Panama's ecomony to grow 7% this year

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□ The folowing article appeared in Newsroom Panama today. (<u>www.newsroompanama.c</u> <u>om</u>) Roberto

PANAMA'S ECONOMY TO GROW 8 %

Economic activity in Panama rose an estimated 8.06 percent in September compared with the same month in 2009, according to the government.

The Panama Canal expansion, port operations and telecommunications were the leading factors in the continuing growth followed by the free trade zone, the construction industry and tourism.

Economic growth of 7 percent is predicted for the year.