weakness. It is a process with a very strong legal compliance that is backed by child protection laws, for that reason the parents who make this decision must be convinced to assume an ethical, emotional and legal commitment with the new member of the family that will be integrated.

The rights of children are covered by the Convention on the Rights of the Child, approved by the United Nations Organization on November 20, 1989, and in our country by Law 46 of July 17, 2013, General Adoption Law of the Republic of Panama, and the Family Code.

The number of children and adolescents in shelters has increased, since until this year there were already 2,500 orphaned or abandoned children who can not be adopted. However, it is estimated that there are a total of 2,000 families interested in adopting.

What hurdles us that children can have a family?

When reading the law 46 of July 17, 2013 lacks simplicity, bars and delays the procedure. But we must bear in mind that each case is different, there may be families that in 2 years get their children and others who spend 8 years and still don't progress in the process. The requirements that the Law establishes must be fulfilled as they are established and with legal help and

good advice you can get ahead pretty quickly. The Convention recommends that States make the necessary efforts to guarantee the child that they will be part of a family that will assume all the obligations inherent to the parental function.

Who can be adopted?

- a) Orphans of father and mother.
- b) Children of unknown parents, declared judicially foundlings.
- c) Survivors of abandonment.
- d) Minors who have a mother and father or only one of them, provided that the consent of this or both of them is present.
- e) Survivors of abuse, abuse and other illicit situations on the part of both parents or those who exercise parental authority, if the abused has been judicially proven.
- f) Minors at social risk without family support.
- g) People with disabilities without family support.

NOTE: The existence of descendants of the adopter doesn't prevent adoption. The adoption can be collective or individual. Applicants can be a marriage, a domestic partnership or a single person.

Who can adopt in panama?

- a) Persons who have a difference of eighteen (18) years of age with respect to the adoptive one.
- b) Single people, who may adopt boys, girls or adolescents, of one or the other sex, provided that they are able to adopt according to the evaluations of the technical team of the National Adoption Directorate.
- c) Married couples who have two years of being civilly married, in functional and uninterrupted coexistence.
- d) Marriage of de facto unions, which comply with the provisions of article 53 of the Family Code.

In Panama there is a full adoption, that is, with the same effects as in Spain. Therefore, once the adoption is constituted, it has all the effects in Spain.

In conclusion, adoption is an entire institution, which through it can be named an heir, that is, welcome as a child a minor, boy or girl in a new home after a legal process. Take under protection and custody a minor orphan, or parents who can't give them a decent upbringing with an uncertain future. The decision that people take to adopt, usually is that they can't have a family, accepting it as an adopted child, but with

all the rights as legitimate.

Adoption more than an act of legal affiliation is, in some cases, an act of love, not only because it gives a child a decent home, but because thanks to these people, these children now have a very promising future.

It should be noted that, in our offices, we have professionals who can give you all the support and guidance when carrying out an adoption process. *L&E*



THE FIRST FOURTEEN OF THE CODE OF TRIBUTE PROCEDURES

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No, they are not the first fourteen articles of the Tax Procedure Code, but first fourteen articles to be valid, those mentioned in article 392 of Law 76 of February 13, 2019 and that will debut in legal environment three months after their promulgation.

As we mentioned in the previous edition of Legislation and Economics, the bulk of the Law will become effective as of January 1, 2020, with the exception of Articles 65, 88 numeral 3, 127, 128, 208, 259, 262, 273, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288 and number 11 of article 324, which, because of their urgent content, will be born prematurely, affecting society before all others, which is why we will discuss this edition.

FROM THE SIMPLE TO THE COMPLEX

All articles are related in a certain way to each other, after all, it is an encoding, but for a better understanding of the subject we will analyze its

content dividing it by themes, instead of performing an isolated analysis of each of them, starting with the most simple as concept of tax debt and prescription of the right of return, to more complex, such as those that deal with process of tax regulation, tax crimes and tax penalties.

THE TAX DEBT

Article 65 of the law determines that the tax debt is due taxes, advances, installment payments, amounts withheld or that should have been retained, amounts received or that should have been collected, legally required surcharges, interest moratoriums, the pecuniary sanctions and the amounts established in the judicial sentences executed as a consequence of a conviction for criminal tax fraud in the judicial sphere.

It is important to highlight that fines or amounts established for sanctions not paid within term of 48 hours may be immediately

remitted to coercive jurisdiction, without the need to go through collection management, provided that resolutions are duly executed.

Well executed, this could represent an advance in the rights of taxpayers, because at present the proceeding of the Tax Administration has been heterogeneous, disorderly and to a certain extent harmful.

It is also essential to note that the surcharges applicable to tax debts are not considered as a sanction, but as compensation in favor of the National Treasury by the taxpayer due to non-compliance with payment terms.

PRESCRIPTION OF THE RIGHT TO RETURN

Paragraph 3 of Article 88 grants a period of five (5) years to the prescription of the right to refund undue payments, plus or balances in favor of taxpayers, increasing with this for two years what is currently available by the Article 737 of the Tax Code, which undoubtedly reflects a benefit for taxpayers who wish to exercise their right to return.

Within the previous topic, it is vital to bear in mind that the period described above will begin to run from the day following that in which the undue payment was made, or the balance in favor was constituted.

TAX REGULARIZATION

The procedure of tax regularization is contained in articles 127, 128, 208, 262 and 324 numeral 11 within the list that we address.

As a first point, the Law defines tax regularization proposal as a preparatory administrative act, through a non definitive and irrefutable resolution, corresponding to motivations of charges that may be made to a taxpayer for evasion or fraud tax, facts or omissions that have been known and include non-compliance with tax regulations of an administrative nature by the taxpayer or taxpayer, amounts unduly paid in their prejudice for purposes of compensation or return or to offset the adjusted amount proposed by the Tax Administration .

The proposal for tax regularization must contain:

- Auditor's report
- Elements that support the audit
- Work documents
- Exact and detailed relationship supporting the prior determination of the tax base.

The taxpayer will have up to 20 working days, counted from the day following the day on which the notification of the tax regularization proposal takes effect, to express its agreement, request a conclusive agreement, -when appropriate- or to formulate in writing their disclaimers and offer the evidence that supports your right.

It is important to note that document submitted by the taxpayer can't be understood as a claim action.

Once this term has expired, we are faced with two assumptions: acquiescence or disagreement on the part of the taxpayer.

The issuance of conformity by the taxpayer must be made through a simple note addressed to the Director General of Revenue and signed

by the taxpayer, or his legal representative duly authorized for such action, if he can't sign it.

The proposal for tax regularization on which the taxpayer has issued, except in the case of an error of fact, can't be modified. In case of disagreement on the part of taxpayer, Tax Administration will issue a decision, which will be definitive administrative act, susceptible to challenge (Appeal for reconsideration before the Administrative Tax Judge or Appeal before the Tax Administrative Tribunal in accordance with the provisions of article 343), which will consider the allegations and evidence of the taxpayer, to cancel or confirm totally or partially the tax regularization proposal, determining the omitted taxes, their surcharges and applying the corresponding penalties.

A superficial reading of the above considerations suggests that the process of tax regularization is only a step prior to the traditional resolution issued by the General Revenue Office at the time of making additional scopes or settlements against taxpayers after conducting an audit. by this institution; however, the relevance of this figure is greater than what can be perceived at first sight.

With optimism we conceive tax regulation procedure as an opportunity before punishment, that opportunity that our parents grant us to confess or expose our reasons before punishment is more severe, an instrument used by legal system to equate, to some extent, the impartial playing field in which the tax proceedings are currently taking place, thus ensuring greater participation by the taxpayers before the Judge-Party known as the Directorate General of Revenue issues its verdict.

AMOUNT EQUAL OR GREATER AT \$ 300,000.00 EXCLUDING PENALTIES, RECHARGES AND INTERESTS

When the actions of supervising official determine that there are indications of a possible cause of tax evasion or fraud, which must be certified by a qualified official as an authorized public accountant of the Tax Administration, configuring a possible injury to the National Treasury of an equal amount or greater than B/. 300,000.00 excluding fines, surcharges and interest, a proposal for tax regularization will not be issued, instead a report duly endorsed by the Director General of Revenues and an authorized public accountant of Tax Administration to the Administrative Court must be submitted. Tax, who in accordance with paragraph 11 of Article 324 of the Tax Procedure Code, will have a term of 30 working days to evaluate and rule on the existence of minimum evidence of alleged commission of the crime or if the complaint is dismissed as frivolous reckless or lack of evidence. This evaluation will be carried out by the Technical Unit of the Tax Administrative Tribunal.

If the Tax Administrative Tribunal determines that there are minimum evidentiary elements of the alleged commission of the offense, a reasoned report will be sent to the Director General of Revenue, signed by the Substantiation Magistrate and the head of the Tax Technical Unit of the TAT, so that it formulates the complaint to the Public Ministry, who in turn will decide whether or not to initiate the investigation in the judicial sphere.

If the charges are dismissed by the TAT, it will send a note to the DGI explaining the reasons why the complaint shouldn't be sent to the Public Ministry, following the case the corresponding administrative procedure.

TAX ILLICITS

The law considers as tax illicit any breach of substantial or formal tax regulations, by commission or omission, that is typified and sanctioned in the Tax Procedure Code, or legal norms of legal rank.

The types of responses established in the Code are the following:

- Moratorium interests.
- Fine, which may be proportional or a fixed sum.
- Temporary closure of the establishment where the infraction was committed (in specific cases, with recidivism, up to two working days and must be authorized by the Tax Administrative Court).
- Arrest (Just in Judicial competence cases).

Depending on their severity, these are classified in levels, tombs and administrative tax evasion or criminal tax fraud, should be classified as unitary, applying the highest penalty for once, which is agreed with the principle of non-concurrence in Article 262 of the CPT.

However, the persistence of formal obligations is considered separate infractions.

Within the foregoing, article 288 of the law will be published in the analysis of the application of the subject in tax matters. In this sense, the legal system refers to the pecuniary obligations in the case of tax infractions, recourse is made to the coercive jurisdiction for the restitution of their rights, over the deprivation of liberty.

This guide follows intimately the principle of the maximum relationship of Criminal Law, which implies that criminal responses have

been limited to the circle of the indispensable and is used only to the failure of any other form of compensation or protection.

The sanction of the Judicial Authority as a result of a conviction will not exclude the imposition of an administrative sanction, unless the sanction for a crime is a pecuniary component.

FISCAL CRIMINAL DEFRAUDATION OR ADMINISTRATIVE FISCAL EVASION

It is understood as criminal tax fraud or administrative tax evasion all forms or established behaviors adopted by a taxpayer to not pay or reduce their taxes violating the Law with fraudulent character.

Some examples of fraudulent means to avoid paying or paying less in penalized taxes are:

- Substantial anomalies in accounting and books or accounting records established by law.
- Intentional failure to document taxed transfer operations with you being legally bound to do so.
- Have the transfer tax on personal property and services and not declare it or deliver it to the Tax Administration.
- Fractionation of an immovable property subject to property tax (763-A) or simulation of acts that imply a reduction in the assessed value or partial or total omission of the tax payment for oneself or another; among others.

As we can see, the essential difference between administrative tax evasion and criminal tax fraud lies in the amount of the amount defrauded, thus varying the competent entity (administrative or judicial) depending on

whether the value is lower (Administrative Competition) or equal or higher (jurisdiction of the Public Ministry) of the B/. 300,000.00, excluding fines, surcharges and interest.

It is important to highlight that the Tax Administration can not impose fines or administrative sanctions when the taxpayer is sanctioned in the judicial sphere, which harmonizes with the principle of non bis in idem.

COMPLAINT

The Law recognizes the figure of the whistleblower, who beyond being a mere snitch with the right to reward, translates as one who can report to the Directorate General of Revenue any type of infringement or unlawful of those established in the Tax Code and other laws tax, yes, under certain requirements.

The complainant may participate as a coadjutant and must submit his complaint in writing, must deal with facts unknown to the Tax Administration and provide sufficient information that leads to the discovery of the illicit.

The tax administration will have 30 calendar days to accept or reject the complaint filed by the complainant, corresponding to it a reward equivalent to 25% of the amounts collected as a direct result of your complaint, if it succeeds.

Obviously, the Law excludes officials or former officials of the Ministry of Economy and Finance of the right to this reward for filing a complaint based on information obtained in the exercise of their functions, which falls on its weight, but is more than necessary considering the idiosyncrasy of our country.

As a counterweight to the reward, the Law contemplates the possibility of requesting compensation for damages for the taxpayer, in case the competent judicial authorities determine the existence of recklessness or bad faith on the part of the complainant, without prejudice to the corresponding sanctions. In the same sense, that official who initiates an investigation for tax fraud and demonstrates recklessness on his part, will be subject to the corresponding sanctions.

The implications of tax debt, extension of statute of limitations of the right to reimbursement, emergence and regulation of tax regularization, the determination of the lawful tax, and conception of the tax denounce are the premature matters within Law 76 of February 13, 2019, and it is due to the precociousness of his birth that could cause some anxiety, however the restlessness can not prevent us from appreciating the opportunities that this -almost effective- law brings with it. Clear definitions of debts and infractions, more time to request refunds, a more participatory procedure, and a complaint promoted with the promise of a possible reward or the possible punishment represented by the payment of compensation.

