



# Mexico

## The Legal Framework and the Defence System

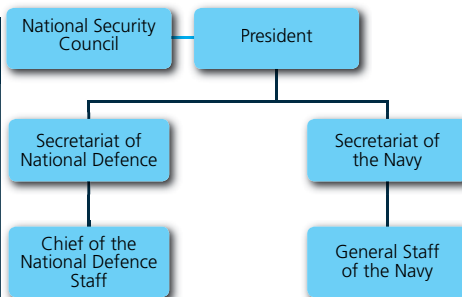
### National Legislation

#### Systems and Concepts

- Act to preserve the Country's Neutrality (DOF 1939/11/10).
- Organic Law for Federal Public Administration (DOF 1976/12/29, Last amendment: DOF 2012/06/14).
- National Security Act (DOF 2005/01/31, Last amendment: DOF 2005/12/26).
- General Act on the Public Security System (DOF 2012/06/14).
- General Act on Civil Protection (DOF 2012/06/06).

#### Military Organization

- Navy General Ordinance (DOF 1912/01/08).
- Discipline Act of the Mexican Army and Air Force (DOF 1926/03/15, Last amendment: DOF 2004/12/10).
- Organic Act of Military Courts (DOF 1929/06/22, Last amendment: DOF 1931/02/24).
- Code of Military Justice \*(DNL N° 005 - 1933/08/31, Last amendment: DOF 2012/04/09).
- Military Service Act (DOF 1940/09/11, Last amendment: DOF 1998/01/23).
- Act on Firearms and Explosives (DOF 1972/01/25, Last amendment: DOF 2004/01/23).
- Act which creates the Army and the Air Force University (DOF 1975/12/29).
- Reward Act for Navy of Mexico (DOF 1985/01/14).
- Organic Law of the Army, Air Force and Navy National Bank (DOF 1986/01/13, Last amendment: DOF 2002/06/24).
- Organic Law of the Mexican Army and Air Force (DOF 1986/12/26, Last amendment: DOF 2012/04/03).
- Discipline Act for the Personnel of the Navy of Mexico (DOF 2002/12/13).
- Organic Act of the Navy of Mexico (DOF 2002/12/30, Last amendment: 2012/04/03).
- Act on Promotions and Rewards of the Mexican Army and Air Force (DOF 2003/10/30, Last amendment: DOF 2011/08/05).
- Act for the Armed Forces Social Security Institute (DOF 2003/07/09, Last amendment: DOF 2012/06/05).
- Act for checking, adjusting and calculating the Services for the Mexican Navy (DOF 2004/06/14, Last amendment: DOF 2009/06/12).
- Promotions Act for the Navy of Mexico (DOF 2004/06/25, Last amendment: DOF 2011/06/01).
- Military Education Act for the Mexican Army and Air Force (DOF 2005/12/23).
- Act for checking, adjusting and calculating the Services in the Mexican Army and Air Force (DOF 2006/02/09, Last amendment: DOF 2009/06/12).



The President convenes the National Security Council, composed of the Secretaries of Government, Defence, Navy, Public Security, Economy and Public Credit, Public Service, Foreign Affairs and Communication and Transportation, the Attorney General of the Republic and the General Director of the National Research and Security Centre, as a deliberative body to establish and articulate the relevant policies. The Secretary of Defence holds the High Command of the Army and the Air Force, and the Secretary of the Navy commands the Mexican Navy. Each Secretary has a Staff as a technical and operational body for the accomplishment of their functions. The Congress holds the powers granted by the Constitution and permanently monitors defence related issues through the defence committees in both houses.

— Advisory and assistance functional relationship  
 — Command reporting line

**Source:** Compilation based on the Political Constitution, *Ley orgánica de la administración pública federal* (DOF 1976/12/29. Last amendment: DOF 2012/06/14), *Ley orgánica de la Armada de México* (DOF 2002/12/30. Last amendment: DOF 2012/04/03), *Ley orgánica del Ejército y la Fuerza Aérea* (DOF 1986/12/26. Last amendment: DOF 2012/04/03), and *Ley de seguridad nacional* (DOF 2005/01/31. Last amendment: DOF 2005/12/26).

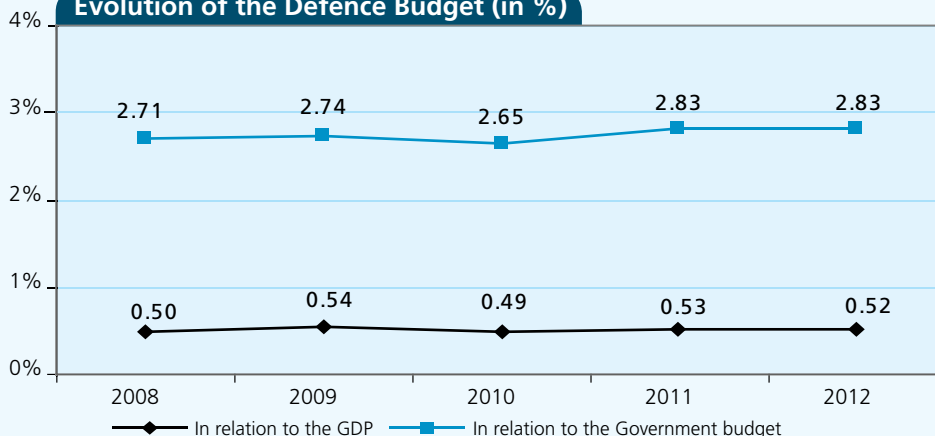
**Source:** Compilation based on the legislation above mentioned.

\* In August 2012 the Supreme Court of Justice of the Nation declared unconstitutional part of Article 57 of the Code of Military Justice, thus establishing that crimes committed by military personnel who are involved should be tried in civilian courts rather than military tribunals.

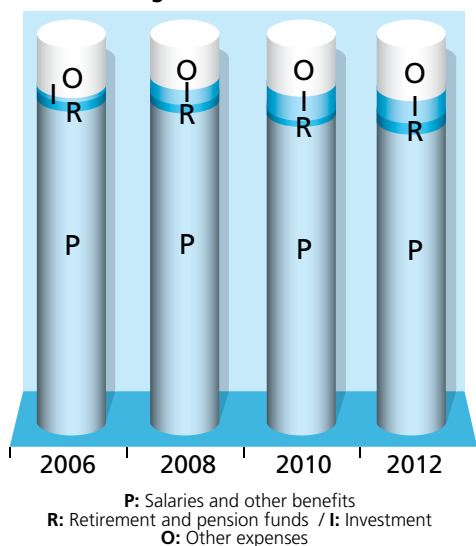
### The Budget

| Year | Defence Budget (in US\$) | Government Budget (in US\$) | GDP (in US\$)     |
|------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| 2008 | 4,706,150,462            | 173,350,821,168             | 949,576,000,000   |
| 2009 | 4,681,259,477            | 170,865,419,735             | 866,336,000,000   |
| 2010 | 4,875,854,577            | 184,312,515,198             | 995,918,000,000   |
| 2011 | 6,247,798,082            | 220,937,481,045             | 1,185,215,000,000 |
| 2012 | 6,287,762,898            | 221,932,173,241             | 1,207,820,000,000 |

