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Nicaragua: Former Planning & Budget Minister On Government's Economic Program

by Deborah Tyroler

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In statements published Aug. 23 in *Barricada*, former planning and budget minister Alejandro Martinez Cuenca said the government's economic program has crumbled, and requires an "exhaustive" revision. He said that inflation, calculated at 1,700% between January and July this year "obligates a rapid adjustment" in the program. According to Martinez Cuenca, inflation for the January-July period is equal to the government's projection for 1990 as a whole. As of Aug. 20, he said, cumulative inflation for the year is estimated at 2,600%. The former minister emphasized that inflation impacts on all economic sectors, including exports, thereby rendering Nicaraguan exports non-competitive on the world market. *Barricada* is the Sandinista National Liberation Front's official newspaper. (Basic data from Notimex, 08/23/90)

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