

CRIMINAL CODE

Law 25.246

Amendment. Concealment and laundering of proceeds of crime. Financial Information Unit. Duty to report. Legally bound reporting parties. Criminal Administrative Regime. Attorney General's Office. Abrogation of section 25 of Law 23.737 (Re-arranged text).

Enacted: April 13, 2000.

Promulgated: May 5, 2000.

See related regulations

The Senate and the Chamber of Deputies of the Argentine Nation in Congress assembled, etc., enact with force of law:

CHAPTER I

Amendment to the Criminal Code

SECTION 1 — The heading of Chapter XIII, Title XI of the Criminal Code is hereby replaced by the following one: "Chapter XIII: Concealment and Laundering of Proceeds of Crime."

SECTION 2 — Section 277 of the Criminal Code is hereby replaced by the following one:

1.- It is punishable with prison terms from six (6) months to three (3) years whoever, after the commission of a crime by another individual, in which he has not participated:

- a) helps someone to avoid investigations by the authority or to elude the latter's action.
- b) hides, alters or makes trails, evidence or instruments of the crime disappear or aids the perpetrator or participant to hide, alter or make them disappear.
- c) acquires, receives or hides money, things or effects arising from a crime.
- d) does not report the commission of a crime or does not identify the perpetrator or participant in a crime already known, where he would have been obliged to bring the criminal prosecution of such a crime.
- e) makes safe or helps the perpetrator or participant to make safe the product or benefit of the crime.

2.- In case of aforesaid subsection 1 (c), the minimum penalty shall be of one (1) month of imprisonment, if, under the circumstances, the perpetrator may have suspected they stem from a crime.

3) Both the minimum and maximum terms of punishment shall be doubled when:

- a) The predicate offense were a particularly serious crime, such as that where the minimum penalty were higher than three (3) years of imprisonment.
- b) The wrongdoer had acted for profit.
- c) The wrongdoer habitually commits concealment acts.
- d) The wrongdoer were a public official.

The increase in the amount of punishment provided for in this subsection shall be applied only once, even though more than one of the qualifying circumstances come together. In this case, the court may take into account the plurality of causes at the moment of applying the punishment.

4) The individual who had acted in favor of his/her spouse, or of a relative within the fourth degree of consanguinity or the second degree of affinity, or of a close friend or person to whom he/she owed special gratitude shall be exempt from criminal liability. The exemption shall not apply in the cases provided for under subsections 1 (e) and 3 (b) and (c). *(Subsection replaced by Section 4 of Law 26087, Official Gazette April 24, 2006)*

(Section replaced by Section 2 of Law 25815, Official Gazette December 1, 2003)

SECTION 3 — Section 278 of the Criminal Code is replaced by the following one:

Section 278: 1) a) Whoever converts, transfers, manages, sells, encumbers or applies in any other way money or another kind of assets arising from a crime in which he has not participated, with the possible consequence that the original assets or the substitutes thereof appear to come from a lawful source, provided that their value be over fifty thousand pesos (\$ 50,000), whether through only one act or by the repetition of various interrelated acts, shall be punished with two to ten years' imprisonment and a fine of two to ten times the amount of the transactions made;

b) The minimum punishment shall be five (5) years of imprisonment when the wrongdoer carries out the act on a regular basis or as a member of an association or gang organized with the aim of continuously committing acts of a similar nature;

c) If the value of the assets does not exceed the sum indicated in this subsection, letter a, the wrongdoer shall be punished, in such a case, according to the provisions under section 277;

2) *(Subsection vetoed by Decree 370/2000, Official Gazette May 10, 2000)*

3) The individual who receives money or other assets from a criminal source with the purpose of applying them to a transaction making them appear to be from a lawful source shall be punished according to the provisions under section 277;

4) The assets referred to in subsections 1, 2 or 3 of this section may be confiscated.

5) The exemption under subsection 4 of Section 277 shall not apply to any of the cases under this Section. *(Subsection incorporated by Section 5 of Law 26087, Official Gazette April 24, 2006)*

(Section replaced by Section 1 of Law 25246, Official Gazette May 10, 2000)

SECTION 4 — Section 279 of the Criminal Code is replaced by the following one:

Section 279: 1. Should the penalty range established for the predicate offense be lower than that established in the provisions of this Chapter, the penalty range corresponding to the predicate offense shall be applicable to the case;

2. In the event the predicate offense were not punishable with imprisonment, its concealment shall be punished with a fine of one thousand pesos (\$ 1,000) to twenty thousand pesos (\$ 20,000) or the penalty range corresponding to the predicate offense, should the latter be lower; (*Paragraph “The concealment of such a crime shall not be punishable when committed due to recklessness in the sense of section 278, subsection 2;” vetoed by Decree 370/2000, Official Gazette May 10, 2000*).

