

Legislación Economía

China advances in
it's plan of action
in Panama

ISSN 1726-0485 edición marzo '18

Policy measures to sustain growth
and prevent risks

Remembrances of the 1968 Electoral
Campaign in Panamá

Who is Kim Jong-un-?

**REFORMS TO THE
CRIMINAL CODE**

**ENTERING TO GREAT MINING
BY THE WIDE DOOR**

rbc.com.pa

Consejo
Editorial

Colaboradores
en esta edición

José Javier Rivera J.
Rafael Fernández Lara
Zorel Morales
Giovana del C. Miranda Garzola
Lucila Rivas
Idalia Ballesteros
Milena Vergara
Casilda Quiroz
David Rodríguez
Lidia Domínguez
Lisbeth Martéz
Ana Sofía Corrales
Mariela de Sanjur
Gabriela Melgar
Donna Ballestero

José Javier Rivera J.
Giovana del C. Miranda G.

Portada y Diagramación:
Virginia Medina

Fotografía:
Mariela De Sedas de Sanjur



Rivera, Bolívar y Castañedas



@rbcabogados



RBC Abogados

METROPOLITAN ÓPERA HD LIVE IN

PANAMA

Panama Canal Miraflores Theatre

Con la colaboración:



TEMPORADA 2017-2018

Transmitido Vía Satélite directamente desde Nueva York

Adultos: B/. 25.00
Miembros: B/. 20.00

Niños: B/. 10.00
Estudiantes B/. 15.00

f Metropolitan Ópera Panamá @Metopera507



ENCORE

Boletos de venta en:

Desarrollo Golf Coronado
Rivera, Bolívar y Castañedas

Más información: 209-5900
366-6200

f Metropolitan Ópera Panamá @Metopera507

MARCH 2018

Editorial 06



CHINA ADVANCES IN ITS PLAN
OF ACTION IN PANAMA

Content

28. Politics

REMEMBRANCES OF THE 1968 ELECTORAL
CAMPAIGN IN PANAMA

33. Panamanian Economy

CONSUMER'S PRICE INDEX

40. World Economy

POLICY MEASURES TO SUSTAIN GROWTH AND
PREVENT RISKS

49. Environmental Capsule

NATIONAL DAY OF THE WILD CATS

51. Illustrious People

WHO IS KIM JONG-UN- PRESIDENT OF
NORTH KOREA

55. Sport Capsule

61. Fashion

63. Cultural Capsule



61

Women's day, beyond
a celebration

Invited
Writer 08

ENTERING TO GREAT
MINING BY THE
WIDE DOOR

Norms
of interest

LIST OF COUNTRIES THAT
DISCRIMINATE AGAINST
PANAMA

11



Consult
Doctrine &
Jurispru-
dence

CLEARING AUTHORITY CAN
PUNISH SERVICE PROVIDERS
WHO DON'T HAVE THE DUE
AUTHORIZATION

19



José Javier Rivera - Attorney
jj.rivera@rbc.com.pa

Editorial

CHINA ADVANCES IN ITS PLAN OF ACTION IN PANAMA

In our September issue of last year, we refer to different aspects related to inauguration of Chinese diplomatic headquarters in our country and related issues.

On March 20 of this year, the Vice President of the Republic and Minister of Foreign Affairs, participated in an event promoted by newspaper La Prensa in which she made a detailed account of the background of these diplomatic relations, as well as the way walked until now; issues that we consider important within the political and economic situation that our nation is currently going through.

She revealed that contacts between Panamanian government and the Chinese government began in January 2015, and that they lasted for several months through various visits that at first seemed unsuccessful until on June 13 of last year diplomatic relations were established between the two. States and an Executive Council was created, among other things, to give priority to the different agreements that have been signed

over these nine months, totaling twenty-three.

She also mentioned that there is an office or desk dedicated to the subjects of China in the Chancellery.

From the issue of considering Panama as an approved tourist destination, which allows the Chinese government to promote visits of its Panamanian nationals, through an expedited visa process and security aspect, until first China Airlines flight that will take place during this March, allowing the Tocumen International Airport to become a regional hub, these actions should promote trade and investment in our country.

In the same order of ideas, participation of Chinese companies in contractor selection processes and the incorporation of other companies within the concept of Regional Headquarters of Multinational Companies, until the negotiation of a free trade agreement between both nations, will allow to increase regional exportable supply to China.

In the financial field, it is expected that the Central Bank of China will install an operation in Panama and other banks will be prepared to establish agreements with national and international banking institutions to allow the banking transactions of Chinese investors in Panama.

Technical visits have been initiated for a feasibility study to establish a rail line between Panama and David.

In the field of education, Chinese government is already awarding scholarships for university studies in that country and scientific collaboration agreements have been signed between national institutions dedicated to these fields and Chinese entities.

It is known that simultaneously in our country progress is being made in an extractive mining project for copper and other minerals, therefore, this project, like others, such as a natural gas electric generator, is of interest to Chinese investors.

In the same order of ideas, Colon Free Zone and the expansion of the Panama Canal will allow the installation of companies in our country of Chinese origin to be increased, to serve Latin American regional market with products of both Chinese origin and those of other nationalities. Close to China, as it is worth mentioning that the People's Republic of China has borders with fourteen countries that also represent a development potential within the concept of the silk route.

In a relationship between a small country like Panama and a giant of one thousand three hundred million inhabitants, economists will logically find so-called differences or asymmetries, but common sense indi-

cates that if China is emerging as the world's leading power, that at the same time defends free trade and participates in the Paris agreement on the environment, we must unite our efforts to take advantage of this new economic route and enhance our geographical position and the advantages of an international business plaza with the fifteen countries that are represented in this diplomatic relationship.

China should also be considered as an ally to improve our educational profile and attract innovation in the agricultural, industrial, logistics and technology fields to generate clean energy from renewable sources and take advantage of these links to generate decent employment.

However, negotiations of a Free Trade Agreement require a broad participation of the unions and economic sectors that may be benefited or that have apprehensions or feel that this negotiation puts them at risk.

Since the establishment of diplomatic relations between both countries, a large number of delegations from provinces of China have come with the intention of promoting the exchange of capital, goods and services between their regions and our country, but since our inception, there has not been a significant representation of Panamanian private sector in delegations or in tours of national economic sectors.

Luck is cast and it is up to us to take advantage of this new opportunity to learn the best practices in the different fields of economic, educational, cultural and technological activity. *L&E*

It will dawn and we will see...

Invited Writer

ENTERING TO GREAT MINING BY THE WIDE DOOR

The industrial sector of metal production, is an actor that in fact already is part of the set of diverse sectors that contribute in a very important way to the balance of productive activities of the nation.

It is not achieved overnight to contribute 7% of National Gross Domestic Product (GDP) through copper exports (Cu) that will reach around US\$ 2,000 million per year. It is the product of more than 20 years of work and a gigantic investment of US\$ 6,400 million which has generated around 10,000 jobs in the construction phase, productive linkages at national level and very importantly establishing sustainable value chains locally in the nearby towns of the Cobre Panama project.

Beyond this, benefits already generated by this industry transcend beyond national and local economic environment. That is, the-



Zorel Morales - Managing Director
(Mapintec Geotechnologies Inc.)
rbcweb@rbc.com.pa

re are already great benefits in the environmental, social and public infrastructure in an area of the country characterized in the era before the mining project, being the second poorest in the country and the great environmental and social deterioration that to a large extent, it went hand in hand with little or no presence of the State in these regions.

Only a few examples of the aforementioned benefits can be found in programs for the conservation of plant, animal and forest species, monitoring of flora and fauna, capacity-building programs for the development of agricultural, livestock and sustainable reforestation activities, eradication of absenteeism in schools (from 95% it was 0%) in the area of influence of the project; that all today would not be a reality if the presence of this development in the area of Donoso in the Province of Colon has not occurred.

Fortunately for our country, those who designed the project and gave shape to the Study of Environmental and Social Impact of this, took into consideration largely experiences of mining in other countries of the world, both positive and negative and established as a commitment the modern model of an inclusive mining sector, which contributes to improve the conditions, capacities and opportunities of the people who inhabit the territory where it operates, without exclusions of ethnicity, socioeconomic status and gender.

Being inclusive, the sector generates shared benefit as a result of virtuous meeting of the interests of the companies and different interest groups, be they public, private, social and/or community; through processes of participatory dialogue that leads to agreements whose implementation brings benefits to all parties.

Given this panorama, the question of how to ensure that development of this industry continues to be inclusive and generate shared benefits for the country and the territories where it operates, jumps to the table? How to achieve that this is maintained in the imminent stage of production of the project and generate the bases so that it can go ahead even without the project in the future? The challenge here is then to guarantee the adequate role of industry in the social, economic, institutional and environmental development of our country.

In Latin America, it is already recognized in most of the public and private spheres, that the sector makes a very important economic contribution, but at the same time it is considered that it can improve its role as one of development channels of the region, which implies the need for profound changes in private, public and social agents. Therefore, special attention is paid to countries of the region, in the generation of adequate capacities and institutional strength that guarantee an adequate supervision of the industry.

This is even more vital for Panama, when it is already known of the existence of two or more of these metallic deposits in national territory. We already have experience in this type of cha-

llenges, remember what happened with the Panama Canal, this wealth is surely greater.

So, to guarantee sustainability and continuous improvement of this model that is already applied in our country in the Cobre Panama project area, it is important to pay attention and work with a vision of the future based on four fundamental axes in which the sector has great potential for contribution to the country, and that serve as a framework for State policies applicable to its development:

Social Development axis: INCLUSION AND MUTUAL BENEFIT to generate shared value and promote autonomous long-term development of the communities surrounding the extractive activity.

Economic Axis: COMPETITIVENESS, INNOVATION AND PRODUCTIVITY to enhance dynamics of economic development, innovation and productivity in activities other than mining, in the regions where it operates.

Environmental area: SUSTAINABILITY AND THE ENVIRONMENT, encouraging the sector to assume and catalyze other activities in its area of influence, practices in line with sustainability and safeguarding environment.

Its relevance and complexity lies in the fact that it is an axis in itself and, at the same time, a cross-cutting issue to the other three axes. The mining development of the country and the opportunity for sustainable development that it represents, requires an institutional system that generates certainty for all the parties involved. The potential to be a catalyst for economic, social and environmental development depends on the design, management and legitimacy of the institutions, rules and agreements, as well as the participation of the actors involved in the construction of informed agreements and shared visions of the sector.

Panama has the challenge of practically starting from scratch in mining institutions and building this with the industry already operating, which runs the risk

of generating public distrust as long as the institutions do not operate properly.

In addition, other challenges must be highlighted, including the impact of mining income (taxes) on local and national development, establishing clear rules in the regulatory frameworks governing the sector and that the State understands is necessary the collaboration for sustainability.

The challenge of making mining sector a sustainable development channel requires synergic work of all actors involved and producing collaborative spaces that allow innovating, planning and executing medium and long-term strategies:

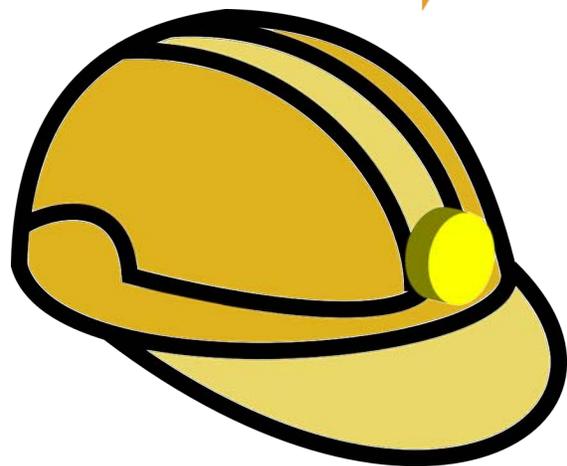
- Create systems or institutions capable of generating public information, accessible and comprehensible to all parties, to reduce information asymmetries and prejudices that prevent the construction of shared visions between different actors and interests.

- Generate capacities, scenarios and standards to favor the participation of all interests in integrated territorial planning processes based on respect for diverse productive vocations, cultural traditions and a complete and integrated understanding of natural resources and ecosystems.

- Promote the articulation of public, private, academic and social actors to innovate with practices and technologies that respond to the social, environmental and productive challenges of the sector, assuming the finite nature of natural resources and responsibility of promoting transformation or productive reconversion.

- Encourage formation of institutions with shared governance that manage the agreed agendas so that they can transcend political cycles and transform themselves into policies, practices, norms and institutions oriented towards an inclusive, sustainable and virtuous development, always open to citizen participation.

- Communicate the positive impact on the collective well-being that the sector has in our country.



Norms of INTEREST

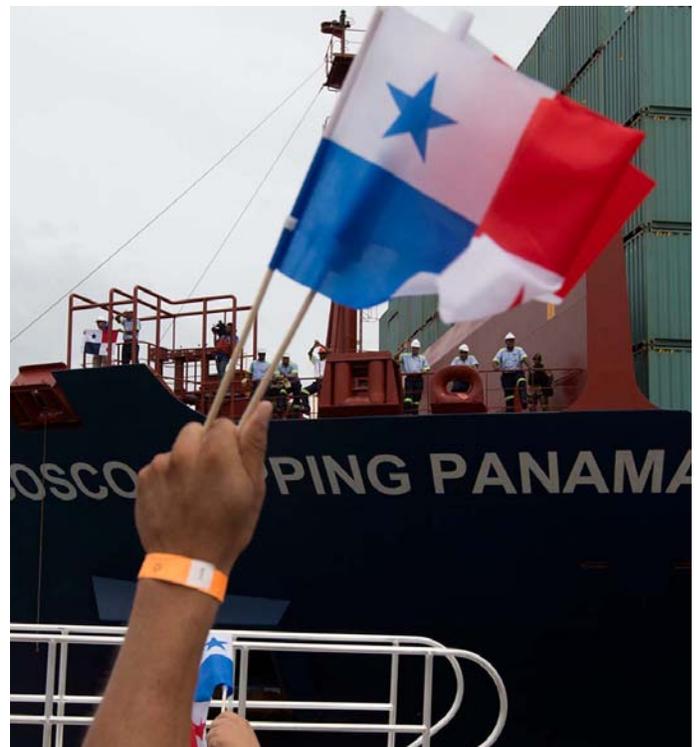
LIST OF COUNTRIES THAT DISCRIMINATE AGAINST PANAMA

Together, the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Economy and Finance, and Commerce and Industries issued Resolution No. 001-2018 of March 8, 2018, creating a list of countries that discriminate against the Republic of Panama.

The countries that are on the list are: Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela, Croatia, Slovenia, Estonia, France, Greece, Lithuania, Poland, Portugal, Cameroon, Georgia, Russia and Serbia.

