Government Has Granted 51 Port Concessions To Private Domestic & Foreign Companies Since June

Carlos Navarro
Government Has Granted 51 Port Concessions To Private Domestic & Foreign Companies Since June

by Carlos Navarro
Category/Department: General
Published: Wednesday, December 15, 1993

President Carlos Salinas de Gortari’s administration has granted 51 concessions since June of this year to domestic and foreign private companies to handle various port operations and perform some port management duties. (For previous coverage of privatization of port services, see SourceMex 06/16/93.) According to Carlos Mier y Teran, the director of port authorities for the Communications and Transportation Secretariat (Secretaria de Comunicaciones y Transporte, SCT), the concessions represent investments of more than 1 billion nuevo pesos (US$300 million). Mier y Teran made the comment on Nov. 30 during the opening of bids to private companies to handle management operations at the ports of Veracruz, Altamira (Tamaulipas), Lazaro Cardenas (Michoacan), and Manzanillo (Colima). Jose Luis Murillo Bagundo, president of Consorcio Integral de Comercio Exterior, told La Jornada newspaper that his company has placed bids for management concessions at all four of these ports. According to Murillo, the World Bank has promised financial backing for modernization operations at the port of Veracruz, and negotiations are underway with other private banks, such as Banco Nacional de Mexico (BANAMEX). On a related matter, a Puertos Mexicanos spokesperson reported that 14 proposals have been received from Dutch, Belgian, Canadian, US and Mexican companies to perform dredging operations at 18 ports. He said the bids for dredging will be awarded before year-end 1993. (Sources: El Financiero, 11/30/93; La Jornada, 11/30/93, 12/01/93)

-- End --