

## AMIB committed to expanding the market to benefit Mexican companies

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Mexico, D.F. October 29, 2007. At the opening of the 18th Stock Market Convention, Alejandro Valenzuela, CEO of the Banorte Brokerage House, pointed out the sector's standing regarding the country's economic and social reality, a statement that was confirmed by President Felipe Calderón who said, "what is happening in the stock market is, in some way, a reflection of what goes on, is expected or perceived of the country" and invited the attendees to continue to expand the "investment and growth possibilities of more companies in Mexico, which is one of the major challenges of the Mexican Stock Exchange."

During his participation, in the presence of the President of Mexico and on behalf of Marcos Ramírez Miguel, Chairman of the Mexican Association of Stock Brokers, Alejandro Valenzuela reiterated the AMIB members' commitment to "reach the expansion the market requires to achieve a better performance of our economy for the benefit of our society." Guillermo Ortiz, Director of the Bank of Mexico, commented that it was urgent "to facilitate the process of opening new companies in the Mexican Stock Exchange". On the other hand, the Secretary of the Treasury, Agustín Carstens, said that "the federal authorities are more than willing to turn the market into a real financing option for companies."

The Banorte Brokerage House Director mentioned the considerable and sustained growth the Mexican Stock Market has experienced and provided some conclusive insight on the matter: "a decade ago, the daily shares traded totaled 100 million dollars. Today, over 500 million dollars is traded in stocks every day." He then added that "in the last 7 years the Stock Market has doubled its size in proportion to the GDP, going from 23% in 2000 to 45% at present."

Alejandro Valenzuela pointed out the importance of the "landmark reform to the ISSSTE law" promoted by President Calderón's government and approved by the Congress, which will expand government employees' investment and social security options."

He closed by expressing how pleased the brokerage sector is "because the recently achieved reforms have put an end to a decade of paralysis; and we vow to put the interests of society above any individual or group interests."