The glass half full, or half empty, the truth is that the water is in the middle and we must drink it to know how it is. *L&E*

Politics



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MAY 5, 2019, GENERAL PANAMANIAN ELECTIONS

The general elections in the Republic of Panama will be held on Sunday, May 5, 2019. The President and Vice President of the Republic, deputies to the Central American Parliament, deputies to the National Assembly, mayors, corregimiento representatives and councilors will be elected, all with their respective alternates.

There are seven duly constituted political parties that will participate in the electoral event, being they Democratic Change, Democratic Revolutionary Party, Panameñista Party, Nationalist Republican Liberal Movement (MOLIRENA), Popular Party, Alliance

Party and Broad Front for Democracy. Of these seven political parties, six participated in 2014 elections, with exception of the Alliance Party. Also for second time, three presidential candidates will participate for the free application, as they did in the 2014 elections, in accordance with our electoral laws.

In total there are four presidential candidates representing the constituted political parties, these being:

- **Laurentino Cortizo**, supported by the Democratic Revolutionary Party and the Nationalist

Republican Liberal Movement (MOLIRENA).

- **Rómulo Roux**, supported by the Democratic Change Party and the Alliance Party.

- **José Isabel Blandón**, for the Panameñista and Popular parties (of the ruling party).

- **Saúl Méndez**, for the Broad Front for Democracy.

And three presidential candidates for free nomination:

- **Ana Matilde Gómez**

- **Ricardo Lombana**

- **Marco Ameglio**

It is important to highlight and take into consideration the background of presidential votes obtained individually by each of the political parties participating in this electoral tournament since 1994.

YEAR	PRESIDENTIAL VOTES OBTAINED	DEPUTIES OBTAINED
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DEMOCRATIC REVOLUCIONARY PARTY

1994	326,095	30
1999	402,418	34
2004	649,157	41
2009	542,966	22
2014	521,842	25

NATIONALIST REPUBLICAN LIBERAL MOVEMENT (MOLIRENA)

1994	115,478	5
1999	139,854	3
2004	60,106	4
2009	92,812	2

2014	98,519	2
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- The parties listed above support Nito Cortizo.

ARNULFIST PARTY

1994	211,780	14
1999	366,708	18
2004	162,840	17
2009	288,833	19
2014	563,584	12

DEMOCRATIC CHRISTIAN PARTY 1994-1999-2004

POPULAR PARTY 2009-2014

1994	25,476	1
1999	140,824	5
2004	62,007	1
2009	34,478	1
2014	161,178	1

- The last two parties listed above support José Isabel Blandón.

DEMOCRATIC CHANGE PARTY

1999	36,009	2
2004	79,491	3
2009	502,411	12
2014	483,309	30

ALLIANCE PARTY

The Alliance Party participates in general elections for the first time in 2019.

- The last two listed parties support the candidacy of Rómulo Roux.

BROAD FRONT FOR DEMOCRACY (FAD) (FAD)

2014	11,127	
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- In 2014 the FAD was extinguished because it did not reach the minimum number to survive as a political party according to the electoral rules.

- The FAD was registered for the second time by Resolution No. 2 of February 19, 2018, to participate in the electoral contest of May 5, 2019.

FREE POSTULATION

2014	Three presidential candidates for free application only achieved amount of 14,643 votes among the three.
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It is important to remember electoral participation in last electoral processes from 1994, for its subsequent analysis, with respect to electoral participation of May 5, 2019.

YEAR OF GENERAL ELECTIONS	PERCENTAGE OF PARTICIPATION (%)
1994	73.7
1999	76.2
2004	76.88
2009	73.99
2014	76.76

It will also be significant to take into account result of the vote that will be reached on May 5 regarding number of members of the Legislative Body (deputies) who will be re-elected in said electoral event. For these elections, 51 deputies from a total of 71 current members of the Legislative Body will opt for

reelection. As precedent of the reelection of deputies in last electoral processes happened in our country we have the following:

- In the electoral tournament of May 8, 1994, the re-election of deputies represented 18% of the new Legislative Body for the period 1994 to 1999.

- In the general elections of May 2, 1999, the re-election of the deputies achieved that 43% of the total of the members of the National Assembly of Deputies repeated for the five-year period 1999 to 2004.

- In the electoral tournament of May 2, 2004, reelection represented 41% of the Legislative Body for the period 2004 to 2009.

- In the general elections of May 3, 2009, the re-election reached 33% of the members of the National Assembly of Deputies for the period 2009 to 2014.

- In the last electoral process, held on May 4, 2014, re-election represented 55% of the Legislative Body, therefore more than half of the members of the National Assembly returned to occupy their respective positions.

After shedding light on the most fundamental precedents of the previous five electoral processes that we have had in the country, we can be attentive to the circumstances described below, which will be present in this very important electoral event for Panamanians:

- It will be followed with great interest the final result of the electoral participation of citizens in these elections on May 5, taking into account that in Panama voters have always attended a high percentage of the electoral elections, as

evidenced by the fact that the minor was of 73.7% in 1994 and the highest was 76.88% in 2004.

- In relation to the independent presidential candidates, whose first appearance in the electoral elections in Panama occurred in 2014, the three independent candidates in their totality represented 0.8% of the total valid votes, unlike the presidential candidates corresponding to the political parties together, those who represented 98.66% of the votes. On the occasion of the upcoming elections on May 5, without a doubt, the number of votes that the independent presidential candidates will achieve will increase considerably compared to those obtained in 2014.

The foregoing is also expected in terms of seats for deputies as independents, who will achieve some deputies mainly in certain electoral circuits within the Province of Panama, unlike a single seat of independent deputy that was obtained in the Circuit 8-7 in the Province of Panama in the 2014 election campaign.

The increase in votes of independent presidential candidates will be as a consequence of some generalized repudiation of the political parties, aimed mainly at their leaders, who are failing to promote confidence on part of voting population and that unfortunately when they achieve political power, they fall short of fulfilling most of their electoral promises, which creates a certain lack of credibility towards politicians, because those responsible for representing parties, directing and administering them, instead of strengthening them, are unfortunately weakening them. It is evident that in politics everything is possible, until the triumph of an unexpected candidate, as well as that alliances between political parties have been constituted that no

Panamanian citizen could have imagined that could be made, but in our opinion hardly a presidential candidate independent will achieve the electoral triumph in the elections of May 5.

Another issue that originates a question mark in this election tournament is about the possibility of re-election of deputies who will participate in these elections. The truth is that there are some Panamanian movements and citizens who have launched a campaign aimed at the re-election of the current members of the Legislative Body, the deputies of the National Assembly, as a corollary of the displeasure of Panamanian society disturbed by the obvious excesses committed with abuse of state assets. How many of the 51 members of the Legislative Body that aspire to reelection will be re-elected? In our opinion, a respectable percentage of deputies who aspire to reelection will be negatively affected by the decision of the electoral population. However, the majority of the so-called "fixed" deputies in each electoral circuit will be re-elected, simply as a regrettable consequence of the vices and irregularities and customs that still exist in our creole politics.

With regard to the Panamanian left, represented in this May 5 electoral tournament by the Broad Front for Democracy, better known as the FAD, it is likely that it will face the same fate as it did in the last electoral campaign of 2014, that is, extinguish for not complying with the minimum quota to remain in force as a political party. The left under the garb of different party denominations has never represented a real alternative to the electoral op-

tion of triumph through our political history.

We are left at the end with the political parties and their presidential candidates who will compete in the elections on May 5, and the votes they will obtain individually by comparing them with those obtained in the previous electoral tournaments mentioned in this article.

It will be very difficult, not to say impossible, for the pro-government parties, Panameñista and Popular, to individually achieve the number of presidential votes they obtained in the 2014 election campaign, so in my opinion they are discarded of an electoral presidential victory.

Although the electoral triumph of one candidate over another will be far from being considered overwhelming, this will correspond, in spite of everything, to a presidential candidate belonging to a political party since it will have the important characteristics for electoral victory, such as the support of a party with a true electoral organization at the level of the entire republic, presence of the required human resources -distributed at the national level through the jury to defend the votes of the party-, the capacity of mobilization of the voters on the day of the elections throughout the country, a broad base that is also well structured, and candidates in all positions of popular election throughout the country, who will also be vote-makers. Whoever has all the above will be the next President, which in my opinion already has a name and surname. *L&E*



Panamanian

ECONOMY

Source: GCRP

MONTHLY INDEX OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITY (IMAE): FEBRUARY 2019

The Monthly Index of Economic Activity (IMAE) in the Republic, grew by 3.65%, for February 2019 compared to the same period of 2018.

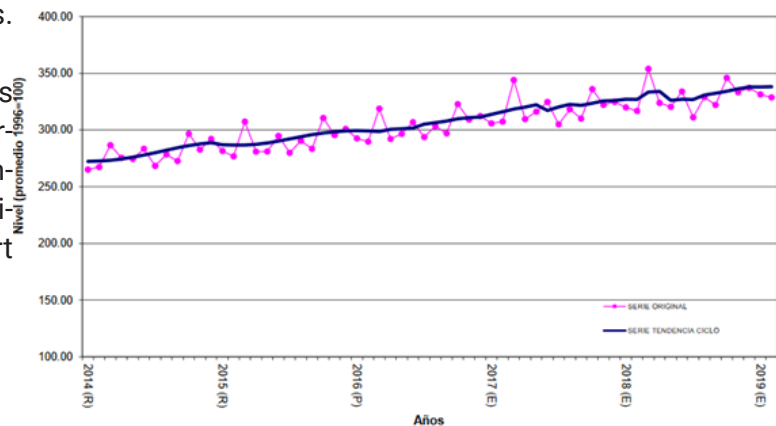
The interannual monthly variation referring to February 2019 was 3.74%, compared to its similar of the previous year.

Among the categories of economic activity that presented the most favorable performance were: transport, storage and communications, electricity and water, and hotels and restaurants.

Transportation and communications services registered a positive performance, thanks to the performance of the Panama Canal, the container movement of the National Port

System in TEU and telecommunications. The electricity and water supply category, in its production, showed a positive result due to the greater generation of thermal energy and the contribution of the new generation of energy from natural gas. Other activities that showed growth at a slower pace were those of trade and of manufacturing and agricultural production. *L&E*

República de Panamá
 CONTRALORÍA GENERAL DE LA REPÚBLICA
 Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Censo
 ÍNDICE MENSUAL DE ACTIVIDAD ECONÓMICA DE PANAMÁ
 ENERO 2014 - FEBRERO 2019



COMMENTARY ON THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI): MARCH 2019

Source: GCRP

The groups that showed an increase in National Urban CPI for March compared to February 2019 were: Transport with 2.4%; Alcoholic beverages and tobacco with 1.5%; Communications with 0.7%; Health with 0.5%; Miscellaneous goods and services with 0.3%; Housing, water, electricity and gas; Furniture, articles for home and for ordinary conservation of the home, and Restaurants and hotels all with 0.1%.

Increase observed in the Transport group was due to the increase in three of its seven classes. The greatest variation was in the class “Fuel and lubricants for personal transport equipment” with 8.3%, as a result of the increase in the price of fuel for automobiles.

The group Alcoholic beverages and tobacco re-

gistered an increase in two of its four classes. The biggest variation was in the “Beer” class with 2.9%.

Communications group presented an increase in one of its two classes, “Telephone service” with 0.9%, due to the increase in the price of the mobile telephone service.

The increase recorded in the Health group is a product of the increase in six of its seven classes. The greatest variation was in the “Medical Services” class with 1.1%, due to the increase reflected in the price of medical consultation.

The increase presented in the group Miscellaneous goods and services, was due to the increase registered in four of its ten classes.

The biggest variations were in the “Health re-

lated insurance” classes with 1.9%, product of the increase in the price of health insurance, and “Social protection” with 1.8%, due to the increase in the price of day care services.

Group Housing, water, electricity and gas presented increases in two of its eight classes. The class with greatest variation was “Materials for conservation and repair of housing.” With 1.3%, due to the increase in price of materials for home repairs.

The increase reflected in the group Furniture, articles for the home and for the ordinary conservation of the home, was due to the increase in five of its eleven classes. The class with the greatest variation was “Repair of furniture” with 1.0%, due to the rise in the price of furniture maintenance services.

Restaurants and Hotels group showed an increase in one of its two classes, “Restaurants, cafés and similar establishments” with 0.1%, due to the increase in the price of meals and non-alcoholic beverages outside the home.

The Apparel and Footwear and Education groups remained unchanged.

The groups with negative variations were: Food and non-alcoholic beverages with 0.4%, and Recreation and culture with 0.1%. The group Food and non-alcoholic

beverages showed decrease in seven of their eleven classes. The greatest variation was in the class “Fruits” with 3.5%.

Decrease observed in group Recreation and culture, was due to low recorded in four of its sixteen classes. The biggest variation was in “Media for recording” class with 0.9%.

- The National Urban CPI for March 2019 compared to its similar for 2018 showed a variation of -0.2%.

When comparing the National Urban CPI of March 2019, with its similar of 2018, the following decreases were observed: Clothing and footwear 1.5%; Transportation 1.1%; Communications 0.9%; Recreation and culture 0.6%; and Housing, water, electricity and gas 0.2%.