Consequently, the evaluation report must be prepared that contains measures and sanctions applicable to the jurisdictions included in the list, with a view to protecting and safeguarding the economic interests of the country. *L&E*

Giovana del C. Miranda G. - Attorney
giovana.miranda@rbc.com.pa



PIPES AND ARGUILES CONSIDERED TOBACCO PRODUCTS

Giovana del C. Miranda G. - Attorney
giovana.miranda@rbc.com.pa



Through Resolution No. 0554 of March 8, 2018, the General Directorate of Public Health of the Ministry of Economy and Finance establishes that water pipes, hookahs, hookahs, hookahs, shisha or any other denomination that they may have in the future are considered as products. tobacco.

As a result, water pipes, hookahs, hookahs, hookahs, shisha, arguiles, as well as the products of tobacco products in pulp and paper rolls used to wrap shredded tobacco, must have the sanitary warning established for each of the cases.

On the other hand, importers of this type of product, must previously before marketing this type of product, have the approval of the General Directorate of Public Health, in order to ensure that they comply with legal regulations. *L&E*

RESTRICT ACCESS TO COMMERCIAL NEGOTIATIONS DOCUMENTS

Giovana del C. Miranda G. - Attorney
giovana.miranda@rbc.com.pa

The Office of International Trade Negotiations of the Ministry of Commerce and Industries issued Resolution No. 1 of March 2, 2018, declaring restricted access all information, reports, notes, correspondence and documents related to business negotiations. Any kind, national or international, handled by said Office, until the legal review process ends and the corresponding legal instrument is sanctioned.

As of this moment, only the legal instruments that are signed and their annexes will be public access, keeping the reserve over the memories, notes and correspondence. *L&E*



RESOURCES IN THE PUBLIC PROCUREMENT COURT

Giovana del C. Miranda G. - Attorney
giovana.miranda@rbc.com.pa

By means of Agreement No.10-2018 of March 1, 2018, the Court of Public Procurement, provided that the resolutions that decide to admit appeals will be issued only by the judge substantiating the case.

Likewise, it was agreed that resolutions that decide to admit the challenges and other resolutions that put an end to the process, are issued by the Plenary of the Administrative Tribunal of Public Procurement and decisions will be adopted by majority. It should be noted that the Agreement in question will begin to apply from next April 2, 2018. *L&E*



SPECIALIZED CANINE UNIT

Giovana del C. Miranda G. - Attorney
giovana.miranda@rbc.com.pa

With the approval of Executive Decree No. 39 of March 20, 2018, the Ministry of Government created the Specialized Canine Unit in urban and rural search and rescue, which has been called K9-USAR PANAMA and is made up of canine units existing at the national level that meet the established requirements and have requested authorization to be part of the unit.

The K9-USAR PANAMÁ, will have the function of collaborating in search and rescue tasks of USAR PANAMÁ Group at a national and international level, when it is required, with the help of specialized guides and properly trained canine units.



Fotografía: La Prensa

It will correspond to SINAPROC, to supervise the fulfillment of the requirements established to be part of the canine unit, as well as to authorize, approve and supervise the plans and programs of public or private entities that have or provide training to canine units for search and rescue in our country. *L&E*

REFORMS TO THE CRIMINAL CODE AS TO THE APPLICATION OF MAJOR PENALTIES AND ACCESSORIES WHEN THE VIOLATION IS TREATED TO SEXUAL INTEGRITY IN MINORS

Lucila Rivas - Attorney
lucila.rivas@rbc.com.pa

Through Law 21 of March 20, 2018, several articles of the Penal Code were reformed as regards the application of penalties in the following manner:

Article 50 includes within the Major penalties:

d. Therapeutic treatment multi-disciplinary

Due to the complexity of the crime, the intervention of a group of professionals from different branches of health is required.

With regard to accessory penalties, the amended Penal Code establishes that:

g. Suspension of parental authority and exercise of guardianship.

h. Disqualification for the exercise of positions, trades or profession in parks, kindergartens, schools, fields or sports centers and surrounding areas or anywhere where minors are regularly grouped to practice activities for their integral development.

i. Prohibition of residing in a certain place

Article 65 of the Criminal Code is as follows:

“Community work may be applied by the Judge of Knowledge or by the Compliance Judge to whom he has been convicted or is serving a penalty not to exceed five years in prison. In the second case, the approval of the Technical Prison Board will be necessary.

All community work will require the written consent of the beneficiary and will only be done in public health or educational institutions or in case of calamities. One day in prison will be computed in favor of the sentenced person for every five days of work performed.

These conditions will not apply when a person is punished for the crime against sexual freedom and integrity, to the detriment of a person under fourteen years of age.

Article 99 concerning the execution of the penalty was modified as follows:

The execution of the sentence may not be suspended when a person is punished for the crime against sexual freedom and integrity, to the detriment of a person under fourteen years of age.

Article 102 regarding the replacement of sentence was modified in that:

The Judge of knowledge when issuing a final judgment, may replace the short prison sentences, as long as it is a primary offender, however, this benefit will not apply when a person is punished for the crime against sexual freedom and integrity, to the detriment of a person under fourteen years of age.

Article 174 of the Criminal Code is as follows:

Anyone who, through violence or intimidation, has sexual intercourse with a person of either sex, using their genital organs, will be punished with imprisonment of seven to twelve years. This sanction will also be imposed on anyone who has a carnal access under the same conditions.

The same penalty shall be imposed on anyone who, without the consent of the affected person, practices oral sex acts or introduces him, for sexual purposes, any object or part of his or her non-genital body, in the anus or vagina.

The penalty will be from ten to fifteen years of imprisonment, in any of the following circumstances:

1. When the violation causes the victim a psychological disorder limiting or impeding its functionality.
2. When the event causes the victim physical damage that produces disability greater than thirty days.
3. If the victim becomes pregnant.
4. When the author is a minister of religion, close relative, guardian, educator or in charge, by any title, of his / her guardianship, upbringing or temporary care.
5. If the act was committed with abuse of authority or trust.

6. When corneta with the contest of two or more people or observers.

7. When sexual access is done using degrading or humiliating means. The penalty will be from twelve to eighteen, if the violation commits her, knowing her situation. a sick person or carrier of incurable sexually transmitted disease or acquired immunodeficiency virus.

Article 175 of the Criminal Code is as follows:

The behaviors described in the previous article, even when there is no violence or intimidation, will be punished with imprisonment of twelve to eighteen years if the act is executed:

1. With a person under the age of fourteen.
2. With a person deprived of reason or meaning or who suffers from illness or physical or mental disability that prevents him from consenting or who, for any other reason, can not resist the act.
3. Abusing your authority or position, with a person, when the victim is detained or entrusted to the author so that he may guard or drive from one place to another.
4. In a person who by his age can not consent or resist the act.

Article 176 of the Criminal Code is as follows:

Whoever, using an advantageous condition, obtains sexual access with a person over fourteen years of age and under eighteen years of age, although with consent, will be punished with imprisonment of four to six years.

The sanction will be increased from one third to half of the maximum:

When the author is a minister of religion, close relative, guardian, educator, sports coach or artistic, musical activities or in charge, for any reason

Article 179 of the Criminal Code is as follows:

Whoever corrupts or promotes the corruption of a person under eighteen years of age by making them participate or witnessing behaviors of a sexual nature will be punished with imprisonment of eight to ten years.

The sanction established in the previous paragraph will be from ten to fifteen years in prison when:

1. The person is fourteen years of age or younger.
2. The victim is in a situation of vulnerability that prevents or inhibits his will.
3. The act is carried out with the concurrence of two or more persons or with third-party observers.
4. The act is executed through deception, violence, intimidation, abuse of authority, abuse of authority, abuse of trust, price for the victim or any other promise of gratification.
5. The author is related to the victim by consanguinity, affinity or adoption, or his guardian or any person involved in the process of education, training and development or in its direction, care and custody.
6. The victim will be infected with a sexually transmitted disease.
7. The victim will become pregnant.

8. The alteration of the psychosexual development is proved in the victim. In the case of numeral 5, the author will lose the right to parental authority, guardianship or custody, as appropriate.

Article 180 of the Criminal Code is as follows:

Those who, for profit, facilitate, instigate, recruit or organize in any way the sexual exploitation of persons of either sex will be punished with imprisonment of seven to nine years and two hundred to three hundred days-fine.

The sanction will be from ten to twelve years when one of the following circumstances occurs:

1. The victim is a minor.
2. The victim is a person with a disability.
3. The victim is in a situation of vulnerability that prevents or inhibits his will.
4. The act is executed through deception, force, fraud, abuse of authority, abuse of trust, violence or any means of intimidation or coercion of the victim.
5. The author is related to the victim by consanguinity, affinity or adoption, or his guardian or any other person
6. intervenes in the process of their education, formation and integral development or in their direction, custody or custody. In this case, the author will lose the right to parental authority, guardianship or custody and will be disqualified in the exercise of their functions, if these are linked to the situation of the victim's full development, as appropriate.
7. The author contagious victim with a sexually transmitted disease.

8. The victim becomes pregnant.

Article 182 of the Criminal Code is as follows:

Anyone who by threat or violence is made to maintain, even partially, by a person subjected to sexual servitude shall be punished by imprisonment for five to ten years.

Article 184 of the Criminal Code is as follows:

Whoever makes, produces by any means or produces pornographic material or offers, commercializes, exhibits, publishes, disseminates or distributes it through the Internet or any mass medium of communication or national or international information, presenting or representing virtually one or more persons Minors in sexual activities, whether real or simulated, will be punished with imprisonment of ten to fifteen years.

The penalty will be fifteen to twenty years if the victim is a person under fourteen years of age, if the author belongs to a national or international criminal organization or if the act is done for profit.

Article 185 of the Criminal Code is as follows:

Whoever possesses for his own use pornographic material that contains the image, real or simulated, of underage persons, voluntarily acquired, will be sanctioned with a prison sentence of five to ten years.

Article 186 of the Criminal Code is as follows:

Whoever pays or promises to pay, in money or in kind, or gratifies a person who has reached the age of fourteen and is under eighteen, or to a third person, to perform sexual acts with those, will be punished

with imprisonment of eight to ten years. In the case of a person who has not reached the age of fourteen, the penalty will be from ten to fifteen years.

Article 187 of the Criminal Code is as follows:

Whoever uses, consents or allows a minor to participate in acts of obscene exhibitionism or pornography, whether or not it is photographed, filmed or recorded by any means, before third parties or alone, with another person or other persons under age or adults, of the same or of different sex or with animals, will be punished with imprisonment of eight to ten years.

The same sanction will be applied to those who use email, global information networks or any other means of individual or mass communication, to encourage or promote online sex in minors or to offer their sexual services or have them simulate it. through this channel, by telephone or in person.

The sanction established in this article will be from ten to fifteen years of imprisonment when:

1. The person is fourteen years of age or younger.
2. The victim is in a situation of vulnerability that prevents or inhibits his will.
3. The act is carried out with the concurrence of two or more persons or with third-party observers.
4. The act is executed through deception, violence, intimidation, abuse of authority, abuse of trust, by price for the victim or any other promise of gratification.
5. The author is related to the victim by consanguinity, affinity or adoption, or his guardian or any person involved in the

process of education, training and development or in its direction, care and custody.

6. The victim will be infected with a sexually transmitted disease.

7. The victim will become pregnant.

8. The alteration of the psychosexual development is proved in the victim.

Article 188 of the Criminal Code is as follows:

Article 188. Anyone who displays pornographic material or facilitates access to pornographic shows to minors, disabled persons or persons with disabilities that do not allow them to resist shall be punished with imprisonment of six to eight years.

If the perpetrator of the conduct described in the previous paragraph is the father, mother, guardian, curator or the person in charge, in any capacity, of the victim, the penalty will be imprisonment of eight to ten years and the rights of the fatherland will be lost. authority or the right that has allowed, as the case may be, to have her in charge until the date of occurrence of the offense.

Article 189 of the Criminal Code is as follows:

Who has knowledge of the use of minors in the execution of any of the crimes contemplated in this Chapter, whether this knowledge has been obtained by rea-

son of his office, position, business or profession or by any other source, and omits denouncing him before the competent authorities will be punished with imprisonment of one to three years.

If the commission of the offense is not proven, the complainant will be exempt from any legal liability due to the complaint addressed in this article, except in cases of manifestly false denunciation.

Article 190 of the Criminal Code is as follows:

Whoever promotes, directs. Organize, publicize, invite, facilitate or manage by any means of individual or mass communication, local or international sex tourism, involving the recruitment of a person over fourteen years of age and under 18, for sexual exploitation, although this will not come to be executed or consummated, will be punished with imprisonment of ten to twelve years.

The penalty of imprisonment will be increased up to three quarters if the victim is a person with a disability or who has not completed fourteen years.

Article 191 of the Criminal Code is as follows:

The owner, lessor or administrator of an establishment or place that allocates it to the realization of some of the crimes typified in this Chapter shall be punished with imprisonment of fifteen to twenty years. *L&E*

Consult Doctrine & **JURISPRUDENCE**

CLEARING AUTHORITY CAN PUNISH SERVICE PROVIDERS WHO DON'T HAVE THE DUE AUTHORIZATION

Source: Attorney's Office of the Administration

The Office of the Attorney General of the Administration, through Consultation C-018-18 of March 9, 2018, acquitted the question posed by the Urban and Domiciliary Cleaning Authority, in the sense of knowing the feasibility of managing the collection of operating permits for two companies that during two years kept exercising the private presentation of the service of collection, transport and final disposal of solid waste, without the proper permission.

The Procurator's Office states that, as established by Law 51 of September 29, 2010 "That creates the Urban and Domiciliary Cleaning Authority" in accordance with Executive Decree No.1445 that regulates it, it is feasible that the Urban and Urban Cleaning Authority Domiciliary sanctions, through fines that must be imposed by the Cleaning Courts, prior sanctioning process, to those companies that exercise the private presentation of the service of collection, transport and final disposal of solid waste,

without the due permission of operation of said Authority, each time it proves that the companies incur in said lack; nevertheless, we consider that it is not viable that, additionally, the Urban and Domiciliary Cleaning Authority perform the retroactive payment of the operating permits to the aforementioned companies.

To arrive at this criterion, the Attorney General's Office makes an analysis of the principle of strict legality, contained in the Political Constitution and in Law 38 of 2000 on the general administrative procedure, as well as jurisprudence of the Third Chamber of the Supreme Court of Justice, concluding that there is no doubt that the authorities have no faculties other than those granted by the law, and that their actions are valid when they are based on a legal norm and are carried out in accordance with what it prescribes.

