

EXPANDING CANNABIS OPERATIONS IN LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN



MERITAS®

LAW FIRMS WORLDWIDE

EXPANDING CANNABIS OPERATIONS IN LATIN AMERICAN & THE CARIBBEAN

Jurisdictions, Contacts, and Information

(Current as of June 1, 2019)

As many people are aware, Canada recently became the first G7 country to legalize and regulate the medical and adult-use of cannabis. This change in legislation has led to Canada holding a unique position in the emerging global cannabis market. Canada is home to some of the largest cannabis companies in the world.

This Practice Group was created because of rapid development that is occurring in the cannabis global industry. Notably, much of this growth is occurring in Latin America.

A strong relationship now exists between Canadian cannabis companies and the Latin America cannabis market.

Due to this new relationship, our Ottawa affiliate, Brazeau Seller Law, has been working closely with our Colombian affiliate, Posse Herrera Ruiz. As the cannabis industry will only continue to grow in Canada, Latin America, and beyond, Meritas has taken the proactive step of creating this Practice Group with a view to offering clients top-notch legal services for cannabis ventures in every major Latin American market.

The Practice Group is led by Mario Torres from Brazeau Seller Law in Ottawa, Canada and Monica Bonnett from Posse Herrera Ruiz in Bogota, Colombia.

Mario is a member of Brazeau Seller's CannaLaw group and has experience assisting clients as they expand their cannabis operations into Latin America.

Mario's skill set makes him extremely well positioned to assist clients with interests in Latin America. He is able to communicate fluently, both orally and in writing, in English and Spanish. Mario was born in Costa Rica, has lived in Guatemala, and obtained his M.A. in Latin American Studies from Columbia University.

Mario has experience working on legal matters in several Latin American countries and can be reached at mtorres@brazeauseller.com or 613-820-8301.

Monica is an Associate at Posse Herrera Ruiz. Her practice focuses on Intellectual Property.

Her experience includes filing, prosecution and enforcing patents, industrial designs and utility models rights. Due to her experience, handling big patent portfolios from U.S., Asia and Europe, Monica is the person in charge of developing business relationships with international clients.

She has advised American, European and Asian clients in various fields of technology: bio, life-science, telecommunications, software, consumer products and pharmaceutical industries. Likewise, she has participated in technology-transfer negotiation processes between Colombian and multinational companies, achieving win-win agreements.

ABOUT MERITAS

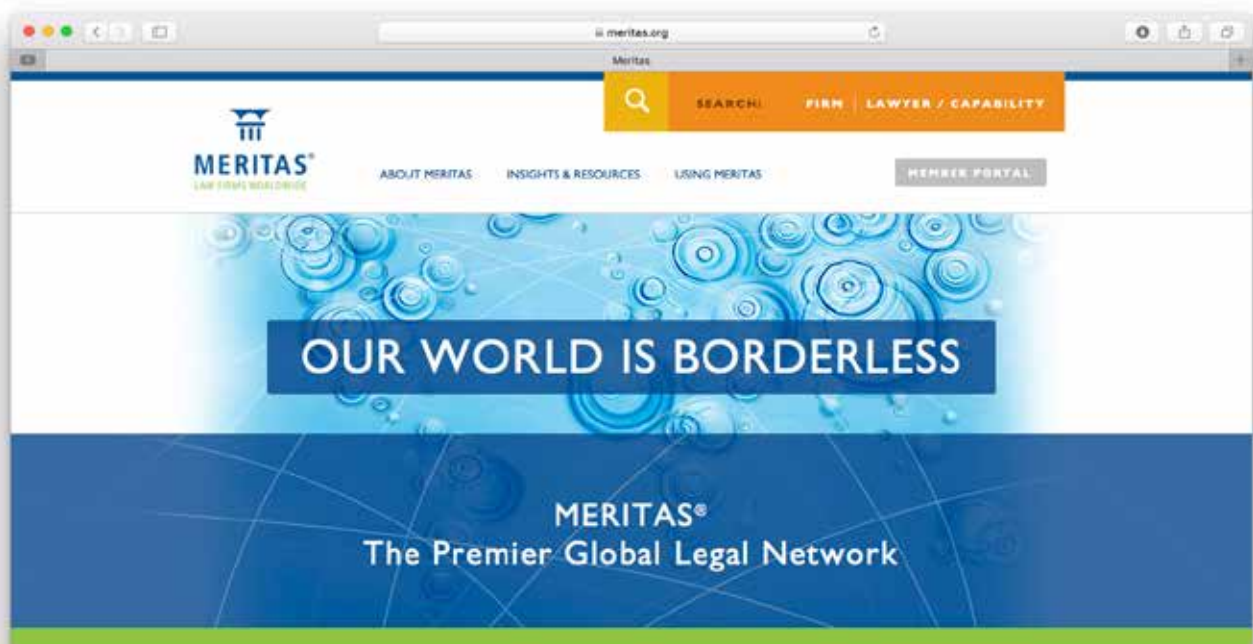
Founded in 1990, Meritas is the **premiere global alliance of independent law firms** working collaboratively to provide businesses with qualified legal expertise. Our market-leading member firms offer a **full range of high-quality, specialised legal services**, allowing you to confidently conduct business anywhere in the world.

