**Sent:** Friday, October 25, 2002 2:47 PM **Subject:** PANAMA STILL NEEDS AQUATHIN

In Brief... - 10/25/2002 11:58:44 AM

## Report: Panama drinking water not up to minimum international standards

PANAMA — Of the 43 drinking water plants here, only 12 are producing water that meets minimum international standards, according to a report in *El Panama America*.

The national bio-security standards commission (CNNB) studied all of Panama's drinking water sources were studied over a four-month period — only 33-percent of the water tested passed, the newspaper said.

The report cited an "alarming deterioration" in drinking-water quality and the commission has called on Panama's health ministry and state water utility Idaan to take immediate steps to improve the situation, said the article.