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Cutbacks In State-run Food Distribution Company Activities Under 1991 Budget Plan (s/s)

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Under President Carlos Salinas de Gortari’s 1991 requested budget plan, the state-run foodstuffs distribution company (Compania Nacional de Subsistencia Popular-CONASUPO), basic food reserves in 1991 are expected to decline by about 41%, from 2.8 million to an estimated 1.7 million metric tons. Government participation in commercialization of foodstuffs in 1991 is expected to be cut back by 20%. Purchases of domestic products will decline by 41.6%, from 3.6 million to 2.1 million MT, and CONASUPO imports are expected to be cut by 38.4%, from 3.9 million MT to 2.4 million MT. The 1991 program also entails price liberalization for some products currently under price controls, and higher prices for others. Generalized subsidies on certain commodities, such as tortillas, are to be gradually eliminated. CONASUPO’s budget was cut from 8.4 trillion pesos this year to 7.7 trillion for 1991. CONASUPO Purchases, 1990 & 1991 1990 1991 * (millions of MT)
Domestic purchases 3.6 2.1 Imports 3.9 2.4 Sales 6.8 5.5 Reserves of basic goods 2.8 1.7 (thousands of MT) Corn domestic 1880.0 1900.0 imports 2000.0 2000.0 sales 3785.0 3494.0 Wheat domestic 330.0 0.0 imports 0.0 0.0 sales 400.0 121.3 Oleaginous grains domestic 1030.0 90.0 imports 900.0 0.0 sales 1667.5 1377.0 Beans domestic 200.0 110.0 imports 365.7 150.0 sales 519.2 279.7 * Projections. Source: CONASUPO Budget, 1990, 1991. IN El Financiero, 12/03/90, p. 56.

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