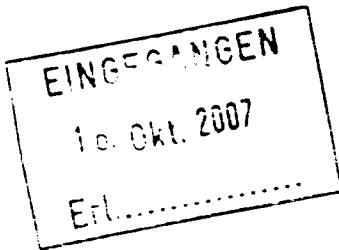


No. 4-7- 169 /2007

Berlín. a 11 de octubre de 2007



Señor Diputado:

Don Lothar Mark

Agradezco su interés y ayuda para fomentar el uso de energías renovables en el Ecuador. Aprecio en alto grado su apoyo para que mi país desarrolle energía limpia, sustentable y responsable con el medio ambiente, bien común a toda la humanidad y que debe ser cuidado por todos.

Como usted conoce el Ecuador está comprometido con el cuidado del medio ambiente mundial y ha presentado a la comunidad mundial una innovadora propuesta para evitar emisiones de carbono que perjudican el ambiente. Se trata de la campaña "Mantener el crudo en tierra", a través de la cual se propone no explotar ricos yacimientos de petróleo en la amazonía ecuatoriana a cambio de justas compensaciones monetarias internacionales. Como anexo le remito un resumen de esta propuesta.

Espero seguir contando con su respaldo para obtener que Ecuador sea considerado país destino de interés del círculo de coordinación de la iniciativa de exportaciones "Energías Renovables".

Hago propicia la ocasión para reiterar a usted las seguridades de mi consideración más distinguida.

Best regards,


Horacio Sevilla Borja
EMBAJADOR

ANEXO (1)

Al Señor Don
Lothar Mark
Miembro del Parlamento Alemán
Berlín.-

(inoffizielle Übersetzung)

Nr. 4-7-169/2007

Berlin, 11. Oktober 2007

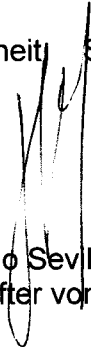
Sehr geehrter Herr Abgeordneter,

ich bedanke mich für Ihr Interesse und Ihre Hilfe hinsichtlich der Förderung des Einsatzes von erneuerbaren Energien in Ecuador. In hohem Maße würdige ich Ihre Unterstützung, damit mein Land nachhaltige und verantwortungsvolle Energien für die Umwelt –welche als Allgemeingut aller Menschen von jedem einzelnen geschützt werden muss- entwickelt.

Wie Sie wissen, setzt sich Ecuador für den weltweiten Schutz der Umwelt ein und hat der Weltgemeinschaft einen innovativen Vorschlag zur Vermeidung von umweltbelastenden Kohlenstoffemissionen unterbreitet. Es handelt sich hierbei um die Kampagne „Das Erdöl in der Erde lassen“, die vorschlägt, auf die Förderung der reichen Ölvorkommen im ecuadorianischen Amazonasgebiet zu verzichten und im Gegenzug hierfür finanzielle Ausgleichszahlungen von der internationalen Gemeinschaft zu erhalten. In der Anlage übersende ich Ihnen eine Zusammenfassung dieses Vorschlags.

Ich hoffe weiterhin mit Ihrer Unterstützung rechnen zu dürfen, um zu erreichen, dass Ecuador vom Koordinierungskreis der Exportinitiative Erneuerbare Energien als Zielland des Interessess angesehen wird.

Ich nutze die Gelegenheit, Sie erneut meiner vorzüglichsten Hochachtung zu versichern.



Horacio Sevilla Borja
Botschafter von Ecuador

ANLAGE (1)

**Herrn
Lothar Mark
Mitglied des Deutschen Bundestages
Berlin.-**

NATIONAL CAMPAIGN “KEEPING CRUDE OIL IN THE GROUND: A CHALLENGE FOR ECUADOR AND THE WORLD”

On June 5, on the occasion of World Environment Day, the President of the Republic, Economist Rafael Correa Delgado, presented the international campaign “Keeping Crude Oil in the Ground. A Challenge for Ecuador and the World”.

The extended Cabinet, representatives of Diplomatic Missions accredited in Ecuador, international organisms, cooperation agencies, consulates and non-governmental organizations, as well as national public and private entities, national NGOs and members of civil society attended the event. The project was presented by the Vice-president of the Republic who, by delegation of President Correa, heads the national and international campaign.

The initiative emerged from the increased awareness of the Government of Ecuador regarding alterations to the balance of ecosystems caused by oil activities, such as prospecting, exploration and extraction of crude in sensitive areas like the Animal Reserve of Cuyabeno and the Yasuní National Park, as well as the serious effects caused by the emission of greenhouse gases generated, among other things, by the burning of fossil fuels. It is an ethical and political proposal made by a country that respects human dignity and biodiversity, aware of its role in worldwide efforts to fight global warming.

