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According to an Aug. 21 report by the Inter-Press Service, head of Ecuador's Monetary Council, Abelardo Pachano, announced that a debt-equity swap program is to be reintroduced. A similar program was suspended in 1987 during the tenure of President Leon Febres Cordero, due to its inflationary impact on the domestic economy. Under the earlier initiative, private investors purchased debt paper at secondary market prices, and the Ecuadoran Central Bank recognized 100% of the value paid in local currency which could then be used in domestic investments. The new program will be subject to greater government controls or participation to ensure investment in priority sectors. (Basic data from OPEC News Agency, 08/21/89)

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