3. When the party committing some of the acts described in section 277, subsections 1 or 3, or in section 278, subsection 1, were a public officer who had committed the act when fulfilling his duties, a specific disqualification of three (3) to ten (10) years shall also be applied. The same penalty shall be applied to whoever had acted in the practice of a profession or trade requiring a special authorization; (*Subsection replaced by section 3 of Law 25815, Official Gazette December 1, 2003*).

CHAPTER II

Financial Information Unit

SECTION 5 — A Financial Information Unit (UIF¹) which shall enjoy functional independence within the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights of the Nation, and shall be ruled by the provisions of this law is hereby set up.

SECTION 6 — The Financial Information Unit shall be responsible for analyzing, handling and disclosing information for the purpose of preventing and deterring:

1. Laundering of proceeds of crime (section 278, subsection (1) of the Criminal Code) arising from the commission of:

- a) Crimes related to drug trafficking and trade (Law 23737);
- b) Crimes related to gunrunning (Law 22415);
- c) Crimes related to the activities of an aggravated criminal association pursuant to section 210 bis of the Criminal Code and of a terrorist criminal association pursuant to section 213 ter of the Criminal Code;
- d) Illegal acts committed by criminal associations (section 210 of the Criminal Code) organized to commit crimes for political or racial purposes;
- e) Crimes of fraud against the Public Administration (section 174 subsection (5) of the Criminal Code);
- f) Crimes against the Public Administration as set forth by Chapters VI, VII, IX and IX bis, Title XI, Book Two of the Criminal Code;

¹ For its acronyms in Spanish (translator’s note)

- g) Crimes related to the prostitution of minors and child pornography as set forth by sections 125, 125 bis, 127 bis and 128 of the Criminal Code;
- h) Crimes related to terrorist financing (section 213 quáter of the Criminal Code).

2. Crime of financing of terrorism (section 213 quáter of the Criminal Code).

(Section replaced by section 4 of law 26268, Official Gazette July 5, 2007)

SECTION 7 — The Financial Information Unit shall be domiciled in the Capital City of the Republic of Argentina and may establish regional agencies in the rest of the country.

SECTION 8 — The Financial Information Unit shall be comprised of a (1) President, a (1) Vice President and an Advisory Council made up of seven (7) Members as follows:

- (a) An (1) officer from the Central Bank of the Argentine Republic;
- (b) An (1) officer from the Federal Administration of Public Revenue;
- (c) An (1) officer from the Securities and Exchange Commission;
- (d) An (1) expert in matters related to laundering of proceeds of crime from the Secretariat of Programming for the Prevention of Drug Addiction and Fight against Drug Trafficking under the Presidency of the Nation;
- (e) An (1) officer from the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights;
- (f) An (1) officer from the Ministry of Economy and Production;
- (g) An (1) officer from the Ministry of Internal Affairs;

The Members of the Advisory Council shall be appointed by the Executive Branch at the suggestion made by the heads of the agencies they represent;

The Advisory Council shall be chaired by the President of the Financial Information Unit who shall enjoy the right to speak but not to vote when aforesaid Advisory Council makes its decisions;

The Advisory Council shall hold meetings attended at least by five (5) of its members and shall arrive at decisions by simple majority of members present.

The President of the Financial Information Unit shall issue the internal regulation of the Advisory Council.

(Section replaced by section 1 of Law 26119, Official Gazette July 27, 2006)

SECTION 9 — The President and Vice President of the Financial Information Unit shall be appointed by the Executive Branch at the suggestion of the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights;

The selection process for the President and Vice President of the Financial Information Unit shall take place as follows:

a) Name, surname and curriculum vitae of the candidate(s) running for office shall be published for three days (3) in the Official Gazette and at least in two (2) national newspapers.

