

# Ecuador National Day Special

## Ties continue to grow across various areas

CESAR MONTANO  
AMBASSADOR OF ECUADOR



On Aug. 10, Ecuador commemorates the 217th anniversary of its first declaration of independence and 108 years of diplomatic relations with Japan.

Today, Ecuador-Japan relations are

experiencing one of the closest periods in their history. In August 2025, President Daniel Noboa paid an official visit to Japan, where he held important meetings with the then-Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba, Crown Prince Akishino and Crown Princess Kiko.

Accompanied by a large delegation of Ecuadorian business leaders and cabinet ministers, the president also met with the Japan Business Federation. These meetings strengthened our political, diplomatic and — especially — economic relations, reinforcing our shared commitment to expanding trade and investment between our countries.

Since then, we have continued to exchange high-level visits. Among the most

significant were the visit of Vice Foreign Minister Iwao Horii to Ecuador in January; the visits of Ecuador's vice ministers for export promotion and foreign affairs to Japan; and, most recently, the visit of Foreign Affairs Minister Toshimitsu Motegi to Ecuador. During his visit, he met with the president and Motegi's counterpart Roberto Kury.

In July, Ecuador also welcomed a business mission from Keidanren and a delegation from the Japan External Trade Organization in preparation for future business exchanges between our countries, following the memorandum of cooperation signed between JETRO and Ecuador's export promotion agency during our president's visit to Japan.

We are also on the path to sign a memorandum of cooperation between our respective ministries responsible for agriculture and fisheries. In addition, during the president's visit, our civil aviation authorities signed a record of discussions, paving the way toward a future code-sharing agreement between our airlines.

The Eighth Ecuador-Japan Bilateral Political Consultations was held in Tokyo on July 2. It was led by Foreign Affairs Vice Minister Alejandro Davalos, alongside the Foreign Ministry's Director-General

for Latin America and Caribbean Affairs Motoyuki Ishize. They reaffirmed the excellent state of our bilateral relations in politics, trade, economic cooperation, people-to-people exchanges and mutual support in the international arena.

Under the president's leadership, Ecuador continues to fight against international criminal organizations. In this effort, we are grateful for the cooperation of friendly countries including Japan, which has supported Ecuador through maritime and land-based assistance, and in the field of security. We hope this cooperation will continue to expand.

We also express gratitude to Japanese consumers for their continued preference for Ecuadorian products. Ecuador supplies more than 50% of the frozen broccoli consumed in Japan, while our bananas remain highly popular. Japanese consumers also enjoy our shrimp and fine aroma cacao, regarded as the finest in the world and originating in Ecuador over 5,000 years ago. Ecuador is the world's leading exporter of these products and a global supplier of tuna, hearts of palm and flowers.

We are also proud of our upcoming participation in the 2027 International Horticultural Expo in Yokohama.

Ecuador possesses the third-largest



The iconic Galapagos tortoise can live for over a century. MINISTRY OF TOURISM OF ECUADOR

reserves of oil and copper in Latin America, as well as significant potential in rare earth minerals. We stand ready to support Japan with these strategic resources and are optimistic that our commercial relationship will continue to expand through the launch of negotiations toward an economic partnership agreement. As complementary economies in agriculture and energy, Ecuador and Japan have every opportunity to build an even stronger and more prosperous partnership in the years ahead.



Left to right: Japanese Foreign Minister Toshimitsu Motegi, Ecuadorian President Daniel Noboa and Ecuadorian Foreign Minister Roberto Kury pose during Motegi's visit to Ecuador on Aug. 5. PRESIDENCY OF ECUADOR

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*This content was compiled in collaboration with the embassy. The views expressed here do not necessarily reflect those of the newspaper.*

**Congratulations**  
to the people of  
the Republic of Ecuador  
on the anniversary of  
their independence

**“El Primer Grito de la Independencia”**



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