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Panama & Ecuador To Ask E.e.c. To Refrain From Imposing Banana Import Taxes

by Barbara Khol
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On July 22, Panamanian Trade and Industry Minister Roberto Alfaro told reporters that the Panamanian and Ecuadoran governments have proposed a meeting with European Economic Community (EEC) officials aimed at avoiding taxes imposed on imports from members of the Banana Exporter Nations Union (UPEB). Panama's principal clients for annual exports of 40 million 18.4 kg. boxes of bananas are France, Germany, England and the US. UPEB member-nations include Panama, Costa Rica, Honduras, Nicaragua, Guatemala, Colombia, Dominican Republic, and Venezuela. Ecuador has observer status. UPEB nations and Ecuador control 60% of the global banana trade. (Basic data from AFP, 07/22/91)

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