

## Pellerano Nadal and Headrick Rizik advise on DR cigar factory deal

Benjamin Wein      05 June 2020

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Pellerano Nadal Law & Consulting in Santo Domingo has helped investment consortium Allied Cigar Corporation buy British tobacco company Imperial Brands' assets in the Dominican Republic as part of a global transaction worth US\$1.1 billion.

Imperial Brands hired local firm Headrick Rizik Alvarez & Fernández in Santo Domingo. The deal was announced on 27 April and is expected to close in early 2021, subject to regulatory approval.

It is thought that Dentons in London helped the Allied Cigar Corporation, but this could not be confirmed prior to publication.

The Dominican assets in the deal include the largest handmade cigar factory in the world – the Tabacalera de García. The assets are transferred to Allied Cigar through its purchase of Imperial Brands' business Premium Cigars Rest of World, which does not include Premium Cigars' US possessions.

Cuba, Honduras and Mexico account for the other Latin American jurisdictions involved in the Premium Cigars Rest of World deal. The sale includes Imperial Brands' Romeo y Julieta brand in the Dominican Republic and the Cuban cigar ranges Cohiba and Montecristo.

Imperial Brands is a British tobacco company headquartered in Bristol. Its subsidiaries include European distribution company Logista, US tobacco company ITG, and vaping company Fontem Ventures in the Netherlands.

Allied Cigar Corporation is made up of several investors, although its structure is not clear, according to *Bloomberg*. According to the media company, one group of

the investors is fronted by a Hong Kong businessman involved in credit lending to casino high rollers on nearby gambling destination Macau.

### **Counsel to Allied Cigar Corporation**

Pellerano Nadal Law & Consulting

Partners Luis Pellerano and Gustavo Mena, counsel Urania Paulino, and associates Daniella Pellerano and Belkys Rodriguez in Santo Domingo

### **Counsel to Imperial Brands**

Headrick Rizik Alvarez & Fernández

Partners Jaime Fernández, Sarah de León and Eileen Jimenez, and associates Pablo Garrido and Miguel Linera in Santo Domingo

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Practice area: Corporate and M&A

Country: Dominican Republic

Industry: Agribusiness and Tobacco