Consequently, and as indicated in paragraphs preceding Law 51 of September 27, 2010, it was subject to regulation, which was carried out through Executive Decree No. 1445 of December 13, 2011, in order to adapt the actions to continue in terms of administration, management, planning, operation, exploitation, use, research, domiciliary, and landfills.

Thus, Article 15 of the Decree provides that the Cleaning Authority has the power to grant operating permits to natural or legal persons for provision of urban, commercial and domiciliary cleaning services; In turn, article 17 of the legal body indicates that the cost of this occupation permit is twenty-five thousand balboas per year (B/. 25,000.00).

In turn, Article 16 of the Executive Decree

establishes the obligation for natural or legal persons who dedicate or intend to dedicate themselves to the provision of urban, commercial and domiciliary cleaning services, to have an operating permit that will be issued by the Urban and Domiciliary Cleaning Authority, prior compliance with the requirements indicated.

On the other hand, it should be mentioned that the authority in the exercise of the oversight authority that has, has the power to sanction through fines in those cases in which individuals, natural or legal, incur prohibitions or faults, indicated both in the Law 51 of September 27, 2010, as in Executive Decree No. 1445.

It adds that in the event that any person privately provides the service of collection, transport and final disposal of solid waste, without proper permission of operation the Urban Cleaning Authority, as indicated in article 61 must be sanctioned by the authority to the payment of a fine that will oscillate between twenty-five to ten thousand Balboas, for each time that he is caught incurring in said lack.

However, the Authority considers that it is not feasible that, additional to the collection of the fine, the retroactive payment of the operating permits should be made in the case of the eventuality set forth in the previous paragraph, there was no rule that determines such situation.

In any case, the authority is empowered to sanction with the aforementioned fines, on each occasion that surprises the person by providing privately and without the respective operating permit, the service of collection, transportation, and final disposal of solid waste. *L&E*

THE THIRD ROOM DECLARES NULL BY ILLEGAL CIRCULAR ISSUED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT OF INSURANCE AND REINSURANCE OF PANAMA

Lidia Domínguez - Legal Assistant
lidia.tribaldos@rbc.com.pa

In Resolution of January 15, 2018, the Third Chamber of the Administrative and Labor Disputes, pronounces on the Administrative Contentious Injunction of Nullity, in order to declare null, as illegal, the Circular N ° 26-2013 of May 9, 2013, issued by the Superintendent of Insurance and Reinsurance of Panama, which is filed by the Morgan & Morgan Firm, representatives of the company SEGUROS BBA, CORP.

CONTENT OF THE CONTESTED ACT

Circular No. 26-2013 of May 9, 2013, addressed to all General Managers of Insurance Companies, to communicate about capital reserves and free reserves. Pursuant to numeral 5 of article 207 of Law 12 of 2012, the Superintendency reports that not less than 50% of the excess of reserves over minimum capital and free reserves will continue to be reported as part of the reserves that must be invested in the country of the first quarter 2013.

The amounts to be reported will be those presented in the Balance sheet as of March 31, 2012.

ALLEGED INFRINGED PROVISIONS AND THE CONCEPT OF VIOLATION

The plaintiff submits that Circular No. 26-2013, violates articles 12, numeral 9, article 207, numerals, 1,2,3,4, 5; and article 306 of Law 12 of April 3, 2012, Articles 9, 24 of Law 6 of January 22, 2002; and articles 36 and 52 of Law 38 of July 31, 2000, Law 12 of April 3, 2012, in its article 12, indicates the technical functions of the superintendent and it is estimated that it has been infringed as a direct violation By omission, having applied said rule the Superintendence of Insurance and Reinsurance, it would have reached the indefectible conclusion that the Superintendent of Insurance doesn't have the faculty to create and demand a type of reservation that is not contemplated in the law.

As for article 207, it refers to the transitory conformation of technical reserves and has been directly violated in addition to applying it without taking into account its clear content and legal consequences. This rule establishes a power for specific cases and contested note doesn't single out a case. The circular also includes a requirement established in article 31 of Law No. 59 of 1996, this rule was repealed by law 12 of April 3, 2012 and, therefore, Superintendence of Insurance and Reinsurance establishes a requirement legal that was excluded by the legislator.

As for the violation of Article 306, it has been transgressed directly by omission, since the defendant didn't develop paragraph 5 of Article 207 of Law No. 12 of 2012 through any agreement made by its Board of Directors. Neither did it comply with article 9 of Law 6 of January 22, 2002, which governs principle of publicity that the State institutions have, to have available in printed form, in their respective Internet sites, to publish periodically, updated information regarding the issues, documents and policies.

In addition, the State institutions at national and local level, will have the obligation to allow participation of citizens in all acts of public administration that may affect the interests. Said article was directly transgressed by omission, every time, that to date the impugned act hasn't been published by any means by the Authority. Violating principles of publicity, transparency.

Law 38 of July 31, 2000, in its article 36, establishes that no act may be issued or celebrated in violation of a current legal norm, even if it comes from same autho-

riety that dictates or holds respective act.

No authority may enter into or issue an act for which it lacks competence in accordance with the law or regulations. Article 52, states that there is a defect of absolute nullity in the administrative acts dictated, when this is expressly determined by a constitutional or legal rule, if they are dictated by incompetent authorities.

REPORT OF THE DEMANDED AUTHORITY

By Note No. SSRP-0799-2016 of October 4, 2016, a conduct report is submitted, indicating that the then Superintendent Luis Della Togna, made the decision to issue Circular No. 026-2013, to maintain the reserve established by Law 59 of 1996, and that although Law 12 of April 3, 2012, doesn't clearly contemplate a similar article, Article 207 empowers the Superintendency to establish reserves in specific cases, to ensure the proper functioning of companies insurance.

OPINION OF THE ADMINISTRATION ATTORNEY GENERAL

The Third Chamber recommended that Circular 026-2013 of May 9, 2013, issued by the Superintendent of Insurance and Reinsurance be declared illegal, arguing that none of the technical faculties of the Superintendent applicable to the process endow it with competence to unilateral way may form reserves for the operation of insurance companies that guarantee the protection of public interest.

DECISION OF THE THIRD ROOM

Observe this Superiority, that the plaintiff requests the declaration of nullity, as

illegal, of Circular No. 26-2013 of May 9, 2013, issued by the Superintendent of Insurance and Reinsurance. Reference is made to the fact that the circular in question violates applicable provisions contained in Law 12 of April 3, 2012, Law 6 of January 22, 2002 and Law 38 of July 31, 2000, by claiming, with said act, to demand a condition not contemplated for the insurance companies in Law 12, current norm, nor in any agreement issued by the Board of Directors of the Superintendency of Insurance and Reinsurance.

It is noted that by the time Circular No. 26-2013 was issued, Law 12 of April 3, 2012, was in effect (Official Gazette No. 270007-A). That the repealed law provided in article 31, as indicated, in Circular No. 26-2013 of May 9, 2013, addressed to all General Managers of Insurance Companies and Law 12 of April 3, 2012, regulates this matter in a different way.

As noted in the above text, the Superintendency will have the power to temporarily create these technical reserves, but only in specific cases and when it deems necessary, that is, this faculty is not arbitrarily or whimsically.

It is quite clear that the faculty here warned, in the first instance, is discretionary and that it is conferred on the Superintendency and not on the Superintendent. Although, article 3, which deals with "definitions", recognizes the Superintendency of Insurance and Reinsurance of Panama, as an autonomous body of the State.

It is clear that this entity, according to article 20, are functions of the Board of Di-

rectors, discuss, know, promote, approve the programs, policies and goals of the Superintendency; act as the highest body for consultation, regulation and setting of general policies of the Superintendency and in accordance with article 306 on implementation, states that the provisions of this Act will be developed through agreements of the Board of Directors of the Superintendency. Thus, the Chamber considers that Circular No. 26-2013 of May 9, 2013, is not in accordance with the provisions indicated ut supra, much less it is based on the powers of the Superintendent established in Article 9 of Law 12 of 2002, since the Superintendent lacks the power to issue or create such reserves.

The conclusive, that the Superintendent, clearly doesn't have the particular faculty to issue Circular No. 26-2013 of May 9, 2013 and has exceeded the scope of its powers, since it has acted in this case applying a function that is not legally attributed, it corresponds discretionally, to the Board of Directors.

Under these considerations, this Superiority concludes that the Superintendent of Insurance and Reinsurance of Panama, exceeded the exercise of its powers, so this Chamber is categorical in pointing out that the impugned act, Circular No. 26-2013 of 9 May 2013, it has departed from the text of the Law and its spirit, being proved the charges placed on articles 12, numeral 9, article 207, numerals, 1,2,3,4, 5; and article 306 of Law 12 of April 3, 2012, therefore, it will proceed to DECLARE that Circular N ° 26-2013 and May 9, 2013 is NULL, BY ILLEGAL. *L&E*

COMPETENCE: TAX ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL

THE GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF INCOME OF THE MINISTRY OF ECONOMY AND FINANCE, PUNISHES THE TAXPAYER WITH PAYMENT OF FINE FOR NOT COMPLYING WITH THE BILLING OBLIGATION.

DATE:
January 16, 2018.

Casilda Quiroz - Legal Assistant
casilda.quiroz@rbc.com.pa

S EEN
The taxpayer through his special attorney presented an Appeal against the Resolution before the Tax Administrative Court where he was sanctioned with the payment of a fine for not having the fiscal equipment or a letter of letterhead and thus breaching the obligation of billing.

RECONSIDERATION RESOURCE:

The plaintiff in good time filed a Reconsideration Appeal requesting the General Directorate of Revenue to reconsider the sanction imposed on its representative, since at the time of the inspection, its representative had already requested the fiscal machine but the distributor didn't have the same, therefore remained waiting for the team.

The Reconsideration Appeal was resolved, maintaining in all its parts the Resolution where the taxpayer was sanctioned with the payment of the fine.

APPEAL:

The legal representative in her appeal letter reiterated all the arguments of the recourse of Reconsideration.

CONSIDERATION OF THE COURT:

The Court, after analyzing all the arguments of the parties, stated the following:

The taxpayer fails to comply with the billing obligations in accordance with Law 7 of September 27, 2011, as amended by Law 76 of December 22, 1976.

To certify operations where there is a transfer, sale of goods and services of service, all persons resident in the Republic of Panama are obliged to issue invoices.

Although the plaintiff in the Reconsideration brief stated that the date of generation of the notice of operations is November 21, 2014, the store opened its doors in January 2015, and that the fiscal team was installed on the 14th. January 2015, in this regard, they asked the Directorate General of Revenue for reconsideration of the sanction imposed, as it stated that there was no infringement.

Based on the previous paragraph, the General Directorate of Income states that all taxpayers when starting or opening a business must have all their instruments up to date.

RESOLUTIVE PART:

THE TRIBUNAL ADMINISTRATIVE COURT maintains the Resolution and all its confirmatory acts issued by the General Directorate of Revenue where the sanctioning of the taxpayer to pay a fine for breach of the obligation to invoice. *L&E*

DEMAND FOR UNCONSTITUTIONALITY PROMOTED BY ATTORNEY OSWALDO MARINO FERNANDEZ ECHEVERRIA, IN ITS OWN NAME AND REPRESENTATION, TO DECLARE UNCONSTITUTIONALITY OF ARTICLE 496 OF THE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CODE

Lucila Rivas - Attorney
lucila.rivas@rbc.com.pa

CONTENT OF THE DEMAND FOR UNCONSTITUTIONALITY

The unconstitutionality claim states that Article 496 of the CPP violates Article 206, numeral 3 and 207 of the Constitution.

The plaintiff considers that norm attacked violates numeral 3 of the aforementioned article 206 of the Constitution, by way of direct violation by omission, ..."by virtue of the fact that, within the jurisdictional powers of the Plenary of the Supreme Court of Justice, there is the right to investigate and sentence the deputies of the National Assembly, being established, in the constitutional rule, without doubt or derivative interpretations, that the rulings issued by the highest justice corporation in these cases will be final, final and mandatory. What corresponds to say that they constitute a final judgment and have the authority of *res judicata*, for which reason there is no recourse whatsoever.

In that sense, the actor explains that "the rule of the criminal procedural statute attacked in this libel of unconstitutionality, gives the deputies of the Republic, the possibility of filing constitutional actions and the extraordinary appeal for review, which is totally incongruous, inconsistent and unconstitutional."

FUND DECISION

Having seen the above, the Plenary is going to resolve the unconsti-

tutionality demand that concerns us.

In this order of ideas, nothing prevents the Supreme Court of Justice from hearing a constitutional action other than unconstitutionality or protection, as would be, for example, a *habeas corpus*, with the purpose of questioning the decision taken in the light of the provisions of article 496 of the PPC, provided that it is known to the Supreme Court of Justice. For the same reasons noted, nothing prevents that the decision issued by the Court in the cases of Deputies can review the case, provided that such review is carried out by the Supreme Court of Justice.

It is worth noting that the explanation and argument provided has full constitutional support and is appropriate to the legal possibilities offered by our Constitution. However, there are other reasons, now of a conventional nature, that suggest that this constitutional legal reality should be specified in the legal system and in the practice of Panamanian procedural law, in all those cases in which the Court acts as a court of sole jurisdiction, and not only in the cases of Deputies.

RESOLUTIVE PART

In virtue of the foregoing, the Supreme Court, Plenary, administering justice in the name of the Republic and by authority of the Law, DECLARES that Article 496 of the Criminal Procedure Code is NOT UNCONSTITUTIONAL. *L&E*

COMPETENCE:
THIRD GENERAL BUSINESS ROOM

FAULTS TO THE ETHICS OF THE LAWYER

DATE:
January 31, 2018

PARTS: Nilka Valdes Venegas (Accuser) vs.
Rodrigo Miranda Morales (Defendant)

David Rodríguez - Legal Assistant
david.rodriguez@rbc.com.pa

BACKGROUND

This disciplinary process begins with the complaint received by the Honor Court of the National Bar Association, on April twenty (20) of two thousand and twelve (2012), where it states that Mr. RODRIGO MIRANDA MORALES, acting on behalf of Sheila Hernández and in his name, within a vetted process in the First Municipal Court of David, he expressed offenses against the lawyer NILKA IDALIA VALDES, who served as Judge.

It notes that on September 14, 2011, an expert report was made in the Fifth Circuit Court of Chiriqui, in said act the Lic. MORALES in the presence of experts, officials and the Judge, again in a loud voice attacks dignity, honor and decorum of the Lic. NILKA, having to order security personnel to take Lic. MORALES out of the office.

By means of a secretarial report of the Honor Court of the National Bar Association of Panama, it is stated that the Lic. was contacted by telephone. MORALES, on the breaches of the code of ethics of the lawyer and the same manifested itself in opposition to what was instructed by the Court of Honor, stating that it has no obligation whatsoever, for which reason it is proceeded to be placed by an edict.

