

# Ecuador National Day Special

## Ties rich in gratitude and determination

**JAIME BARBERIS**  
AMBASSADOR OF ECUADOR



Today, Ecuador proudly commemorates the 211th Anniversary of the Proclamation of its Independence. On this meaningful occasion, it is an honor to greet their

Imperial Highnesses Emperor Naruhito and Empress Masako, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, the Japanese people and fellow nationals living in Japan.

For the past three years, Ecuador's government has spearheaded the restoration of democratic balance among all societal sectors through extensive

and comprehensive dialogue, the fight against corruption and the promotion of economic relations and trade with new partners. Thus, the ratification of the trade agreement with the European Free Trade Association, the approaching of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, the close relationship with the International Monetary Fund and the willingness to enhance relations with Asia and to join the Pacific Alliance, shows the openness of Ecuadorian economic policy.

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, in addition to measures taken to preserve health and ensure the safety of the Ecuadorian population, the national government is supporting the revitalization of the economy to maintain jobs and shield dollarization. Recently, an agreement with the largest group of bondholders has been

reached, guaranteeing access to financial sources to face the sanitary emergency's effects through economic recovery projects and social programs.

At the same time as working toward a response to the coronavirus emergency and its devastating effects, Ecuador continues fostering cooperation to achieve the U.N.'s sustainable development goals. The desire to fight against climate change and promote a circular economy are major factors in the work toward accomplishing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Consequently, Ecuadorian diplomacy is focused on strengthening multilateralism, especially for the support of developing countries, the promotion of human rights and secure migration.

In a framework such as this, bilateral relations with Japan continue to grow in the spirit of friendship and cooperation.

In January, the former Director-General for the Latin American and the Caribbean Affairs Bureau and Ambassador Tomoyuki Yoshida from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan visited Ecuador to hold bilateral consultations and participated in the 12th meeting of the Global Forum on Migration and Development. This official visit has allowed both governments to evaluate bilateral relations and advance in completing initiatives to deepen cooperation on economic and social spheres, as well as in science and technology.

Ecuador acknowledges the support given by the international community to face the coronavirus crisis and Japan is among those who have responded to its appeal. For that reason, the government of Ecuador, on behalf of its people, conveys its sincere gratitude and appreciation for the assistance of public and private institutions, Japanese companies and Japanese citizens. Thanks to these expressions of solidarity, more vulnerable families benefited, and the public health system has been strengthened.

The Embassy of Ecuador is wholeheartedly committed to continue nurturing the relationship with our Japanese friends and partners. It also hopes to consolidate closer economic relations based on trade and investment in key and strategic sectors, as well as cultivate people-to-people diplomacy, bringing our people together.



An Ecuador-Japan consultation meeting took place in Quito on Jan. 21 at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ecuador.



In response to the health crisis, the Ecuadorian government distributed meal kits to communities in need, such as Misahualli, in the Amazon region of Ecuador.

## Congratulations

to the People of

Ecuador on

the Anniversary of

Their Independence

 Mitsubishi Corporation

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to the People of Ecuador  
on the Anniversary of Their Independence

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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.*