2. There shall be regarded as taxes on income all taxes imposed on total income or on elements of income, including taxes on gains from the alienation of any property, taxes on the total amounts of wages or salaries paid by enterprises, as well as taxes on capital appreciation.

3. The existing taxes to which this Convention shall apply are:

(a) in Ecuador:

the income tax

(hereinafter referred to as "Ecuadorian tax"); and

(b) in Japan:

(i) the income tax;

(ii) the corporation tax;

(iii) the special income tax for reconstruction;

(iv) the local corporation tax; and

(v) the local inhabitant taxes

(hereinafter referred to as "Japanese tax").

4. This Convention shall apply also to any identical or substantially similar taxes that are imposed after the date of signature of the Convention in addition to, or in place of, the existing taxes. The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall notify each other of any significant changes that have been made in their taxation laws.

ARTICLE 3
GENERAL DEFINITIONS

1. For the purposes of this Convention, unless the context otherwise requires:

(a) the term "Ecuador" means the Republic of Ecuador and, when used in a geographical sense, means its territory, including its territorial sea, and other areas, including the subsoil thereof, over which the Republic of Ecuador exercises sovereign rights or jurisdiction in accordance with its internal law and international law;

(b) the term "Japan", when used in a geographical sense, means all the territory of Japan, including its territorial sea, in which the laws relating to Japanese tax are in force, and all the area beyond its territorial sea, including the seabed and subsoil thereof, over which Japan has sovereign rights in accordance with international law and in which the laws relating to Japanese tax are in force;

(c) the terms "a Contracting State" and "the other Contracting State" mean Japan or Ecuador, as the context requires;

(d) the term "person" includes an individual, a company and any other body of persons;

(e) the term "company" means any body corporate or any entity that is treated as a body corporate for tax purposes;

(f) the terms "enterprise of a Contracting State" and "enterprise of the other Contracting State" mean respectively an enterprise carried on by a resident of a Contracting State and an enterprise carried on by a resident of the other Contracting State;

(g) the term "international traffic" means any transport by a ship or aircraft except when the ship or aircraft is operated solely between places in a Contracting State and the enterprise that operates the ship or aircraft is not an enterprise of that Contracting State;

(h) the term "competent authority" means:

(i) in Ecuador, the General Director of the Internal Revenue Service or his authorised representative; and

(ii) in Japan, the Minister of Finance or his authorised representative;

(i) the term "national", in relation to a Contracting State, means:

(i) any individual possessing the nationality of that Contracting State; and