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## April 1st Press Release

### Can North American partners 'fuel' a common energy security vision?

**Keynote speakers from the political, business and academic arena of the NAFTA countries will join in Monterrey. Innovative financial alternatives to attract investment towards the Mexican energy sector will be introduced.**

**MONTREAL, March 26th, 2004.** The North American Forum on Integration (NAFI), the Escuela de Graduados de Administración Pública y Política Pública (EGAP) and the Mexican Council of Foreign Relations (COMEXI) will host the Conference entitled 'Forging North American Energy Security', April 1st and 2nd, 2004 in Monterrey, Mexico.

Can North American partners agree on a shared vision of energy security? Different scenarios to create a new North American Energy Fund aimed to attract capital towards the Mexican oil sector, while respecting the Mexican Constitution, will be proposed by Jose Alberro, former PEMEX's chief negotiator during NAFTA discussions.

With adequate resources to finance infrastructure and technology, Mexico would be able to increase regional energy supply. Raising internal supply is one of three proposed courses of action that would ensure a higher level of energy security in North America. Other approaches include: the diversification of renewable sources and the improvement of energy efficiency.

Mexican presence includes as keynote speakers: Felipe Calderón, Secretary of Energy of Mexico and Jorge G. Castañeda, independent candidate for Presidency, Mexico 2006 and former Foreign Minister, and Governor of Nuevo León, Natividad Gonzalez Parás.

Confirmed guests from the United States include: Pat Wood, Chairman of FERC, Mr. Vincent DeVito, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary from the Department of Energy, and Commissioner Charles Matthews from the Railroad Commission of Texas.

From Canada, Sam Hamad, Minister of Natural Resources of Quebec; Bob Taylor, Assistant Deputy Minister of Oil Development, Alberta Energy will also participate in the Conference.

Media representatives are invited to attend to the conference. To schedule an interview with our guests before the conference, depending on each speaker's agenda, contact Monica Guevara at [mguevara@fina-nafi.org](mailto:mguevara@fina-nafi.org).

The North American Forum of Integration is a non-profit organization devoted to developing North American dialogue and networks. NAFI intends to periodically bring together key decision-makers from political, private, labor and academic sectors from Canada, the United States and Mexico. NAFI's activities are in part possible by the support of Fonds Jeunesse Québec.

The Escuela de Graduados en Administración Pública y Política Pública's (EGAP) mission is to train ethical individuals who will become visionary leaders in their community in order to promote economic, political and entrepreneurship development of the country.

The Mexican Council on Foreign Relations (COMEXI) is an autonomous, non-political association, without government ties. Its aim is to contribute to a better understanding of how the global context influences



Mexico, as well as what the country's role in the world arena should be, in order to contribute to the decision-making process and the shaping of foreign policy.

This initiative is made possible in part by the support received from the Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, the Gouvernement du Québec, CEMEX and Electricité de France.

Date: Abril 1 y 2 del 2004.

Venue: Hotel Inter-Continental Presidente Hotel, Monterrey, México.

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