



---

**MEETING WITH SECRETARY ALEJANDRO POIRE  
MEXICO'S SECRETARIAT OF GOVERNANCE (SEGOB)  
FEBRUARY 27, 2012 AT 12:45 PM**

**OBJECTIVES/DESIRED OUTCOME:**

- Provide an update on the Interior Repatriation Initiative (IRI)
- Discuss the special interest alien (SIA) vetting program in Mexico and its success
- Discuss the Biometric Identification Transnational Migration Alert Program (BITMAP)

**BACKGROUND:**

- S1 will be meeting with Secretary Poire to discuss the DHS-SEGOB Declaration of Principles, Interior Repatriation Initiative and efforts to address concerns over third country nationals (TCN's).

**HOT TOPICS/ISSUES:**

- **Interior Repatriation Initiative (IRI)**
  - The IRI was scheduled to be signed by S1 and Secretary Poire during this meeting.
  - ICE and Government of Mexico (GoM) officials continue to negotiate and move forward with starting the IRI program.
- **HSI Efforts to Combat the Smuggling of Special Interest Aliens (SIAs)**
  - The greatest threat from the smuggling of SIAs is the potential mobility of terrorist groups through Central and South American countries, and through Mexico to the United States.
  - HSI established protocols outlining information-sharing on aliens from countries of national security concern who are detained by GoM officials. Through this information-sharing initiative, HSI gains critical intelligence on large scale human smuggling operations, to assist in identifying individuals who may potentially present a national security risk.
    - In FY 2011, HSI Intelligence completed approximately 280 Homeland Security Intelligence Reports (HIRs) based on information gathered in Mexico. These HIRs account for 21.5 percent of all ICE-generated HIRs.
  - HSI Attaché Mexico City established a Tapachula Liaison Office by deploying agents to Tapachula, Chiapas, Mexico on a rotational basis to build capacity in the identification of aliens from countries of national security concern who are released from the Tapachula detention facility.
- **Biometric Identification Transnational Migration Alert Program (BITMAP) in Mexico**
  - BITMAP biometric devices have been deployed to Mexico, and GoM counterparts are using them to identify third country nationals, gang members, and persons of interest encountered in Mexico.
  - In January 2011, HSI agents assigned to Mexico received training in the use of the BITMAP devices.
  - HSI special agents are currently working with DHS and GoM personnel to implement the use of biometric devices throughout Mexico.

**Meeting with Mexican Minister of Governance (SEGOB) Alejandro Poiré**  
**February 27, 2012**

**ASKS**

- Ask Poiré for an update on the weapons carriage/privileges and immunities issue within the Government of Mexico, specifically his efforts with Mexican Foreign Relations (SRE).

**KEY BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

This meeting is scheduled for 30 minutes. During this meeting, you and Poiré will sign a Memorandum of Cooperation instituting the Interior Repatriation Initiative (IRI), which will establish a year-round program to remove Mexicans into the interior of Mexico. It is anticipated there will be press availability during the signing. You and Poiré had also planned to sign an updated DHS-SEGOB Declaration of Principles. However, SEGOB requested that our departments simply agree to update the document without resigning it, in deference to Francisco Blake Mora, the previous SEGOB Secretary who died in a plane crash in November 2011. You last met with Secretary Poiré on February 2, 2012 in Washington, DC.

*Interior Repatriation Initiative*

Should both sides find mutually agreeable terms so as to conclude negotiations, the IRI would be a monumental step forward in our repatriation relationship with Mexico and would lay the foundation for increased collaboration and cooperation on this contentious issue. Should this arrangement not be concluded by the time of your meeting, you should press Poiré to work closely with SRE and ICE to finish negotiations and start the program.

*Weapons Carriage/Privileges and Immunities*

During your February 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting, you and Poiré discussed the cross-border carriage of weapons contemplated in the context of the pre-inspection facilities planned for Otay-Mesa, Santa Teresa, and Laredo, as well as specific privileges and immunities being requested for these officers. Poiré expressed his support for this effort and committed to work with Mexican Foreign Affairs (SRE) to assist in this effort. On December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011, CBP sent a letter to U. S. Ambassador to Mexico Tony Way notifying the Department of State regarding the work these officers would accomplish and requesting State support for the weapons carriage and provision of appropriate privileges and immunities. On February 15, 2012, CBP sent State the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for these pre-inspection facilities. There has also been continual dialogue between DHS and State leadership on this topic. While not finalized, there are very positive indications that State will support this effort.

