

CUATRECASAS AND POSSE HERRERA RUIZ FORM LEGAL ALLIANCE IN COLOMBIA

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Cuatrecasas, Gonçalves Pereira and Posse Herrera Ruiz announced an strategic alliance to offer legal services to clients with interests in the Colombian market, the Iberian peninsula and elsewhere. Both law firms will maintain independence and alliance policies, and ruled out a merger.

The two law firms have created a company, Posse Herrera Ruiz + Cuatrecasas, headquartered in Bogotá, through which they will coordinate services for mutual clients. With this new company, the firms aim to provide seamless legal services, focusing on corporate/M&A, banking and finance, international arbitration, tax, infrastructures, and energy and natural resources.

The alliance stems from years of experience working together, and will benefit from the collaboration between each firm's international alliance networks. Posse Herrera Ruiz has three offices in Colombia and is home to over 120 lawyers. The firm is also the Colombian member of

Meritas, a global alliance of independent law firms. In Latin America, Cuatrecasas has a presence in Sao Paulo since 2000 and opened an office in Mexico City earlier this year. The Spanish firm is also part of an European network of law firms with Chiomenti (Italy), Gide Loyrette Nouel (France) y Gleiss Lutz (Germany).

As part of the alliance with Posse Herrera Ruiz, Cuatrecasas appointed a Corporate/M&A partner and a senior associate of the financial law area who will operate from Colombia in permanent basis. Partner Alfonso Reina and senior associate Carlos Lasarte will move to Bogotá and work alongside their Posse Herrera Ruiz colleagues to build integrated, multidisciplinary and multicultural teams. The alliance also seeks to foster the exchange of lawyers and to develop joint training, knowledge management and technological innovation initiatives. For Posse Herrera Ruiz, the agreement is poised to boost its growth as an independent firm and reinforce its international presence.