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The Deputy Secretary's Meeting with Mexican Secretary of Public Security Genaro Garcia Luna at AFI Headquarters, La Moneda

CONTEXT

Garcia Luna heads the Public Security Secretariat (SSP) and is responsible for the complete restructuring of all federal police entities into a single, professional force, as well as for the on-going pursuit of the cartels in liaison with USG law enforcement agencies. The proposed USG support package will help accomplish both these objectives. Garcia Luna's role in the national security context is perhaps the most complex, given the extensive corruption that permeated the previous Federal Preventive Police force and the extraordinary technological projects he has initiated, including the Plataforma Mexico, a communications system that will provide inter-connectivity throughout the country, potentially linking police and prosecutors at all levels of government across Mexico. The tasks he has assumed are Herculean. Our goal is to support Calderon's efforts to consolidate and clean up federal police forces, and identify those areas where we can best add value to achieving a modern, effective police force.

KEY OBJECTIVES

- Corruption: Seek how the USG can best complement Garcia Luna's efforts to professionalize Mexico's federal police. How is GOM increasing anti-corruption efforts as it recruits and trains new police? The U.S. Congress will ask how any support package addresses the acknowledged corruption that has permeated Mexican federal police in the past. The Mexican proposal itself asked for nothing along those lines, but U.S. counterproposals have been incorporated in the current package. USG assistance outside that package is already helping, e.g., supporting FBI-directed training for SSP polygraphers in Texas state police academy.
- Developing New Tools to Attack Drug Trafficking Organizations: Discuss how the USG can best complement Garcia Luna's efforts to maintain pressure on the narcotics trafficking groups. The necessary systemic restructuring of the federal police complicates the day-to-day effort to disrupt the cartels. Plus, the SSP has fallen far short of its recruitment goals, and SSP middle management is also resisting change.

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IF TIME PERMITS

- 1. Regional Cooperation: Discuss how the GOM has approached governments of Central America/Colombia to coordinate the attack on the drug trafficking groups. The Calderon Administration seeks a leadership role in coordinating regionally on such shared security concerns as narco-trafficking groups and criminal gangs. It believes it can be a more effective leader in such ventures than the USG. Coordination covers many areas, but several fall within Garcia Luna's areas of responsibility (intelligence, investigation and interdiction). He has traveled widely to consult counterparts in the region.
- 2. Privacy in Mexican Context: Query how Mexican jurisprudence treats privacy issues in context of criminal databases. Garcia Luna is creating a massive system of interconnectivity between all levels of law enforcement, Plataforma Mexico, a billion dollar project. This project will include a Unique National Crime Reporting System (where none exists today) and will link police to numerous GOM databases.

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SEARAMEX/D Trip Oct 2007/BCLs/BCL 23 Garcia Luna

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