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Deborah Tyroler

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Honduras: Private Sector Leader Says Government Responsible For Economic Crisis

by Deborah Tyroler

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At a press conference in Mexico City on Oct. 25, Carlos Avila Molina, president of the Honduran Private Enterprise Council (Consejo Hondureno de la Empresa Privada-COHEP), said the private sector will exercise all types of pressure to expand its political influence as a counterweight to the government's numerous "errors." According to Avila, the nation's economic crisis is the result of government policy errors, excessive regulation, an "obese" administrative apparatus, and paternalistic practices. Paternalism, said Avila, has led to corruption at all levels of government and protection of state-run "oligopolies" benefitting certain politicians. The private sector, he added, demands a total transformation of economic structures and recognition as the principal engine in wealth creation. (Basic data from Notimex, 10/25/91)

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