The consideration of the Court of Honor is the judgment of the Lic. RODRIGO MIRANDA MORALES and remits the file before this superiority.

The Third Chamber, by order of October 12, 2015, proceeded to transfer the accused to present the exceptions it deems appropriate and opposes the request made by the Court of Honor of the National Bar Association.

On December 13, 2016, the appeal was ordered by the Lic. MORALES, a hearing

date was indicated and it should be noted that the notification of the Lic. MORALES, alleged exception of prescription.

The evidence provided by the complainant:

- Authenticated copies of the criminal proceeding followed by the Lic. Morales for the Crime Against the Honor of the Natural Person
- Expert report of September 4, 2011, in which the offenses against Judge NILKA IDALIA VANEGAS are recorded.
- Authenticated copy of the publications made by the social network FACEBOOK against the Lic. NILKA IDALIA VANEGAS, Among others.

Mr. MORALES didn't attend the hearing and didn't present any excuse before the Chamber.

CONSIDERATIONS OF THE ROOM

Before entering the analysis of the merits, on the prescription exception alleged by the defendant, it should be noted that there is no prescription within this process:

"Article 38: The disciplinary action prescribes in one (1) year, which will be counted from the day on which the last constitutive act of the fault was perpetrated. The initiation of the process interrupts the prescription."

The last infringing act was made on September 15, 2011 and the complaint filed before the Court of Honor on April

20, 2012, this being less than a year.

After the examination of the procedural parts, the violation of the principles established in the Code of Ethics and Responsibility of the Lawyer is observed.

"Article 1: The lawyer must maintain respectful behavior towards the judicial officials, the Public Ministry and the administrative order... Whenever there is grounds for a well-founded complaint against an official of the Administration of Justice, it is the right and duty of the lawyer to present his claim to the competent authorities."

Said conduct is typified in Chapter VII, article 37, numeral 16, 25 and 26.

DECISION

Therefore, THE SUPREME COURT OF JUSTICE, THIRD ROOM OF GENERAL BUSINESS, DENIES the exception of prescription and SANCTION with three years of exclusion from the practice of law in the national territory to the Licdo. RODRIGO MIRANDA MORALES for infringer of the Code of Ethics and Responsibility of the Lawyer.

EXTENSION

The Supreme Court of Justice is endowed with broad discretion to impose the corresponding sanction, taking into account the nature, severity and nature of the offense, as well as the personal and professional background of the offender. A legal professional has the obligation to behave responsibly. *L&E*

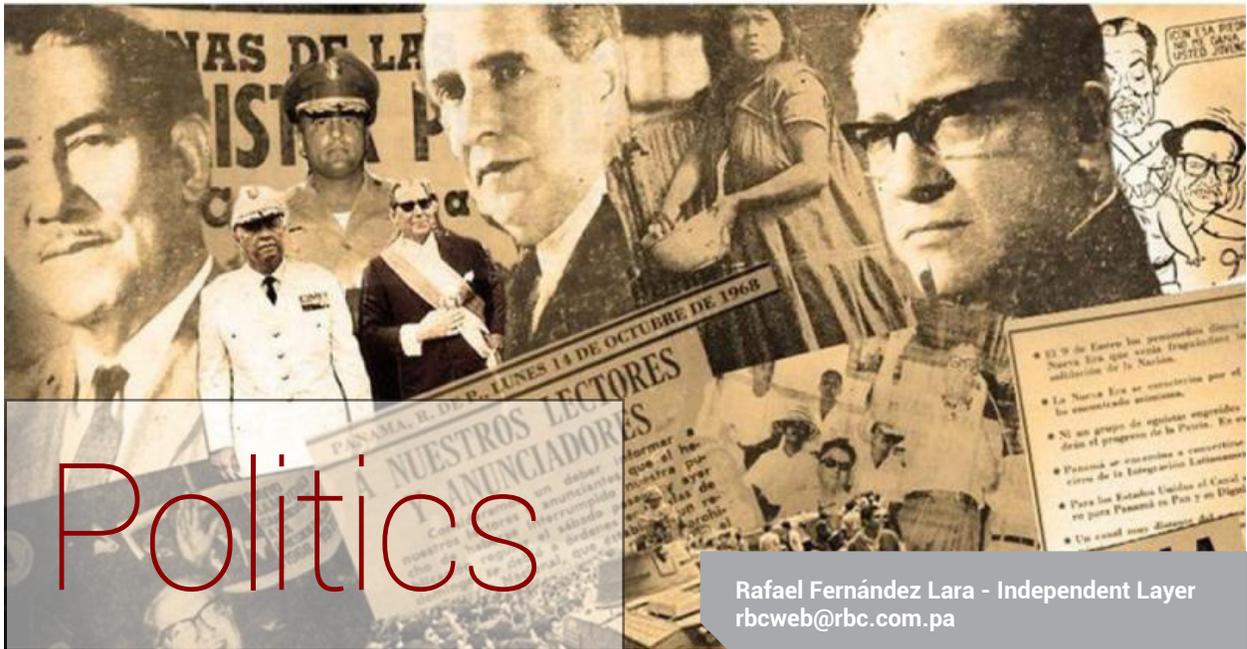


Foto: La Estrella de Panamá

REMEMBRANCES OF THE 1968 ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN IN PANAMA

The elections held on May 10, 1964 were held to elect the 34th. President of the Republic of Panama. In said general elections, seven presidential candidates and 19 political parties participated.

The candidate of the ruling party, Mr. Marco Aurelio Robles Méndez, of the National Liberal Party, was favored in a triumph questioned by some, supported by an alliance of eight political parties: the National Liberal, Republican, National Liberation Movement, National Progressive, Agrarian Labor, Democratic Action, Nationalist and Isthmian Revolutionary.

Its most important contender, Dr. Arnulfo Arias Madrid, was supported only by the Panameñista Party. The other five presidential candidates were Juan de Arco Galindo of the "Alliance of Opposition -ADO-, composed of political organizations Third Nationalist Party, Renovator, DIPAL and Civic National; José Antonio Molino for the Christian Democra-

cy; Norberto Navarro for Radical Action; José De La Rosa Castillo del Reformista Nacional; and Florencio Harris of the Socialist Party.

The final result of these brief but intense general elections of 1964 favored Don Marco A. Robles Méndez with a total of 130,154 votes, accompanying him as Vice Presidents Max Del Valle and Raúl Arango Navarro. Its closest contender was Dr. Arnulfo Arias Madrid, who obtained 119,201 votes. The difference between one and another candidate was 10,953 popular votes.

The new President-elect, Marco Aurelio Robles Méndez, had previously held the positions of Deputy to the National Assembly, standing out prominently against the abuses

of Arnulfo Arias Madrid's government against the media (1949-1951), held the position of General Director of the Cadastre, was Credit Manager of the National Bank and Minister of Government and Justice in the four years of government of his co-religionist and relative Roberto Francisco Chiari Remón. During the first three years of President Robles' term, he had a large majority of deputies from the alliance of political parties that had brought him to power, along with some others who had a friendship with the President. In September of 1967, a few months before the general elections announced on May 12, 1968, after several polls to back and choose the next presidential candidate of government among the candidates who were present at that time, David Samudio Avila, Alfredo Ramírez, Raúl Arango Navarro, and the First Commander of the National Guard Bolívar Vallarino, Olmedo Rosas and Jorge J. Velásquez, finally fell to the figure of Engineer David Samudio Avila, which caused Republican parties, Third Nationalist Party, Democratic Action and the National Patriotic Coalition will abandon governmental alliance to support presidential roster integrated by Dr. Arnulfo Arias Madrid for President and Raúl Arango Navarro and José Dominador Bazán for the first and second vice presidencies respectively, thus entering the "Unión Nacional" alliance formed by the Panameñista, Republican, National Patriotic Coalition, Thirder Nationalist Party and Democratic Action and other political sectors, among them prominent liberals but dissidents of the National Liberal Party.

For its part, government backed presidential candidacy of Engineer David Samudio Avila for President and Temístocles Díaz Quelquejeu and Roderick Esquivel for the first and second vice presidents respectively, supported by the so-called "People's Alliance", composed of the Liberal National, National Liberation Movement, Agrarian and Progressive Labor and a dissident sector of the Republican Party.

A third candidacy without any possibility of triumph fell to Dr. González Revilla of Christian Democratic Party.

The correlation of force continued to change at the beginning of 1968, disintegrating it due to the inclination of some to favor the presidential candidacy of the traditional adversary, Dr. Arnulfo Arias Madrid, instead of supporting the presidential candidate of the National Liberal Party, Engineer David Samudio Avila, who had been one of the pillars of the triumphant alliance of the electoral campaigns of 1960 and 1964.

As a result of this political panorama, on March 12, 1968, the Christian Democratic Party denounced President Marco A. Robles before the National Assembly of Deputies, accusing him of trying to become an arbitrator of the next electoral campaign and of an undisguised support for the candidacy. Officer of Engineer David Samudio Avila, using state resources and overstepping constitutional functions. Thus, President Robles was accused before the National Assembly of Deputies, was judged by this state body and dismissed on March 24, 1968 in a swift process, with a vote of 30 votes against him, 11 in favor and one salvage of vote.

As the Judicial Branch was on vacation, defenders of President Robles filed an appeal for the protection of Constitutional Guarantees before the Municipal District Judge, who received it and kept it until the Supreme Court of Justice resumed its functions on April 1. Thus, once its functions were resumed, the Supreme Court of Justice admitted the Appeal of Protection of Constitutional Guarantees that, by order of Second Municipal Judge, had suspended all actions taken by Deputies.

Next, the high corporation of Justice declared invalid the process carried out, revoking the actions of the Legislative Body and ordered the file to be kept, thus keeping the agent Robles in his position. One of the objectives of the opposition's political strategy was to remove President Robles (who evidently favored the official candidate Engineer David Samudio Avila) and replace him with his First Vice President, Don Max Delvalle, a prominent member of the Republican Party - now in opposition.

This would make the triumph of Dr. Arnulfo Arias more viable to assume the Presidency of the Republic in the following elections.

The above led to a series of protests by supporters of the opposition candidate, Dr. Arnulfo Arias Madrid, who threw stones at the headquarters of the pro-government candidate Ing. David Samudio Avila. In response, supporters of the government vandalized the headquarters of the opposition National Union. The electoral contest called to be held on May 12, 1968 was active, strong and certainly very violent. There were groups of shock by both political groups that disputed the Presidency of the Republic. The liberals with the so-called "Pie de Guerra" and the Panameñistas with the so-called "Black Berets". Both groups, before and after the elections staged aggressive confrontations with the balance of deaths and injuries.

The two main television media in the country, on the one hand Channel 2 supported the presidential candidacy of Dr. Arnulfo Arias Madrid and Channel 4 supported the candidature of Engineer David Samudio Avila. Several newspapers were founded for these elections, to defend the official candidacy of Engineer Samudio Avila, such as El Mundo, El Expreso and El Diario El Sol, and the legendary Star of Panama that also supported him. For his part, Dr. Arnulfo Arias was supported by the newspapers El Panamá América, El Diario Crítica and La Hora. There was participation of radio stations that leaned towards one or another of the presidential candidates. The attacks against the honor and reputation between candidates of popular election in fight and political adversaries, arrived at alarming situations, practically very few could evade this unfortunate and lamentable situation. Some journalists were violently attacked by groups in conflict, causing the hospitalization of some.

Without a doubt, an important group within the National Guard, was inclined in favor of presidential candidacy of government. It is enough to recall the background of Dr. Arnulfo Arias Madrid's relationship with the military institu-

te, in which latter had been main protagonist in his two previous presidential overthrows.

On May 9 in the Province of Darién, near the town of Yaviza, the opposition candidate, Dr. Arnulfo Arias Madrid, was the target of an attack, where one of his supporters was wounded.

On the day of the elections, the ruling party resorted to all sorts of tricks to prevent opposition sympathizers from freely depositing their vote and also intervened after the vote. The scrutiny in certain voting tables was interrupted due to shots in the early hours of the morning in different provinces, causing the juries that counted the votes to abandon their posts. I know that in the seven voting tables located on Via España in the old Minimax, today Piex, in the city of Panama, where the opposition candidate Dr. Arnulfo Arias Madrid had won by an enormous amount of votes to the Engineer Samudio, in hours At dawn, armed supporters of the government appeared and destroyed the polling stations.

There were robberies of ballot boxes in many parts of the republic, arrests of some opposition leaders, as well as intimidation towards the population with the conspiracy of mayors and governors of provinces and other government officials. Some ballot boxes that were stolen were returned but altered.

After having verified the electoral tournament of May 12, 1968, the violence continued among the adversary groups. On May 13, in the well-known Café Boulevard Balboa, located on Balboa Avenue in the capital city, there was shooting, injuries and one death, as well as multiple arrests, a few meters from Radio Soberana, a fervent supporter of Panameñismo.

The local People Alliance that backed Engineer David Samudio, located on Avenida Peru, was attacked, even with the candidate officially inside. On May 25, after a speech by Dr. Arnulfo Arias Madrid, there was a confrontation between Liberals and Arnulfists in the Porras Park, where there were shots, badly wounded people, beatings, kicks and even the use of the famous construction rods, what originated the



name of “varilleros” for the foot of liberal war. The unfortunate episode continued in the back of the park, where the Spanish Embassy in Panama is currently located, causing great alarm among the residents of the place. Arnulfist troops fired on the installations of the official newspaper El Mundo, causing the death of a sympathizer of candidate Samudio, who was a driver of a minister of state and who came out to defend that establishment. In the same month, an agent of the National Police was assassinated and government blamed the so-called Black Berets of Arnulfismo as the perpetrators of the crime.

In the National Search Board, responsible for proclaiming and delivering the credentials to the elected candidates, a series of resignations were provoked as a result of threats against their members and their families, as well as for the members of the Electoral Tribunal, due to the struggle of the rival political groups, in order to put their allegaos in such important and relevant electoral positions.

The electoral tournament was held in an atmosphere of exasperation and the vote was biased in favor of the opposition candidate, Dr. Arnulfo Arias Madrid:

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------|
| Dr. Arnulfo Arias Madrid | 175,432 votes |
| Ing. David Samudio Avila | 133,887 votes |
| Dr. Antonio González Revilla | 11,371 votes |

So that on Thursday, May 30, 1968, after a count that was delayed in finishing, Dr. Arnulfo Arias Madrid, was declared the winner by a margin of 41,545 votes on his contender Mr. Samudio Avila and consolidated his triumph with a meeting with the Chief of

the National Guard, where it was agreed that the latter would retire and the military rank of the military entity would be respected.

