

## **Hipólito Mejía Domínguez**

### **President of the Dominican Republic**

Hipólito Mejía Domínguez was born in Santiago on Feb. 22, 1941. He attended the Polytechnical Institute in San Cristóbal where he graduated as an agronomist in 1964. He went on to study tobacco cultivation at the University of North Carolina.

Mr. Mejía was appointed Secretary of Agriculture following the 1978 elections. In 1982, he returned to the private sector as an international consultant. He continued in politics as national vice-president of the Dominican Revolutionary Party. In 1999, his party selected him as presidential candidate for the 2000 elections.

Following elections in May 2000, Mr. Mejía became President of the Dominican Republic on Aug. 16, 2000. He is married and has four children.

## **Gustavo Noboa Bejarano**

### **President of Ecuador**

Gustavo Noboa Bejarano was born on Aug. 21, 1937. A lawyer, he first devoted himself to the field of education and was rector of the Catholic and the public universities of Guayaquil. During his political career, Mr. Noboa served as Governor of the province of Guayas and, starting in 1998, Vice-President of the nation, making his mark as an independent politician.

Mr. Noboa became President of Ecuador in January 2000. He has six children.