

May 17, 2023

GOVERNMENT OF ECUADOR TRIGGERS THE CONSTITUTIONAL “CROSS DEATH CLAUSE” AND CALLS FOR GENERAL ELECTIONS

Quito, Ecuador – Today, Wednesday, May 17, President Guillermo Lasso signed Executive Decree 741 which triggers the constitutional provision commonly known as the “cross-death” a provision that calls forth elections for President and National Assembly for the remainder of the presidential term. This measure became necessary to bring a modicum of political stability and allow anticipated elections.

In accordance with Article 148 of the Constitution, via Decree 741, the President has ordered the Electoral Council to call a general election for the President and Assembly members within a period of 7 days. Furthermore, according to the constitution, the President, until the new assembly is sworn in, can issue decrees on economic matters, which after a favorable ruling from the Constitutional Court, will become law. The government plans to use this period to bring about some of the urgently needed economic reforms to return the country to a growth path.

It is estimated that the electoral process will conclude in approximately 6 months. During this period, the President will be able to govern by decree, which means he will have the authority to issue Executive Decrees in economic matters that will have the force of law once approved by the Constitutional Court.

The Government of Guillermo Lasso has reiterated its commitment to uphold the constitution, to convene free and fair elections within the specified time period, and to preserve economic and fiscal stability in order to improve the quality of life for all citizens.



Ministerio de Economía y Finanzas