Abovementioned information shall be put simultaneously in the official website of the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights.

b) Every person included in the publication under aforesaid subsection shall sign an affidavit listing all his/her personal property, that of his/her spouse and/or the person with whom he/she cohabits and of his/her minor children as well as the marital property, pursuant to section 6 of Law 25188 on Ethics for Public Officials and its regulation. They shall sign another affidavit listing all associations and corporations they are or were members of during the last 8 (eight) years, their clients and contractors during the last 8 (eight) years within the limits imposed by the code of professional ethics in force, law and accountancy firms they belong or belonged to, as appropriate; and in general, any kind of commitment that may compromise the impartiality of his/her criteria arising from his/her own activities, that of his/her spouse, ascendants and descendants to the first degree, in order to allow an objective assessment of any incompatibility or conflict of interest.

c) Citizens in general, non-governmental organizations, professional associations, academic and human rights organizations, within the term of 15 (fifteen) days as from the last publishing in the Official Gazette, may submit in writing to the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights their well-founded and documented views, remarks and circumstances they find interesting to express about the persons going through the pre-selection process making an affidavit on their own objectivity in relation to the candidates. Neither irrelevant nor discrimination-grounded comments shall be considered.

In spite of the views submitted and during the same period of time, relevant professional, judicial, academic, social, political and human rights organizations may be requested to give their appraisal.

d) The Federal Administration of Public Revenue shall be requested to prepare a report, without lifting the tax secrecy, on the candidates' compliance with their fiscal obligations.

e) Within the fifteen (15) days as from the expiration of the term for lodging objections, the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights shall back or not the proposals on well founded grounds. If positive, the decision shall be submitted to the Executive Branch.

(Section replaced by section 1 of law 26119, Official Gazette July 27, 2006)

SECTION 10 — The President, the Vice President and the Members of the Advisory Council shall have a full-time commitment to their duties, and they shall be under the incompatibilities and obligations stipulated by law for public officers, being precluded from engaging in the activities specified by the regulation in each case for two years after leaving office.

The President, the Vice President and the Members of the Advisory Council shall hold office for four (4) years and this term may be renewed indefinitely. The President and the Vice President shall receive a remuneration equivalent to that of a Secretary. The Members of the Advisory Council shall receive a remuneration equivalent to that of a Deputy Secretary.

The Vice President shall stand in for the President in case of impediment or temporary absence of the latter.

(Section replaced by section 1 of Law 26119, Official Gazette July 27, 2006)

SECTION 11 — The members of the Financial Information Unit shall hold following qualifications:

1. To have a university degree, preferably in Law or in disciplines related to the Economic Sciences or to the Computer Sciences;
2. To have technical and professional background related to the subject matter of this law;
3. Not to be engaged or to have been engaged in the year immediately preceding that of the appointment or to have any interest in the activities established in each case by the regulation.

SECTION 12 — The Financial Information Unit shall have the support of liaison officers appointed by the heads of the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Economy and Production, the Secretariat of Programming for the Prevention of Drug Addiction and Fight against Drug Trafficking, the Presidency of the Nation, the Central Bank of the Republic of Argentina, the Federal Administration of Public Revenue, the Public Registries of Commerce or similar entities in the Provinces, the Securities and Exchange Commission and the National Bureau of Insurance.

Where deemed it appropriate, the President of the Financial Information Unit may request the appointment of liaison officers from the heads of other agencies from the national or provincial Public Administration.

The duty of the liaison officers shall be consultation and coordination of the activities carried out by the Financial Information Unit with those of the agencies they belong to.

(Replaced by section 1 of Law 26119, Official Gazette July 27, 2006)

SECTION 13 — The Financial Information Unit shall:

1. receive, request and file the information referred to under section 21 hereof;
2. Perform and direct the analysis of acts, activities and transactions that according to the provisions of this law may constitute laundering of proceeds of crime or terrorist financing as stipulated by section 6 hereof and, if pertinent, shall make the elements of conviction gathered available to the Attorney General's Office so as to bring the appropriate actions; *(Subsection replaced by section 5 of Law 26268, Official Gazette July 5, 2007).*
3. assist the judicial system and the Attorney General's Office (for the appropriate actions) in the criminal prosecution of the crimes punished by this law;
4. issue its internal regulation for which purpose the vote of two thirds of the totality of members shall be required.