The Yasuní National Park includes the Untouched Area, covering 758,000 hectares, which is home to the Tagaeri and Taromenani, two non-contacted groups of indigenous peoples living in voluntary isolation.

The Ecuadorian proposal consists in refraining from drilling for heavy crude in the ITT block, made up of the Ishpingo, Tambococha and Tiputini fields, located in the Ecuadorian Amazon Region, in the northern area of the Yasuní Biosphere Reserve. There are almost as many species of trees and shrubs in one hectare in this region as there are native trees in the whole of North America (almost 680 species). Forty-four percent of all the species of birds living in the Amazon Region can be found here. This area is home to one of the world's greatest diversity of birds. It boasts to almost 40% of all species of mammals of the Amazon basin, and has more than 100,000 species of insects per hectare (many of them new), the world's greatest diversity of insects. It is worth stressing that this area was a refuge for biodiversity during the Pleistocene, when the Amazon region turned mostly into grasslands as a result of glaciations.

In view of the great concern raised by possible damages to the Yasuní area as a result of oil drilling in the ITT Block, the Government of Ecuador presented the initiative of keeping the oil in the ground in exchange for resources, until June 1, 2008.

The State would assume an internationally binding commitment to keep the oil of ITT in the ground indefinitely, for the benefit of biodiversity, indigenous cultures and world weather, a decision that would generate the following major impacts:

- Direct impacts. Preventing greenhouse gas emissions, contamination of waters and river basins, as well as loss of biodiversity (It is worth recalling that each barrel of oil emits approximately 440 kg of CO₂, equivalent to 120 kg of carbon.

Therefore, prevented emissions would total 108 million tons of carbon - ITT reserves represent as little as 12 days of world oil consumption)

- Indirect impacts. Eliminating colonization, growth of road infrastructure and deforestation.
- In turn, these impacts represent direct and indirect costs associated to the loss of several environmental functions, including wood production, ecotourism, carbon capture, preservation of river basins, preventing soil erosion.
- Reducing external pressures and preserving the untouched area home to non-contacted peoples.

It is estimated that the ITT has a reserve of 920 million barrels of heavy crude that if drilled would generate US\$ 33.12 billion, according to early estimates.

Accordingly, Ecuador waives its right to exploit and therefore to profit from the revenues that would be generated by oil drilling in the ITT, estimated in US\$ 700 million per annum. In recognition of this sacrifice, the international community would compensate Ecuador with at least 50% of non-earned revenues, calculated in US\$ 350 million per annum.

If these contributions become a reality, an international compensation fund would be created with the profits not earned by the State. The fund would be administered by an international trust.

The profits of this fund may compensate at least 50% of net benefits the State would receive if it allowed drilling for oil in ITT.

The resources held in this fund would be exclusively destined to social development and conservation projects, under an accountability scheme. It is worth stating that the social goals of the Government include reaching minimum investment levels in education, equivalent to US\$ 1.2 billion, and tripling expenditures in the health area, representing an increase of US\$ 500 to US\$ 600 million each year. Both headings would account for US\$ 1.8 billion needed by the State for these sectors, in addition to the funds currently invested and which would allow the Government to meet the minimum recommended international standards for both areas.

International compensation would come from:

- Debt swaps and cancellations (bilateral, Paris Club or multilateral);
- Government to Government grants;
- Voluntary contributions of civil society;
- Contributions of NGOs and international conservation and human rights networks;
- Placement of certificates of non-drilled crude in the international market.

Domestically, it is worth noting that civil society has already been encouraged to make symbolic purchases of non-drilled oil barrels at US\$ 5 ea. Donors will receive certificates accrediting them as the owners of the crude.

The Vice-presidency of the Republic and the Technical Committee created to this end will be in charge of producing a final plan. Likewise, the mechanism created to collect the contributions of donors will be made public shortly.

The guarantees that will be given to investors on their funds, as well as those that will be channeled in case contributions are to be refunded to donors if the objective sought is not reached, are legal issues still being analyzed.

It is worth stressing that if this initiative fails, The State of Ecuador would opt to drill the oil. To this end, the Board of Directors of Petroecuador, the Ecuadorian State-owned oil company, is analyzing the possibility of holding an international bid for the exploitation of the crude with state-of-the-art clean technologies, if the initiative to keep the crude in the ground finds no support or effective commitment, especially in the international community.

In consequence, the success of keeping the crude in the ground as a top priority for the country would depend on the international -and also the national- community, and could represent the beginning of the post-oil era.