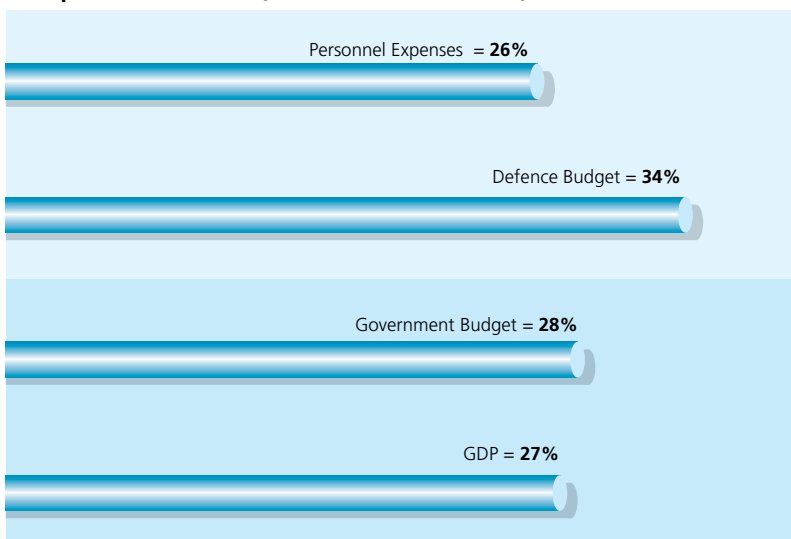
### Evolution of the Defence Budget (in %)



### Defence Budget Breakdown



### Comparative Increase (% variation 2008-2012)

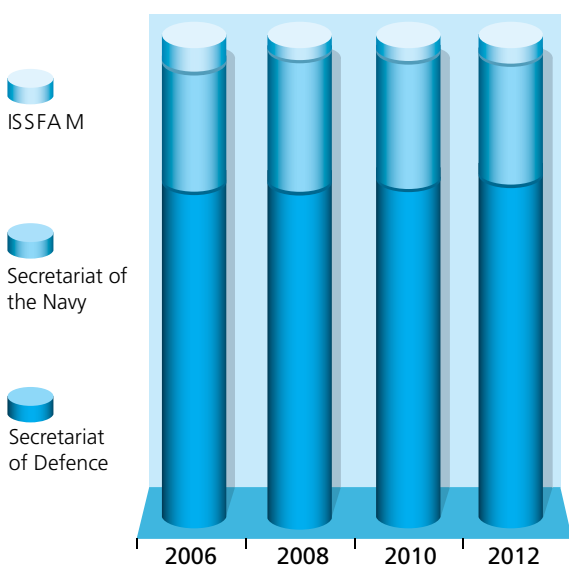


### Defence Budget 2012 (in Local Currency)

| Branches  | Personnel Services    | Materials and Supplies** | Other expenses       | Investment           | TOTAL                 |
|---|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Defence Secretariat Programme</b>  |                       |                          |                      |                      |                       |
| Command of the Mexican Air Force  | 2,461,595,053         | 3,035,606,187            | 0                    | 1,145,677,580        | 6,642,878,820         |
| National Defence Staff  | 3,930,849,982         | 635,439,571              | 266,000,000          | 0                    | 4,832,289,553         |
| Military Regional Commands  | 24,568,105,216        | 3,645,864,145            | 4,400,410            | 0                    | 28,218,369,771        |
| Military Industry General Directorate   | 568,883,733           | 422,658,635              | 0                    | 0                    | 991,542,368           |
| General Directorate of Military Justice   | 191,487,840           | 0                        | 0                    | 0                    | 191,487,840           |
| General Audit of the Military Justice   | 229,649,058           | 17,087,347               | 0                    | 0                    | 246,736,405           |
| Presidency of the Military Supreme Military Tribunal                                      | 107,822,037           | 3,429,592                | 0                    | 0                    | 111,251,629           |
| Army and Air Force College General Directorate, Military Education and President's Office | 1,184,186,477         | 114,595,330              | 21,978,718           | 0                    | 1,320,760,525         |
| General Directorate of Health   | 3,495,199,090         | 1,487,187,826            | 0                    | 0                    | 4,982,386,916         |
| Other General Directorates***   | 6,623,757,819         | 1,449,528,136            | 0                    | 0                    | 8,073,285,955         |
| <b>Navy Programme</b>   |                       |                          |                      |                      |                       |
| Board of Admirals   | 15,488,855            | 285,480                  | 0                    | 0                    | 15,774,335            |
| Naval Board   | 11,654,408            | 197,640                  | 0                    | 0                    | 11,852,048            |
| Navy General Staff  | 456,565,739           | 122,345,316              | 0                    | 0                    | 578,911,055           |
| Naval Forces, Regions, Zones and Sectors  | 9,951,214,816         | 759,247,165              | 0                    | 0                    | 10,710,461,981        |
| General Directorate of Naval Constructions  | 198,179,165           | 109,327,960              | 0                    | 329,048,424          | 636,555,549           |
| General Directorate of Investments and Development  | 203,842,630           | 95,453,500               | 5,550,000            | 108,935,980          | 413,782,110           |
| Other General Directorates****  | 3,529,373,434         | 1,914,636,642            | 94,121,600           | 1,135,167,709        | 6,673,299,385         |
| Secretary*****  | 570,552,671           | 68,492,488               | 0                    | 0                    | 639,045,159           |
| <b>Institute of Social Security (ISSFAM)</b>  | 248,289,054           | 2,647,742,550            | 1,896,341,987        | 1,217,729,276        | 6,010,102,867         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>58,546,697,077</b> | <b>16,529,125,510</b>    | <b>2,288,392,715</b> | <b>3,936,558,969</b> | <b>81,300,774,271</b> |

\* Responsible units.  
 \*\* It includes 56,585,850 Pesos for allowances granted by the ISSFAM.  
 \*\*\* Administration, Factories of Outfits and Equipment, Engineers, Social Communication, Human Rights and Information Technology.  
 \*\*\*\* Administration and Finance, Services and Human Resources.  
 \*\*\*\*\* Includes responsible units of Under-Secretary, General Administration, Juridical Unit, General Inspection and Control.

### Composition of the Defence Budget



Between September 2011 and August 2012 6 military installations were constructed. The most important include: the Virtual Training Centre at the Military Field N° 1-H (Los Leones de Tacuba, Federal District); a building that houses the offices of the 'Observatory for Equality between Men and Women in the Mexican Army and the Air Force' (Lomas de San Isidro, State of Mexico); and the Multimedia Auditorium for the VIII Military Region (Ixcotel, Oaxaca).

**Source:** Compilation based on Ley de presupuesto de egresos de la Federación 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012. The State Budget passed by the Congress by means of the above mentioned Act is considered herein. Inversion is considered as the above inversion item.  
 GDP: Projection of the World Economic Outlook Database, IMF, of each year under review. This source has been taken for comparative purposes. Each country prepares the budget based on its own GDP estimation.  
 The dollar value considered corresponds to the exchange rate determined by the World Economic Outlook Database, IMF, for each year under consideration. As of July, the 2010 exchange rate average is 19.03 Lempiras, based on the data provided by the Central Bank of Honduras. For further calculations, figures are provided in local currency.  
 Expressions in Bold Type (Table) make reference to the various defence budget items, which can be found in a sector-based or institutional classification of the Budget Act.