Once he assumed the position of Constitutional President of the Republic of Panama, Dr. Arnulfo Arias Madrid on October 1, 1968, initiated a series of new actions in order to concentrate the domain of the National Assembly of Deputies, stripping several deputies of his seat and getting to the point of not knowing the results of the elected councilors.

He evicted the National Scrutiny Board and appointed new members to the Electoral Tribunal in order to achieve its objectives. He proceeded to ignore the pact with the Chief of the National Guard and made movements of cadres without respecting the rank of that institution.

Before and after the elections of May 12, 1968, there was a climate of instability both politically and socially. The crisis that was observed in the country was serious, with a controversial National Assembly of Deputies, a judicial organ obedient to the executive, a highly questioned and manipulated Electoral Tribunal.

On October 11, 1968, ten days after taking office as President of the Republic, Dr. Arnulfo Arias Madrid was overthrown for the third time in his political life, by a military coup “led by Major Boris Martínez, leader of the movement, Lieutenant Colonel José Humberto Ramos, Major Humberto Jiménez and Colonel Federico Boyd, are the ones who commanded the coup.”

While it is true that the deterioration of the political class was evident, clearly our democratic institutions were also in the same

state and that was the excuse of the military. But the real reason for the ill-fated military coup of October 11, 1968, was the series of transfers that greatly upset the military, as they altered the supposedly agreed National Guard's hierarchy, which also affected the personal interests of the high command.

According to the military, they gave the coup to bring order to the constituted power and assaulted political power with promises to hold immediate elections, which they never fulfilled, illegally opening up in the government for a long time and with the consequence already known and recorded in the annals of our national history.

The electoral campaign of 1968 represents one of the most embarrassing that we have had in our republican history. This had as an anteroom an anarchic and violent scenario where the attitude of the political organizations of that time was reprehensible, thus generating a climate of uneasiness and division in the Panamanian family as a consequence of the struggle for political and economic power at all costs, without to care about the true principles of democracy and the genuine interests of our nation.

This harmful and damaging anecdote should be remembered by Panamanians to never again commit the political mistakes of the past, which were so damaging to us for the future, and hopefully in our next presidential general elections, announced for May 2019, we will keep in mind what chaotic that were those of 1968, to maintain an atmosphere of peace, respect and harmony for the benefit of our democratic institutions, consolidating the rule of law and the interest of all Panamanians without distinction of any kind. *L&E*

R B C

Rivera • Bolívar • Castañedas

ATTORNEYS AT LAW



Síguenos en
nuestras
Redes
Sociales



Panamanian

ECONOMY

Source: GCRP

CONSUMER'S PRICE INDEX

The groups that most influenced the year-on-year percentage variation of the National Urban CPI for February 2018 with its similar 2017, were: Education with 3.8%, and Restaurants and hotels with 2.9%; However, the Food and non-alcoholic beverages group that has the highest weight in the CPI, presented a negative variation of -1.7%.

- The National Urban CPI for February with respect to January 2018, reflected a variation of 0.3%.

The groups that showed increases in the National Urban CPI for February with respect to January 2018 were: Education with 3.4%; Restaurants and hotels with 0.8%; Furniture, articles for the home and for the ordinary conservation of the home, and Transportation both with 0.7%; Recreation and culture with 0.2%.

An increase observed in the Education group was due to increase registered in two of its four classes, "Pre-school education and primary education" and "Secondary education" both with 5.1%. The increase presented was due to

the increase in the price of enrollment in pre-school, primary, pre-media and middle school.

The group Restaurants and hotels presented rise in its two classes. The class with the greatest variation was "Accommodation service" with 3.3%, due to the increase in the price of hotel accommodation. The increase reflected in the group Furniture, articles for home and for the ordinary conservation of the home, was due to the increase in six of its eleven classes. The class with the greatest variation was "Domestic and home service" with 2.3%. Transport group showed an increase in three of its seven classes. The greatest variation was in the class "Fuel and lubricants for personal transport equipment" with 2.3%, as a result of the increase in the price of fuel for automobiles.

The group Recreation and culture presented rise in five of its sixteen classes. The biggest variation was in the "Touristic packages" class with 3.8%. Health group remained unchanged. The groups with negative variations were: Alcoholic beverages and tobacco with -0.4%; Food and non-alcoholic beverages with -0.3%; Clothing and footwear with -0.2%; Housing, water, electricity and gas, Communications, and Miscellaneous goods and services all with -0.1%.

The decrease observed in the group Alcoholic beverages and tobacco, was due to the reduction registered in two of its four classes. The greatest variation was in the "Beer" class with -0.6%. The decrease reflected in the group Food and non-alcoholic beverages was due to the decrease in five of its eleven classes.

The class with the greatest variation was "Fruits" with -1.9%. The group Clothing and footwear registered reduction in one of its four classes: "Shoes and other footwear" with -0.7%, due to the decrease in the price of shoes, slippers and men's flip flops.

Group Housing, water, electricity and gas presented reduction in one of its eight classes, "Gas" with -1.4%, due to the drop in the price of the gas tank of 100 pounds. The decrease reflected in the Communications group was the result of the reduction in one of its two classes, "Telephone equipment" with -0.3%.

In group Miscellaneous goods and services registered two of its ten classes. The greatest variation was in class "Other appliances, articles and products for personal attention" with -0.3%, due to the decrease in the price of other personal care products.

- The National Urban CPI for February 2018 with respect to its similar 2017, reflected a variation of 0.4%..

When comparing the National Urban CPI of February 2018, with its similar of 2017, the following increases were observed: Education 3.8%; Restaurants and hotels 2.9%; Health 1.9%; Transportation 1.8%; Miscellaneous goods and services 1.4%; Recreation and culture 0.6%; Housing, water, electricity and gas 0.5%.

Groups that showed decreases were: Food and non-alcoholic beverages -1.7%; Clothing and footwear -1.0%; Communications -0.9%, and Alcoholic beverages and tobacco -0.5%. The group Furniture, articles for the home and for the ordinary conservation of the home remained unchanged. *L&E*

EVOLUTION AND PERFORMANCE OF THE ECONOMY IN THE LAST YEARS



Source: MEF

The Directorate of Economic and Social Analysis of the Ministry of Economy and Finance presented a report on the economic growth of Panama and a detailed analysis of economic activities considered fundamental pillars of the Panamanian economy: construction, financial system, transportation and electricity market.

Construction activity grew 13.8% on average, in the last five years, accumulating more than B/. 25 billion.

The private investment measured by the value of the construction permits between 2014 and 2017, added B/. 8,143 million, the majority was destined to the construction of houses, 60%.

The construction sector is one of the largest generators of employment in the country, accounting for 10.1% of the total employed.

On the other hand, the Financial Intermediation represented an average of 7.2% of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for the last five years. It is important to note that financial and insurance activities had a monthly median salary of B/. 1,010, according to August 2017

data, above the general median of the country.

According to the MEF in the last five years, from 2013 to 2017, the storage and communications transport sector contributed, on average, 13% of GDP at constant prices, with an annual growth rate of 3.9% in the same period.

In the last three years (2015 - 2017) the activity occupied an average of 7.6% of the population aged 15 and over in the country.

The GDP of the electricity, gas and water supply sector, in the last five years, grew 7.8% on average, due to the greater participation in the generation of renewable energies (70.0%, in the period covered by the study). The contribution of this sector to activity to total GDP is 3.8% on average and directly contributes to the growth of most of the productive sectors of the country.

The installed capacity of the energy matrix of the generation system grew 7% annually in the last five years. In 2017, wind and photovoltaic plants contributed 9.8% to the total installed capacity, thus contributing, together with hydraulic plants, to increase generation by renewable energy by 8.7%. *L&E*

PANAMA CANAL PROMOTES USE OF THE AQUATIC WAY FOR GRANTS TRADE BETWEEN BRAZIL AND ASIA



Source: Panama Canal Authority

The Panama Canal signed a memorandum of understanding in the city of Cuiabá, Brazil with the Mato Grosso Association of Soybean and Maize Producers (Aprosoja) to promote the use of the inter oceanic highway for the transit of grains (soybeans and corn) from the north of Brazil to markets in Asia.

The agreement allows the coordination of joint marketing activities, exchange of market studies and information on commercial flows, as well as modernization and improvement programs.

“The increase in capacity provided by the expansion of the Canal has allowed us to access new markets, which could include freight from ports in northern Brazil,” said the administrator of the Panama Canal, Jorge Luis Quijano.

The signing of this agreement seeks to promote the use of the Panama Canal, specifically panamax locks, for the transit of grains, mainly soybeans and corn, from the north of Brazil to markets in Asia that go on ships of

Panamax dimensions; given similarity in the draft of ports of Amazon River and these locks. Administrator Quijano added that “we are continuously looking for innovative ways to meet the ever changing needs of world trade and this agreement with the Mato Grosso Association of Soybean and Maize Producers further strengthens the common objective of promoting the growth of trade in the region.”

The agreement was signed by the president of Aprosoja, Antônio Galvan and the administrator of the Panama Canal, Jorge Luis Quijano.

Created in February 2005, Aprosoja is a non-profit organization, made up of rural producers linked to soybean and corn crops of Mato Grosso that develops actions and projects aimed at sustainable growth of productive chain of these grains.

The Panama Canal has signed memoranda of understanding with 36 commercial associations, ports and maritime organizations mainly from the United States. Brazil's would be the first of them with a Latin American country. *L&E*

INNOVATIVE PROJECT FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES IN PANAMA

Source: World Bank

The Executive Board of the World Bank today approved an innovative project for US\$ 80 million to improve the infrastructure and quality of services in health, education, and water and sanitation in the 12 indigenous territories of Panama, based on priorities established by their own communities and traditional authorities.

The loan will support the implementation of the National Plan for the Integral Development of Indigenous Peoples of Panama by strengthening the governance and coordination capacity between the Panamanian government and the indigenous authorities to promote and improve the quality, cultural relevance, and sustainability of the investment in these territories.

"This support is important in the Development Plan, since the indigenous peoples have presented their development vision to the national governments. They are isolated villages that need access to roads, schools, health centers, water, maintain their culture and identity, defend their territories and maintain natural resources, which are the life of the indigenous peoples and the country in general", said the cacique Maximiliano Igwayoikiler, of indigenous village Guna Yala.

Although Panama is one of the most powerful economies in Latin America and the Caribbean, there is still a situation of inequality that affects above all the indigenous population, which mostly lives in poverty. To this challenge it is added that the country is exposed to natural disasters and the effects of climate change, which affects in particular indigenous communities whose diet depends on their natural environment.

In the short term, the project seeks to respond to urgent needs of infrastructure and equipment that were prioritized by the indigenous communities and their authorities in health, education and water and sanitation. In medium term, project will support the design and implementation of programs to improve

quality and cultural relevance of these services. In the long term, the project seeks to transform capacity of government and indigenous authorities to plan and invest in their territories according to vision and priorities established by their own communities.

The project will directly benefit approximately 200,000 people, who will see improvements in the infrastructure, quality and cultural relevance of the services provided in their communities. At the same time, support for key aspects of governance should benefit the entire indigenous population of the country, estimated at 418,000 people, by improving their visibility, recognition and implementation of their rights, as well as inclusion in the country's prosperity.

On the other hand, the operation is expected to contribute to national climate change objectives, through the use of sustainable construction standards and techniques in health, education, water and sanitation infrastructure, among other aspects.

It is an innovative initiative that supports a model of integral development coming from the proposals emanated from the indigenous peoples and agreed upon with the government. It is also based on the experience of the World Bank in different sectors and countries with indigenous peoples to address issues related to inclusion, development and availability of information and data, systems to provide intercultural services, and permanent coordination tables between the government and the authorities. indigenous, among others. This project seeks to create a comprehensive development platform that can be replicated in other countries.

The total amount of the project is US\$ 85 million, of which 80 million will be financed with a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) for a term of 25 years and 5.5 years of grace. *L&E*

ENTREPRENEURSHIP CONTRIBUTES EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME



Lisbeth Martez - Assistant
lisbeth.martez@rbc.com.pa

Entrepreneurial activities are on the rise in most Latin American countries and Panama has joined this new era. It is worth mentioning that Brazil is one of the leading countries where capital is supporting the growth and development of companies. In Mexico, they are promoting the creation of dynamic companies, linking local talent with international financing.

We have created a series of programs at the level of universities and government with the aim of achieving the entrepreneurship of the new generations since the national and international competitiveness of the country is generated, and this has to go hand in hand with the modernization of the State as such. .

We have the Senacyt whose objectives are to strengthen, support, induce and promote development of science, technology and innovation with the purpose of raising the level of productivity, competitiveness and modernization in the private sector, government, academic sector -investigative, and the population in general.

In turn, through Law 65 of October 30, 2009, the National Authority for Government Inno-

vation was created, whose mission is to plan, coordinate, issue guidelines, supervise, collaborate, support and promote the optimal use of information technologies and communications in the governmental sector for the modernization of public management, as well as recommending the adoption of national policies, plans and strategic actions.

The work has to be joint, after creating the right environment, we must also modernize our legislation which is one of the biggest barriers that our entrepreneurs have, because when they start their projects in one of our commercial activities they are with many obstacles. A clear example is the bidding by Framework Agreement since one of the main requirements is that the product has been commercialized in the national territory for at least 10 years.

The same happens when our legislators decide to pass a bill to regulate the electricity market, changing the system of tenders for the purchase of power and / or energy, among others, as expressed by Mr. Nanik Singh C. in his article published in the newspaper La Prensa, on Wednesday March 21 "On the other hand, this law

PANAMA

is withdrawing the exemption of transmission costs to small renewable energy plants (less than 20 MW), supposedly because they cost Etesa or to the National Government about 6 million dollars a year. With these conditions we will be benefiting fossil fuels that impact our health, environment and economy, and punishing clean energies. My proposal is to apply those taxes to fossil fuels, so use these funds to encourage non-conventional renewable energies, such as wind and solar, maintaining the exemption from transmission to small plants and also carry out education campaigns on these technologies and the energy efficiency, and thus really collaborate with the incorporation of more clean energy to our energy matrix."

Constitutionally, the State must ensure free economic competition and free competition in markets as established in Article 298 of our Constitution, all to protect the rights of consumers and the merchants so that there is no monopoly in the territory; However, when studying this issue we see that it is not eradicated, but rather that it contributes to the fact that new companies do not have opportunities within the bidding market with the State, creating monopolistic practices when establishing requirements and eliminating benefits for new investors.

The truth is that although a product is not marketed in Panama does not mean that in the world it has not been used for years and that it has high quality standards.

A public intervention is urgently needed, aimed at the promotion of entrepreneurship, which allows to enhance the possibilities of short and long-term growth and, in this way, economic and social development.