SECTION 14 — The Financial Information Unit shall be empowered to:

1. request for reports, documents, background information and any other element it considers useful for the fulfillment of its duties, from any public agency, whether national, provincial or local, and from natural or artificial persons, whether public or private, all of whom shall have the obligation to deliver them within the term established, under the penalties prescribed by law.

Reporting parties under Section 20 shall not be entitled to invoke banking, securities and professional secrecy nor legal or contractual confidentiality agreements against the Financial Information Unit where a suspicious transaction report is under analysis. *(Paragraph replaced by Section 1 of Law 26087, Official Gazette April 24, 2006)*

The Federal Administration of Public Revenue shall only lift the tax secrecy where the suspicious transaction report was filed by such agency and in relation to the natural and legal persons directly involved in the transaction reported. In the other cases, the tax secrecy shall be lifted at the request of the Financial Information Unit submitted to the competent federal judge in criminal matters of the place where the information must be supplied or of the domicile of the Financial Information Unit. The judge shall decide within a maximum period of THIRTY (30) days; *(Paragraph replaced by Section 1 of Law 26087, Official Gazette April 24, 2006)*

2. receive voluntary disclosures;
3. request assistance from all the information services of the State, which shall be bound to render it under the provisions of sections 398 and 399 of the Code of Civil and Commercial Procedure of the Nation;
4. act at any place of the Republic of Argentina in compliance with the duties established hereby;

5. Request from the Attorney General's Office to ask the competent judge to order to suspend, for the term he decides, any transaction or act previously reported pursuant to subsection (b) of section 21 or any other act linked to them, before they are carried out, when suspicious activities are investigated and there exists circumstantial evidence that they constitute laundering of proceeds arising from any of the crimes under section 6 hereof or financing of terrorism. The appeal of this measure shall only be granted without a stay of execution. (*Subsection replaced by section 6 of Law 26268, Official Gazette July 5, 2007*)

6. ask the Attorney General's Office to request from the competent judge the search of public or private places, the personal search and the seizure of documentation or elements useful for the investigation. To ask the Attorney General's Office to furnish the necessary legal means to obtain information from any source or origin;

7. order the implementation of internal comptrollers for the persons referred to under section 20, in the cases and ways determined by the regulation;

8. impose the penalties under Chapter IV hereof, guaranteeing the due process of law;

9. organize and manage files and information related to the activity of the Financial Information Unit itself or data obtained in the fulfillment of its duties for the retrieval of information linked to its mission, being empowered to enter into agreements and contracts with national, international, and foreign agencies in order to become part of information networks of such nature, on condition of necessary and effective reciprocity;

10. issue guidelines and instructions to be complied with and implemented by the reporting parties bound by this law, after consultation with the pertinent regulatory agencies.

SECTION 15 — The Financial Information Unit shall be under following obligations:

1. To submit an annual report of its activities to the Honorable Congress of the Nation.

2. To appear before the committees of the Honorable Congress of the Nation every time they so require and issue the reports, opinions and advice requested by them.

3. To create the Single Information Registry with the databases of the agencies bound to provide them and with the information received as a result of the fulfillment of its duties.

SECTION 16 — Decisions of the Financial Information Unit shall be taken by the President prior to mandatory consultation with the Advisory Council, whose opinion shall be non-binding.

(*Section replaced by section 1 of law 26119, Official Gazette July 27, 2006*).

SECTION 17 — The Financial Information Unit shall receive information and shall not disclose the identity of the legally bound reporting parties. The obligation to keep their identity undisclosed shall cease when a report is filed before the Attorney General's Office.

Those parties which are not part of the public sector and are not under the obligation to inform pursuant to section 20 hereof may file reports before the Financial Information Unit.

SECTION 18 — Compliance in good faith with the obligation to report shall give rise to no civil, commercial, labor, criminal, administrative or any other kind of liability whatsoever.

SECTION 19 — Where the Financial Information Unit completes the analysis of a reported transaction and sufficient grounds for confirming the suspicion of laundering of proceeds of crime or terrorist financing pursuant to this law arise, the Attorney General's Office shall be informed of the situation so that it may bring the criminal prosecution, if appropriate.