The Secretary of National Defence

Organization Chart

**Date of Foundation**  
1937

**Current Secretary**  
(September 2012):  
Guillermo Galván Galván

**Can military members be Secretaries of Defence?**  
Yes

**Number of military members who were Secretaries of Defence**  
15

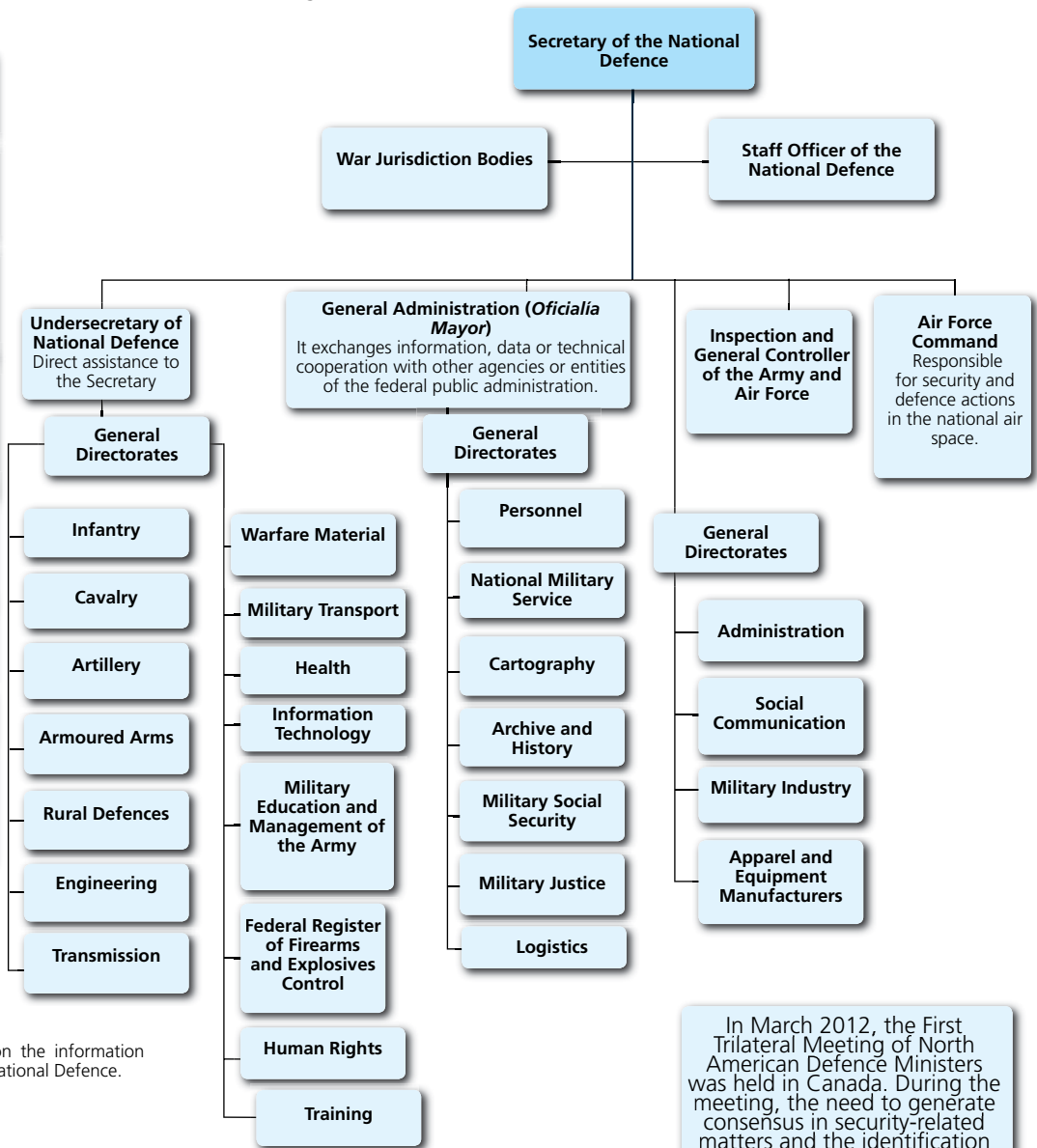
**Number of civilians who were Secretaries of Defence**  
None

**Have there been any women in charge of the Secretary of Defence?**  
No

**Average permanence in the Secretary of Defence position**  
5 years

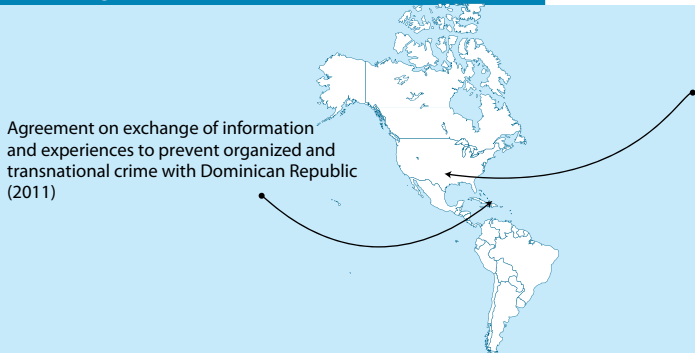
[The creation date is related to the moment in which the term "Defence" becomes part of the Institution's name]

**Source:** Compilation based on the information provided by the Secretary of National Defence.



In March 2012, the First Trilateral Meeting of North American Defence Ministers was held in Canada. During the meeting, the need to generate consensus in security-related matters and the identification of threats were discussed.

Bilateral agreements entered into between 2010 and 2012:



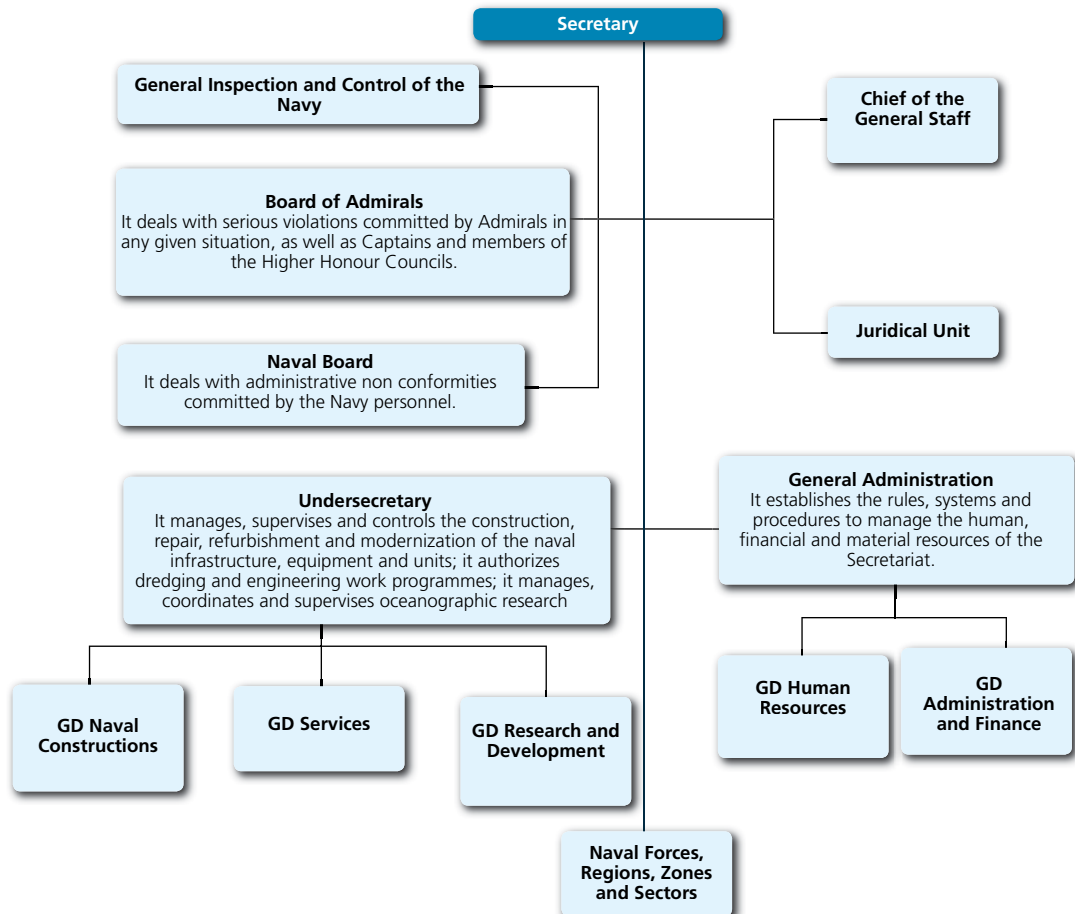
Agreement on Communications Interoperability and Security with the United States (2012).

