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Fernando Peláez-Pier is a graduate of the Iberoamericana University, Mexico City; of Paris University (diplôme d'études supérieures); and of the Universidad de Los Andes, Merida, Venezuela.

He joined Hoet Peláez Castillo & Duque in 1977, where he currently leads as one of its corporate partners. Mr Peláez-Pier is a prominent member of the global legal fraternity, and as an expert on inward investment, has helped several of the largest multinational corporations developing their businesses in Venezuela. He practises in the areas of contract negotiations, mergers and acquisitions, foreign investments, project finance and alternative dispute resolution. Prior to joining Hoet Peláez Castillo & Duque, he was responsible for setting up the London office of Bomchil, Castro, Goodrich, Claro, Arosemena & Associates, and was director of their Paris and London offices from 1972 to 1976. He was an associate at Goodrich, Riquelme & Associates, Mexico City from 1967 to 1972.

Mr Peláez-Pier was chairman of the Federation of Binational Chambers of Commerce of the European Community (FEDEUROPA) between 1981 and 1982; of Lex Mundi, between 1992 and 1993; and president of the International Bar Association (2009-2010). Before his election as president, he was appointed vice president (2007-2008), secretary general (from 2005 to 2006), and chair of the IBA section on business law (from 2002 to 2004), vice chair (2000-2002), and secretary treasurer (from 1998 to 2000). He is a member of the Institute for International and Comparative Law, of the International Bar Association, and of the Inter-American Bar Association.

Mr Peláez-Pier speaks Spanish, English and French.

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