The groups that showed increases were: Alcoholic beverages and tobacco 1.7%; Health 1.2%; Restaurants and hotels 1.1%; Education 0.8%; Miscellaneous goods and services 0.3%; Food and non-alcoholic beverages 0.2%; and Furniture, articles for the home and for the ordinary conservation of the home 0.1%.

Next, graph with monthly incidence by group of Urban National IPC of March 2019:

**CUADRO 1. INCIDENCIA Y VARIACIÓN PORCENTUAL MENSUAL DEL ÍNDICE DE PRECIOS AL CONSUMIDOR NACIONAL URBANO, SEGÚN GRUPO DE ARTÍCULOS Y SERVICIOS: MARZO DE 2019
BASE 2013=100**

Grupo de artículos y servicios	Ponderaciones	Incidencia	Variación mensual
TOTAL	100.0	0.4	0.4
Alimentos y Bebidas no Alcohólicas	22.4	-0.081	-0.4
Bebidas Alcohólicas y Tabaco	0.7	0.010	1.5
Prendas de Vestir y Calzado	7.7	0.000	0.0
Vivienda, Agua, Electricidad y Gas	8.5	0.010	0.1
Muebles, Artículos para el Hogar y para la Conservación Ordinaria del Hogar	7.8	0.006	0.1
Salud	3.4	0.016	0.5
Transporte	16.8	0.391	2.4
Comunicaciones	4.3	0.029	0.7
Recreación y Cultura	9.7	-0.005	-0.1
Educación	2.4	-0.001	0.0
Restaurantes y Hoteles	6.7	0.012	0.1
Bienes y Servicios Diversos	9.8	0.026	0.3

0.0 Cuando la cantidad es menor a la mitad de la unidad o fracción decimal adoptada para la expresión del dato.

Corresponds to the contribution of each group with respect to the total variation of the National Urban Index, therefore, the sum of the incidents results in the variation of the index. *L&E*

CUADRO 2. EVOLUCIÓN DEL ÍNDICE DE PRECIOS AL CONSUMIDOR NACIONAL URBANO, SEGÚN GRUPO DE ARTÍCULOS Y SERVICIOS: ENERO-MARZO DE 2019

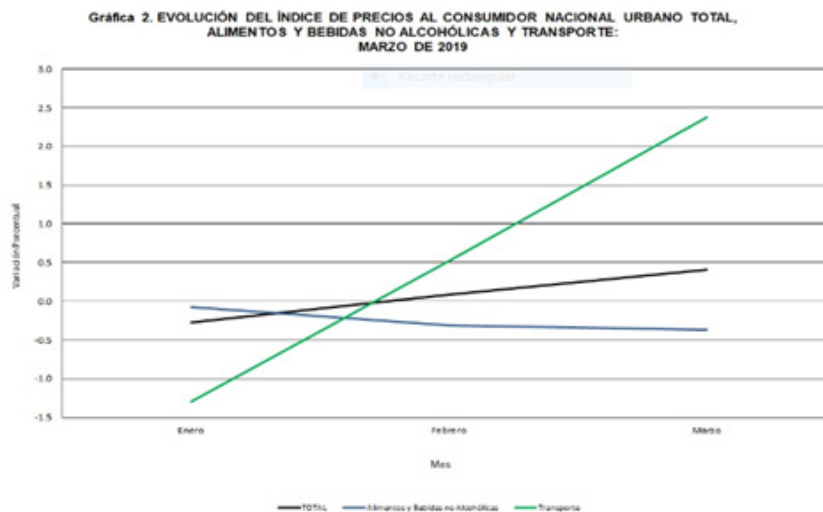
Grupo de artículos y servicios	Variación porcentual mensual		
	2019		
	Enero	Febrero	Marzo
TOTAL	-0.3	0.1	0.4
Alimentos y Bebidas no Alcohólicas	-0.1	-0.3	-0.4
Bebidas Alcohólicas y Tabaco	0.7	0.2	1.5
Prendas de Vestir y Calzado	0.1	-0.2	0.0
Vivienda, Agua, Electricidad y Gas	-0.8	0.2	0.1
Muebles, Artículos para el Hogar y para la Conservación Ordinaria del Hogar	0.0	0.3	0.1
Salud	0.1	0.0	0.5
Transporte	-1.3	0.5	2.4
Comunicaciones	-0.1	-0.3	0.7
Recreación y Cultura	-	0.2	-0.1
Educación	-0.3	1.0	0.0
Restaurantes y Hoteles	0.3	0.4	0.1
Bienes y Servicios Diversos	0.0	-0.1	0.3

- Cantidad nula o cero.

0.0 Cuando la cantidad es menor a la mitad de la unidad o fracción decimal adoptada para la expresión del dato.

THE PANAMA CANAL REACHES SIX THOUSAND NEOPANAMAX TRANSITS

Source: ACP



The Panama Canal reached a new mark with the transit of the ship neopanamax number six thousand (6,000), reaffirming the impact that the interoceanic road has had for the world maritime trade.

The liquefied natural gas (LNG) vessel Energy Liberty made its transit southward from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean. The boat built in 2018, measures 300 meters long (length) and 49 meters wide (width) and has the capacity to transport up to 165,000 cubic meters of LNG.

The vessel transports LNG from the Cove Point terminal in Maryland, United States, and goes to Japan. This is the sixth transit of Energy Liberty by the Panama Canal since its inauguration.

Of the 6,000 Neopanamax vessels that have transited to date, more than 50 percent have been in the container ship segment; followed by 26% of the type of liquefied petroleum gas; and another 11% of LNG. Other vessels that have used the neopanamax locks are dry and liquid bulk carriers, vehicle carriers and passengers. *L&E*

THE IDB IDENTIFIES THE CHALLENGES AND ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN TO CONSOLIDATE THE DEVELOPMENT OF PANAMA

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According to the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), Panama has become the country with the highest per capita income in Latin America, has consolidated its macroeconomic framework, the interest rate has remained among the lowest in the region, among other factors favorable, managing to maintain the degree of investment since 2010.

The driving force of Panama's economic success has been the expansion of the Panama Canal, the direct impact of the expansion has been fundamental for the economic growth of our country, as well as the secondary effects obtained through private activity. All of the above, together with the fact that Panama has a logistics conglomerate, financial strength, macroeconomic stability, high level of connectivity and the cosmopolitan nature of the city, are very

important factors to boost tourism and foreign investment for the establishment of multinational companies in Panama.

Panama has managed to reach the category of high income country; However, it is necessary to take the necessary measures to maintain this status, for which, according to the IDB, it must face four fundamental challenges:

COMPETITIVENESS AND PRODUCTIVE TRANSFORMATION

The productivity and competitiveness of Panama contain different aspects, because, although Panama has had great success in the development of some sectors, such as the logistics conglomerate, the capture of foreign activity, as well as the development of special regimes and enclaves, other sectors are lagging behind, so we can mention

that Panama maintains weaknesses in technological preparation, an aspect that must be reviewed to achieve greater progress. Private investment has been basis for rapid economic expansion of Panama, mainly real estate sector. Likewise, in last ten years, construction has grown by 350%.

On the other hand, foreign trade has lost efficiency in recent years, imports have declined, mainly due to the decline in re-exports from the Colon Free Zone and the decline in national exports. This has resulted in a net increase in net debt with the rest of the world..

EDUCATION

It is generally known that in the education system of our country there are flaws that must be corrected efficiently to achieve the human capital formation that our country currently needs.

In the last test of the International Program for the Evaluation of Students (PISA) where he participated (2009), Panama obtained a lower score not only compared to the countries of success, but also compared to Latin America, in the three categories: reading, mathematics and science.

The educational deficiencies that our country has directly affect labor market, because as it is currently happening, companies have difficulties finding skilled workers, which generates foreigners occupying these positions and conditions the Panamanians to obtain jobs with little remuneration and find it more difficult to fully comply with the responsibilities that a household requires, thus raising the poverty rate in our country.

INSTITUTIONAL QUALITY

What do we call institutional quality?

It is the sum of six categories of World Bank Governance indicators: 1) control of corruption, 2) government effectiveness, 3) political stability, 4) quality of regulation, 5) rule of law and 6) surrender of accounts.

Adequate levels of accountability and transparency, as well as a bureaucracy and efficient regulatory frameworks are some of the essential factors that Panama must address, in order to achieve the consolidation of its development so that in this way it can improve its institutional quality.

At present, in Panama there are institutional deficiencies, among which we can mention; public accounting, the efficiency of the tax administration, the scope of digital government, public management of the education system, among others.

SOCIAL AND TERRITORIAL COHESION

Unfortunately, the economic success of Panama has not been achieved at a social level; what is not only about social justice, but it affects the necessary bases to guarantee a sustained growth.

In that sense, we can indicate that important differences exist between urban and rural areas. Needless to say, poverty in Panama remains linked to ethnicity, since indigenous areas are the ones with highest degree of poverty and extreme poverty.

On the other hand, inequality in Panama

is linked to territorial imbalances, in other words, highest economic performance is carried out in the Province of Panama, which considerably affects development of economic activities of the other provinces that often lack of adequate administrative and technical skills, as well as financial resources necessary to carry out financial activities that achieve greater economic development in them. Lack of infrastructure, investment in services has limited provinces to their economic development, since they lack employment opportunities for their inhabitants.

Regarding the above, it is interesting that our country, despite its small size, maintains this great territorial imbalance.

On the other hand, the tax system of our country has a low collection capacity. According to the BID-CIAT fiscal data, Panama's tax revenues were 10.9% of GDP, the second lowest figure in Latin America, which is not support to maintain and increase our economic level.

However, in addition to the points indicated above, there is also another great challenge that we must face and that is water resources. The next government and the next ones will have to work to mitigate and face climate change, which according to news sources this year we will be much more affected by the El Niño atmospheric phenomenon, which can extend until October this year and we know that the Water is the most important asset of our country, with which all activities are developed and can be affected at the level of rivers.

Therefore, it is necessary to improve man-

agement of water resources, increase the coverage of urban drainage systems and improve the management of solid waste.

In summary, it is necessary to work in parallel in each of the challenges indicated above to achieve effective improvements that maintain and increase the economic success of our country, taking into account education, which is the fundamental factor, because good education system will provide greater knowledge and professional preparation to our inhabitants, resulting in greater opportunities in places of work with higher remuneration.

The truth is that Panama faces the great challenge of consolidating its development and to successfully overcome it, it must advance in the four areas mentioned: competitiveness, education, institutional quality and social cohesion, as well as adequately address the challenge of water resources and change climate. In that sense, it should take initiatives that encourage achieving short and medium term goals, among which we can mention:

COMPETITIVENESS AND PRODUCTIVE TRANSFORMATION

- Continue promoting the diversification and generation of greater added value to the logistics services and develop links between the economic activities of the Canal basin and the provinces.
- Improve the institutional capacity of the energy sector, its regulatory management and the effectiveness of State companies, as well as achieve the universalization of the service in a sustainable manner.
- Boosting the digital economy, reducing the

urban-rural gap, increasing connectivity and developing content generation.

- Effectively take advantage of extractive industries, adapting legal framework, strengthening regulatory capacity and tax regulations, promoting formation of qualified human capital and minimizing socio-environmental impacts.
- Enable a robust institutional framework for the participation of the private sector in the financing and development of infrastructure.

EDUCATION

- Increase educational financing with a focus on equity, decentralization and transparency.
- Improve teacher selection and certification processes, introducing more effective mechanisms for hiring.
- Expand the coverage of pre-school education.
- Improve the institutional capacity of the providers of technical-professional training and training, identifying the needs of the demand for skills, promoting curricular development according to these needs and ensuring quality and continuous improvement.
- Reorganization of the educational system and use of information systems to improve their performance, promoting educational quality.

INSTITUTIONAL QUALITY

- Modernize the system and the tax administration.
- More efficient financial and public expenditure management, improving the generation of information, reducing delays in the prior control of transactions, promoting greater

coordination between the Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF) and the Comptroller's Office, and reducing fragmentation of processes.

- Strengthen financial institutions, given importance of the sector in the country.
- Strengthen the judicial system and continue modernizing the prison system. Improve professional career and budget autonomy to judicial bodies; simplify judicial processes and introduce technological solutions applied in the criminal justice system into the civil justice system; effective practices in the diagnosis, segregation and treatment of the penal population or models of intervention, rehabilitation and reintegration specific for vulnerable populations.

SOCIAL AND TERRITORIAL COHESION

- Increase social protection and improve its efficiency. Social spending in Panama does not correspond to the level of income of the country.
- Analyze the effectiveness and equity of generalized subsidies, such as gas, electricity, or transport, considering the possible targeting and thus freeing resources to expand the supply of quality public services.
- Achieve a more efficient and integral health system, strengthening the capacity of the regional directorates of the Ministry of Health (MINSa).
- Expand access and quality of essential health services in areas of greatest poverty. Strengthen the health regions so that they become the managers of an Integrated Health Service Network.
- Ensure greater equity in public spending on health. *L&E*

World

ECONOMY

OIL PRICES DROP IN 2019, ACCORDING TO FORECASTS THAT INDICATE A RATE OF GROWTH UNDER THE EXPECTED WORLD AND AN INCREASE IN THE OFFER OF COUNTRIES THAT ARE NOT MEMBERS OF OPEC



Source: World Bank

According to forecasts, crude oil prices will average USD 66 per barrel in 2019 and USD 65 per barrel in 2020, which represents a downward revision compared to October forecasts, following the prospects of a world growth lower than expected and production higher than expected in the United States, said the World Bank.

