

# *Andres Arauz leads presidential race in quick count by Ecuador's CNE*

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Quito, February 7 (RHC)-- The President of the National Electoral Council (CNE) of Ecuador, Diana Atamaint, reported on the results of the quick count of the general elections, which gave first place to the candidate of the Unión por la Esperanza (UNES), Andres Arauz with 31.50 percent.

In second place appears the candidate for the Plurinational Unity Movement Pachakutik -- Yaku Perez -- with 20.04 percent, and in third place the candidate for the Creo movement, Guillermo Lasso, with 19.97 percent of the counted ballots.

The head of the electoral council told the media and international and national observers that "data from 2,193 tally sheets were processed, equivalent to 90.4 percent, out of a total of 2,425 tallies selected for the quick count sample for general elections."

"These results reflect the trends of the presidential candidates," she noted, adding that the quick count system was reliable "in the presence of a notary public, media, electoral observers and delegates of political organizations."

The CNE president said that the electoral process in Ecuador was "transparent" and "clean."

A second round will be held on April 11th between the top two winners of the vote on Sunday.

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