

## ECOPETROL

Ecopetrol is the state oil company of Colombia. The company administration and management is controlled by the President and a four-member Board of Directors appointed by the Colombian government and chaired by the Minister of Mines and Energy.

Ecopetrol operations are divided among eight "districts" or operation centres with their own organization and a certain degree of autonomy. Names and addresses of key Ecopetrol officials in each district at the time of writing are provided in an annex to this report. The districts and their responsibilities are:

**BOGOTA DISTRICT:** Ecopetrol headquarters which looks after corporate planning and administration as well as some fields near the Bogotá region.

**EL CENTRO (SANTANDER) PRODUCTION DISTRICT:** It is Ecopetrol's largest oil production area currently producing 38,000 b/d located 15 km away from the Barrancabermeja refinery complex. Secondary recovery is being considered for these field whose production level is decreasing.

**BARRANCABERMEJA INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX:** Petrochemical complex and refinery with 160,000 b/d capacity which is being increased by 25%.

**PIPELINE DISTRICT:** Headquartered in Santafé de Bogotá, looks after most crude oil and finished products pipelines over a network of close to 10,000 km.

**COLOMBIAN PETROLEUM INSTITUTE (ICP - INSTITUTO COLOMBIANO DEL PETROLEO):** Created in 1985 as Ecopetrol's research and development facility, to provide Colombia with a world-class research, development, and training centre oriented towards providing technical and operational assistance to the petroleum industry. The ICP is responsible for the realization of studies with universities and specialized centres, and is also involved with sending Ecopetrol employees on courses abroad.

In May 1993, the ICP moved to a new site in Piedecuesta (near Bucaramanga), Santander. The new installations comprise 7 buildings in an area covering 15,000 square meters (the project cost US\$ 9 million). The institute currently employs 200 professionals with master or doctorate degrees.

The ICP has benefited extensively from the assistance of Canada through the PCIAC and PCIMS programs. It has also been the largest purchaser of Canadian goods and services in Ecopetrol over the last 3 years. The ICP is divided into five divisions: Exploration and Development, Refinery and Petrochemical, Industrial