According to the forecasts presented by the Bank in the April edition of its Commodity Markets Outlook report, metal prices will continue to recover in 2019, after a sharp drop in second half of the

year. 2018. The recovery gained momentum thanks to the stabilization of activity in China after weakening that occurred towards end of year, as well as several supply deficits. "It has become clear that the cycle of commodity prices has come to an end, which is causing difficulties for exporting countries, although it could provide opportunities for importers," said Ceyla Pazarbasioglu, vice president of Equitable Growth, Finance and Institutions of the World Bank Group. "The exporting countries would have to apply economic diversification measures to adapt to the slower increase in income derived from basic products, while importers

could take advantage of the decrease in the prices of these products to increase investments.” According to projections, prices of agricultural products will fall 2.6% this year, but will rebound in 2020 due to lower crop production and higher costs of energy and fertilizers. An escalation of trade tensions would probably further reduce prices; however, an increase in energy costs higher than expected could result in higher than expected price increases.

“The outlook for commodity prices is very sensitive to policy-related risks, especially in case of oil,” said Ayhan Kose, director of Development Perspective Analysis Group at the World Bank. “The outlook for oil could change as the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and its partners decide to expand production cuts, the degree of compliance with recent decisions on sanctions against Iran, and the imminent changes in the regula-

tions on emissions derived from marine fuel “.

After a fall at the end of 2018, oil prices have risen steadily since the beginning of 2019, as OPEC and its partners made cuts in production and output decreased in Venezuela and Iran. It is expected that oil shale production in the United States will remain solid after the rise recorded in 2018. It is estimated that energy prices in general - which also includes natural gas and coal - will average a 7 in 2019. 9% off compared to 2018.

In a highlighted section it is pointed out that, when countries intervene to reduce the effect of food price fluctuations on their citizens, collective intervention of a large number of countries can have an opposite effect to the expected one, as well as increase movements in world prices, to the detriment of most vulnerable populations. *L&E*

Índices de precios nominales (reales y previstos) y provisiones revisadas

	Índices de precios (2010=100)					Variación trimestral (%)		Variación anual (%)		Revision ²	
	2016	2017	2018	2019 ¹	2020 ¹	2018Q4	2019Q1	2019	2020	2019 ¹	2020 ¹
Energía	55	68	87	82	81	-9.5	-8.0	-5.4	-1.4	-9.6	-4.6
Prod. no energéticos²	79	84	85	83	85	-1.5	0.9	-2.1	1.4	-2.4	-2.2
Agricultura	87	87	87	84	86	-2.2	0.9	-2.6	1.7	-3.2	-3.2
Fertilizantes	78	74	82	86	88	6.6	-5.4	4.8	1.7	3.6	3.4
Metales y minerales	63	78	83	81	82	-1.0	1.7	-1.9	0.8	-1.2	-0.8
Metales preciosos²	97	98	97	100	103	0.7	6.1	2.6	3.1	4.0	7.8
Partidas de memorando											
Petróleo crudo (USD/barril)	43	53	68	68	65	-11.9	-8.0	-3.4	-1.5	-8.0	-4.0
Oro (USD/onza)	1,249	1,258	1,269	1,310	1,360	1.3	6.1	3.2	3.8	65.1	129.0

Fuente: Banco Mundial.

Notas: 1) ¹ y ² indica provisiones. 2) Se han revisado las provisiones respecto del informe de octubre de 2018 expresadas como variación en el valor del índice, excepto en el caso de USD/barril para el crudo y USD/onza para el oro. 3) El índice de precios de productos básicos no energéticos no incluye los metales preciosos. Las definiciones de precios e índices se encuentran en el apéndice C.



NACIONES UNIDAS

CEPAL

FUTURE OF WORK WILL DEPEND ON A MULTILATERALISM THAT RECOGNIZES EQUALITY, INCLUSION AND SUSTAINABILITY

Source: ECLAC

The great tectonic changes that the world of work is going through will require a collaborative response and a multilateralism that recognizes equality, inclusion and sustainability as fundamental constitutive dimensions. This was stated today by authorities and experts from international organizations during an event parallel to the third meeting of the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development, which takes place this week in Santiago, Chile.

The event entitled "For a more promising future. Contributions of the Report of the World Commission on the Future of Work to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development," was organized by the regional office for the Southern Cone

of the International Labor Organization (ILO) and was attended by the Vice Minister of Promotion of the Employment of Peru, Javier Palacios; the Regional Director of the ILO for Latin America and the Caribbean, Juan Hunt; the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Alicia Bárcena; the Regional Director of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), Luis Felipe López-Calva; and the President of the Central Unitaria de Trabajadores (CUT) of Chile, Bárbara Figueroa; among other personalities.

At the meeting, Regional Economist for Latin America and the Caribbean of the ILO, Hugo Ñopo, presented the main conclusions of Report of ILO Global Commission on Future of Labor, which

was commented by Alicia Bárcena and Luis Felipe López- Bald spot. Subsequently, a tripartite panel was held with the participation of Deputy Minister Javier Palacios, Barbara Figueroa, and Sara Smok, Country Manager of Manpower Chile, moderated by the Director of the ILO Office for the Southern Cone, Fabio Bertranou.

According to the report, 344 million jobs must be created before 2030, in addition to the 190 million that are needed to end current unemployment. In addition, it indicates that 36.1% of workers worldwide work more than 48 hours per week, 300 million of them still live in extreme poverty and 2000 million people base their livelihood in the informal economy, among other data.

In his introduction, the Regional Director of the ILO pointed out that there are a series of forces that are radically modifying the world of work, especially technological change, climate change and demographic change. "All this is transferred in challenges that we have to face, referring to the problems that the world of work presents, such as inequality and unemployment. But these challenges are also opportunities," explained Juan Hunt.

In as much, Luis Felipe Lopez-Calva emphasized that the cycles of the technological change are every time more rapid and for that reason it is required to change the approach and to prioritize not only the supply, but also the demand of work. "It is also necessary to separate the social protection of formal employment and attack the misallocation of re-

sources around education for work," he said. In her presentation, the Executive Secretary of ECLAC Alicia Bárcena stressed the importance of building a new multilateral system for development based on cooperation and equality, based on 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as well as like the Paris Agreements on climate change. "The digital economy and automation represent such a profound transformation that it will impact on employment, which is why we must think of different, more collaborative economic forms," Bárcena said.

She added that from ECLAC "we have contributed to put the urgency of strengthening social protection systems at the center of the regional agenda, and we have put the issue of basic income as a policy option to free people from the regional agenda. more serious consequences of material dependency and open spaces for social emancipation and expansion of freedoms".

"We agree with the report (of the ILO) that there are challenges and opportunities in terms of the future of work, however, we reiterate our message that it is necessary to advance in the progressive structural change and diversification of the productive matrix in order to generate jobs productive and decent work. In order to implement the 2030 Agenda, we must change the development paradigm, promoting a great environmental impulse and a social pact to universalize access to basic goods and services and social protection ", emphasized the senior United Nations official. *L&E*

ECLAC REDUCES ITS ESTIMATES OF ECONOMIC GROWTH FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN: GDP WILL INCREASE 1.3% IN 2019

Source: ECLAC

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) updated its projections for growth of economic activity for countries of region during 2019 and slightly lowered its estimate for regional average to 1.3%, compared to 1; 7% expected in December 2018 when the institution launched its annual report Preliminary Overview of Economies of Latin America and the Caribbean 2018.

The new estimate for 2019 - reported today through a press release - is influenced by complex external scenario and domestic dynamics that have been observed in the countries of the region. As in previous years, ECLAC projects a growth dynamic whose intensity is different among countries and subregions, and which responds not only to differentia-

ted impacts of international context in each economy, but also to the behavior of the components of expenditure -mainly consumption and investment-which have followed different patterns in economies of north and south.

According to ECLAC, economic activity in South America will increase from 0.5% in 2018 to 1.1% in 2019. Central America will grow by 3.1% in 2019, with slight downward revisions in most countries. This is a consequence of the greater deceleration expected for the United States this year, which affects not only trade but also remittances that are directed towards this sub-region, among other factors.

ECLAC adds that for Central America, Mexico, the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Cuba

the growth will be 2.0%. Meanwhile, economies of the English-speaking Caribbean and Dutch will also show a growth of 2.0% this year 2019, close to the forecast in December. According to the agency, the main risks to economic performance of the region for 2019 are still a lower global growth rate, low dynamism of world trade, and the financial conditions facing emerging economies. On the other hand, trade war between the United States and China has not yet been solved, which poses a risk not only for global trade and world's medium-term growth rate, but also for the financial conditions that are usually present. linked to the perception of greater or lesser risk on the part of the agents.

Meanwhile, prices of raw materials may also be negatively impacted by an increase in trade restrictions, ECLAC adds. So far, a slight decrease in the average price level of basic products (-5%) is expected for 2019, with energy products presenting the highest drop (-12%). But given a worse than expected worsening of global activity level and world trade, this projection could be revised downwards.

In addition to the above, as in recent years there is still concern about the evolution of China's economy: it is expected that in 2019 it will again slow down, to 6.2% growth. Finally, there are the usual geopolitical risks, to which are added the uncertainties still in force regarding certain processes with not only geopolitical but also economic importance at the global level, such as the Brexit. *L&E*

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NEW SAFETY AND HEALTH PROBLEMS EMERGE AS WORK CHANGES



Foto: Paul Hennessy/NurPhoto

Source: ILO

A new report on Safety and Health at Work (SST), published on the occasion of the World Day for Safety and Health at Work, April 28, reviews the 100 years of achievements of the ILO and highlights some of the challenges and opportunities that arise for the creation of better work environments.

Changes in work practices, demographic changes, technology and the environment are generating new concerns about occupational safety and health (OSH), according to a new report from the International Labor Organization (ILO).

The growing challenges include psychosocial risks, work-related stress and noncommunicable diseases, particularly circulatory and respiratory diseases, and cancer.

The report, Health and Safety at the center of the Future of Work: Taking advantage of 100

years of experience *, will be published on the occasion of World Day for Safety and Health at Work, on April 28. The report examines the 100 years of ILO work devoted to OSH issues, and highlights the emerging problems in the field of safety and health in the world of work.

Currently, each year, more than 374 million people suffer injuries or illnesses due to work-related accidents. It is estimated that the loss of workdays due to OSH-related causes represents almost four percent of world GDP and, in some countries as much as six percent, the report points out.

“As we observe greater prevention for recognized risks, we also see profound changes in our workplaces and in the way we work. We need health and safety structures that reflect these changes, along with a general prevention culture that fosters shared responsi-

bility, “said Manal Azzi, ILO technical specialist on occupational safety and health. Looking to the future, the report highlights four major transformative forces that drive change. He also points out that all offer opportunities for improvement.

- First, technology - such as digitization, robotics and nanotechnology - can also affect psychosocial health and introduce new materials with health risks that have not been estimated. If it is applied correctly, it can also contribute to reduce hazardous exposures, facilitate training and labor inspection.

- Demographic changes are relevant because young workers have significantly high rates of occupational injuries, while older workers need adaptation practices and equipment to work safely. Women - who are entering the workforce in increasing numbers - are more likely to work atypical forms of employment and are at greater risk of suffering musculoskeletal disorders.

- Third, sustainable development and climate change give rise to risks such as air pollution, stress from excess heat, emerging diseases, changes in weather patterns and temperature, which can lead to job losses of work. In the same way, new jobs will be created thanks to the green economy.

- In short, changes in the organization of work can give rise to a flexibility that allows a greater number of people to join the work force, but it can also cause psychosocial problems (for example, insecurity, impairment of privacy and of rest time, or inadequate protection in the area of OSH and social protection) and

excessive work schedules. Currently, approximately 36 percent of the world’s workforce works excessive hours (more than 48 hours per week).

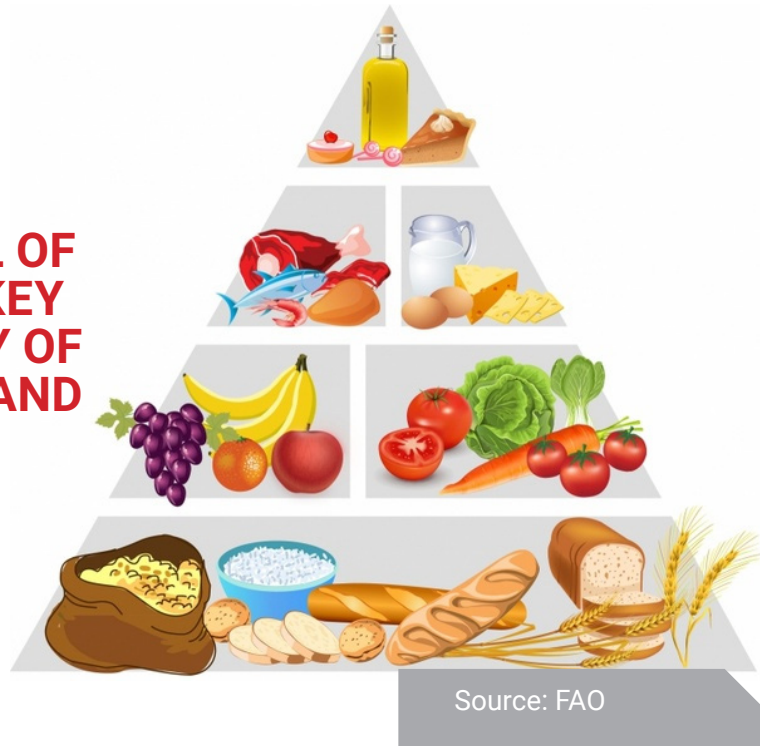
In light of these challenges, the study proposes six areas to which policy makers and other stakeholders should give priority. These include greater efforts to anticipate new and emerging risks to work-related safety and health, the adoption of a more multidisciplinary approach and the establishment of stronger links with public health. It is also necessary to improve public knowledge about OSH issues. Finally, it is necessary to strengthen international labor standards and national legislation, which will require closer collaboration between governments, workers and employers.