(Section replaced by section 7 of Law 26268, Official Gazette July 5, 2007)

CHAPTER III

Duty to inform. Legally bound reporting parties

SECTION 20 — The following persons and entities have the obligation to report to the Financial Information Unit under the provisions of section 21 hereof:

1. Financial institutions under provisions of Law 21526, as amended; and private pension funds managers;
2. Institutions under the provisions of Law 18924, as amended, and natural and artificial persons authorized by the Central Bank to operate in the purchase and sale of currency in the form of cash money or cheques drawn in foreign currency, or by means of credit or debit cards or in the transfer of funds within the national territory and abroad;
3. Natural or artificial persons habitually running games of chance;
4. Stockbrokers and stockbrokerage firms, companies managing mutual funds, over-the-counter market agents, and all those intermediaries engaged in the purchase, lease or borrowing of securities trading in the field of stock exchanges with or without markets attached to them;
5. Intermediaries registered with futures and options markets whichever their purpose may be;

6. Public Registries of Commerce, Artificial Persons Control and Inspection Agencies, Real Estate Registries, Registries of Motor Vehicles and Registries of Chattel Mortgages;
7. Natural and artificial persons devoted to the purchase and sale of works of art, antiques or other sumptuous goods, philatelic or numismatic investments, or to the export, import, manufacturing or industrialization of jewels or goods made with precious metals or stones;
8. Insurance companies;
9. Companies issuing traveler's cheques or operating with credit or purchase cards;
10. Armored transportation services companies;
11. Companies or concessionaires rendering postal services that carry out foreign currency transfers or remittances of different types of currency or notes;
12. Notaries Public;
13. Entities included in section 9 of Law 22.315;
14. Natural or artificial persons registered with the registries established in section 23 subsection t) of the Customs Code (Law 22.415, as amended).
15. Public Administration agencies and decentralized and/or autarchic entities exercising regulatory, control, supervisory and/or superintendency functions over economic activities and/or legal transactions and/or over holders of rights, whether individual or collective: the Central Bank of the Republic of Argentina, the Federal Administration of Public Revenue, the Office of the Superintendent of Insurance of the Nation, the National Securities Exchange Commission and the Artificial Persons Control Bureau;
16. Producers, insurance advisors, agents, brokers, experts and insurance adjusters whose activities are governed by Laws 20.091 and 22.400, as amended, and their concordant and supplementary rules;
17. Licensed professionals whose activities are regulated by the Professional Councils of Economic Sciences, except when they act in defense on trial;
18. Also all artificial persons who receive donations or contributions by third parties have the duty to inform.

(Last paragraph abrogated by section 3 of Law 26087, Official Gazette April 24, 2006)

SECTION 21 — Those parties mentioned in the preceding section shall be under following obligations:

a. To obtain from customers, requesting or contributing parties, documents irrefutably evidencing their identity, legal status, domicile and other data to be specified in each case when carrying out any type of activity included in their purpose. However, such obligation may be omitted when the amounts be lower than the minimum established in the pertinent circular letter.

When customers, requesting or contributing parties act on behalf of third parties, the necessary steps shall be taken in order to identify their principals.

Every information shall be filed for the term and according to the guidelines established by the Financial Information Unit;

b. To report any suspicious event or transaction independently of the amount thereof. For the purposes of this law, suspicious transactions are those transactions that, according to uses and customs related to the field involved, as well as to the experience and competence of the parties who have the duty to inform, are unusual, have no economic or legal justification or are unusually or unjustifiably complex, whether performed on a single occasion or repeatedly.

The Financial Information Unit shall lay down guidelines about manner, timing and limits on compliance with this obligation for each category of reporting party and type of activity;

c. To abstain from revealing to customers or to third parties the proceedings which are being carried out in compliance with this law.

SECTION 22 — Officers and employees at the Financial Information Unit shall be bound to keep in secret all the information received due to their position, as well as the tasks of intelligence developed as a consequence thereof. The same duty of confidentiality is valid for the persons or entities bound by this law to provide data to the Financial Information Unit.

The officer or employee at the Financial Information Unit, as well as those persons who by themselves or on behalf of another reveal the confidential information outside the purview of the Financial Information Unit, shall be punished with six months to three years of imprisonment.

