



Global firm expands operations in Latin America

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By Jerome Doraisamy

BAZ|DLA Piper last week announced its intention to merge with Noguera, Larrain & Dulanto, effective 1 April 2018.

Once the merger is completed, DLA Piper in Chile will be operating under the name DLA Piper BAZ NLD, and be made up of over 60 lawyers.

DLA's global co-chair and Americas co-chair Roger Meltzer said: "When we announced our relationship with BAZ in 2016, it was with the intent to expand our capabilities to one of Latin America's largest economies through a firm with an elite reputation and history of institutional success."

"This merger accelerates that mission, which is part of our larger pan-hemispheric strategy, and allows us to even better accomplish our goals and serve our clients."

According to a firm statement, the new, combined firm will allow DLA in Latin America to better respond to growing demand from local and international clients for in-depth advice in areas such as project finance, corporate governance, venture capital, M&A, antitrust and capital markets.

In addition, the newly merged firm will collate strengths in the energy and mining sectors as well as working with clients across a myriad areas of infrastructure and projects.

"With this association, we will be able to provide greater depth and breadth of service to our clients doing business in Chile and abroad, and take advantage of the complementary experience across sectors and services that our firms provide," BAZ|DLA partner Matías Zegers said.

"The merger with BAZ|DLA Piper represents a great opportunity for NLD, as it will allow us to strengthen and complement our current practice areas with those of BAZ|DLA, and to offer to our current and potential clients first-level services in practically the whole world," added NLD partner Paulo Larrain.

The merger marks DLA's latest expansion in Latin America and the Caribbean region, following the firm's entry into Colombia in 2015, Chile and Puerto Rico in 2016 and Peru in 2017, in addition to the existing offices in Mexico and Brazil.