The largest proportion, by far, of current work-related deaths - 86 percent - are caused by diseases. In the world, around 6,500 people die every day from occupational diseases, compared to 1,000 from fatal workplace accidents.

The main causes of mortality are circulatory diseases (31 percent), work-related cancers (26 percent) and respiratory diseases (17 percent).

“In addition to the economic cost we must recognize the immeasurable human suffering caused by these diseases and accidents. These are even more tragic because they are largely preventable, “said Manal Azzi. “In addition, the recommendation of the World Commission on the Future of Work should be taken seriously: that occupational safety and health be recognized as a fundamental principle and right at work.” *L&E*

DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF FAO: TRADE HAS A KEY ROLE IN THE SUPPLY OF QUALITY, HEALTHY AND HEALTHY FOODS



International trade is a very important tool to fight hunger, but countries must also ensure that food that is marketed worldwide is of quality, safe and healthy, said today the Director General of FAO, José Graziano da Silva, at the International Forum on Food Safety and Trade hosted by the World Trade Organization (WTO) in Geneva (April 23 to 24).

“Many countries depend heavily on imports to ensure availability of food for their population,” said Graziano da Silva. “Unfortunately, unhealthy ultraprocessed foods respond better to international trade in terms of transportation and preservation than unprocessed food.”

Therefore, he pointed out that trade in these products has already contributed to a substantial increase in the proportion of obese people in the countries that import most of their food, as in the Pacific and Caribbean islands.

The Director General of FAO called on the international community to promote the establishment of trade rules and regulations that promote the consumption of healthy and nutritious foods. “Food safety goes beyond national borders. The food that is produced today in a country can be, in 24 hours, at the other end of the planet and on the way to shops, restaurants and homes,” said the Director General of the World Health Organization (WHO), Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus. “There is no food safety for the rich and another for the poor. The health of all people, no matter where they live or what they eat, should be protected equally.”

“Access to safe food is crucial to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. It is therefore imperative to discuss how sanitary and trade food policies can be aligned to help achieve these shared objectives,” said WTO Director General Roberto Azevêdo. “I am happy to have

the opportunity to focus on this issue at this event today in the WTO. We must consider how to take advantage of the opportunities offered by the technological offer to advance our objectives of food safety and public health. We must be prepared, and that requires informed debate. That is exactly the kind of exchange we try to promote in today's event. "

For food to be safe, it must also be healthy

Speaking at the Forum, the Director-General of FAO pointed out that food safety can not only consist of preventing people from becoming poisoned or ill due to foodborne diseases, but that it must also address the multiple threats to food. health associated with an inadequate diet.

"Today, a lot of ultra-processed foods are still considered safe for consumption," he explained. "But the fact is that the consumption of these ultra-processed foods is the main reason behind the alarming increasing levels of obesity in the world. These foods have little nutritional value, but they have a high content of saturated fats, refined sugar, salt and chemical additives. "

Today, more than 670 million adults are obese. Some projections estimate that the number of obese people will soon exceed that of those who suffer from hunger in the world, which amounted to 821 million in 2017.

He stressed that, while hunger is confined to specific areas, particularly conflict zones and areas affected by climate change, obesity is everywhere.

"We are witnessing the globalization of obesity. For example, eight of the 20 countries in the world with the fastest rates of adult

obesity increase are in Africa," he added.

Graziano da Silva stressed that obesity is associated with many chronic diseases, such as diabetes, heart disease, hypertension and some forms of cancer, and that it costs about US \$ 2 trillion annually in direct medical care and loss of productivity. "This is equivalent - he stressed - to the impact of smoking or the impact of armed conflicts today. So that for foods to be recommended for human consumption, they should not only be safe but also be healthy. "

Expand international standards for food safety
In his speech, Graziano da Silva also highlighted the role of unified standards of food safety to ensure fair trade practices.

"If each government applied different food standards," he warned, "trade would be more expensive and it would be much more difficult to guarantee that the food marketed is safe."

In this context, he pointed out that the Codex Alimentarius - an organ created by FAO and WHO to establish norms that guarantee the safety of food - is "the most relevant international reference for food standards" and urged all countries to increase their Participation in the work of setting Codex standards and facilitating their implementation.

Seizing the opportunities of the digital revolution He insisted that FAO is very committed to working with all countries and partners to promote sustainable food systems and ensure that the food marketed is safe, healthy and nutritious. "There is no food security without food safety and healthy diets," he concluded. *L&E*



WEAKENED WORLD PANORAMA REDUCES LATIN AMERICAN GROWTH PERSPECTIVES

Source: IDB

A combination of economic shocks could limit growth in Latin America and the Caribbean by an annual average of up to 1.7 percent of GDP in 2019-2021, reducing the base growth rate from 2.5 percent to only 0.8 percent, according to the Macroeconomic Report of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB).

The report - Build opportunities to grow in a challenging world - calculates the impacts of slowed growth in the US and Chinese economies, and an increase in US interest rates. It also evaluates the potential impacts on Latin America and the Caribbean caused by a disorderly Brexit (exit from the United Kingdom of the European Union without having reached an agreement), which could reduce the growth projections of the region by an additional half percentage point.

“The potential impacts are alarming because Latin America and the Caribbean is already among the regions with the slowest annual growth rate

in the world,” said Eric Parrado, Chief Economist of the IDB. “We hope to avoid some of the most unfavorable scenarios. Also, the report draws a course by which the region can obtain a great economic boost through investments in transport, telecommunications and other infrastructure works so necessary,” he added.

The analysis, based on a statistical model, includes a section on how countries can close the infrastructure gap.

External shocks are calculated on the basis that China’s GDP is growing 0.9 percent per year more slowly than expected, and that the United States is growing 0.4 percent slower than the baseline scenario for 2019 and 2020, in addition to a financial shock due to falling stock prices in the United States, the United Kingdom and the euro area. Likewise, a slowdown of 1 percent in the United Kingdom as a result of Brexit would take half a point away from the region’s

three-year base scenario, underlining the interconnectedness of the global economy.

On the positive side, the largest economies in the region could help to counteract the headwinds that hit the world economy. A positive shock of only 0.3 percent of GDP growth above benchmarks in the five largest economies in the region (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia and Mexico) would result in a growth of 0, 5 percent higher for all of Latin America and the Caribbean during each of the three years, above the base growth of 2.5 percent, which would be equivalent to a total growth of around 1.5 percent of the regional GDP.

The report also analyzes exposure to debt of countries and companies, as well as the fiscal space to make adjustments. Fiscal deficits remain high in many countries and further adjustments will be necessary to eventually stabilize the debt/GDP ratio.

INFRASTRUCTURE POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

The report identifies the ways in which countries can reinforce their growth in the current context. A greater amount of infrastructure investments, better oriented, could raise the prospects for growth. Public investment is restrained by limited budgets, but the opportunities for obtaining private financing are broad in a context of low interest rates throughout the world, the report says.

For the region on average, calculations indicate that if countries are able to increase their investment levels in the infrastructure sectors enough to close the gap with OECD countries, for example, productivity throughout the economy would grow. 75 percent with respect to the historical average.

Using detailed models from a series of representative countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, it was found that relatively small improvements in efficiency in infrastructure-related sectors can bring great benefits to the region. On average, a 5 percent increase in efficiency indicators could raise growth rates by 3.6 percentage points after 10 years. *L&E*

CUADRO 1.1 ► Los impactos de shocks externos seleccionados en la región

País/Región	Crecimiento en el escenario base	Diferencia de crecimiento respecto del escenario base (promedio 2019–2021)			
	Promedio (2019–2021)	Shock al Crecimiento China	Shock al Crecimiento EEUU	Shock al precio de los activos	Shock combinado
América Latina y el Caribe	2,4%	-0,5%	-0,8%	-0,4%	-1,7%
Cono Sur (excepto Brasil)	1,9%	-0,8%	-1,0%	-0,5%	-2,3%
Región Andina	3,4%	-0,4%	-0,7%	-0,3%	-1,3%
Centro América y el Caribe	2,3%	-0,1%	-0,2%	-0,1%	-0,4%
El Caribe	1,6%	-0,2%	-0,1%	0,0%	-0,3%
Brasil	2,3%	-0,4%	-0,8%	-0,3%	-1,5%
México	2,4%	-0,4%	-1,0%	-0,5%	-1,9%

Fuente: Cálculos del BID.

Nota: Los resultados se derivan de un modelo G-VAR. Ver Powell (2012) y Cesa-Bianchi et al (2012) y Dees et al. (2007).

ENVIRONMENTAL CAPSULE



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF MOTHER EARTH

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“**M**other Earth” is a common expression used to refer to the planet Earth in various countries and regions, which demonstrates the interdependence existing between human beings, other living species and the planet that we all inhabit.

US Senator Gaylord Nelson in the year 1970 named April 22 as a date to celebrate International Earth Day and is commemorated as a result of the ecological movement carried out by a group of environmentalists and the educational union from the United States from America.

Later in April 2009, the UN General Assembly designated this day as the International Mother Earth Day.

The earth is a wonderful work that God created

to make it the home of all living beings of both human, animal and flora and fauna species.

Unfortunately in recent times the hand of man has taken actions that destroy the earthly sphere and undermine the existing diversity leading our mother earth to suffer agonies with climate changes. Nature offers us daily resources to meet the needs of living beings, therefore, we have the obligation to care for and preserve this great treasure.

This date and every day should be propitious to offer more environmental education both at school level and institutions that lead the human being to pay more attention and raise awareness about the task of rescuing and protecting the planet where we live: **the Earth.**

Also, offer support and ideas to conserve the planet earth, among which can be mentioned:

- Tree plantation.
- Teach children to appreciate and care for nature and its importance.
- Don't throw trash on the street.
- Support recycling.
- Don't use plastic bags.
- Save energy.
- Proper use of vital fluid.
- Avoid deforestation.

Each time you can see more of the dangers that are caused to the planet with climate changes, contamination by pesticides, the large amount of garbage that we see daily in different sectors of our country, forest fires, to mention just some of the serious problems that threaten the life, sustenance and well-being of the human being and the ecosystems of the earth.

This situation must be an urgent warning point to create environmental policies that help to disseminate and promote proper care and management of our mother earth.

We are all part of nature. Let's take care of our EARTH. *L&E*



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Illustrious PEOPLE



**DIÓGENES DE LA ROSA
(1904 - 1998)**

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Born in Panama on January 26, 1904 in Santa Ana neighborhood, in Juan Ponce street of, in a humble mansion son of Mauricia Robles and Lucio De La Rosa worker of Mexican origin who worked as a day laborer on the docks of Port of Balboa and La

Boca, at the southern entrance of the Panama Canal in the former Canal Zone.

His parents managed to pay for his education with great difficulty, but he never lacked the food that was essential, which allows that together with his

brothers and sisters he finished his first studies in the normal section of the National Institute, the first school in the country founded in 1909 with model programs in the Central American isthmus. There in his classrooms he would meet the exi-

led Peruvian, Venezuelan, and Central American foreigners who dictated the classes and courses of science and Marxism.

He was a leftist essayist, journalist, diplomat and politician. He graduated as a Teacher of Primary Edu-

cation at the National Institute on February 2, 1921, had as teachers who helped him to his formation and early involvement in social and political projects of popular and national meaning to José Dolores Moscote, Octavio Méndez Pereira, José Daniel Crespo, Cristóbal Rodríguez, Jephtha B. Duncan, José Pezet, Manuel Patiño and others. It is important to mention that from a young age he ventured into journalism and politics and that despite never having gone through the university he had a solid intellectual formation forged based on reading and studies.

He was a member of the Panamanian Academies of History and Language. He was a political fighter who did not lose opportunity to defend the nationalist position before the government of the United States.

He began to venture into the world of journalism at the age of fourteen, in the Minerva Magazine, later he collaborated in the weekly newspaper El Nuevo Tiempo, founded by José Dolores Moscote; in newspapers the nation in 1921 and El Nacional in 1922-1923, in El Tiempo, founded in 1919 by Guillermo Andreve and directed by Jephtha B. Duncan and in La Estrella de Panamá in 1925.

Diogenes was founder and director of already disappeared newspapers such as: Commentary in 1924, The Free Man in 1924, The Tenant in 1925, The Laborist in 1926, The Scream of the People in 1928, The New Liberal in 1931-1932, The Peasant in 1934, The corduroy in 1936-1937, Popular Front in 1937, Script in 1942, Acción Socialista in 1945-1946. He also collaborated with the Preludios and Caryatides journals of the National Institute, as well as the Quasimodo.