CHAPTER IV

Criminal Administrative Regime

SECTION 23 —

1. Any legal person the executive or governing body of which had applied assets from a criminal source with the possible consequence of making them appear from a lawful source, pursuant to section 278, subsection (1) of the Criminal Code shall be punished with a fine of TWO (2) to TEN (10) times the value of the assets which are the subject matter of the crime. The crime shall be regarded as committed when the

threshold set forth by aforesaid regulation is exceeded, even though the various interrelated acts, exceeding as a whole such threshold, had been committed by different natural persons, with no prior agreement among them, and that for such reason, cannot be subject to criminal prosecution.

Any legal person the executive or governing body of which had collected or provided property or money, regardless of their value, in the knowledge that they are to be used by any member of a terrorist criminal association, pursuant to section 213 quáter of the Criminal Code, shall be punished with a fine of FIVE (5) to TWENTY (20) times the value of the assets which are the subject matter of the crime; *(Subsection replaced by section 8 of Law 26268, Official Gazette July 5, 2007)*

2. Where any of the acts had been committed with recklessness or gross negligence by the executive or governing body of a legal person or by several executive or governing bodies thereof, the fine to be applied to the legal person shall be TWENTY PER CENT (20%) to SIXTY PER CENT (60%) of the value of the assets which are the subject matter of the crime; *(Subsection replaced by section 8 of Law 26268, Official Gazette July 5, 2007)*

3. When the organ or executive body of a corporation had in such capacity committed the crime referred to in section 22 hereof, the corporation shall be fined in an amount from ten thousand pesos (\$ 10,000) to one hundred thousand pesos (\$ 100,000).

SECTION 24 —

1. The natural person acting as legal representative or decision-maker of a legal person or the natural person who does not comply with the duty to report to the Financial Information Unit created by this law shall be punished with a fine of one to ten times the total value of the assets or transaction to which the violation is related, provided that the act does not constitute a more serious crime.

2. The same punishment shall be applied to the legal person where the offender works.

3. When the actual value of the assets cannot be established, the fine will be from ten thousand pesos (\$ 10,000) to one hundred thousand pesos (\$ 100,000).

SECTION 25 — The resolutions of the Financial Information Unit provided for in this chapter may be appealed before the Courts of Claims, the provisions of Law 19549 on Administrative Procedure being applicable.

SECTION 26 — The relations between the resolution in the criminal case and the proceedings in the administrative procedure derived from the infringement of this law shall be governed by sections 1101 et seq. and 3982 bis of the Civil Code, the term “civil action” being understood as “criminal administrative action.”

SECTION 27 — The corresponding budgetary allocation shall be provided for the functioning of the Financial Information Unit.

In all cases, the proceeds of the sale or administration of assets or instruments from the crimes defined in this law and from the confiscation ordered as a consequence thereof, as well as the profits unlawfully obtained and the proceeds of the fines accordingly imposed shall be allocated to a special account of the National Treasury. Such funds shall be used to finance the operation of the Financial Information Unit, the programs provided for by section 39 of Law 23737, as amended by Law 24424, and the health and work training programs, as established by the pertinent regulation.

Money and other assets or resources confiscated by court order on account of the commission of the crimes herein defined shall be delivered by the court to a special fund to be created by the Executive Branch of the Nation.

Such fund may administer assets and dispose of money according to the above provisions, being responsible for their return to whom it may concern upon final judicial decision.

CHAPTER V

The Attorney General's Office

SECTION 28 — **When the federal or national jurisdiction applies**, the Attorney General appointed by the Attorney General's Office of the Nation shall receive the reports on the possible commission of crimes against public order as established by this law for their prosecution in accordance with procedural rules and the regulations of the Attorney General's Office; **in all other cases the officers of the corresponding Justice Department shall also act.**

The members of the Attorney General's Office shall investigate the activities reported or shall request the pertinent jurisdictional activity in accordance with the provisions of the Code of Criminal Practice of the Nation and the Organic Law of the Attorney General's Office, **or if applicable, that of the respective province.**

SECTION 29 — Section 25 of Law 23737 (rearranged text) is hereby abrogated.

SECTION 30 — Be it communicated to the Executive Branch. GIVEN IN THE ROOM OF SESSIONS OF THE ARGENTINE CONGRESS, IN BUENOS AIRES, ON THE THIRTEENTH DAY OF THE MONTH OF APRIL IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND.

—RECORDED UNDER NUMBER 25246—

JUAN PABLO CAFIERO. — CARLOS ALVAREZ. — Jorge H. Zabaley. — Mario L. Pontaquarto.

NOTE: Texts in bold type were objected.