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Honduran Government Raises Minimum Wage

by Deborah Tyroler

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On Sept. 26, Labor Minister Rodolfo Rosales announced a an average 22% minimum wage hike, effective Oct. 1. The increases varies by occupational sector. For instance, agricultural workers will receive a minimum \$1.50 per day, while workers employed in commerce are to earn a minimum \$1.76 per day. Labor unions expressed disappointment with the wage hikes, pointing out that consumer price inflation since the last increase toals 40%. Honduran per capita income about \$350 per annum ranks among the lowest in the world. The average worker supports four persons. According to official statistics, 68% of 4.3 million Hondurans are below the poverty level. (Basic data from ACAN-EFE, 09/26/90)

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