In 1918, together with fellow students, he organized what would be known as the Pershing Incident, where said American General deman-

ded from National Government, cession of the island of Taboga as an area that was part of the occupation of the Canal for its defense, what caused that liberals influenced by nationalism, anti-imperialism and socialism, were thrown together with young patriot to a rally in the Plaza de Santa Ana to protest the offense and not to give up a part of our territory, which caused that I know that these negotiations were suspended.

In 1921 he joined the founders of the Communist Group, for the same year he founded with his colleagues the first version of Student Federation of Panama, and from there he defended the country before Costa Rican invasion of Panamanian nation, instigated by North American oil and banana companies. He finished graduating from Bachiller at age 17, and enlisted as a soldier in Free Battalion of Chiriqui.

In 1922 it marks the commitment of De la Rosa with the workers and peasants to defend them that year in the newspaper La Nación, and to found together with them the General Trade Union of Workers, of clear Marxist anarcho-syndicalist orientation, to differentiate from the Workers' Federation, a collaborator of the businessmen who were supported by the National Government against the same working class.

For the year 1924 he organized along with other co-religionists The League of Tenants and Subsistence which organized, studied and fought against the rise and exploitation. This is due to the struggle of thousands of unemployed as a result of the completion of the works of the Panama Canal, mostly Antilleans who lived in rented houses, owned by Panamanian merchants and housekeepers, located in the terminal cities of Panama and Colon, As they were unemployed, the owners increased the rent to be thrown out by removing all the money in advance. After the

government of that time repressed the tenant movement Diógenes de la Rosa with only 21 years of age, he was taken prisoner for 6 months in the then recently inaugurated Model Prison.

By 1926 he actively participated in the rejection of the signing of the Kellogg-Alfaro treaties. In 1928 he published his first article "The Myth of Intervention" and continued his struggle against imperialism and anti-national oligarchy.

Jeptha B. Duncan, a tolerant liberal, gives him some pesos for his work for the newspaper El Tiempo, of which he is a director, but what allows him to survive is the position of Cabildante, until he is absorbed as part of the editorial staff by that newspaper. 1932

For 1932 the Communist Party leads the tenant strike after the coup of Communal Action of 1931, first civilian and military coup of republican era, the strike culminates successfully a year later despite the repression, due to the unity of socialists and communists, De la Rosa stood out as one of the leaders of the Socialist Partido.

In 1936 before the revision of the Arias Roosevelt Treaties and the Spanish Civil War broke out, the Committee for the Defense of the Spanish Republic was created in Panama, of which Elida C. de Crespo, Rodrigo Miró and Víctor Cruz Urrutia were members. Diógenes De la Rosa directed the Committee's dissemination body, which received the name of Free Spain.

With the alliance of the USA and the Soviet Union and after the overthrow of Arias in 1941, De la Rosa became part of the League of Friends of Russia, and the Board of Tenancy in 1942. Then he was appointed secretary of the City Council in 1943, that same year the The second version of the Federation of Students

of Panama chose De la Rosa as a valid negotiator for these matters and to hand over a regulation of the chairs of the professors to the University of Panama, a document that is delivered to President Rodolfo de la Guardia. During this same year he was named member number 11 of the Panamanian Academy of History.

In 1944 the government absorbed him and he was appointed as secretary of the Board of Studies on National Problems, the FEP elected him as his honorary member and ran the newspaper El Socialista from the Party.

Together with Demetrio Porras and Jorge Brower, he is elected as deputy to the National Assembly for the period 1945-1946 in the elections, then for Deputy to the National Constituent Assembly for the period of 1946-48, together with prominent figures representing the politics of the moment and that together they manage to produce one of the most finished constitutions of Central and South America.

Being a Deputy, he participated actively in the rejection of the Filós-Hines Agreement, which achieved the retirement of more than 100 US military bases at the beginning of the Cold War. This is considered the first defeat for the US.

For the year 1949 he had to go into exile for opposing commander Remón Cantera and Arnulfo Arias; He returned to Panama in 1956 and was appointed political adviser to President Ernesto de la Guardia Jr.; but after the repressive acts perpetrated by the government in May 1958, he requested that he be named Ambassador in Venezuela, this was due to the close ties that bound him to the students and to the shame of the murder of students.

For 1964 he was appointed advisor of a

project of Treaties that would later be known as the Johnson Oak Treaties that would be repudiated by society.

In 1974, he was appointed by General Omar Torrijos Herrera as a member and advisor to the Commission negotiating the Torrijos-Carter Treaties, which were ratified by a plebiscite and signed on September 7, 1977. After complying with the Treaties, appointed again as ambassador of Venezuela, during the government of Dr. Carlos Andrés Pérez. From this position would support the political struggle of government in terms of solidarity with peoples in struggle, as was the case in Chile, Nicaragua, Argentina, etc.

He was repeatedly decorated by different governments, spoke English and French. Among the last tributes he receives is the one made him by the University of Panama in 1997, then the Peace and Justice Service that gives him his annual prize, the Bolivarian Society of Panama in 1997.

In one of the last interviews granted, Diogenes de la Rosa confessed that he was sympathetic to Trotskyism and therefore fought a lot against Stalinists in the courtyard. He passed away on July 10, 1998 at the age of 94.

Diogenes de la Rosa was one of the most important theorists of the Panamanian nationality, along with Justo Arosemena, Eusebio A. Morales and Ricaurte Soler, among others. It is notorious that throughout more than seven decades of the twentieth century there was no relevant event in the tedious development of the Republic of Panama in which Diogenes De la Rosa had not been outstanding protagonist. *L&F*



Sport Capsule



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We live in an accelerated society, with little eye to detail. And we forget the important thing, to make well-informed decisions and little lightly. In these elections, the youth will decide. Many who vote for the first time. Just be sure that those who choose have good proposals that are achievable and viable. We are part of society, and each one knows in what aspect we suffer. Be it health,

education, sports support, security. So we can conclude that we definitely have the power to choose and judge those who gave them the vote, because for better or worse, they depend on us to be where they are. Wechoosetogiveourcourageandrespect.*L&E*

SOCCER



Sub 20 team

After taking 15 games without winning, the Sub 20 is in its sixth appointment in the U20 World Cup, remaining in the group stage with Mali, France and Saudi Arabia.

Fepafut has allocated a total of 346 thousand dollars for the preparation of the team. For what the following friendlies have been scheduled:

Beach soccer

Beach soccer is not far behind and team of 18 players is preparing for the Concacaf Premundial that will take place in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, from May 13 to 19.

In the first phase of the tournament, Panama, who is in Group B, will debut against

- May 8 against South Africa;
- May 14 against Ecuador
- May 18 against Senegal.

All this preparation will be seen on the court in regular round matches that are scheduled:

- Saturday May 25 against Mali,
- Tuesday 28 against France
- Friday the 31st against Saudi Arabia.

the Virgin Islands on Monday, May 13; then measured to Turks and Caicos Islands on Tuesday 14; and closes against Trinidad and Tobago on Thursday 16.

These are the groups of the Premundial of the Confederation of North, Central America and the Caribbean of Soccer (Concacaf):

- Group A: Mexico, Costa Rica, Jamaica and Guatemala
- Group B: Panama, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos Islands and the Virgin Islands
- Group C: United States, Bahamas, Antigua and Barbuda and Bonaire
- Group D: El Salvador, Guadeloupe, Belize and Guyana.

The best two of each group go to the next round. The two finalists of the tournament will qualify for the Beach Soccer World Cup, which will be played in Paraguay.



Gold Cup

The matches are scheduled as follows:

- Tuesday June 18 against Trinidad and Tobago in Minnesota.
- Saturday June 22 against Guyana in Cleveland

- Wednesday June 26 against Americans in Kansas City

Panama has faced the USA in all of its Gold Cup participations, since it saw action for the first time in 1993.

THIS IS OURS
CONCACAF GOLD CUP

GROUP D

- UNITED STATES
- PANAMA
- TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
- GUYANA

JUNE 18, 2019 | MINNEAPOLIS, MN | ALLIANZ FIELD

- PANAMA VS TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
- UNITED STATES VS GUYANA

JUNE 22, 2019 | CLEVELAND, OH | FIRSTENERGY STADIUM

- GUYANA VS PANAMA
- UNITED STATES VS TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

JUNE 26, 2019 | KANSAS CITY, KS | CHILDREN'S MERCY PARK

- TRINIDAD & TOBAGO VS GUYANA
- PANAMA VS UNITED STATES

Panamanian Soccer League (LPF)

The club Santa Gema F.C., of the Panamanian Football League (LPF), has been suspended from the Clausura 2019 tournament until it cancels the debts it has with the players and the Panamanian Football Federation (Fepafut).

This Friday, April 5, the Competition Commission of the federation informed that the club is in default with its players with the payment of a month's salary and that it has also failed to comply with the payment arrangement with Fepafut for the economic debt in concepts of administrative issues, penalties and cards, accumulated from the 2017-2018 and 2018-2019



seasons.

If the payments are not made, the equipment will be reduced to the previous category. *L&E*

TRACK AND FIELD

The Athletics Federation organized the National Athletics Championship with the total participation of 210 athletes nationwide.

Panama Centro has been awarded the first place in this championship, which took place at the Rommel Fernández Stadium with 12 gold, 4 silver and 1 bronze medals. Panama West was second (7-7-3), and Coclé third (5-3-3). They followed him in that order: Herrera, Chiriquí, Darién, Veraguas, Colón, Bocas del Toro and Los Santos, in the tenth position. *L&E*



SWIMMING

In the "XXVII South American Juvenile Swimming Championship" to be held in Chile, Panamanian swimmers Tyler Christianson and Emily Santos won gold, bronze and silver medals for Panama,

Both swimmers achieved bronze in the 50 meter chest category.

Christianson finished with time of 30.26 seconds, in the test that was won by the Argentine Juan Carrocia (29.47).

Santos, on the other hand, finished with a record of 34.29 seconds of the event of up to 14 years, which was dominated by Argentina's Mainque Mojica (34.04) and the Brazilian Perola Silva (34.21).

Christianson, who came to win gold in the combined 200 of 17 years, finished second in the 400 individual combined with 4.34.68 minutes, this test was won by the Argentine Nicolás Weigandt (4.33.34). *L&E*



The times of both are valid for B brands for the Pan American Games of Lima, Peru. *L&E*

BASEBALL



This great season of the Major League Baseball, was full of emotions and without a doubt a tight final, where the provinces of Panama Metro and Chiriqui were seen.

The final series was Panama Metro, being the 25th victory for the capital.

On the other hand, we are glad that the Rico Cedeño stadium in Chitré will be renovated. and finally, President Juan Carlos Varela said that the sum of 5.3 million dollars was allocated to complete a renovation of the stadium, to expand capacity, renovate the seating area and improve the area of land. *L&E*



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Today, as the first edition of this article in the magazine Legislation and Economics, we are going to make a parenthesis and get away from the conventional and get into a new adventure for lovers of extreme sports, this time, I want to tell you about a sport of much acceptance in the population, not only that, but that it has been enjoyed through many years, in many countries of the world and that in Panama it is gaining ground with people of any age, although it is already practiced by many in different provinces of the country.

We speak of a sport that involves physical and mental effort, but also of many emotions and satisfaction for which I practice, I have seen children, adolescents, women, youth and adults execute it with a smile that covers their faces and demonstrate the passion they feel for practice such a glorious sport.

This sport is SURF.

Personally all my life I have practiced a sport

on solid ground that is skateboarding, from a very young age, but after long 18 years, I decided to make a change to surfing for the following reasons (and I still love to skate like the first day), the age is no longer the same, the injuries on my feet affected my performance on the skateboard, therefore, I gave a “U” turn and considered continuing with the original sport, the father of the sk8 that is surfing, since for me it is very similar to skating, it has its differences marked with a skateboard, but similar in many aspects, with the difference that it is no longer in the streets, railings, stairs, but in the waves of our beautiful coasts and is precisely from one of those beautiful coasts located in the Panamanian Pacific, I want to talk to you in this article.

In the area of Chame, approximately an hour and twenty minutes from the city, there is a beach well known by surfers in Panama, they say Chame Banks, but commonly known as Playa Caracol, it is an excellent beach, the place is magical, has shades of the mangroves (mangroves that were recovered by a judgment

proposed by the Forensic Firm Rivera Boli- var and Castañedas), merged with a beauti- ful construction around it; the road reaches a few meters from the beach, where any sedan vehicle can enter without problems; already inside the water on your board, you can observe fish swimming close to you, crabs entering the sea and the occasional jellyfish always hanging around, this connects you with nature, your board and the sea, creating a calm and serene environ- ment to begin know the sport; This beach has diverse waves almost every day, for all types of people, beginners, intermediate or advanced levels, usually with a good wave at medium tide, in which there are rarely waves to ride and at the same time you enjoy a rich breeze on the face.

There are things we must know before starting to do this sport, we will first need a person who has some experience or a partner with whom we can share the sport or failing to take surf lessons in a school for this purpose, to learn the basics of the sport, the rest will depend on the frequency with which you practice surfing and how passionate you are, after finding a person to teach you how to surf, you need some basic implements and although they will not help you with the skills in the water, but if to a better performance in the sport, I will give you an example of the basic implements that you need:

1. Surfboard, new or second what your bud- get can pay (ask at the nearest surf shop, which is the best board for your level).

