

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

S/C/N/619
2 March 2012

(12-1232)

Council for Trade in Services

Original: Spanish

NOTIFICATION PURSUANT TO ARTICLE VII:4 OF THE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TRADE IN SERVICES

The following notification, dated 16 February 2012, from the delegation of Ecuador, is being circulated to the members of the Council for Trade in Services.

1. **Member notifying:**

Ecuador

2. **Notification under:**

Article VII, paragraph 4, of the General Agreement on Trade in Services - Recognition

3. **Date of entry into force:**

12 October 2010

Duration:

Indefinite

4. **Agency responsible for implementation and enforcement of the measure:**

National Secretariat for Higher Education, Science, Technology and Innovation (SENESCYT)

5. **Complete description of the measure¹, indicating the modes of supply covered, the effect on trade in services (e.g. restrictions/liberalization measures) and the impact of the measure on commitments in the Member's Schedule and Article II (MFN) exemption list, if relevant:**

Pursuant to Article 126 of the Organic Law on Higher Education, the National Secretariat for Higher Education, Science, Technology and Innovation (SENESCYT) will automatically recognize and register foreign qualifications awarded by highly prestigious and world-class educational institutions, provided that these institutions appear on a list produced annually to that effect by the Secretariat and that the study programmes were classroom-based. **In these cases, no action is required for the qualifications to be recognized and valid in Ecuador.**

¹ Including international agreements and recognition and other measures.

SENESCYT may recognize and register foreign qualifications awarded by institutions not included on the above-mentioned list, subject to the following conditions and procedures:

- (a) The qualifications must have been awarded by a country with which Ecuador has an international agreement.
- (b) They must be submitted for consideration by an Inter-Institutional Committee.
- (c) They must undergo processes of approval and recognition of equivalence.

The list will be updated annually. Nonetheless, qualifications awarded by higher education institutions not included in the most up-to-date list may be submitted for consideration by the Inter-Institutional Committee, provided that the established requirements are met.

6. Members specifically affected, if any:

All countries

7. Texts available from:

<http://www.senescyt.gob.ec>