The history of developed countries, which exhibit more dynamic and powerful entrepreneurship ecosystems, abounds in examples of direct public participation, either as a promoter of a particular economic sector through government purchases or development of risk capital markets, investing in innovation systems and invariably allocating resources to improve the quality of their workforce. *L&E*



LUISA
MILLER

Sábado 14
de abril 2018
11:30 a.m.

World

ECONOMY

Source: IMF

POLICY MEASURES TO SUSTAIN GROWTH AND PREVENT RISKS

W

hen the finance ministers and governors of the G-20 central banks met last October, there was a sense of optimism about the recovery of the world economy and the opportunity to implement much-needed reforms.

Next week, when they meet again in Buenos Aires, they will focus their work on the necessary policies to protect this recovery from downside risks and support growth in the future.

The good news is that the growth dynamic has continued to gain strength and is now seen in three quarters of the world economy.

But, although the sun is still shining in global economy, more clouds are visible on the horizon. This is the case of growing concern about commercial tensions, increase in volatility experienced by financial markets in recent times and greater geopolitical uncertainty.

In addition, the rebound that was expected for 2018 and 2019 will end up losing steam, so the medium-term outlook will be complicated in many countries, especially in advanced economies.

For this reason, countries must implement policies to prevent downside risks, streng-

then their resilience and promote medium-term growth beneficial to all. The time has come to adopt bold policy measures and take full advantage of this period of global growth.

Global perspectives

In January, IMF improved its forecasts for world GDP to 3.9% for 2018 and 2019.

What is behind this dynamic? Above all, cyclical factors: global growth has been driven by the surprising strength of investment and trade, and money and credit continue to flow easily both nationally and internationally.

This year and next, advanced economies are expected to record growth above their medium-term potential, which remains weak. According to projections, growth in emerging and developing countries will continue to strengthen in short term, supported by a slight improvement in the outlook for countries that export raw materials.

So, effectively, the current global dynamic remains solid. And yes, there are concrete steps we should take to make sure that it continues like this.

I will highlight five priorities:

1. Avoid protectionism

The authorities responsible for economic policy must work together constructively to reduce trade barriers and resolve disagreements without having to resort to exceptional measures.



They should ensure that the import duties announced recently by the United States don't translate into a generalized increase in protectionist measures. Undoubtedly, economic history shows that trade wars not only

harm world growth, but are impossible to win.

We know that import duties can cause considerable self-inflicted damage, even if trading partners do not counterattack with their own tariffs.

We also know that protectionism is pernicious, because it causes havoc especially among poorest consumers, who buy imported products with a relatively lower price. In other words, damaging trade is bad for the economy and for people.

Also, creating new obstacles to trade is not a way to address global economic imbalances, but it is essential to do so with fiscal measures. Among them are reducing the deficit in the United States so that public debt takes a sustainable path and reinforcing investment in infrastructure and education in Germany.

In addition, it is important that those who are negatively affected by globalization and technological advances receive greater support, so that they can invest in their skills and opt for higher quality jobs.

2. Prevent financial risks

To prevent downside risks, it is necessary to address also the accumulation of debt in the public and private sectors after a long period of favorable financial conditions.

On average, the level of public debt in the advanced economies of the G-20 has reached 114%. On a global scale, the debt level of sovereigns, companies and households registers historical maximums.



This generates financial vulnerabilities. Imagine a scenario in which an unexpected increase in inflation and a sudden hardening of global financial conditions coincide. These changes could lead to corrections in financial markets, concern over debt sustainability and reversals of capital flows in emerging markets.

In order to mitigate these risks, countries should take advantage of the current dynamics to accumulate fiscal reserves (creating greater room for maneuver when the slowdown comes) and actively implement macro and micro-prudential policies. In emerging economies, the flexibility of the exchange rate can help mitigate external shocks.

3. Accelerate economic reforms



Despite being focused on protecting the current recovery, the authorities responsible for economic policy should also encourage stronger and more broad-based medium-term growth.

Boosting growth is important above all for the advanced economies of the G-20. Last year, its GDP stood, on average, 15% below the trend line before the 2008 crisis, while emerging market countries remained close to this line.

That is, these advanced economies need a sustained increase in growth that goes well beyond the current recovery.

To raise productivity and potential growth, countries can give new impetus to reforms, especially in labor markets.

For example, the G-20 countries have committed to reduce gap in labor force participation rate between men and women by 25% before the year 2025, which would create approximately 100 million new jobs. To achieve this goal, some countries will have to intensify their efforts, while others - such as Germany, Australia, Brazil, Japan and the United Kingdom - already register significant advances.

These and other far-reaching reforms are stronger and easier to apply when the economy

is in better health. In other words: it's time.

4. Promote more inclusive growth

For growth to be more sustainable, it has to be more inclusive. It is a priority to shape the future of work so that it benefits all citizens.



For example, a recent Canadian initiative demonstrated that practical on-the-job training can be more effective than face-to-face teaching. Now more than ever, it is important to reduce the training gap, because the digital revolution is transforming jobs and industries.

McKinsey estimates that 375 million workers, equivalent to 14% of the global workforce, could risk losing their jobs before 2030.

No one knows for sure what the future holds, but it seems clear that we are going to need policy measures.

For example, new IMF analyzes indicate that it is possible to achieve a broader distribution of the benefits of technological innovation, adjusting taxes and benefits and increasing public spending on education and training.

5. Strengthen international cooperation

It is essential to work together to ensure strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth.



Trade, tax competition, climate change, fight against money laundering and the financing of terrorism... the list of areas that require more and not less international cooperation is long.

If you allow me, I want to highlight two aspects:

• We must work together to help address the increase in debt vulnerabilities in low-income countries. The average public debt level of the countries increased to 47% last year, while in 2013 it stood at 33%. Countries that face external debt burdens must act swiftly to contain the accumulation of debt and resort to a greater extent to generate national income to meet the financing needs of development. If necessary, bilateral official creditors should draw up plans to participate in debt restructuring operations and share information with other creditors.

• There is also scope for the development of international regulatory principles in the field of cryptoactive substances, for example, for initial offers of currencies. The objective should be to harness the potential of the underlying technology and, at the same time, ensure financial stability and mitigate the risks arising from money laundering and terrorist financing.

The G-20 can exercise its leadership on all these fronts and, in the process, also guarantee recovery and foster growth shared by all. *L&E*

R B C
Rivera • Bolívar • Castañedas
ATTORNEYS AT LAW



Síguenos en
nuestras
Redes
Sociales



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE FORESTS: GREENER AND HEALTHIER CITIES, MORE HAPPY PLACES WHERE TO LIVE



Source: FAO

Investing in green areas can help transform cities into more sustainable, resilient, healthy, equitable and pleasant places to live, FAO said on the eve of the International Day of Forests (March 21, 2018).

If well planned and managed, cities can be great places to reside, but urban expansion often causes environmental damage that ultimately leads to problems such as rising temperatures, flooding and air pollution. The cost to residents is a deterioration of their well-being.

The costs for the planet include the increase of greenhouse gas emissions, as well as the degradation of soils and waterways, according to *Unasylva*, the FAO forestry publication, whose latest issue is dedicated to urban forestry on the occasion of the International Day of Forests.

“Well-managed forests and trees in and around cities provide habitats, food and protection for many plants and animals, helping to maintain and increase biodiversity,” FAO Director-General José Graziano da Silva said in his message. video on the occasion of the celebration, in which he stressed the need to “join forces to protect forests and trees to make urban environments more sustainable”.

Cities need forests and trees



More than half of the world's population now lives in cities, and by 2050 that percentage will reach almost 70 percent. Although cities occupy only 3 percent of the earth's surface, they consume 78 percent of the energy and emit 60 percent of the carbon dioxide.

Forest areas, forests and trees in a city and its surroundings perform a wide range of vital functions, such as storing carbon, eliminating air pollutants, helping to obtain food security, energy and water, restoring degraded soils and preventing drought and floods. In a medium-sized city, urban trees can—for example—reduce soil loss by around 10,000 tons per year.

By providing shade and cooling the air, urban trees and forests can reduce extreme temperatures and mitigate the effects of climate change. In fact, trees placed properly around buildings can reduce air conditioning needs by 30 percent. In cold climates, protecting the houses from the wind can help save the energy used for heating between 20 and 50 percent.

Urban and peri-urban forests increase the resilience and quality of watersheds and water reserves by preventing erosion, limiting evapotranspiration and filtering pollutants. And planting fruit trees on the streets can increase the availability of food within cities.

Inspiring examples from around the world



Many cities are already demonstrating their commitment to a more sustainable future and there are many excellent examples of ecological urban development, according to a new publication called "Sustainable Forests and Cities: Inspirational Stories from Around the World," launched today on the occasion of the International Day of Forests

The publication highlights the different ways in which cities around the world have used forests and trees to improve the living conditions of their citizens, which can inspire others.

The miracle of Beijing afforestation



Beijing is one of the most populated and polluted cities in the world. Without large forests and other green areas, the city runs the risk of becoming a concrete jungle with increasingly serious effects on the health and well-being of urban residents.

In 2012, Beijing initiated the largest afforestation program in its history. In suburban and peri-urban areas, most of the land was reforested after moving low-cost industries. The forests, which now cover more than 25 percent of the plain where the city is located - an increase of 42 percent - offer residents more space for recreation.

Community participation in Nairobi



The Karura forest in the central-northern area of the capital of Kenya, Nairobi, was once an area with a high crime rate. The proximity of the forest to a rapidly growing city led to plans to reduce forest area to make way for housing construction. But when local communities became involved in their management, things changed.

Conservationists - led by environmental activist Wangari Maathai - launched a major campaign to save the forest. Collaboration with various stakeholders, including local authorities, the private sector, community and resident associations, donors and non-governmental organizations, played a decisive role in improving the management of the Karura forest.

The local population has benefited considerably from direct participation. The forest is no longer a dangerous place, but a source of opportunities. It employs 46 permanent workers, 36 of whom come from neighboring communities. Karura has also become a major tourist attraction: from no visitor in 2009, the forest now receives an average of 16,000 visits per month.

Lima: reduce the risk of natural disasters



In Lima, the capital of Peru, the municipality launched in 2015 a reforestation project to reduce the danger of natural disasters, including earthquakes and landslides. The local population was trained in planting forests that help reduce the risk of disasters because it stabilizes the slopes, prevents and prevents rock falls, retains mud and sediments, and contributes to improving the environment.

An area of 14 hectares -equivalent to five football fields- has been designated as a park, which includes trails, viewpoints and family recreation spaces.

As a result, 3,500 native trees were planted and a drip irrigation system with treated wastewater was installed.

The work of FAO in urban forests



FAO supports the adoption of urban forest solutions for cities through guidelines and technical and communication tools.

In Niger, for example, FAO helped the Government develop a national policy for the management of green spaces in and around cities to protect the environment and mitigate the effects of climate change.

In Cape Verde, FAO supported the Government in the development of integrated urban forestry plans in Praia and other major cities of the archipelago by organizing training courses for technicians on planning, design and management of urban green spaces and creating new nurseries. *L&E*

sábado 28
abril 2018
11:55 a.m.

Cendrillon



METROPOLITAN ÓPERA HD LIVE IN

PANAMA

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN ADOPTS ITS FIRST BINDING REGIONAL AGREEMENT FOR THE PROTECTION OF ACCESS RIGHTS IN ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

Source: ECLAC

Representatives of 24 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean meeting in San Jose, Costa Rica, adopted the first binding regional agreement to protect the rights of access to information, public participation and access to justice in environmental matters (Principle 10 of the Rio de Janeiro Declaration on Environment and Development), an unprecedented legal instrument for the region.

At the end of the Ninth Meeting of the Negotiating Committee of the Regional Agreement on Principle 10, government delegates, together with representatives of the public and experts from international organizations, agreed on the final text of the agreement, which has been negotiated since 2014, and in the which also protects the protection of human rights defenders in environmental matters.

"This agreement that has been achieved here in Costa Rica is a turning point; It is very good news for a continent that requires a lot in its fight against crime, poverty, inequality and hatred. It is also crucial for the very survival of our species," said President Solís in his words at the close of the meeting.

The President indicated that it is necessary to bring people to decisions on environmental matters, making them participants in development, since "the right to a healthy environment is a human right," he said. He also highlighted the legal relevance of the agreement and of "environmental democracy" as a new legal term that implies the participation of all in the protection of the environment.

For her part, Alicia Bárcena stressed the importance of this process that culminates today with the adoption of the first binding regional agreement on environmental democracy.

"With this agreement, Latin America and the Caribbean testifies to its firm and unequivocal commitment to a foundational democratic principle: the right of people to participate meaningfully in the decisions that affect their lives and their environment," she said.

According to final text approved today, the objective of the agreement is "to ensure the full and effective implementation in Latin America and the Caribbean of the rights of access to environmental information, pu-

blic participation in environmental decision-making processes and access to justice.” in environmental matters, as well as the creation and strengthening of capacities and cooperation, contributing to the protection of the right of each person, of present and future generations, to live in a healthy environment and sustainable development “(article 1).

Furthermore, it states in article 9 that “each Party shall guarantee a safe and propitious environment in which the individuals, groups and organizations that promote and defend human rights in environmental matters may act without threats, restrictions and insecurity”.

It also establishes the creation of a Conference of the Parties (Article 15), which will be convened by ECLAC no later than one year after the entry into force of this agreement and regular meetings will be held at regular intervals, depending on the decision of the Conference. Conference.

The text states that the agreement will be open for signature by all the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean (33 nations) at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, from September 27, 2018 to September 26, 2020. , and that will be subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by the States that have signed it.

In the final minutes of the Ninth Meeting of the Negotiating Committee of the Regional Agreement on Principle 10, the signatory countries invite all the States of Latin America and the Caribbean to sign and ratify this agreement as soon as possible, and thanked ECLAC for its support, and the public for its significant participation during the negotiation process. *L&E*

info



R•B•C

Rivera • Bolívar • Castañedas

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

¿Quieres estar actualizado en cuanto a información legal?



rbcweb@rbc.com.pa



NATIONAL DAY OF THE WILD CATS

Environmental CAPSULE

Milena Vergara - Assistant
milena.vergara@rbc.com.pa

The Convention for the Conservation of Biodiversity and Protection of Protected Areas states that the State must develop national strategies, plans or programs for the conservation of biological diversity; as well as establishing or maintaining the necessary legislation and/or other regulatory provisions, for the protection of threatened species and populations.

The protection and conservation of wildlife is part of the natural heritage of Panama and with this seeks to benefit and safeguard natural ecosystems. Recently in Panama through Executive Decree N° 12 of February 23, 2018, it was de-

clared the first Saturday of March of each year, as the National day of wild cats. Wild cats feed on frugivorous mammals and on individuals who are old or less adapted to environment. They are responsible for regulating in a natural way populations of different animal species.