**- Actions:**  
Representatives of the Secretary of National Defence (SEDNA) took part in 62 bilateral meetings held to fight drug trafficking and consumption as well as to coordinate operations and exchange information, in different venues in the country and abroad, with representatives of the following countries: Belize, Canada, Colombia, Chile, the United States of America, Guatemala, El Salvador and France.  
The Secretary of the Navy (SEMAR) took part in 11 meetings with US agencies to exchange experiences in the process of satellite images' analysis and intelligence reports on drug trafficking.

The Secretary of the Navy

Organization Chart

|  |                          |
|--|--------------------------|
| <b>Date of Foundation</b>                                    | 1940                     |
| <b>Current Secretary</b><br>(September 2012):                | Francisco Saynez Mendoza |
| <b>Can military members be Secretaries?</b>                  | Yes                      |
| <b>Number of military members who were Secretaries</b>       | 16                       |
| <b>Number of civilians who were Secretaries</b>              | 3                        |
| <b>Have there been any women in charge of the Secretary?</b> | No                       |
| <b>Average permanence in the Secretary position</b>          | 3 years and 8 months     |



GD: General Directorate

**Board of Military Commanders of the Guatemalan-Mexican Border**

Exchange of information, especially about organized crime, drug trafficking, firearms trafficking, trafficking in persons, environmental damage and illegal flights. At the twelfth meeting held in December 2011, the following actions were agreed upon:

- To continue with coordination meetings.
- To conduct coordinated patrolling along the respective borders, with each country's own means on in the ground, air and maritime spaces of each Nation.
- To make radio communication tests and exchange phone directories to speed up the response to urgent matters.

The same meeting is held with the United States; the 21st Meeting of Commanders of the Mexican-US Border was held in April 2012.

Source: Compilation based on the information provided by the Secretary of National Defence, *Manual General de Organización de la Secretaría y Sexto Informe de Gobierno de la Presidencia de la República* (September 2012).



**Political definitions**

**Policy Guidelines**

**Sector Plans**

**National Lines of Development. Main Objectives related to the Armed Forces**

**Rule of Law and Security**

Defence of the national sovereignty and territorial integrity:  
 - Guarantee national security and preserve the physical integrity and heritage of the Mexican people over any other interest.

- Ensuring the country's national integrity is fundamental for Mexico's progress. The country's borders, waters and coastlines must not serve as a route for crime. The geological makeup of the land and climate conditions of the different regions, as well as natural phenomena such as earthquakes, storms, cyclones, floods, and forest fires pose a permanent risk to the safety of the people.

Strategies:

- Strengthen the Armed Forces' capabilities by the updating, training, and modernization of their equipment
- Within the framework of the National Civil Protection System, strengthen coordination of the Armed Forces and state and municipal governments in the development, execution and conduct of the corresponding emergency plans

**Border Security:**

- Safeguard border security, as well as the integrity and respect for human rights of both its inhabitants and immigrants: focusing on the reorganization of the borders so that these regions can become more thriving and safer places. Borders must be the gateways to development, not to crime.

Strategies:

- Establish combined police units integrated by the Federal Prevention Police and border and state police to guarantee, with the support of the Armed Forces, the safety of the Mexican people and all border area inhabitants.
- Create channels for information and strategy exchange in areas of border security.

**Organized Crime:**

- Recover the strength of the State and security for the smooth cohabitation of the community, through a frontal and effective fight against drug trafficking and other forms of organized crime.

**Objectives and Strategies. Office of the Secretary of Defence**

1. Focus primarily on human resources as the fundamental pillars of the institution:

- Improve living standards of military personnel and their beneficiaries, as well as motivate and strengthen their ethics and morale.
- Upgrade structures and administrative processes, ensuring the efficient use of available personnel.

2. Improve operational efficiency of the Mexican Army and Air Force:

- Optimize structures and administrative processes
- Modify military training, under the philosophical principle of "training for the test".
- Consolidate military education, so that the cadre may be nurtured by professional military officers and strong military values and virtues.
- Strengthen logistics support to provide services and functions carried out for the benefit of units, sections and facilities.
- Update military doctrine and strengthen technological research and development.
- Consolidate interoperability, coordination and cooperation actions with the Secretary of the Navy.

3. Ensure national defence and support Mexico's foreign policy.

- Promote policymaking and the application of a national defence policy that supports and ensures gradual development and integration of the armed apparatus.
- Contribute to guaranteeing the Federations' external defence against any opposition that may threaten national security.
- Strengthen national airspace surveillance coverage and capacity to respond to events affecting citizen security and the integrity of the national territory.
- Support actions aimed at protecting North and South borders.
- Optimize security of the country's strategic facilities, with the purpose of preserving the basic structure for national development.
- Support Mexico's projection in the international arena to contribute to national efforts in terms of security and the defence of sovereignty.
- Strengthen bilateral relations, at the Secretarial level, with military forces of other nations.
- Contribute to actions taken by the Government of the Republic to support countries exposed to natural disasters or man-made catastrophes.

4. Support homeland security policies, within a framework of respect for the rule of law.

- Improve operational schemes in the comprehensive fight against drug trafficking.
- Contribute to activities performed by law enforcement agencies.
- Cooperate for the maintenance of the Rule of Law by limiting the actions of armed groups across the national territory.
- Strengthen capacities for the implementation of the Federal Law of Firearms and Explosives.

5. Carry out social actions to strengthen and contribute to the country's growth and support people's living conditions.

- Strengthen the national identity as an essential value for the integral development of the Mexican State.
- Contribute to building social welfare conditions in the most vulnerable areas of the country.
- Actively participate in environmental protection programs.
- Strengthen capacities for the elaboration, execution and conduct of the Defence against Natural Disasters Plan (Plan DN-III-E).

6. Promote civil-military relations within a democratic and transparent structure, under a system of accountability.

- Promote greater closeness between the Powers of the Union and the people in general.
- Promote measures aimed at improving management, and contribute to an efficient, effective and transparent performance, and the strengthening of the culture on human rights and international humanitarian law.
- Establish a social communication policy to reflect an image of the Mexican Army and Air Force that is in line with the activities performed.

**Objectives and Strategies. Office of the Secretary of the Navy**

1. Protect national maritime interests.

- Strengthen the operational capacity of the Federation's Naval Power.
- Optimize naval operation development to improve maritime security.

2. Apply Rule of Law in national waters and coastlines.

- Guarantee security and control of Mexico's seas and coastlines.
- Develop and acquire the necessary technology, equipment and systems to improve intelligence collection against drug trafficking, organized crime and terrorism.

3. Ensure the physical safety of people in the seas and coasts of Mexico.

- Increase the resources, mechanisms, and professionalism of naval personnel, so as to effectively protect human life at sea and help population in the event and at the place of disaster.

4. Contribute to Mexico's sustainable maritime development.

- Create synergies with stakeholders and entities with concerns in the maritime scenario.
- Contribute to the protection of ecosystems in the marine environment, which allow sustainable development of socio-economic projects.

5. Improve people's trust towards the Secretary.

- Increase professionalism, physical, mental and moral conditions of naval personnel.
- Promote and disseminate knowledge of citizens as regards activities performed by the Mexican Navy (SEMAR), so as to strengthen people's trust in the institution.

