

Main Topics

- *Attorney General Medina Mora attacks U.S. position on drugs as "cynical"*
- *Greenspan comments on PEMEX hit a nerve*
- *Calls for Cofetel overhaul follow Supreme Court action on Ley Televisa*

Key Dates

- 07/01/07:** Chihuahua, Durango and Zacatecas state congress and local elections
- 08/05/07:** Baja California gubernatorial election
- 09/02/07:** Aguascalientes and Oaxaca state congress elections
- 11/11/07:** Michoacán gubernatorial election
- 03/08:** PAN elects new party president

Attorney General Eduardo Medina Mora **called on the U.S. to assume more responsibility** in the fight **against drug trafficking**. "They simply insist on seeing the problem as outside their own borders," he said at a university conference in Mexico City. "If the United States is cynical in this respect, it's impossible to strike successfully at all the elements of the value chain that allow criminal organizations to operate." He also described **U.S. gun laws** as "**absurd**," and questioned how more than US\$10 billion per year in drug sales proceeds could be repatriated to Mexico without involving the U.S. banking system. The statements were made the week after Medina Mora and U.S. counterpart Alberto Gonzalez pledged to strengthen cooperation in the fight against organized crime.

Separately, a spokesman for the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms acknowledged that **60% of the illegal weapons** in Mexico **came from the United States**, and a report prepared by the National Defense Commission of the Mexican Congress estimated that **64,000 illegal weapons per month** were entering the country. (Reforma 6/16-17, Universal 6/16, Milenio 6/15)

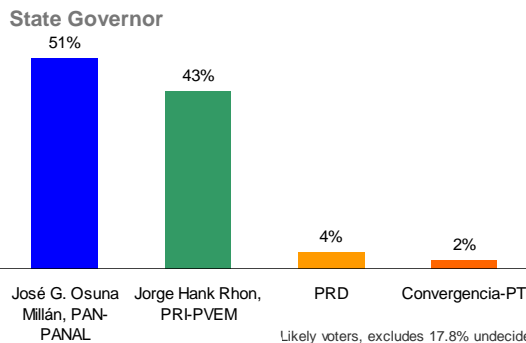
Comments by Alan Greenspan that Mexico needs to allow **foreign investment in the oil sector** to avoid fiscal crisis caused an uproar. Former Finance Minister and current head of the OECD, Ángel Gurría, said that the problem "does not depend on opening PEMEX to foreign investment. The problem lies in the fact that there has not been a fiscal reform and...two-thirds of PEMEX's gross revenues go for taxes." Energy Minister Georgina Kessel stressed that "**decisions regarding the energy sector will be taken by Mexicans.**" Legislators also rejected Greenspan's statements, but agreed that PEMEX needed a new fiscal regime. PAN Senator Rubén Camarillo spoke of the possibility of modifying the Constitution to allow joint ventures with the private sector. PRI Senator and President of the Energy Commission, Francisco Labastida, spoke of a "limited privatization" for certain areas of the company. Senator Graco Ramírez of the PRD said that his party will not accept "a millimeter of privatization." (Universal 6/14-15, Financiero 6/15)

One week after the Supreme Court struck down key parts of the so-called Televisa Law, **calls** were being made **for the resignation of Héctor Osuna**, the Chairman of the Federal Telecommunications Commission, Cofetel. Osuna is said to be close to the top executives of Televisa and was one of the key promoters of the law in the Senate last year. Former PAN Senator Javier Corral, who was one of the leaders of the campaign to overturn the law, asked President Calderón "to renew Cofetel so that none of its members are linked to the companies they are supposed to regulate." Congressional leaders of the PRD and its allies—the PT and Convergencia—said they were open to an extraordinary session of Congress to deliberate fiscal reform legislation, provided it was tied to passing a new radio and TV law as well. PRD Senate coordinator Carlos Navarrete said conditions "couldn't be better," and noted that the Supreme Court's decision made it imperative to carry out a constitutional reform that would create a successor to Cofetel. (Universal 6/15, Proceso 6/14)

Opinion Polls

A Reforma poll (6/11) shows the PAN holding a modest lead over the PRI in the August Baja California elections. José Guadalupe Osuna Millán of the PAN has an 8% advantage over Jorge Hank Rhon in the gubernatorial race, excluding the 17.8% still undecided. Public safety is by far the top issue, mentioned by 69% of those interviewed. In the contest for the state congress, the PAN has a 6% advantage over the PRI. In the race for mayor of Tijuana, PANista Jorge Ramos Hernández has a 3% advantage over Jorge Astiazarán of the PRI.

If the election were held today, for whom would you vote?



State Congress