As an invitation-only alliance, **Meritas firms must adhere to our uncompromising service standards** to retain membership status. Unlike any other network or law firm, Meritas collects peer-driven reviews for each referral, and has for more than 25 years.



Using this exclusive ongoing review process, Meritas ensures quality, consistency and client satisfaction.

With 182 top-ranking law firms spanning 89 countries, Meritas delivers exceptional legal knowledge, personal attention and proven value to clients worldwide.



For more information visit:





PARAGUAY

FIRM: Peroni Sosa Tellechea Burt & Narvaja Abogados

CONTACT: Francisco Peroni
Francisco.peroni@pstbn.com.py
+595-21-3199377

Medical Use	Yes regulations are in place. In 2017 laws relating to the medical use of cannabis were enacted and in 2018 a further decree was issued.
Recreational Use / Adult Use	Recreational use is not allowed.
Current Regime / Legislation (or Proposed Legislation)	Paraguayan Law Nr. 6.007/2017 and Presidential Decree Nr. 9.303/2018, create and rule the National Program for the Research and the Medical and Scientific Investigation for the Using of Cannabis Plant and its derivates (came into force on August 6th., 2018).
Import / Export Opportunities	Law Nr. 6.007/2017 complemented by Decree Nr 9.303/2018 allows the import and export, under regulation, of seeds, plants and medical products to use for the investigation and scientific researches and for use in the industrial processes of medical cannabis products. The whole procedure has to be managed and led by the same entity, from the plantation to the exportation.
Market Size	Population: 6.9 million.
Current Context	Law Nr. 6.007/2017 and Decree 9.303/2018 was recently set in force, Paraguayan market and its medical laboratories and industries are not yet fully developed. Some pharmaceutical firms are importing and selling cannabis oil and extracts.
Cultural Considerations	Government stands by the development of cannabis industrialization only for medical use. A total legalization isn't a possibility yet.
Investment Considerations	All investments and projects will be regulated the control of the National Directorate of Sanitary Surveillance, dependent on the Public Ministry and Social Welfare. These entities will also look to support the correct development and industrialization. Local pharmaceutical industries such as LASCA have already started to work with the plant, producing cannabis oil for patients.

Prepared by Meritas Law Firms

Meritas is an established alliance of 180 full-service law firms serving over 234 markets – all rigorously qualified, independent and collaborative.

Connect with a Meritas law firm and benefit from local insight, local rates and world-class service.

www.meritas.org enables direct access to Meritas law firm through a searchable database of lawyer skills and experience.

Latin America/Caribbean

Regional Director:

Jamilee George-Rodriguez

jgeorge@meritas.org



MERITAS®

LAW FIRMS WORLDWIDE

www.meritas.org

800 Hennepin Avenue, Suite 600
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55403 USA
+1.612.339.8680