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Agustín Carstens said Mexico is ready to face a European economy collapse.

Carstens optimistic on nation's economy

BY VÍCTOR MAYÉN
Rumbo de México

CHIHUAHUA - Agustín Carstens, governor of the Bank of Mexico (Banxico), said that Mexico is ready to "navigate through troubled waters," before a possible intensification of the financial crisis in Europe.

Interviewed before a speech at the first plenary meeting of the PRI's senators-elect, the Banxico governor said that Felipe Calderón will hand over a strong economy, a healthy bank, unprecedented foreign currency reserves and external strength to Enrique Peña Nieto's administration.

"The reality is that our figures are very good, we have an economy that is growing above the world average, we have a healthy bank, a bank that is driving economic growth, we have great external strength, we have a

record amount of foreign reserves, we have generated a number of very important jobs and public finances are healthy..." he said.

Questioned on possible damages to Mexico caused by a resurgence of the financial crisis in eurozone countries, such as Spain and Greece, Carstens recognized that the domestic economy could experience some "turbulence." "No country is exempt if Europe does collapse. But, importantly, if anything like that happens it will be in the environment of a strong economy. We are well prepared to navigate through troubled waters..."

He acknowledged the slight rise in Mexico's inflation and put it down to a temporary price increase of eggs, chicken, and some grains. He said that the inflation rate is reversible, and that by the end of the year it will be below 4 percent.

Gordillo dead set on leading SNTE

Union leader contradicts national newspaper's 'rumors'

BY ROCÍO ZAYAS
Rumbo de México

MEXICO CITY - National Education Workers Union (SNTE) leader Elba Esther Gordillo denied allegations that she would be retiring on Monday, and said she would continue to direct the union as long as members wanted her.

A national newspaper had reported earlier on Monday that Gordillo confirmed her retirement while visiting Nuevo León. The union leader challenged reporters to state the exact date of her visit, going on to say that these reports "are nothing but rumors."

Elba Esther Gordillo said that her work in education will "transcend time."

The SNTE leader said that the union would hold elections for the leadership position next October in Baja California.

"To begin with, I haven't been in Nuevo León, and I've already clarified that. Second, yes, there will be a national election, and the election results will decide who leads the SNTE. ... It is unfortunate that someone published an article based on a rumor," she said.

Regarding the state of her health, Gordillo said that she was in optimal condition to continue working.



Gordillo says she will continue directing the SNTE as long as members want her.

"How do I look? I am healthy, lucid and committed to what I have to do."

While at an opening ceremony for the 2012-2013 school year, Gordillo said that her work in education will "transcend time and will be remembered in history."

The teacher's union leader also said, "It is very clear to me that

perhaps what has been done (in education) has not been sufficient due to the rate at which things change. Global competition for progress ... based on the quality of human capital, obliges us to recognize that gradual change is no longer viable, which is why we have decided to transform the Mexican educational system from its roots."



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