2. Appropriate clothes for Surf.

3. Sunblock (we have to



take care of the burns).

4. Towel to dry.

5. Bottled water.

6. And a lot of desire to surf the waves.



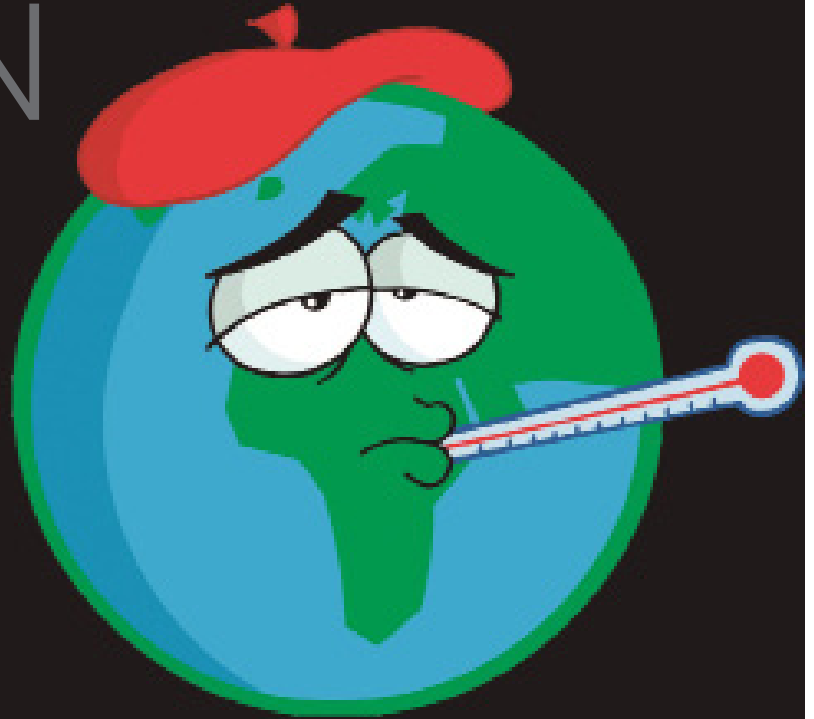
At any time you want to go surfing first check how the waves will be that day, and for safety never practice the sport alone, I leave this page for you to constantly report on the tides and where the waves will be <http://es.surf-forecast.com/>.

For the time being he left them and I hope to have inspired them to practice healthy and very exciting sports. *L&E*



FASHION

PLANET EARTH, OUR HOME AGONIZES



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Although it is true, we come from different countries, there are different languages, dialects and languages, our cultures vary from one place to another, the weather is different, schedules change, as well as clothing, in short, I could make a long list of all those things that differentiate us from each other, however at the end of the road there is something that we all share, our home and I do not mean the place where we arrive day after day to rest, I mean, to our common home, the planet Earth .

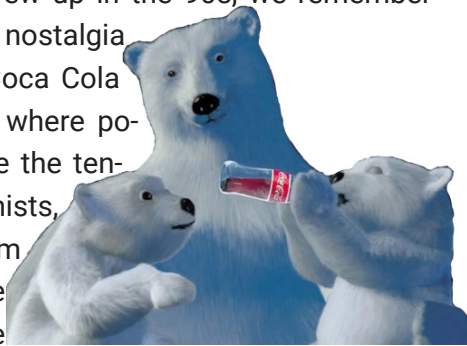
We live sharing our home, not only with other human beings, we share it, also, with all living beings that are around us, from the plants, to the animals, all together we create a harmony in which we need some others to survive. Despite having this clear, little by little, our home

is dying, slowly disappearing, even without us noticing it, or simply because we have not wanted to pay due attention to this problem. Every year, on April 22, Earth Day or International Mother Earth Day is celebrated, its origin dates back to 1968, in the hands of the American professor Morton Hilbert, who, in conjunction with the Service of Public Health of the United States, organized a conference, where environmental problems and their effects were discussed, from there, students from different universities were added, among others to this cause, for the year 1970, with the support of the Senator Gaylord Nelson, who was also an environmental activist, on April 22, the first major environmental demonstration took place, thanks to him, in the United States, the first Environmental Agency was created, after that, two years later, the first

Earth Summit, in Stockholm, Sweden, becoming the first great conference of the UN, on the environment at international level, thus initiating the development of the international policy of the environment. Since then it was taken into account on April 22, as the day to raise awareness among the population about everything related to the environment and the problems facing our planet, however, it was not until 2009 that the UN published the Resolution establishing the day April 22, as the international day of Mother Earth.

For this year, the celebration of Earth Day has as its motto, the following: **“Protect our species”**, which, in our times, seems very successful. Today, there are many species that are on the verge of extinction, human greed knows no limits, both flora and fauna, are threatened every day that happens worldwide. The illegal hunting, the deforestation, the pollution of the seas, little by little they are finishing with the life that surrounds us, life that is basically necessary, for the human existence.

Those who grew up in the 90s, we remember with much nostalgia the famous Coca Cola commercials, where polar bears were the tender protagonists, we saw them happy in the Arctic, where they are from, taking a refreshing Coca Cola, the innocence of those days, it made us wonder with such things even taking into account, that it wasn't real, however, today, reality of these bears, is totally different, climate change, affects them greatly, global warming, causes the temperatures to increase, causing the ice to melt, this



results in the destruction of their habitat and, in the same way, the lack of food, the seals, their main source of food, as they are also affected by the changes, They go to other places in search of food. The changes in the ice also cause the bears to be stranded in land spaces, which makes it even more difficult to obtain food or comfort to live. If these problems continue, it is estimated that, in less than 100 years, the polar bears disappear in their entirety.

If we go to the other side of the world, specifically, Africa, we realize that this continent has a large fauna, there are many species in its forests, species that are probably what have inspired many films, such as the King Lion of Disney, but who imagines that this animal, considered the most imposing and king of the jungle, is threatened daily by hunters, who just look for fun and bring a trophy home.



The same happens with other species, currently two of the most threatened species are rhinoceroses and elephants, the first ones, are very wanted for their horns, which according to traditional Asian medicine, can even cure cancer, these animals are mutilated, many times even being alive and abandoned whose only luck is to die, some of them are rescued, others guarded by soldiers 24 hours a day, also, it has been implemented, the dehorning them, that is to say, removing the horn from these animals, So avoid hunting. In 2007, only 13 dead rhinos were counted to remove their horns, currently the figure is more than 1,000 per year. For the elephants, the luck doesn't shine of better way, from the 70s they are threatened by hunters, their fangs, they have ivory, which is used for such ba-



nal things as keys of pianos, billiard balls or only as a symbol of status, in Asian countries such as China. The elephants are practically disfigured, at the moment of obtaining their fangs, many of them remain alive, dying waiting for the death.

Just like these animals, there are thousands around the world, threatened, in danger of disappearing completely. If we go to the oceans, which cover much of the surface of our planet, we will realize that we are slowly destroying them and their flora and fauna, the main cause: **plastic**.

It is estimated that eight million tons of plastic, will give to the oceans per year, what we see, is that plastic that remains floating in the sea, but we don't have all that plastic that is in the depths, affecting the marine fauna, plastic that also, when leaving fragmenting, is consumed by these species, many of which arrive at our table, in conclusion, the plastic becomes part of our food chain. Every day we see as rescuers, help turtles, birds, penguins, among many other species, which are affected by reeds, soda caps, plastic rings (those used to join the cans), bottles, among others. It should be noted that, due to contamination by plastic, there are 5 garbage islands, 2 in the Pacific Ocean (the largest is found here), 2 in the Atlantic and one in the Indian Ocean.



Seal with Frisby tangled in his neck

Photo: Getty Images

Our country does not escape this, most of our rivers in the capital city are contaminated, recently plastic barriers were installed in different rivers, to prevent waste from reaching the sea, with the arrival of the rains. There are also many

deforested areas, which causes the loss of habitat of many species. There is also hunting, the tigrillo and the harpy eagle are clear examples of this.



Ecological barriers placed in Rivers of the capital city

Photo: Government Ministry of Panama

We must do our part, not only as Panamanians, but also as citizens of this planet, little by little we are destroying it, little by little we are destroying our home, there will be days when wars will be for water, when there will be no animals, which are common today, days when we will have to tell our offspring, how beautiful the world was at some point in our lives. Let's help build today, the place we want to leave our children and their future generations.

Let's take care of our planet, after all, it's the only place we have to live. *L&E*





GRETA THUNBERG AND HER HIRING TO DEMAND A GREENER WORLD

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She was 10 years old when she first heard about climate change, in class. She read books on the subject that made her fall into a very serious depression. She stopped talking, stopped going out and ate less. Her parents began to worry, talked with her and decided to make a total change in their lives. Inspired by the strength that gave her to have seen a change in his family, in August 2018 was made a sign that read: "School strike for the weather." With her she went to the Swedish Parliament, where since then she manifests every Friday.

To understand the phenomenon and the influence of Greta Thunberg, it is necessary to

know a few things about her. She is 16 years old, suffers from Asperger's syndrome, a specific form of autism. People with Asperger are usually very intelligent, but have problems with social relationships and process sensory stimuli in a different way than others.

"I don't want you to have hope, I want you to panic, I want you to feel the fear that I feel every day and then I want you to act."



The young Swedish woman leads a youth

movement in Europe, protesting about climate change, her efforts attracted the attention of environmental organizations who support her call, she has been invited to speak at events such as the Summit for Climate Change (COP24), which was held in December of last year.

Its aim is to focus the focus on the climate crisis, but we can't deny that it is at least an inspiring example for young people and adults around the world. Her way of convincing is to talk about the facts and not impose options like the ones she has chosen. For example: it is vegan, it doesn't take any airplane, it recycles and it has reduced its consumption.

Greta wants to convey to people what she felt when she found out through photos and videos of the devastating consequences of climate change; what we live is a tragedy and if nobody is interested it is because nobody cares. Affirms regretfully.

April 22 is International Earth Day, and this year it has been dedicated to education and training to face the challenge of climate change. To create awareness that the resources of our planet are finite, that we face the reality that in approximately eleven years our planet will not be able to cope with the changes in temperatures. So it's important to act meaningfully now.

We want to think that this problem is not with us, that it is a topic that doesn't touch us closely; we live carefree. But we don't have to read too much, just simply follow the news and see the nature violated. Meanwhile, we still don't take action or we are waiting for teenagers like Greta to decide what we adults don't do.

Today perhaps, we are still in time to

avoid the collapse of our planet earth. Climate change and the devastating effects it is leaving on our natural environments.

It is useless to speak only of numbers, the best way to realize the disaster that is taking place beyond our cities is to show the victims, show their beauty and how their quality of life is slowly deteriorating.



The change that is needed is to reject any action that damages our ecosystem. It is a clear message: "There is no planet B, nor time to lose". *L&E*



#TRENDING
TOPIC

#WINTER IS HERE

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The global phenomenon of the Game of Thrones series was seen this April 15 at the beginning of the last season of the series; Thousands of people around the world waited for the long-awaited beginning of the end, after the hiatus of two years by the television network HBO to provide the outcome of the series.

The series is based on the saga of fantasy novels "Song of Ice and Fire" by the writer and screenwriter, George R.R Martin. The first seasons based on books, although the latter have had more freedom in the scripts, but always based on the address of George R.R. Martin.

The Winterfell episode (8x01) has been played more than 17 million times in the United States alone, according to Entertainment Weekly, based on official data. Keep in mind that the medieval-fantastic drama is broadcast on a pay channel that is not accessible to all viewers, so these figures are impressive; this

information, of course, does not contemplate piracy and specialized media, so presumably the medieval-fantasy drama could have an audience of more than 100 million viewers.

This series has influenced, even, the academic aspect, because between 2017 and 2018 Harvard University, Boston College, the University of California at Berkeley and the Polytechnic Institute and Virginia State University began to teach inspired medieval study programs by Game of Thrones as an academic recruitment tool. In the same period the Martin Studies International Network was also established, dedicated to the analysis of Martin's books and the television series.

As for the economic, since filming is done in different countries, it has made a tourist boom in them, an example is the city of Dubrovnik, Republic of Croatia, which has long been used as a setting for the filming of the

Serie. Game of Thrones fans have been going to the city for years, but lately, interest has skyrocketed to potentially disruptive levels. In 2015, there were 300 tours around the city related to the show. In 2017, there were 4,500, and the number has only increased since then.

The Old Town, the most picturesque part, is crowded and may even be in danger of losing its distinction as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, a designation granted to parts of the world that are considered to have a cultural, historical or scientific significance. UNESCO sites are also legally protected by international treaties, and Dubrovnik's interest is to ensure that it remains one of them; this is why the mayor would have to take necessary measures for conservation of the place and regulate the entry of tourists to a minimum of 4,000 people per day, according to the experts.

It is possible that its success and impact at the global level is due to the globalization of recent years and the Internet revolution. According to the BBC to know what is the key to success of this series, the following should be taken into account:

1. It is a series that has everything a little, has horror, fantasy, intrigue, comedy, family drama. The story is so intricate and mixes so many genres that it is easy to find something that is attractive to everyone, even if one is not interested in the rest of the secondary plots.

