

## President Correa:

### There is no way to hide the pollution caused by Texaco

- This is the President's evaluation after his visit to the disaster area

Quito (ecuadorinmediato.com)

"We were able to see for ourselves what is already obvious: the environmental destruction that Texaco left in the Amazon Region," said the President of Ecuador, economist Rafael Correa, during the press conference at which he evaluated his visit to the area of oil operations in the provinces of Orellana and Sucumbios.

The President said that it is impossible for there to be first, second and third level people and certain crimes in the first world if they are punished there while those in the third world are left unpunished. He also confirmed that the National Government would not interfere in the judicial process, but it will assume the duty and right to say that the pollution is there: "we were able to touch it with our own hands, we could feel it, we could smell it," he said.

He lamented that the "people who sold out their country" are Ecuadorian lawyers who have always defended the oil companies, blaming Petroecuador, when there are pits that were visited now and were not operated by Petroecuador. In addition, they are attempting to rely on a corrupt agreement signed between Texaco and the government, in which, according to a report by the Comptroller General's Office, there are serious indications of corruption and investigation by the prosecutors has been sought because of alleged criminal liability for fraud in environmental remediation.

Correa said that the acts of the people who signed the agreement and the report releasing the company from liability were "crimes against humanity", because any environmental disaster sooner or later results in a social problem, which can now be seen clearly in the Amazon Region of Ecuador, where entire people groups have been exterminated.

Given these circumstances, and assuming the government's responsibility, he announced that a relocation program would be carried out to relocate the people who now live in polluted areas.

He also said that he had visited various wells operated by Petroecuador and seen that although it is true that there are still many problems, there are also petroleum facilities, such as Block XV, that has the most modern technology to reduce environmental risks. He also highlighted the project for investigating bacterial technology to treat the oil disasters, which will make it possible to reduce the environmental impact of the oil operations. This project has the Government's total support and is being implemented on a large scale, he said.

**CERTIFICATE OF ACCURACY**

STATE OF GEORGIA

SS:

COUNTY OF DEKALB

Thomas L. West III, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

That the translation from Spanish into English, accompanying this certificate is a true and complete translation to the best of my knowledge, ability and belief.

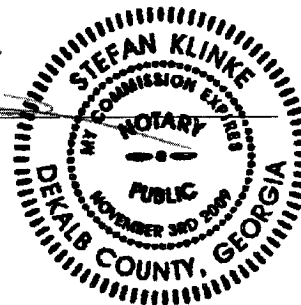


Thomas L. West III  
INTERMARK LANGUAGE  
SERVICES CORPORATION

Subscribed and sworn to before me this day, Wednesday, September 12, 2007



Notary Public



## Presidente Correa:

# Es inocultable contaminación provocada por Texaco

*Es la evaluación del Mandatario tras su visita a la zona de desastre*

### Chullo (ecuatoriano-dato.com)

Hemos podido comprobar lo que es evidente, el desastre ambiental, la destrucción ambiental que dejó Texaco en la Amazonia. Fue el presidente de la República, economista Rafael Correa, de ante la mirada de prensa en la que realizó su visita a las zonas de explotación petrolera de las provincias de Orellana y Sucumbios.

Dijo el Primer Mandatario que no se

puede pensar que existen personas de primera categoría y tercera categoría y ciertos crímenes ocurridos en el primer mundo al por las petroleras y los de tercer mundo quedan impunes al tiempo de ratificar que el Gobierno Nacional no interfiere en el proceso judicial, pero sí asume el deber y el derecho de decir que la contaminación está allí. La herencia tocado con nuestros propios manos, la herencia seréda, la herencia está,

lamentó que los vendedores patria sean abogados ecuatorianos que siempre se han dedicado a defender a las petroleras, quienes pretenden culpar a Petroecuador, cuando hay pleitos que se han visto ahora y que no han sido operados por la empresa ecuatoriana. Además pretenden ampararse en un acuerdo corrupto firmado entre la constituyente y el Estado, en donde según un informe de la propia Contraloría General del Estado existen actos indi-

cios de corrupción y se pide investigación fiscal por presuntas de responsabilidades penales por fraude en la reasignación ambiental.

Correa calificó de crimen de lesa humanidad a la acción de los firmantes del acuerdo y el uniforme que libere de responsabilidades a la empresa, ya que todo desastre ambiental tarde o temprano se traduce en un problema social, que ahora se evidencia con mucha fuerza en este sector de la Amazonia y que

ha exterminado pueblos enteros.

Ante esas circunstancias y asumiendo la responsabilidad del gobierno, anunció que se emprenderá todo un programa de rehabilitación y asentamiento de los pobladores que viven en áreas contaminadas.

Dijo además que ha visitado varios pozos explotados por Petroecuador y ha evidenciado que si bien es cierto que todavía existen muchos problemas, de igual manera ha recorrido

varias instalaciones petroleras, sobre todo el Bloque XV que cuenta con las más modernas técnicas para disminuir los riesgos ambientales. De igual manera resaltó el proyecto de investigación de tecnología bacteriana para el tratamiento de los desechos petroleros, que permiten minimizar el impacto ambiental de la explotación petrolera. Este proyecto cuenta con el apoyo total del Gobierno y se generalizará a gran escala, dijo.