**Source:** *Plan Nacional de Desarrollo 2007-2012, Programa Sectorial de la Defensa Nacional 2007-2012* (Secretary of National Defence) and *Programa Sectorial de Marina 2007-2012* (Secretary of the Navy).

**Related actions 2011-2012**

- Execution of the agreement between the Social Security Institute for the Mexican Armed Forces (ISSFAM) and the National Housing Commission (CONAVI) which opened the possibility of granting a federal subsidy of up to 60,000 pesos for housing acquisition. In this framework, 6,440 home loans were granted to military personnel.
- In the educational area, the Integral Scholarship Programme benefited the sons and daughters of active military members and seamen: 10,228 scholarships and 7,224 grant holders in SEDENA and 1,866 scholarships and 1,330 grant holders in SEMAR. Scholarships were granted for secondary school education through the programme "Bécalos por su valor" which benefited a total of 4,600 students.
- 7,364,000 medical drugs were administered to military personnel after their doctor visits.
- Military troops' training on human rights was reinforced. As a result, 99,1% of the Mexican Army and Air Force troops and 95% of the Navy troops attended courses on human rights.
- Promotion of women involvement in Mexico's armed institutes. SEDENA and SEMAR foster the equality of opportunities for women and men, through courses and conferences, and the creation of the Gender Equality Observatory in the Mexican Army and Air Force.

**Source:** *Sexto Informe de Gobierno de la Presidencia de la República* (September 2012), *Quinto informe de labores de la Secretaría de Marina* (September 2011) and *Informe de rendición de cuentas 2006-2012 de la Secretaría de Marina* (January 2012).

### The Armed Forces

#### General Mission

Defend the integrity, independence and sovereignty of the Nation, guarantee internal security and external defence.  
 Help civilian citizens in cases of public necessity; carry out civic and social work aimed at the country's progress and in case of disaster, aid in keeping public order, assistance to the people and their assets as well as with reconstruction of affected areas.  
 Make use of the Federation's naval power for external defence, and render assistance for the country's internal security.  
 (*Ley Orgánica del Ejército y Fuerza Aérea Mexicanos*, DOF 1986/12/26, Last Amendment: DOF 2009/06/12, Sec. 1 and *Ley Orgánica de la Armada de México*, DOF 2002/12/30, Sec. 1)

#### Specific Missions

##### Army



- Defend the integrity, independence and sovereignty of the Nation.
- Guarantee internal security.
- Provide assistance to civilians in case of public need.
- Carry out civic actions and social work to support the growth of the country.
- In case of disaster, provide assistance to maintain the order, help people and their assets and rebuild affected areas.

##### Navy



Its mission is to use the naval power of the Federation for providing external defence and contributing to the internal security of the country.

##### Air Force



- Defend the integrity, independence and sovereignty of the Nation.
- Guarantee internal security.
- Provide assistance to civilians in cases of public necessity.
- Carry out civic actions and social work to support the growth of the country.
- In cases of disaster, provide assistance to maintain the order, aid the people and their assets and rebuild affected areas.

| Human resources of the Armed Forces |                |                |                |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|                                     | 1985           | 1994           | 2003           |
| SEDENA                              | 124,497        | 168,773        | 191,143        |
| SEMAR                               | 34,164         | 48,170         | 47,304         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                        | <b>158,661</b> | <b>216,943</b> | <b>238,447</b> |

