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Publication of the National Development Plan

On July 12, the Federal Official Gazette published the National Development Plan 2019-2024 ("Plan"), which covers three main subjects: policy and government, social policy and economy.

According to each subject, the most relevant aspects of the Plan are:

I. Policy and governance

The Plan sets forth nine key public policy goals:

1. Eradication of corruption and overspending.
2. Restoration of the rule of law through the preeminence of the Constitution, the constitutional pact and the division of powers. The Executive expressly commits to observe the decisions of the Attorney General, the Bank of Mexico and the National Human Rights Commission, as well as to comply with the decisions of international bodies and instruments.
3. Distinction between political and economic power through the separation of government institutions and corporate interests, monitoring of potential conflicts of interest and counteracting corruption in the allocation of contracts and concessions.
4. Modification of safety guidelines through strategies such as:
 - a) Reactivation of the justice system
 - b) Employment, education, health and welfare guarantees
 - c) Respect for human rights
 - d) Ethical regeneration of institutions and society
 - e) Readdressing the fight against drugs
 - f) Rehabilitation of the prison system
 - g) Reorientation of the armed forces
 - h) Establishment of the National Guard
5. Strengthening democracy through greater civil involvement in government decisions.
6. Implementation of a mechanism to revoke public mandate.

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7. Popular consultation of strategic decisions of national, regional or local interest.
8. In foreign policy, restoration of the principles of self-determination, nonintervention, peaceful settlement of disputes, legal equality, international cooperation, respect for human rights and the struggle for international security and peace.
9. With regard to migration, the Plan provides for the defense of Mexicans in the United States, as well as the guarantee for immigrants to travel and settle in the national territory.

II. Social policy

The Plan sets forth the basis for social policy through the following lines of action:

1. Construction of collective welfare without exclusions.
2. Promotion of sustainable development through the following programs:
 - a) Program for the Welfare of Senior Citizens
 - b) Disabled Persons Welfare Pension Program
 - c) National Scholarship Program Benito Juárez
 - d) Youths Building the Future
 - e) Youths Writing the Future
 - f) Sowing Life Program
 - g) National Earthquake Reconstruction Program
 - h) Urban Development and Housing
 - i) Welfare Savings
3. Strengthening the right to education.
4. Creation of the National Health for Welfare Institute, for those not covered by other social security programs.

III. Economy

1. Preservation of healthy finances and recognition of the Bank of Mexico. The Plan points out that the financing of social programs will come from savings resulting from the fight against corruption, the elimination of sumptuous expenses, the waste of resources and fuel theft.
2. According to the Plan, neither taxes nor fuel prices will be increased above inflation, and electric tariffs will be reduced by the middle of the presidential term. Likewise, tax evasion and the granting of exemptions, credits and other benefits to major contributors will be prevented.

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3. Observation of existing contracts, unless there is evidence that they were assigned through corrupt practices. Encouragement of private, national and foreign investment.
4. Recovery of PEMEX and the Federal Electricity Commission, rehabilitation of existing refineries and construction of a new one, modernization of State-owned electricity generating facilities, in particular hydroelectric stations, rehabilitation of fertilizer production plants and integration of communities into renewable energy production.
5. Economic reactivation and promotion of the domestic market and employment through policies of wage recovery, mass creation of productive and permanent jobs, loans to small and medium sized enterprises and the simplification of administrative requirements for new enterprises.
6. Creation of the Welfare Bank in lieu the existing Bank of National Savings and Financial Services (BANSEFI), in order to offer banking services to beneficiaries of social programs and eliminate cash management.
7. Implementation of the following regional projects:
 - a) Maya Train
 - b) Tehuantepec Isthmus Development Program
 - c) Northern Border Free Zone Program
8. Construction of International Airport "Felipe Ángeles" in Santa Lucía.
9. Land rescue and promotion of food self-sufficiency through the following programs:
 - a) Welfare Production Program targeted at small and medium scale producers
 - b) Support program for coffee and sugar cane producers
 - c) Guaranteed Prices Program for corn, bean, bread wheat, rice and milk
 - d) Livestock verbal credits
 - e) Distribution of chemical and biologic fertilizers
 - f) Creation of a Mexican Food Security agency

Finally, the Plan asserts that, by 2024, México's economic development will have reached a growth rate of 6%, with an average of 4% for the whole presidential term. In such way, it is concluded, the economy will have increased more than double the population growth.

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