However, in order to maintain this good progress, DHS needs SRE support. You should press SEGOB to go beyond “supporting the concept” and actively assist in pushing this initiative forward by directly engaging SRE on this matter.

*February 2<sup>nd</sup> Follow up*

Should time permit, you and Poiré could discuss the progress DHS and SEGOB have made on the areas where you both committed to move forward during your February 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting. The key initiatives are as follows:

- A working group, to be chaired by Bersin and Mohar, will oversee DHS and SEGOB efforts to address Third Country Nationals (TCN) and Special Interest Aliens (SIA) encountered by Mexican Immigration (INM) officials throughout Mexico. Bersin and Mohar are tentatively scheduled to meet on March 5-6 to discuss this effort. Focus points include capturing and sharing information and a strategy for approaching source countries.
- While CISEN is not ready to sign an agreement with Panamanian authorities regarding Mexican participation in the Joint Security Program-Panama at the Tocumen International Airport in Panama, CISEN Director General (b)(6), (b)(7)c (whom you met at your February 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting with Poiré ) is tentatively planning on jointing you in Panama in on February 29<sup>th</sup> to discuss the issue with Panamanian officials
- SEGOB committed to organize and convene a conference involving all Central American counterparts, and the United States to examine the challenge of regional migration and to begin the work of developing a coordinated way forward. SEGOB has not, however, said when such a meeting will occur. You may wish to ask about when this conference will occur.
- DHS and SEGOB continue to work through the 21<sup>st</sup> Century border process to speed the completion of threat assessments and the design and implementation of coordinated patrols aimed to prevent violence in the Sonora-Arizona and Tamaulipas-Texas corridors. During their tentatively planned March 5-6 meeting, (b)(6), (b)(7)c and (b)(6), (b)(7)c intend to take up this issue. A possible timeline for completion could be as follows :
  - Create assessment framework and implementation schedule for the threat assessments and coordinate patrols (Completed by Mar. 31).
  - Complete the first two assessments (April 30)
  - Begin coordinated patrols (May 30).

**ATTACHMENTS:**

A. Biography (source: OIA)

**Staff Responsible for Briefing Memo:** (b)(6), (b)(7)c Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of International Affairs



**ALEJANDRO POIRÉ ROMERO**  
**SECRETARY OF GOVERNANCE**



On November 17, 2011, Mr. Poiré Romero was named the Secretary of Governance. Prior to his current position, Mr. Poiré Romero was named Director General of Center of Investigations and National Security (CISEN).

Beginning May 26, 2009, President Felipe Calderón appointed him State Secretary for Population, Migration and Religion Affairs, at the Ministry of Interior, where he had been serving as Lead Adviser to the Minister since November 2008. From 2007 to 2008, Mr. Poiré Romero was Director of Political Analysis at President Calderón's Office, and was then commissioned to the office of Political Development at the Ministry of Interior. Previously, he was also adviser to the National Institute of Statistics on the creation of the first National Survey on Political Culture and Citizenship Practices (2001).

From 2003 to 2005, he also served as a senior official in Mexico's Electoral Institute (IFE), the independent electoral management body that organizes Mexico's elections. Mr. Poiré Romero's specific job was to enforce the laws on political parties, which include disbursement and auditing of their public finance.

Mr. Alejandro Poiré Romero, a Mexican national, holds a Ph.D. in Political Science from Harvard University, and a Bachelor's degree in the same field from Mexico's Autonomous Technological Institute (ITAM), where he has been a professor and the Political Science Department chair.

Mr. Poiré Romero has published several academic pieces analyzing public opinion, campaign dynamics and voting behavior in Mexico, and has been a visiting researcher and lecturer at several institutions in the United States, including MIT, and in Latin America.