**Total strength of the Armed Forces 2012: 261,930**

**Army and Air Force: 207,716**

**Naval Force: 54,214**

#### Officers

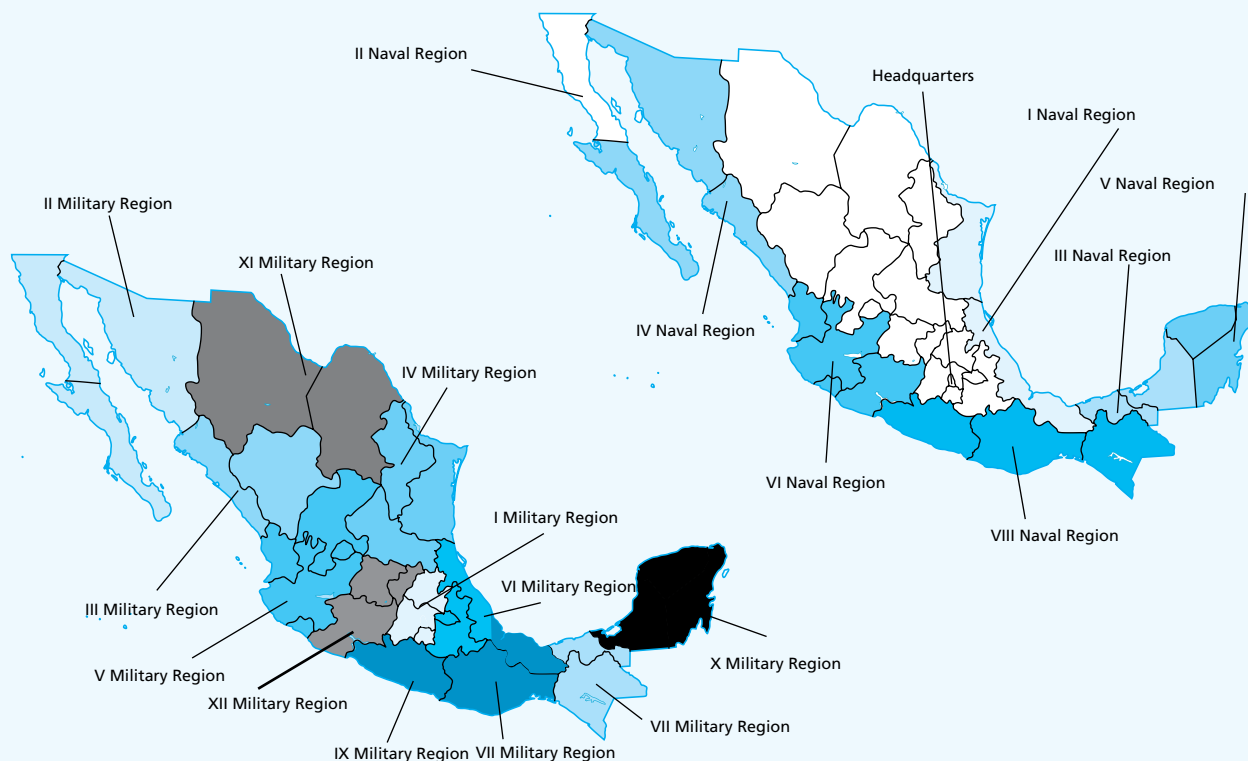
**M 34,696      3,274 W**

#### Troops

**M 161,842      7,904 W**

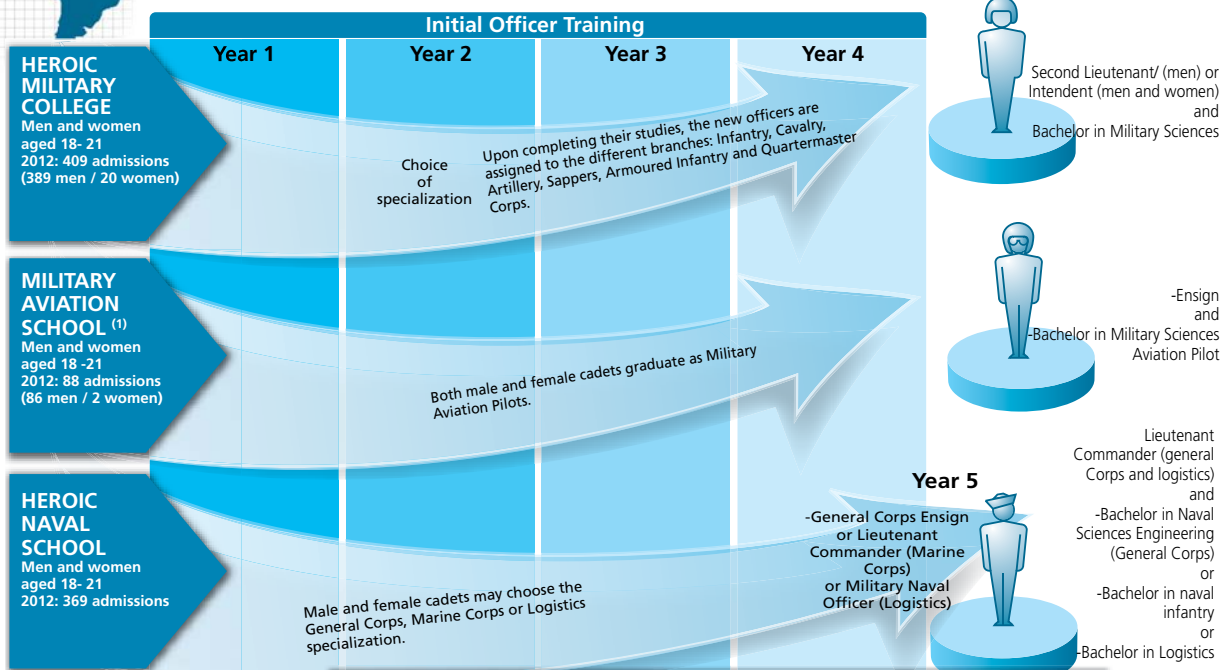
M: Men - W: Women

### Military and Naval Regions



Source: *Ley orgánica del Ejército y la Fuerza Aérea* (DOF 1986/12/26. Last amendment: DOF 2012/04/03) and *Ley orgánica de la Armada de México* (DOF 2002/12/30, Last amendment: DOF 2012/04/03) (missions) *Sexto Informe de Gobierno de la Presidencia de la República* (September 2012) and web sites of both Secretariats of State.





(1) Under the Air College.

From January to June 2012, the total graduates of the military and naval facilities was: 4,779 Secretary of National Defence - 1,813 Secretary of the Navy.

**Source:** Compilation based on *Quinto informe de labores de la Secretaría de Marina* (September 2011), information provided by the Secretariat of National Defence and the web sites of the Secretary of National Defence, the Secretary of the Navy and the General Deputy Directorate of Naval Education.

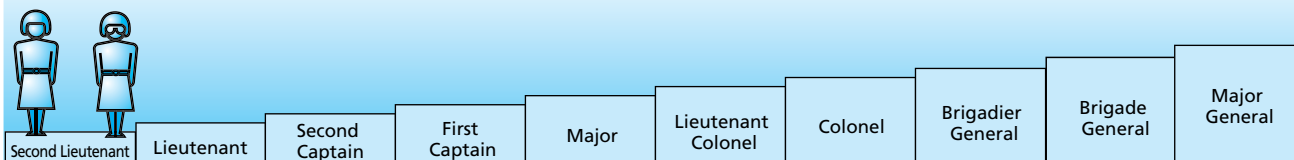
|                                 | Graduated from educational establishments* |       |       |       |       |              |
|---------------------------------|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------------|
|                                 | 2007                                       | 2008  | 2009  | 2010  | 2011  | Jan-Jun 2012 |
| Secretariat of National Defence | 2,505                                      | 2,719 | 2,560 | 2,091 | 4,910 | 434          |
| Secretariat of the Navy         | 365  | 480   | 364   | 303   | 162   | 268          |

\* Education is understood as school courses at professional and technical-professional level.

**Source:** *Sexto Informe de Gobierno de la Presidencia de la República* (September 2011).

### Women in the Armed Forces

Women Officers who have reached the highest Rank in the Command Corps (2012)



**Note:** These ranks correspond to the Army, as an example. The equivalent rank for Second Lieutenant is Ensign (Air Force) and Second Lieutenant (Navy).

In September 2010, women were admitted to the Heroic Naval School. In 2014, they will join the forces with the rank of Ensign (General Corps), Lieutenant JG (Marine Corps) or Military Naval Officer (Logistics).

The Command corps includes officers who have been educated at military academies from the beginning of their careers, different to those who develop a career in the civilian sphere and are then incorporated to the military.

**Source:** Information provided by the Secretary of National Defence.

In December 2011, the Official Gazette published the decree whereby the "Observatory for Gender Equality in the Mexican Army and Air Force" was created, as a specialized supporting instance for the planning, detection, assessment and implementation of actions aimed at preventing and eliminating any form of gender-based discrimination and ensuring equal opportunities for women and men in the Mexican Army and Air Force.

### Military Service

The National Military Service (SMN) is mandatory for all male citizens of military age. It lasts one year. Women may participate voluntarily. It may be served through two modalities:

- **Enrolled personnel:** they attend Saturday training sessions without receiving any monetary compensation;
- **Stand by personnel:** they do not carry out Saturday training activities, they are just registered for the authorities' knowledge and control.

#### Secretary of the Navy - National Military Service

It is conducted in 22 Training Centres of the Marine Corps, including coastal states and the Federal District

| 2011  |       | 2012  |       |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Men   | Women | Men   | Women |
| 4,256 | 32    | 4,419 | 21    |

Another form of recruiting is the voluntary modality, which is carried out through recruitment contracts. Through these voluntary contracts, the full term is fixed, and it could never exceed 3 year in the arms or services or 5 years in the auxiliary ranks.

Secretary of National Defence - Number of candidates and admitted candidates to the Voluntary Military Service of the Ground and Air Forces

|                          | Men           | Women        | Total         |
|--------------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| 2011                     | 10,887        | 1,245        | 12,132        |
| 2012 (as of August 2012) | 6,781         | 1,568        | 8,349         |
| <b>Total</b>             | <b>17,668</b> | <b>2,813</b> | <b>20,481</b> |

**Source:** Information provided by the Secretary of National Defence, Secretary of the Navy and *Ley de Servicio Militar* (DOF 1940/09/11. Last amendment: DOF 1998/01/23).

**Defence and National and International Community**

**Surveillance operations**

During the first semester of 2012, the Armed Forces performed surveillance operations in its territory, air space and national seas, coasts and natural resources.

|                         | SEDENA | SEMAR  |
|-------------------------|--------|--------|
| Surveillance operations | 94,680 | 43,582 |

**SEMAR Operations**

In the surveillance operations carried out by the Navy, a monthly average of 16,925 men were deployed as well as:

| Units           | Area covered                |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| Surface units   | 595 thousand nautical miles |
| Air naval units | 1.7 million nautical miles  |
| Land units      | 2.4 million kilometres      |

In 2,088,010 inspections:  
 - Seizure of 652 people.  
 - Seizure of three ships, eight small vessels and 289 land vehicles.  
 - Seizure of 382 weapons and 42,594 useful cartridges.

**Joint Operation Bases**

The joint operation bases are inter-institutional forces, whose purpose is to combat crime in high-risk areas with significant public security problems, performing mobile or in-situ surveillance. They are made up of operating units with jurisdiction in military areas, agents of the Federal Public Ministry, Ministerial Federal Police elements, ministerial police personnel and state preventive agents with their respective vehicles.

In the period mentioned above, 650 joint operation bases were established, with the involvement of 14,109 military troops, in the states of Chiapas, Coahuila, Colima, Durango, Mexico, Guerrero, Michoacán, Morelos, Nayarit, Nuevo León, Oaxaca, Puebla, Sinaloa and Veracruz.

