

Colombian President Says Commercial Banks Must Contribute To Financing Of Growth-oriented Programs In Developing Nations

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In an opening address before the joint annual meetings of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank in Washington on Sept. 30, Colombian President Virgilio Barco said that while developing nations and particularly those of Latin America have been implementing drastic economic reforms, commercial banks have been simultaneously reducing loan exposure at a time when financial assistance is absolutely crucial. The Colombian head of state emphasized that both Club of Paris members and commercial banks must participate in elaborating flexible and adequate restructuring of the foreign debt and refinancing operations of developing nations. Only in this way, he said, will the necessary resources be made available to guarantee the success of growth-oriented adjustment programs proposed at last year's joint meetings in Seoul. The Club of Paris consists of western government creditors, which regularly meets with debtor nation government representatives to discuss the restructuring of debt service arrangements.

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