

**VELLOZA, GIROTO E LINDENBOJM***Advogados Associados*

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"Velloza, Giroto e Lindenbojm - Brazilian Law Firm has entered into an agreement with the Government of Dubai becoming its official representative in Brazil"

The Foreign Investment Office, FDI Dubai, an agency of the Department of Economic Development of Dubai, has entered into an agreement with Velloza, Giroto e Lindenbojm, a law firm with 17 years' experience and specialized in Corporate, M&A, Tax and Banking & Securities, whereby it became FIO's representative in Brazil. The objective of FDI Dubai is to narrow the bilateral relationship and expand investment and business opportunities between investors from Brazil and Dubai.

"The commercial and investment relationships between Brazil and the Middle East countries have grown in recent years and Dubai is the gateway to the region. Moreover, today Brazil offers a large potential for trade and investments in several sectors of the economy", explains Cesar Amendolara, partner responsible for Corporate Law and M&A transactions at Velloza, Giroto e Lindenbojm, who went to the United Arab Emirates in April this year, representing Brazil in events related to bilateral investments among Middle East and South American countries.

The firm's mission is to advise Brazilian investors interested in trade and investments in Dubai, and also advise Groups from Dubai who see Brazil as a target for investments in the short, medium or long term. "We have large experience in advising foreign companies to invest in Brazil and we know that the one of the main difficulties is to understand the tax and regulatory framework in Brazil. The main challenge is to enable the investment between both countries both ends", commented Mr. Amendolara.

From 2003 to 2009, Brazilian exports to the countries of the Middle East grew 17.9%, according to data from the Foreign Trade Secretariat of the Ministry of Development, Industry and Commerce (Secex). The flow of trade between Brazil and the United Arab Emirates was US\$ 1.8 billion in 2009, of which Brazilian exports were US\$ 1.7 Billion. The trade flow connection between the regions has been encouraged and facilitated since 2007 when Emirates Airlines started its daily nonstop flight São Paulo-Dubai-São Paulo, establishing the first air trade route.

Fahad Al Gergawi, CEO of Dubai's Foreign Investment Office, states that having a law firm such as Velloza, Giroto and Lindenbojm as its representative in Brazil is a promising step towards developing trade/investments ties with this country. "Brazil and South America are, in fact, very important markets to Dubai. The agreement with Velloza, Giroto and Lindenbojm further strengthens the commitment of the Government of Dubai to encourage investment and trade opportunities", he concluded.

Velloza, Giroto e Lindenbojm signed the representation agreement in August and the work to put into practice the goals of such agreement has already started. "We will have many years of hard work, but we are convinced that the results will be successful", concluded Mr. Amendolara.

About Velloza, Giroto e Lindenbojm Advogados: Over 17 years of history, **Velloza, Giroto e Lindenbojm Advogados Associados** has become a benchmark in its practice areas. The firm is headquartered in São Paulo, with branch offices in Brasília and Rio de Janeiro. With a multidisciplinary approach, it provides expert legal advice in Corporate Law; Tax Law; Overseas Brazilian Investments; Foreign Investments in Brazil; Banking and Capital Markets; Intellectual Property Law; Consumer Relations Law; Insurance; Mergers and Acquisitions

(M&A); and Investment Funds;

About Dr. Cesar Amendolara: LL.B. from the Law School of the University of São Paulo (Faculdade de Direito da Universidade de São Paulo -USP), Master degree in Commercial Law from USP; professor of Commercial Law at Uni-FMU (SP); monitor of Commercial Law for LL.B. students at USP; member of the São Paulo Lawyers' Institute (Instituto dos Advogados de São Paulo-IASP); partner of Velloza, Giroto e Lindenbojm Advogados Associados, responsible for M&A, Corporate and Banking Law areas.

About FDI Dubai: FDI Dubai, The Foreign Investment Office, is an agency of the Department of Economic Development of Government of Dubai, of which function is to promote investment opportunities in Dubai and to assist international investors to set up businesses in the country. The FDI Dubai also helps foreign investors identify specific opportunities in the local market, offering connections to a network of governmental and non-governmental partners, as well as support from the settlement to the development of the investment.

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