**Security at strategic facilities – 2012 Highlights:**

|                                    | SEDENA                               | SEMAR   |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| Facilities under surveillance      | 218                                  | 51  |
| Monthly average of military troops | 4,220                                | 1,302   |
| Area of coverage                   | - 166 land routes and 29 air routes. | -34,364 nautical miles of maritime patrols<br>-1,124 nautical miles of air patrols<br>-504,172 kilometres of land patrols<br>-15,552 maritime, air and land patrols |

**Operations against organized crime**

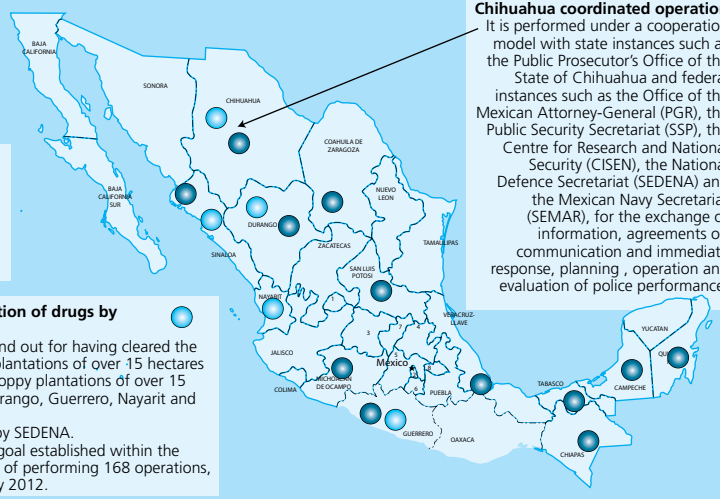
Drug-trafficking and organized crime are considered threats to domestic order which exceed the Public Security Forces' capabilities. For this reason, the Secretariats are actively involved in the national system of public security providing assistance to the authorities of the three government branches. The legal framework are the 2007-2012 National Development Plan, the Comprehensive Strategy against Drug-Trafficking in Mexico and the Sector-based Programmes of the National Defence and the Navy, where action lines are established to strengthen coordination and cooperation at the national level.

**Coordinated operations:** units to provide support to the communities and combat organized crime, made up of members of SEDENA, SEMAR, SSP (Public Security Secretariat) and PGR (Office of the Mexican Attorney-General) in support of state and municipal authorities.

High-impact operations are performed jointly by large number of troops and different State secretariats and institutions, with the support of aircraft, vehicles, amphibious ships and other technology, in geographic areas of the country with high rates of crime.

**High-impact operations for the eradication of drugs by the Armed Forces:**

2011-2012: of the total operations, 21 stand out for having cleared the largest extensions of land: four Marijuana plantations of over 15 hectares were destroyed in Sinaloa, and 17 opium poppy plantations of over 15 hectares were eradicated in Chihuahua, Durango, Guerrero, Nayarit and Sinaloa.  
 2012: A total of 37 operations performed by SEDENA.  
 In the last six years, SEDENA exceeded the goal established within the framework of the Sector-based Programme of performing 168 operations, reaching a total of 212 operations as of July 2012.



**Military operations to combat drug-trafficking (2011-2012)**

**SEDENA**

**Marijuana:** In 2011, 1,655 tones were seized and 13,262 hectares of crops were eradicated.  
 As of July 2012, 553 tones were seized and 4,025 hectares were eradicated.  
**Weapons and detentions:** In 2011, 32,499 long and short weapons were seized and 12,624 people were detained.  
 As of July 2012, 6,545 people were detained and 13,250 weapons were seized.  
**Others:**  
 16,300 hectares of poppy crops were eradicated.  
 In 2011, 6,982 kilograms of cocaine, 16,012 land vehicles, 54 aircraft, 37 vessels and 565 illegal landing strips were seized.  
 As of July 2012, 2,377 million cocaine doses, 257 landing strips and 8,383 land vehicles were seized and destroyed.

**SEMAR**

**Marijuana:** In 2011, 52 tones were seized and 139 hectares of crops were eradicated.  
 As of July 2012, 20 tones were seized and 83 hectares eradicated.  
**Weapons and detentions:** 1,801 weapons were seized in 2011 and 433 weapons, as of July 2012.  
 1,563 people were detained in 2011 and 685 in 2012.  
**Others:** In 2011, 681 land vehicles, 31 vessels and 1,374 kilograms of cocaine were seized.  
 As of July 2012, 35 hectares of poppy crops were eradicated.

**Source:** *Sexto Informe de Gobierno de la Presidencia de la República* (September 2012), *Quinto informe de labores de la Secretaría de Marina* (September 2011) and *Informe de rendición de cuentas 2006-2012 de la Secretaría de Marina* (January 2012).

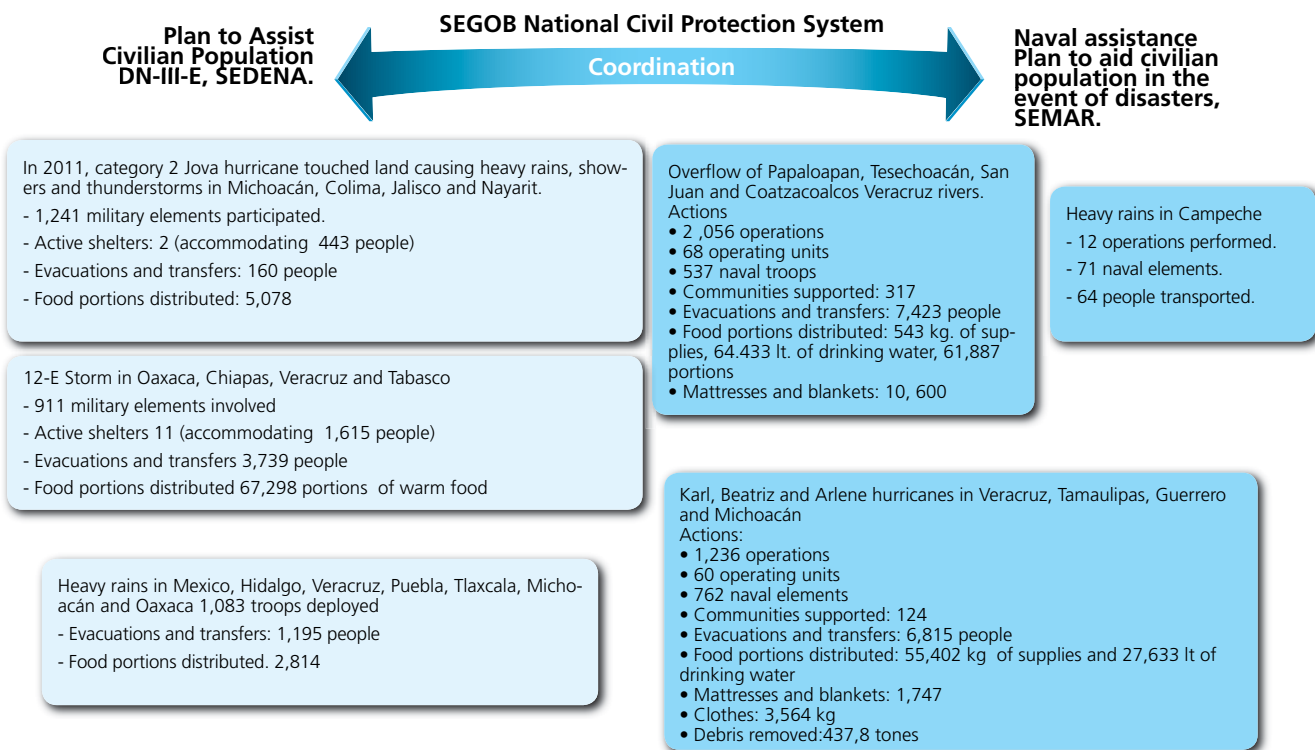




**Support Activities (2011 – 2012)**

Within the framework of the National Civil Protection System, the 2007-2012 National Development Plan proposes strengthening the involvement of the Armed Forces and the State and Municipal Governments in the preparation, execution and management of assistance plans.