They are classified as an umbrella species, because presence of feline populations in an area means that there are enough prey to feed these carnivores and associated biodiversity in favorable conditions.

They are characterized by a robust body,

rounded head and short snout, powerful jaws, small incisors but large canines and small molar teeth. The forelimbs have five fingers and the hind limbs four. The male is usually larger than the female. Most are monogamous (a male is matched with a single female). The number of pups can vary from 1 to 6 puppies.

In Panama there are six species of wild cats:

Jaguar (*Panthera Onca*) is a feline with spots.



Puma (*Puma concolor*) is a feline without spots, but its young are born with spots.



Yaguarundi (*Puma yagouarundi*) is another spotless cat that is related to the puma, can present in the same litter puppies with reddish-chocolate fur and another black-gray.



Ocelot (*Leopardus pardalis*) is a spotted feline and the largest of the small spotted felines.



Tigrillo (*Leopardus wiedii*) is a small spotted cat and remains most of the time in the trees so it is very difficult to observe.



Oncilla (*Leopardus tigrinus*) is a spotted cat and is the smallest of all American wild cats, which can be confused with a domestic cat.



The Mastozoological Society of Panama (SOMASPA) between November 2017 and January 2018 placed cameras to observe the transit of animals in the Colon Biological Corridor and thus learn more about the wildlife that exists in it.

For the months of March and April there will be a second monitoring phase and finally to present possible conclusions and reports of this research of the species that use the forest route in Colón.

We must take measures to preserve the species of felines that exist in our country and in the same way encourage in an educational way the importance of the protection of the natural resources and the flora and fauna of the region. *L&E*



Illustrious PEOPLE

Idalia Ballesteros - Assistant
idalia.ballesteros@rbc.com.pa

WHO IS KIM JONG-UN- PRESIDENT OF NORTH KOREA?

Kim Jong-un is the last of Kim Jong-il's children with his last partner Ko Young-hee, a former dancer who died of cancer in 2004 and grandson of the "eternal president" and founder of North Korea, Kim Il Sung . It was believed that he was born in Pyongyang on January 8, 1983.

It is said that he su-

ffers from some of health problems that afflicted his late father, including diabetes and heart disease due to lack of exercise. The little that is known about Kim's records indicates that he is a cruel person and has some ideological flexibility.

There is not yet an official full biography about Kim Jong-un.

Therefore, the only information known in his early life comes from deserters and people who knew him during his stay abroad, as in Switzerland. Some of the information has been conflicting and contradictory.

Kim Jong-un who is military, like his brothers was educated in schools in Bern (Switzerland), under a pseudonym and avoiding Western influences. It is believed that he returned to the year 2000 to North Korea, where he graduated, in 2007, at

the Kim Il Sung Military University. He speaks English and German perfectly, is a lover of basketball and action movies.

Unlike his father, Kim Jong-un cultivates an image of a country man. He is shown throwing his arm over his shoulder to his soldiers, visiting workers at home and cooing babies in hospital nurseries. Sometimes his wife Ri Sol-ju accompanies him in his events.

Since September 27, 2010 he holds the rank of general of four stars

which was granted by his father, on April 14, 2012 he was elected by the Supreme People's Assembly as president of the National Defense Commission of North Korea.

Currently Kim Jong-un has the following titles: General President of the Labor Par-



ty of Korea, President of the Central Military Commission, Chairman of the National Defense Commission, Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army and member of the Presidium of the Standing Committee of the Politburo of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Prior to his appointment as his father's successor, his half-brother Kim Jong-nam had been singled out several times as hypothetical heir, but lost his father's favor after being discovered trying to enter Japan with a false passport to visit the Disneyland amusement park in Tokyo. The second in line, Kim Jong Chul, who is believed to have an age similar to Kim Jong-un, was considered by his own father too effeminate to lead the country.

Since 2009 it became known among diplomatic services that Kim would succeed his father as head of the Korean Workers' Party and, therefore, as head of state.

He was named "Brilliant Comrade" and his father ordered the staff of the North Korean Embassies to swear allegiance to him. Kim Jong-un would have married in 2010 with a North Korean student of about 20 years and had a daughter with her in that same year, although of his life there are hardly any details.

On December 17, 2011, Kim Jong-Il passed away, and on December 29, 2011, at the end of the funeral for his father, Kim Yong Nam, President of the Supreme People's Assembly, confirmed Kim Jong-un as supreme leader of the nation through a speech in the Great Plaza of Pyongyang.

Many analysts underestimated him for not having experience when he took office at age 27; some predicted that it would not last long. However, a few years later, there is no doubt that he exercises with firm control.

Since Kim Jong-un assumed power he has reignited tensions on the Korean peninsula with a series of war threats against the United States and South Korea.

On March 29, 2013, the North Korean leader declared the "State of war" to South Korea, increasing the chances of a nuclear war due to the B-2 Spirit bombers of the United States that flew over the Korean peninsula. On March 9, 2014, the Supreme People's Assembly re-elected him as Chairman of the National Defense Commission of North Korea.

As for this war between North Korea and South Korea which dates back to 1950, Kim Jong-un ordered a few months ago to create necessary conditions to normalize relations with South Korea. During a speech to the Nation, the head of state stressed that the Asian country needs to firmly adhere to a policy that allows an important advance in "self-sufficient association".

"We don't have to resort to the past and think about specific details of relations with Seoul, instead, it is necessary to improve the links between the North and the South," the president said. From this, Seoul (South) and Pyongyang (North) reestablished the line of special communications in the demilitarized zone of Panmunjom and both countries agreed

to hold high level talks since last January. The president of South Korea, Moon Jae-in, and the North Korean leader, Kim Jong-un, intend to meet at the end of April this year

Kim Jong-un is considered by most countries, organizations and media in the world as a dictator; Other countries, organizations and media prefer to refer to it merely as a leader or because of its rank as a marshal.

Currently and against all odds, Kim is on the verge of making his isolated and impoverished nation one of the few in the world that can attack the United States with a nuclear missile, thus defying not only the administration of President Trump., but also international sanctions and the traditional allies of North Korea in Beijing.

Some have recommended to President Trump to start negotiations with Kim Jong-un, however, it is not clear that Kim is interested or if there is anything he could ask for in exchange for stopping or abandoning his nuclear program.

Although Kim has not traveled abroad or received any state visits since taking power, only a handful of people who are not from North Korea have been able to meet with him, including former basketball player Dennis Rodman, a chef Japanese sushi and the vice presidents of Cuba and China; Kim has proposed to the president of the United States Donald Trump to meet with him, next May, for which he requested as the beginning of the negotiation to suspend his ballistic missile tests and to address a process of denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula to which Trump accepted, and Kim Jong-un is expected to honor its commitment to refrain from further nuclear or missile tests "and maintain its commitment to" denuclearization".

This proposal comes after Kim will send a "personal message" to Trump with the South Korean national security advisor, Chung Eui-yong. For months the White Hou-

se has been pursuing a policy of "maximum pressure" against North Korea, in which it has combined somewhat apocalyptic military threats, such as the famous promise of "fire and fury", with unusually severe international economic sanctions.

However, experts in the field have warned that, beyond his conciliatory words, Kim has not given any concrete signal that he intends to effectively renounce his nuclear arsenal. In fact, it would be very strange that after successfully testing several nuclear bombs, one hydrogen bomb and several intercontinental ballistic missiles, the North Korean leader renounces the only guarantee of survival that his regime has. On the contrary, there are good reasons to think that with this gesture North Korea is trying to mitigate the sanctions and guarantee a 'de facto' legitimacy for its nuclear program.

In fact, it is not the first time that North Korea has entered into peace talks with the United States. In the past, Republican George W. Bush and Democrat Bill Clinton held long negotiation processes, with Kim Jong-il (Jong-un's father).

Despite the abysmal economic and military difference between the two countries, the fact is that Kim has everything to gain since the North Koreans have great advantage when it comes to studying the strengths, weaknesses and limitations of their American adversaries.

Both Trump and Kim are playing hard and it can not be excluded that both win out of that unusual and demanding encounter. However, given the enormous risks that the president of the United States is going to take, it is best to follow the advice of diplomats and smile a lot, speak little and do not make any concessions.

A possible scenario for the summit where the meeting of Kim Jong-un and Donald Trump will take place is in Sweden, in fact, the North Korean Foreign Minister Ri Yong

Ho traveled to this country which represents the US interests in Pyongyang; the North Korean minister will be in the Scandinavian country from March 15 to hold "talks" with his counterpart Margot Wallström.

According to the Swedish ministry, "a full press release will be published at the end of the talks, on the night of March 16." During an official visit to Washington in early March, Swedish Prime Minister Stefan Löfven reiterated to Trump the availability of Sweden in Kim Jong-un has made the construction of a nuclear arsenal a priority, arguing that this is the only way that North Korea can guarantee its security and the development of its economy.

Kim has tried to boost the economy with improved growth, has also worked to regain public confidence that enjoyed the dynastic regime in the period of his grandfather and who was lost under the command of his father, whose government is remembered by a devastating famine.

Kim, unlike his father, has taken a much more aggressive position in relation to the nuclear program, since his father offered the possibility of scrapping the program in exchange for financial aid and security guarantees, and even reached an agreement with the administration of Clinton.

Three out of five nuclear tests of North Korea have been conducted under his administration, he has also conducted about 80 missile tests, more than double those made during the mandates of his father and gran-

dfather combined. With the last two missile tests on July 4 and 28, 2017, analysts said, it was demonstrated that the intercontinental ballistic missiles with which North Korea has been able to attack Alaska and, most recently, the continental area of U.S.

Since Kim took office, it is estimated that a total of 140 high-ranking officers have been executed. The analysts explain that Kim has restored the authority of the Workers' Party apparatus and uses it as his main vehicle of government.

Kim has sought to pursue a "byungjin" policy, or parallel development, which calls for the simultaneous pursuit of nuclear weapons and economic development. It has improved access to food and consumer goods by allowing more commercial activities. It has also started a construction boom in Pyongyang, where the most loyal citizens are allowed to live.

Despite decades of sanctions and international isolation, lately the economy has shown surprising signs of life. However, conditions remain depressing outside the capital's showcase, more than 30,000 North Koreans have fled the country since the famine in the 1990s.

Kim and his government claim they need nuclear weapons to protect themselves from overthrow, however, North Korea has also said it hopes to use nuclear weapons to force the world to accept it as a full member of the international community under its terms, such how Washington finally recognized China after it became a nuclear power. *L&E*



Sport Capsule



Ana Sofía Corrales
rbcweb@rbc.com.pa

Each one will know what he likes to do, the trade, the sport, the activity that he is passionate about. It is not always immediately, sometimes it takes time to realize what we really love and what we have skills for.

During the time that it may take, we go through doing things that we think are good, other times because of challenges that take us out of our comfort zone. And this is good, it allows us to go exploring until we find our vocation.

There is always the theory that when you do something that you are passionate about, you are happy. And I

think it's true, you already feel that your work or the practice hours, you enjoy them. Just because it is something that you like and that you want to keep improving.

Well, if you're passionate about something, you put more effort into it, even if it takes time. If you have not found it, you should not despair, just keep looking.

And be grateful for every new challenge that comes your way, you don't know what surprise it will bring, both in your daily life and in sports.

BASEBALL



The final series of the National Juvenile Baseball Championship, reached the seventh game, where "The Colts" of East Panama gave the battle by tying the series in extra episodes in the sixth game.

However, "La Leña Roja" by Coclé, led by Panamanian technician Cristóbal Girón, was crowned champion in the last game of the series, 6 races to 0, after 56

years, when he won his first championship.

The ninth of Coclé was received in the Yellow Room of the presidential house with a lunch, by the President of the Republic, Juan Carlos Varela, where they were given an economic incentive of 34 thousand balboas that will be distributed among the 25 players and the technical body.



The National Pre-Infant Baseball Tournament took the ninth of Herrera after winning 7 races to 6 to the East Panama team. We congratulate the new generation of players.

The National Major Baseball Championship has already begun, which is played until March 28 in the regular series, to move on to the series of eight.





The Russian World Cup 2018 is getting closer, so the last preparations for this great event have been taking place, from the training of coaches on the registration system, in which all the information of the players and coaches will be compiled. that they meet automatically; until the implementation of video arbitration (VAR) to help a more fair and transparent football. It will be the first World Cup to be used.

It will be used in the following four cases:

- o Validation or not of a goal,
- o Penalize or not a penalty,
- o Attributing or not a red card,
- o Correct an identification error of a cautioned player.

This Thursday, March 22, Panama had its first game of preparation for its World Cup appointment. Faced Denmark in Copenhagen in a match that many saw as acceptable, even though the nationals were defeated by the minimum, 1-0. However, the

public hails a generational changeover. For the first time coach Hernán Darío "Bolillo" Gómez was fully defensive with a line of five back, Murillo, Machado, Baloy, Escobar and Davis in the background. Among the best was Jaime Penedo, who looked great stopping seven shots on goal. A Blas Perez took him out of the game with a red card after jumping with the tacos up against the Danish goalkeeper.

Panama, who is in Group G with Belgium, Tunisia and England, has scheduled the following games of blank:

- **March 27** against Switzerland in Lucerne.
- **April 17** against Trinidad and Tobago at the Ato Boldon stadium in the city of Couva, on the Caribbean island. As it is not a FIFA date, the eleventh will be made up of players from the Panamanian Football League.
- **May 29** against Ireland on national soil.
- **June 6** against Norway in Oslo.



On the other hand, the Rommel Fernandez Cup already has a winner, the Chiriqui team, Bryan FC, took the Cup, leaving in second place the East Panama team, Las Margaritas FC and taking the pass to the National Promotion League.

San Miguelito won 5 for 2 against Los Santos, thus conquering the II National Beach Soccer Championship.



Immediately finishing this Championship, coach Shubert Pérez called 22 players from different teams to form the National Team that will play the Central American Cup in El Salvador that will take place from March 29 to 31, where Costa Rica, El Salvador, Belize and Panama will participate.

BASKETBALL



The Panamanian team will face the toughest key of the Premundial U-19 tournament that will take place between June 10 and 16 in St. Catharines, Canada.

The Panamanian national team is in Group A, along with the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico and the United States. While Group B will face Canada, Chile, Ecuador and Argentina.

The best two of each group will achieve the pass to the 2019 World Cup. So from now on the boys are in training led by coach David Rosario.



BOXING

The boxer Atheyna Bylon achieved the gold medal in the 75kg after defeating the Dominican Maria Moronta, thus achieving qualification for the Central American and Caribbean Games 2018, which will be played next July.

