Government Assistance To Coffee Producers

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According to an Oct. 26 report by the international news agency Notimex, coffee industry businesses will receive 182.8 billion pesos (US$58 million) in government assistance. The funds are channeled through the National Solidarity Program (PRONASOL) and the National Rural Credit Bank (Banrural). A committee composed of Mexican Coffee Institute (INMECAFE) director Guillermo Funes Rodriguez and officials from the Coffee Trust Fund and the National Indigenous Institute (INI-SOLIDARIDAD) will supervise the funding program. Meanwhile, the National Coffee Organization Coordinator (Coordinadora Nacional de Organizaciones Cafetalera-CNOC) estimated that coffee production per hectare has declined 20% compared to the 1986-87 and 1987-88 seasons. The CNOC attributed the decline to low world market prices and credit shortages, particularly for small-scale producers. (Sources: La Jornada, Notimex, 10/26/92)

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