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WORLD BANK 1818 H Street, N.W., Washington, D. C. 20433, U.S.A.

LO-1359-EC The WORLD BANK has approved a \$26 million loan aimed to strengthen the development banking system of Ecuador and to contribute to the improvement of the country's capital market. The loan will be channeled through the Central Bank of Ecuador and, at least, two development finance companies. (Refer to WORLD BANK News Release No. 77/49)

Among those present at the signing of the loan documents on February 18, 1977, were, seated from left to right: Mr. Ramon Martinez-Aponte, Alternate Executive Director of WORLD BANK for Ecuador; Mr. Ernesto Franco-Holguin, Executive Director of WORLD BANK for Ecuador; His Excellency Gustavo Icaza, Ambassador of Ecuador to the United States; His Excellency Santiago Sevilla, Minister of Finance of Ecuador; Mr. Adalbert Krieger, Vice President, Latin America & Caribbean Region, WORLD BANK; and Mr. Lucindo Almeida, Minister, Embassy of Ecuador.

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