Full Report Boxes (Only Available in Spanish) <u>Inflation Developments and Monetary Policy Decisions</u> Box 1 - The Process of Adjusting and Expanding the Current Account Deficit Box 2 - Possible Upward Pressures on Electricity Rates Keep in mind The Monetary Policy Report presents the Bank's technical staff's analysis of the economy and the inflationary situation and its medium and long-term outlook. Based on it, it makes a recommendation to the Board of Directors on the monetary policy stance. This report is published on the second business day following the Board of Directors' meetings in January, April, July, and October. **AUTHOR OR EDITOR** Equipo Técnico Vargas-Herrera, Hernando Subgerencia de Política Monetaria e Información Económica González-Gómez, Andrés

Departamento de Programación e Inflación

Huertas-Campos, Carlos Alfonso
Cobo-Serna, Adolfo León
Caicedo-García, Édgar
Cárdenas-Hurtado, Camilo Alberto
Cote-Barón, Juan Pablo
Galeano-Ramírez, Franky
Martínez-Cortés, Nicolás
Rojas, Carlos Daniel
Pérez-Amaya, Julián Mauricio
Calderón-López, Luis Hernán
López, David Camilo
Salazar-Diaz, Andrea
Gaitán-Maldonado, Celina
Restrepo, Sergio
Parra-Amado, Daniel
In the Inflation Report, the Central Bank's technical staff analyzes the situation of the economy and inflation, and their mid and long-term outlook. Based on this, the staff provides insights to the Board of
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In March, inflation stood at 3.21% (graph A) and the average of core inflation indicators is 2.82%. These figures are lower than was expected a quarter ago and close to the 3.0% inflation target. The lower actual inflation versus the forecast is explained mainly by tradables (0.9%) and non-tradables excluding food and regulated items (3.29%). Factors such as the scarce pass-through of the depreciation of the peso to domestic prices, the indexation of some prices to inflation last December (3.18%), and the spare capacity of the economy explain much of this behavior. Similar to the expectations, the food CPI (3.26%) continued to accelerate, especially due to the group of perishable goods. On the contrary, regulated items (6.42%) increased more than had been projected due to the increase in the rates for public utilities.

Boxes

Box 1 - The Process of Adjusting and Expanding the Current Account Deficit

Camilo Cárdenas Hurtado, David Camilo López

• Box 2 - Possible Upward Pressures on Electricity Rates

Edgar Caicedo García, Jonnathan Camilo Barriga Rojas