

Southern zone airport seen as a benefit to both countries

By the A.M. Costa Rica staff

A southern zone airport will benefit both Costa Rica and Panamá, President Óscar Arias Sánchez told his southern counterpart Wednesday.

Both Arias and Ricardo Martinelli talked about joint development projects along the common border. The new Panamanian president also was reported to be interested in learning about Costa Rica's government health system. He brought Franklin Vergara, his country's health minister on the quick trip.

Arias had attended Martinelli's inauguration several weeks ago. He told the Panamanian president that plans were advancing for the proposed international airport in Palma Sur, and Arias said the project would benefit both countries.

The two presidents discussed the possibility of a joint development plan along the border, according to Casa Presidencial.

Costa Rican officials are hoping that the southern zone



Casa Presidencial photo

Ricardo Martinelli and Óscar Arias discuss development.

airport, when built, will have the same development impact that the Daniel Oduber airport in Liberia has had on the pacific coast.