It is possible that the viewer the dragon doesn't seem realistic or interesting, but the family drama that is yes yes it is.

In addition, Game of Thrones has such a wide range of characters, which as the progress of the series are developed from and as in life, no character is one hundred percent the hero or one hundred percent the villain, the spectators don't have a problem feeling identified with any of the protagonists.

2. Trepidant scripts full of unexpected twists, plot of the series is full of unexpected twists and unforeseen deaths, no matter who is a main character is possible death comes by them, in addition to large doses of intrigues palaciegas and personal dramas .

3. Being a program aired on a channel for payment is a series that has not been careful about the issues of violence and risqué scenes, there have been several that have been presented to viewers; some of these scenes have not been exempted from the controversies.

4. It is a production worthy of cinema, from the locations and special effects, it has been known that each episode has a budget of about 6 million dollars.

5. And of course, the Internet as already mentioned; the complexity of its script and the great variety of characters have made it the perfect series to be discussed in detail on social networks.

In an interview conducted by the New York Times Martin was asked about the central message or the hidden message of the plot. Due to the importance and transcen-

dence of his response, we will allow you to make a copy of the notes of both the medium and the response of Martin as follows:

Martin talked about what the political leaders of the world could learn from the Westeros characters, what were the events and characters that inspired their stories and if there is any connection between Game of Thrones and the real world, especially with climate change (because Winter is Coming). Martin confirmed that they are parallel things.

According to Martin:

“The people in Westeros are fighting their individual battles for power, status and wealth. And that distracts them so much that they are ignoring the threat that ‘winter is coming’, that it has the potential to destroy them all and there is a great parallel there, I believe, what I see that makes this planet here, where we fight our own battles. We are fighting for issues, important issues, care, foreign policy, national policy, civil rights, social responsibility, social justice. All of these things are important, but as we separate ourselves from this and spend so much energy, there is this threat of climate change that, in my opinion, has been conclusively demonstrated by most of the data and 99.9 percent of the scientific community. It really has the potential to destroy our world and we are ignoring that while we worry about the upcoming elections and the problems that concern people, like jobs. All these things are important issues, but none of them is important if we are dead and our cities are under the ocean. “

Martin says that, both in the book, the series and in real world, climate change should be our priority, but we are more concerned with things that are not so important, as if NFL players should stand up during National anthem game or not.

There will be other messages hidden or not so hidden in the whole series, but surely, this is vital and with a reach to all beings that we share this home called planet Earth.

Without a doubt it is a series that has had an impact worldwide, which will be coming to an end soon, as they would say in Game of Thrones “Valar Morghulis”. *L&E*



Cultural Capsule

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THEATER

- La Plaza Theater: What a construction disaster until June 1.
- La Estación Theater: Tarzan until May 12.
- Aba Theater: Transylvania 3 from March 30 to June 16.
- Aba Theater : What men want from April 11 to May 26.
- El Ángel Theater : I want to be president until May 4.
- El Ángel Theater : When a star is born from May 8 to 19.
- El Ángel Theater: As dogs and cats from May 21 to June 2.
- Anayansi Theater: Harpies recharged on May 11.
- Anayansi Theater: The Illusionists from May 22nd to 26th.

CINEMA

- Avengers: Endgame
- Deception teachers.
- Hellboy and hell is coming.
- Pokémon: Detective Pikachu.
- Aladdin.
- Gotzila II, the king of monsters.

FESTIVALS AND EVENTS

- Youth Speak Festival 2019 on May 25 at the Convention Center of the City of Knowledge-Clayton.
- Walk to the Blind on May 12 at the Cinta Costera.
- Festival of Violins and the Traditional Guacho in Totuma on May 26 in the Corralillos de Atalaya.
- Celebration of the month of the Black Ethnicity.
- ExpoTurismo 2019 of May 24 and 25 - ATLA-PA.
- Heroes Fest 2019 from May 18 to 19 at the Convention Center of the City of Knowledge-Clayton.
- XIII Alfredo de Saint Malo Festival from May 30 to June 9.

SEMINARS, CONFERENCES, COURSES AND EXPO

- Musical Workshop Coronado International School from April 26 to 30 in the Chame Room -Sorá in the Coronado Luxury Suites
- Creative capitals at Hotel W on May 18.
- Open seminar "Questions of Democracy" at the City of Knowledge Convention Center, Building 184 from April 30 to May 1.



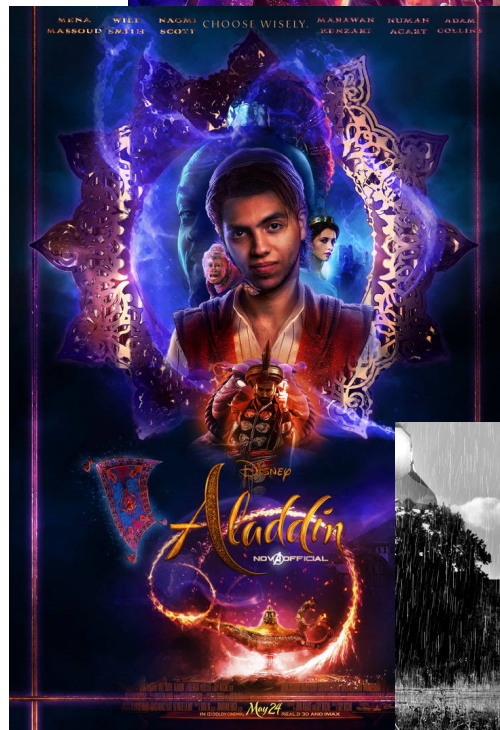
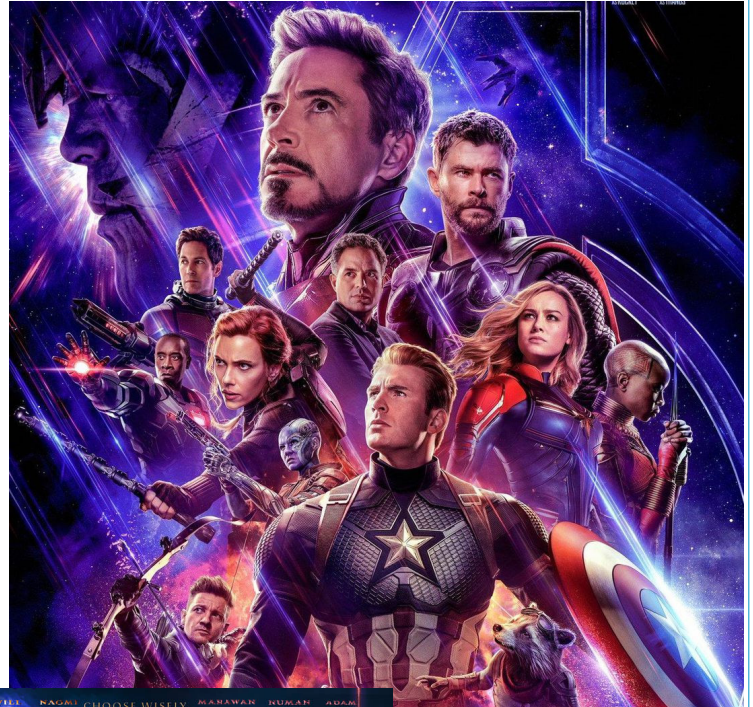
CONCIERTOS Y PRESENTACIONES:

- Eros Ramazzotti - Tour Vita Ce Ne at the Anayansi Theater of ATLAPA on May 28
- World Music Panama 2019: Making Movies on Thursday, May 23 at the Athenaeum of the City of Knowledge at 8:00 p.m.
- San Luis de Cerca Tour on Latitude 47 on May 18.
- Celinés at the Amador Convention Center on May 11.
- Franklyn Virguez in Stand Up Comedy at the Huaca theater on May 11.
- Morpho - The Psyche of a city in Xielo Panama on May 16 and 18.
Thursday, May 30, 2019
- Santa Cecilia Choir and Big Band of the FBA-UP
o Place: Dome of the University of Panama
o Time: 7:30 p.m.
o By donation
Friday, May 31, 2019
- Children's and Youth Philharmonic of Panama: Gonzalo Brenes Youth Orchestra, Invited Director Alberto Bade (USA), Ricardo Risco (Panama). Narciso Garay Initiation Orchestra, Director Gabriel Flores (Panama).
o Place: San José Church
o Time: 7:30 p.m.
o By donation
Saturday, June 1, 2019
- Camerata de Panamá, Director Víctor Mata. Euridice Alvarez (oboe, Honduras/USA), Jeffrey Powers (horn, USA), Charlotte Daniel (Flute, USA), Jun Qian (Clarinet, USA), Winner of the ASMF 2019 Soloists contest.
o Place: San José Church (Altar de Oro)
o Time: 7:30 p.m.
o Tickets: General USD 15, Student USD 5
Sunday, June 2, 2019
- Network of Children's and Youth Choirs and Orchestras of Panama: San Miguelito Wind Orchestra, Director Hipólito Villarreal
o Place: Los Andes Mall
o Time: 4:30 p.m.
o By donation
- Tocando Madera Foundation
o Place: French Alliance
o Time: 7:30 p.m.
o By donation
Monday, June 3, 2019
- Symphony Orchestra of the University of Panama. Director Sebastián Cohen (Argentina) - Special participation of Libya Montañó Soloist (soprano, Panama) and Amelia Cal (soprano, Panama), accompanied by the Versatile Quartet, Director Luis Troetsch (piano, Panama).
o Place: Dome of the University of Panama
o Time: 7:30 p.m.
o By donation
Tuesday, June 4, 2019
- Sebastien Hurtaud & Lea Birringer
o Place: Teatro Anita Villalaz
o Time: 7:30 p.m.
o By donation
Wednesday, June 5, 2019
- Baylor Woodwind Quintet / special participation of the Bronze Quintet, Juan Pagan, (Trumpet, Panama), Oscar Pagan (Trumpet, Panama), Joel Arias (Corno, Venezuela), Gerardo Pinto (Trombone, Panama), Joshua Vanegas (Tuba, Panama) and the Corba Ensemble of the FBA-UP
o Place: National Library
o Time: 7:30 p.m.
o Tickets: General USD 15.00, Student USD 5.00
Thursday, June 6, 2019
- Percussion Concert
o Place: F-112
o Time: 7:30 p.m.
o By donation
Friday, June 7, 2019
- Baylor Woodwind Quintet
o Place: Library of Boquete
o Time: 5:00 p.m.
o Tickets: General USD 20.00
- Chamber Music Orchestra Eternal (Cuba), Director Guido López Gávilan (Cuba). Soloist Isaac Casal (Violoncello, Panama)/Special participation Camerata Essy Casal, Director Víctor Mata
o Place: San José Church (Altar de oro)

- o Time: 7:30 p.m.
- o Tickets: General USD 15.00, Student USD 5.00
- Saturday, June 8, 2019
 - Tango F-31 (Colombia)
- o Place: National Library
- o Time: 4:30 p.m.
- o By donation
- Sunday, June 9, 2019
 - Concierto de Clausura Orquesta del ASMF 2019
- Director Cesar Leal (Colombia, EEUU), Solista Ann Shoemaker (Fagot-EEUU)
- o Place: Balboa Theater
- o Time: 7:30 p.m.
- o Tickets: VIP I USD 40.00, Preferential 25.00, General USD 15.00, Student USD 5.00Lugar: Teatro Balboa

IMPORTANT DATES

- May 1 Labor Day
- May 4: Santa Monica
- May 5: Elections
- May 5: Commemoration of Polvorín (1914), firefighters pay tribute with a parade that starts in the Plaza May 5
- May 6: San Martin de Porres
- May 7: Day of the Cartoonist
- May 12: Nurse's Day
- May 12: International Mother's Day
- May 13: Our Lady of Fatima
- May 15 International Family Day
- May 15: World Art Day
- May 15: San Isidro Labrador
- May 17: Accountant's Day
- May 17: National Recycling Day
- May 18: International Museum Day
- May 18: Day of the Braids
- May 21: Doctor's Day
- May 22: The Most Holy Trinity
- May 26: San Felipe Neri
- May 30: Civic and Commemoration Day of the National Black Ethnicity
- May 30. Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- May 31: Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary.



Alianzas alrededor del Mundo

Mitrani, Caballero, Rosso Alba, Francia, Ojam & Ruiz Moreno- ARGENTINA

Guevara & Gutiérrez S. C. Servicios Legales- BOLIVIA

Machado Associados Advogados e Consultores- BRASIL

DSN Consultants Inc- CANADÁ

Lewin & Wills Abogados- COLOMBIA

Rivera, Bolívar y Castañedas- PANAMÁ

Espinosa & Asociados- CHILE

Lawnetworker S.A. Asesores Legales- ECUADOR

Peter Byrne & Associates- ESTADOS UNIDOS

Machado Associados Advogados e Consultores- ESTADOS UNIDOS

Ortiz, Sosa, Ysusi y Cía., S.C.- MÉXICO

Estudio Rubio Leguía Normand & Asociados- PERU

Adsuar Muñoz Goyco Seda & Pérez-Ochoa, P.S.C.- PUERTO RICO

Pellerano & Herrera- REPÚBLICA DOMINICANA

Alvarado & Asociados- NICARAGUA

Torres, Plaz & Araujo- VENEZUELA

Facio & Cañas- COSTA RICA

