



Center for Strategic & International Studies
Washington, DC

Jesus Aguilar Padilla Governor of the State of Sinaloa

“Democratization and Political Reform in the State of Sinaloa”

A breakfast discussion with the Governor of the State of Sinaloa, Lic. Jesus Aguilar Padilla (PRI), will be held on Tuesday, November 8, 2005 from 9:00a.m. to 10:30a.m. in the B1A conference room of CSIS, 1800 K Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20006. The meeting will be conducted in **Spanish** and translation will **not** be provided.

Sworn-in on January 1, 2005, Governor Aguilar is just 11-months into his 6-year term as governor of this northern state. With a population of about 2.8 million inhabitants, Sinaloa ranks the 14th most populated state. It is one of Mexico's principal agricultural states, producing 42 percent of Mexico's tomatoes and leading in the production and export of grain and cucumbers, among other products. Sinaloa's 560 kilometer coastline along the Gulf of California also helps to make it the largest exporter of seafood in Mexico. Sinaloa is a host state to some of the world's most successful global companies in food production, such as: Campbell's, Chiquita, and Citrofruit.

Governor Aguilar will enjoy a majority in the State's 58th Legislature for the next three years (PRI 20 seats; PRI-Barzonista sinaloense coalition called *Mazatlán Nos Une* 1 seat; PAN 15 seats; PAN-PRD joint candidate 1 seat; PRD 2 seats; and PT 1 seat), thus facilitating getting his agenda through the State Legislature.

Governor Aguilar was elected on November 14, 2005 with 1.1 percent margin over his nearest contender (PRI 46.7 percent and PAN 45.6 percent). Prior to being elected Governor, he had a distinguished career in his home state of Sinaloa. He served as president of the state legislature and leader of the PRI faction between 2001 and 2004, and as the state's Secretary of Planning and Development from 1999 to 2001. Lic. Aguilar also acquired professional experience dealing with federal-level bureaucracies by serving as the Regional Delegate for INFONAVIT between 1995 and 1998, and State Delegate for CONASUPO between 1989 and 1994.

Please note that the **meeting will be conducted in Spanish and translation will not be provided**. Please RSVP by noon on Monday, November 7 to Kristin Wedding, Mexico Project Research Associate, by fax to (202) 466-4739 or preferably by email to kwedding@csis.org.