The Disasters Response Force is a body created to increase the response capacity of operating units that covers the entire territory, before, during or after a disaster. Activities are performed to face the winter season, urban and forest fires, tropical systems, floods, heavy rains, earthquakes, chemical leaks and explosions.



**Fire-fighting actions: support to the National Forest Commission (Conafor) and Civil Protection:**

SEDENA provided support in various states of the Republic, deploying 6,368 military elements and three MI-17 helicopters of the Mexican Air Force, to extinguish 164 fires affecting 92,230 hectares of vegetation.

**Social work developed in coordination with Federal and municipal entities.**

| SEMAR   | SEDENA   |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- It sent a monthly average of 157 elements, providing assistance to multiple marginal coastal communities, where it offered medical and dental care to 4,039 people, applied 21,229 vaccines, distributed 430,600 litres of drinking water and 1,025 medicines, benefiting 17,052 people.</li> <li>- It performed 36 operations with 24 operating units made up of 130 naval elements. It provided support to 14 communities by distributing 262,227 kilograms of food, 41,891 litres of bottled water, 14,398 blankets and sheets, 5,354 pieces of clothes and performed 183 medical consultations.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- It deployed 400 military elements, performed patrols and cooperated with local authorities in assistance activities in areas affected by low temperature.</li> <li>- It assisted the Health Secretariat in three vaccination campaigns for children, providing 61,893 vaccines.</li> <li>- It kept 20 military tree nurseries in operation, where 62,648,964 trees of different species were grown.</li> <li>- From 1 September 2011 to 31 August 2012, 1,910,000 trees were planted in 412 military facilities.</li> </ul> |

**Life-saving Operations:**

They are conducted during the winter holidays, the Holy Week and the summer holidays. Between 2011 winter and 2012 summer, these operations required 6,028 elements, 76 ships, 164 small vessels, 12 aircraft and 282 land vehicles, obtaining the following results:

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| Rescue of people under risk of drowning | 257   |
| Search of missing children              | 141   |
| Medical assistances                     | 1,168 |
| Assistance to vessels                   | 29    |

Overflow of Palizada and Usumacinta rivers in Campeche and Tabasco

- 214 operations
- 21 operating units with 225 naval elements
- Communities supported 4
- Evacuations and transfers 338 people
- Distribution of: 276,792 kg of supplies
- 165,032 litres of drinking water
- 31,037 food portions
- 3,961 mattresses and blankets

**External Radiological Emergency Plan**

SEMAR has permanently participated in the External Radiological Emergency Plan (PERE), jointly with other agencies, to provide security and a quick and proper response in the event of any contingency at Laguna Verde Nuclear Power Plant. Therefore, the Navy is always present in the area. Among the operations carried out under PERE between September 2010 and August 2011, 1,940 land patrols were deployed along 147,577 kilometres. The operations used a monthly average of 120 troops and 12 vehicles.

**Source:** *Sexto Informe de Gobierno de la Presidencia de la República* (September 2012), *Quinto informe de labores de la Secretaría de Marina* (September 2011) and *Informe de rendición de cuentas 2006-2012 de la Secretaría de Marina* (January 2012).

The following seizures were made within the regulatory framework of the goals set in the Sector-based Programme of the National Defence Secretariat (2007-2012) during the whole period:

- 9,798 tones of marijuana.
- 36 tones of cocaine.
- 4,773 kilograms of opium gum.
- 4,591 kilograms of heroin.
- 74,633 kilograms of methamphetamines and pseudoephedrine.
- 13,563,860 psychotropic pills.
- 118,640 weapons of various types.
- 12,100 cartridges of different calibres.
- 9,678 grenades.
- 538 aircraft.
- 48,456 land vehicles.
- 219 vessels.

Progress on the goals set in the 2007-2012 Navy Sector-based Programme: for the purpose of maintaining the Rule of Law, from January to June 2011, 16, 543 operations were conducted, accounting for 59.1% of the 2011 annual goal of 28,000 operations.

**Source:** *Quinto y Sexto Informe de Gobierno de la Presidencia de la República* (2011 and 2012), *Quinto informe de labores de la Secretaría de Marina* (September 2011) and *Informe de rendición de cuentas 2006-2012 de la Secretaría de Marina* (January 2012).

### Analysis:

## What will (or should) be the Security Agenda of Mexico's New Administration?

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A few days after the presidential election in Mexico, the newly-elected president Enrique Peña Nieto was emphatic in stating that no new strategy would be introduced to fight against drug-trafficking, and that the goal was to build upon the actions undertaken so far (El Universal, July 8, 2012).

In that interview he also stated that, in spite of it all, a debate should be raised on how to approach the fight against drug-trafficking. Thus, it might seem that –though a radical change has been ruled out—it is considered necessary to hold a debate on how to face the scourge of drug-trafficking, especially taking into account the multiple –and sometimes harsh– criticisms expressed in multiple fora during Felipe Calderón's administration by the Partido Revolucionario Institucional (PRI) as opposition force<sup>1</sup>.

Curiously enough, a possible “change of direction” seems to be a wise move even for US leadership. Assistant Secretary of State for Western Hemisphere Affairs, Roberta Jacobson, stated in a press conference that if Mexican authorities were willing to review their strategy and implement changes, this would be considered as an expected and even healthy decision, as organized crime adapts to different times and thus changes accordingly.

Judging from the initiatives undertaken during Felipe Calderón's administration, everything seems to indicate that the national security agenda was prepared in an empirical manner. Of course, the security expen-

diture grew significantly: while the national security sector was allocated about 49 billion Mexican pesos in 2007, that figure grew to 94 billion pesos in 2012. Hence, during Calderón's 6-year term, security spending rose by 89% (Universal, 12 April 2012); in quantitative terms, this shows the importance assigned by the government to this issue. However, no correlation can be found between these figures of spending and the perception of the Mexican society regarding the country's security (or lack thereof). A higher expenditure level does not necessarily equate to wise spending, especially when the focus is placed on the manifestations of the problems rather than their root causes.

The approach to an issue of such relevance to Mexican society, and the development of Mexico as a whole, should consider at least the following aspects:

- To have a national security doctrine.
- To develop a national defence policy.
- To create a national security agenda reached by consensus.
- To clearly distinguish between security threats, risks and vulnerabilities.
- To consolidate a project for the nation.
- To develop a long-term national security policy (“política de estado”).
- To design the national security agenda based on the country's needs and capacities.
- To consider the fight against drug-trafficking not only as a security issue but also as a development matter (health and education).
- To adopt proper security laws and regulations.
- To make the combined security-development concept the core of the national security policy in its evolution.

<sup>1</sup> At an interview in Aristegui's live radio show, Enrique Peña Nieto stated that “when we talk about reducing violence, this means paying special and particular attention to three types of crimes: homicide, racketeering and kidnapping”. “The federal government has made the right decision by increasing the force capacity of the Mexican State”. “I have undertaken to keep the army and navy in some areas where the insecurity environment has unfortunately deteriorated”. (Noticias MVS, May 11, 2012).