



Panama Takes a Decisive Step Toward MERCOSUR: Accession Bill Approved in Third Debate



On Monday, October 13, 2025, the President of the Republic of Panama, Jose Raul Mulino, enacted Law 489 of 2025, which approves the Economic Complementation Agreement No. 76 between the States Parties of the Southern Common Market (for its name in Spanish, MERCOSUR: Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay), signatories of the Treaty of Asuncion and the Republic of Panama, signed in Montevideo on December 6, 2024.

Law 489 was published in the Official Gazette No. 30385-A on October 13, 2025.

Key opportunities for the Private Sector:

- Preferential and gradual access to an expanded market, ideal for boosting exports of Panamanian goods and services.
- Growing interest from foreign companies, especially from Brazil and Argentina, in establishing regional operations in Panama.
- Support for free zones, facilitating the setup of manufacturing industries that leverage local talent and raw materials.

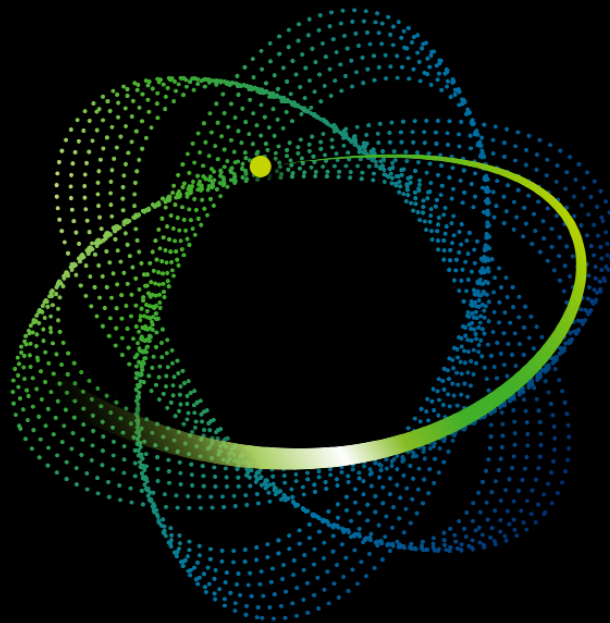
- Harmonization of sanitary and phytosanitary standards, reducing technical barriers and facilitating agro-industrial trade.
- Creation of an Administrative Commission, responsible for ensuring effective implementation of the agreement.

With the enactment of this law, all the necessary legislative steps are completed for its entry into force as law of the Republic.

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