For these Central American Games, the boxers Martín Pérez (49kg) and Leonel Gutiérrez (56kg) are also classified.

On the other hand, Ricardo El Científico Núñez won his eighth consecutive victory by beating Colombian Jeremy Triana, taking the lightweight Latin title of the World Boxing Council in this way.



TAEKWONDO

Another Panamanian who qualified for the Central American and Caribbean Games was the athlete Carolena Cartens in the taekwondo competition after beating overwhelmingly the Venezuelan Adriana Martinez.



IRONMAN

The former Miss Panama for Miss Universe, Carolina Dementiev wins IronMan 70.3 from Puerto Rico in the category 25 to 29 years, with a time of 5 hours, 2 minutes and 15 seconds. He left in second place the Mexican Anne de la Parra and third, the Venezuelan Belinda Ortega.

Dementiev, who in May 2016 was suspended from the competition when she tested positive for a banned substance, said she wanted to be an example and transmit learning of a life lesson that hit her mercilessly and at the same time empowered her to get up.



OLYMPIC GALA 2018



In its first edition, the Olympic Committee of Panama (COP) celebrated the 2018 Olympic Gala, rewarding athletes, entrepreneurs, leaders and sports federations, for the merits achieved in 2017.

This event awarded 7 categories, which were:

1. Sports federations

- a. National Federation of Individual Sports-Panamanian Federation of Weightlifting.
- b. Sports Federation of Collective Sports-Panamanian Soccer Federation.

2. Sports leader:

- a. Male leader of the year, José Manuel Ochoa, president of the Panamanian Weightlifting Federation and
- b. Female leader of the year, Teresita Medrano, president of the Panamanian Federation of Gymnastics.

3. Trainers:

- a. Coach: Lawson Yearwood, technical director of the women's softball team in Panama.
- b. Coach of the Year: Sensei Librada Alvarado of the United Federation of Judo of Panama.

4. Juvenile athlete:

- a. Juvenile Male Athlete of the Year, Ronnier Martinez (Weightlifting).
- b. Juvenile Female Athlete of the Year, Mariadnis Batista (Weightlifting).

5. Under Armor Athlete:

- a. Male Under Armor Athlete of the Year, Jacobo Vanish (Table Tennis).
- b. Female Under Armor Athlete of the Year, Aixa Middleton (Athletics).

6. Teams:

- a. Women's Team of the Year, Senior Women's Softball Team.
- b. Male Team, Major Selection of soccer of Panama.

7. Elite athlete:

- a. Elite Female Athlete, Laura Restrepo (Golf).
- b. Elite Men Athlete, Román Torres (Soccer).

The Olympic medalist, Irving Saladino, was also recognized with the Olympic Order. *L&E*

FASHION



Women's day, beyond a celebration

Gabriela Melgar/Donna Ballestero
 gabriela.melgar@rbc.com.pa
 donna.ballestero@rbc.com.pa

Every March 8 we commemorate the "International Women's Day", and as women we feel powerful, flattered and above all proud to be a day where we are exalted and remembered everything we are capable of doing and achieving. In our country there are approximately 2,038,189 women, this is equivalent to 49.6% of the population, who are constantly struggling to be recognized for our achievements and to raise awareness about gender equity.

This day has its origins in late nineteenth century, where in an industrialized world the woman needed to break through and cause her voice to be heard. In those times, women began to become aware of their social situation and there were the first protests in search of favorable working conditions, as well as a salary equal to that of men. It was finally established in 1977 by the UN General Assembly and is known as the International Day of Women and International Peace.

In Panama, thanks to the intervention of the lawyer Clara Gonzalez who was the author of the Law that institutionally consecrates women's suffrage, on May 6, 1945, the first female vote was given, and one year later, the Constitution granted women on equal terms with men.

This year the movement for women's equality and justice rights has been relevant. Sexual harassment, violence and discrimination against women has captured the headlines and attention of the public.

Women driven by the struggle and seeking changes to materialize, found a way to protest against such abuses. As was the case of the Feminist groups of Spain, who asked the women not to spend money and ignore the day's tasks: calling for a "domestic" strike.

In Panama, the First Intergenerational Feminist Meeting was held under the slogan "Recognize, Meet, Rebel," on March 9 and 10 at the Harmodio Arias Madrid Campus of the University of Panama, where more than 120 women from all over the country, of different ages, professions, raised their voices in search of equality and that all those rights that correspond to us are asserted.

Among its initiatives, it is important to formalize an observatory on gender violence in the media, considering that they have a crucial responsibility in legitimizing certain behaviors and stereotypes in reference to women.

Our country is not immune to inequality, discrimination and violence against women, which is why Law 7 of February 14, 2018 was recently passed, which sanctions discriminatory acts of violence that threaten honor, dignity, integrity physical and psychological, protects the right to work in conditions of equity and establishes public policies to prevent these acts.

This year, countries from all over the world joined, under different slogans, but all with the same goal. This action has taken different forms, marches, campaigns, etc., to achieve a future that is more egalitarian; In the United States of America the #MeToo movement was included, in Mexico, Spain and Latin America there were protests under the slogan # YoTambién, in other places like Italy #QuellaVoltaChen; so many other initiatives that include issues such as wage inequality, to the political representation of women.

It is clear to us that great strides have been made in the struggle for gender equality, but we still face legal, cultural and social barriers, as social convictions drastically reduce women's opportunities. Sexual abuse and gender discrimination do not see social class, so far this year we have seen recognized actors and actresses publicly reveal having suffered some type of abuse of this nature; this is why in this year there has been a strong participation in this movement.

There are more and more people who dare to speak, without fear of suffering any consequences.

"So we will continue fighting" L&E



COSÍ FAN TUTTE

ENCORE

Sábado 12
de mayo 2018
11:55 a.m.

METROPOLITAN ÓPERA HD LIVE IN

PANAMA

Cultural Capsule

Mariela de Sanjur
mariela.sanjur@rbc.com.pa

THEATER



- Miraflores Locks Theater: The opera Luisa Miller on April 14.
- Miraflores Locks Theater: The Cendrillon opera on April 28.
- La Estación Theater: Toc, Toc, Toc until April 22.
- La Estación Theater: La Bella and el Sapo until May 6.
- Teatro El Ángel: A naughty little angel, a gift from heaven, every Sunday in April.
- El Ángel Theater: Orgasms, the whole month of April.
- La Plaza Theater: Boeing, Boeing until April 15.
- La Plaza Theater: Monologues of the Vagina on April 16.
- Anita Villálaz Theater: The Banana War from April 4 to 6.

CONFERENCES, TALKS AND WORKSHOPS:

- Cryptocurrencies-The Digital Business on April 21 at the Atlapa Convention Center.
- Script Writing Workshop with Peace Alicia García-diego on April 6 at the Central Hotel.
- Webcom Land 2018 on April 14 at the Sortis Hotel.

RELIGIOUS FESTIVITIES:

- April 8: Feast of Divine Mercy 8 de abril

FESTIVALS AND SPECIAL EVENTS



- Foto Week 2018 on 23 and 24 - Sortis Hotel.
- Panama Utopia Music Fest on April 28 at the Amador Convention Center.
- Food Truck War from April 5 to 11.
- Panama Beauty Show 2018 on April 14 and 15 at the Megapolis Convention Center.
- World Music Panama 2018: Tammy and Pura Cepa Quinteto on Thursday, April 26 at the Athenaeum of the City of Knowledge from 8:00 p.m.
- "Le Dîner en Blanc-Panama City 2018" on Friday, April 6 <https://panama.dinerenblanc.com> or panama@dinerenblanc.com
- Expovienda 2018 from April 12 to 15 at ATLAPA.
- Demi Lovato in Concert: Tell me you love me World Tour on April 30 at the ATLAPA Convention Center.
- Alexandre Pires My Latino Tour on April 21 at the ATLAPA Convention Center.
- Panama Trance Party on April 14 at Latitude 45.
- Luis Fonsi-Love & Dance 2018 World Tour on April 21 at the Amador Convention Center.
- Tour with Mucho Swing on April 27 at the Hotel Panama, Salón Bella Vista.
- Erika Ender in Concert on April 3 at the Anayansi-ATLAPA Theater
- Full Moon of Drums on Sunday, April 29 at the City of Knowledge.

FAIRS

- Expo-Orquídea Fair in Boquete from April 6 to 15, 2018.
- International Fair of Azuero in La Villa from April 19 to 30, 2018.
- National Fair of Colon from April 4 to 15, 2018.
- Fair of Camarón Arriba in Santa Rosa Bugaba from April 27 to 29, 2018.
- Fair of Tortí in Chepo from March 29 to April 1, 2018.
- Agricultural Fair of Capira from March 29 to April 1, 2018.
- Flamenco Fair of Panama 18 Casco Viejo at La Tana Restaurant on April 19 and Las Bóvedas Restaurant on April 22.
- Expovivienda Capac 2018 from April 12 to 15 at ATLAPA.
- Summer Auto Show 2018 from April 20 to 22 at ATLAPA.

CINEMA

IFF International Film Festival from April 5 to 11, 2018.

You can see them at the Balboa Theater, Multiplaza Cinepolis, Athenaeum at the City of Knowledge, Ricardo J. Alfaro Room of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Casco Antiguo, and this year there is a fifth room at Cinépolis Multiplaza and Sala Gladys Vidal, at Edificio Hatillo. There will be open air screenings at the Mirador del Pacífico on the Cinta Costera 2.

IMPORTANT DATES

- April 2: International Autism Day
- April 2: International Day of the Infantile Literature.
- April 2: Good Actions Day.
- April 4: National Day of Prevention and Fight against Obesity.
- April 7: World Health Day.
- April 8: Birthday of Buddha.
- April 10: Good Actions Day.
- April 10: Day of the Harpy Eagle.
- April 14: Police Day.
- April 15: Incident of the Watermelon Chop.
- April 22: Earth Day.
- April 23: World Book and Copyright Day.
- April 24 to 30: World Immunization Week.
- April 26: National Day of the Secretary.
- April 28: International Day for Workers' Health and Safety.
- April 29: International Dance Day.
- April 30: Day of Awareness about Noise.
- April 30: International Jazz Day.

MUSEOS Y EXPOSICIONES

- Interoceanic Museum of the Panama Canal: The Artistic Vanguards in Paris from 1930-1980 until Sunday, May 20. *L&E*

PELÍCULAS PANAMEÑAS QUE SE PRESENTARÁN EN 2018

SIN VOZ

Director: Alberto Serra

Sinopsis: Largometraje basado en una historia de la vida real, del tráfico de niñas y abuso infantil en Panamá. En una sociedad donde no todos tienen la misma oportunidad, Adela, una adolescente que crece dentro del 29% de la población panameña que vive por debajo de la línea de pobreza y es víctima de un embarazo no deseado producto de una violación, escapa de su familia y es colocada en un hogar de monjas que alberga a niñas menores.

TIERRA ADENTRO

Director: Mauro Colombo

Sinopsis: Documental con la selva de Darién como foco central, contando las travesías de inmigrantes que llegan de África, el negocio de la madera y del resto de situaciones que se registran en un lugar que la sociedad parece hacer a un lado.

LA ESTACIÓN SECA

Director: José Canto

Sinopsis: Largometraje de ficción cuya trama se centra en el diario vivir de tres jóvenes que tratan de salir adelante y materializar sus anhelos en medio de la convulsión del desarrollo de la ciudad.

NIETOS DEL JAZZ

Directores: Roberto Latorre y Lucho Araujo

Sinopsis: Documental que narra la historia de seis jóvenes de los barrios panameños (Oliver, Pablo, Luis Carlos, Luis Ángel, Michael y Oscar) que luchan por vivir sus sueños: ser músicos de jazz. En 2015 deciden formar un grupo y lo bautizan como Nietos del Jazz.

1977: EL TRATADO

Director: Annie Canavaggio

Sinopsis: El 31 de diciembre de 1999 se concreta la reventón del Canal de Estados Unidos a Panamá. Para lograrlo, el Tratado Torrijos-Carter tuvo que ser firmado. Detrás de las firmas hubo un complejo juego de diplomacia internacional e intrigas. Esta documental ilustra cómo fue la negociación de este Tratado.

AL BROWN... CUANDO EL PUÑO SE ABRE

Director: Carlos Aguilar

Sinopsis: Documental que recreará la vida del panameño Alfonso Teófilo Panamá Al Brown, el primer campeón mundial de boxeo de Iberoamérica.

UNA NOCHE DE CALYPSO

Director: Fernando Muñoz y José Rommel Tuñón

Sinopsis: Documental que se concentra en un grupo de viejos músicos panameños de calypso que a través de ensayos, conciertos y entrevistas contarán la historia del calypso en Panamá.

YO ME LLAMO RUBÉN BLADES

Director: Abner Benaim

Sinopsis: Documental sobre la vida y obra artística del cantante y compositor panameño Rubén Blades, haciendo énfasis en su música.

PANAMÉ

Director: Daniel Zapateiro

Sinopsis: Documental que reconstruirá la historia de Ferdinand de Lesseps, cuya figura conducirá será el vehículo para analizar el proyecto del canal francés, su fracaso, el Escándalo de Panamá y las consecuencias del suceso en el devenir del futuro país.

HUMANPERSONS

Director: Frank Spano

Sinopsis: Largometraje de ficción con personajes que serán capaces de convertirse en el espejo desde el cual el espectador pueda reconocerse y recuperar una visión esperanzadora de la realidad latinoamericana.

METROPOLITAN ÓPERA **HD LIVE** IN

PANAMA

Panama Canal Miraflores Theatre

Con la colaboración:



TEMPORADA 2017-2018

Transmitido Vía Satélite directamente desde Nueva York

Adultos: B/. 25.00
Miembros: B/. 20.00

Niños: B/. 10.00
Estudiantes B/. 15.00

f Metropolitan Ópera Panamá @Metopera507



sábado 27
enero 2018

Tosca

12:45 p.m.



sábado 10
febrero 2018

L'Elisir D'Amore 12:00 p.m.



sábado 24
febrero 2018

La Boheme 12:30 p.m.



sábado 10
marzo 2018

Sembramide 12:55 p.m.



sábado 14
abril 2018

Luisa Miller 11:30 a.m.



sábado 28
abril 2018

Cendrillon 11:55 a.m.



sábado 12
mayo 2018

Così Fan Tutte 11:55 a.m.

ENCORE

Boletos de venta en:

Desarrollo Golf Coronado
Rivera, Bolívar y Castañedas

Más información: 209-5900
366-6200

f Metropolitan Ópera Panamá @Metopera507

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

Pellerano & Herrera- REPÚBLICA DOMINICANA

Alvarado & Asociados- NICARAGUA

Torres, Plaz & Araujo- VENEZUELA

Facio & Cañas- COSTA RICA

