

## **Casino continues the process of becoming sole controlling shareholder of GPA in Brazil**

### **Casino indicates Messrs. Eleazar de Carvalho Filho, Luiz Augusto de Castro Neves and Roberto Oliveira de Lima to GPA's Board of Directors**

Continuing the previously-agreed process for the rearrangement of corporate control of Companhia Brasileira de Distribuição ("GPA")<sup>1</sup>, Casino, Guichard-Perrachon ("Casino") sent a notice today to Mr. Abilio Diniz informing him of the name of the three (3) individuals that shall be elected to the Board of directors of GPA at GPA's Shareholders Meeting, expected to occur on June 22, 2012.

Mr. Eleazar de Carvalho Filho is a highly skilled executive and is the founding partner of Virtus BR Partners. In the past, he held CEO positions at Unibanco Investment Bank, at the Brazilian National Economic and Social Development Bank – BNDES and at UBS Bank – Brazil. He was a non-executive Chairman of BHP Billiton in Brazil. Mr. Carvalho Filho is currently a Board member of FMC Technologies Inc. and Brookfield Renewable Energy Partners.

Mr. Luiz Augusto de Castro Neves is a highly skilled diplomat with a long standing career in the Brazilian Foreign Relations Ministry. Mr. Castro Neves served as the Brazilian Ambassador to China from 2004 to 2008, a strategic position for the Brazilian government. He later became the Brazilian Ambassador to Japan from 2008 to 2010. He also served as Chairman of the Board of Itaipu Binacional. He is currently the Chairman of CEBRI – Brazilian Center for International Relations.

Mr. Roberto Oliveira de Lima is a highly skilled executive and has held key positions at important companies in Brazil. He previously held the CEO positions at Vivo, the Brazilian leader in mobile communication, and Chairman and CEO of Credicard. He also held executive positions at the Accor Group among others. Mr. Lima is currently a Board member of Natura, Telefonica Brasil, Rodobens and Edenred.

Upon the election of Messrs. Eleazar de Carvalho Filho, Luiz Augusto de Castro Neves and Roberto Oliveira de Lima, the majority of the members of the Board of Directors of GPA will have been appointed by Casino.

<sup>1</sup> As provided in the shareholders' agreement of Wilkes Participações S.A. ("Wilkes", which directly controls GPA).

Casino's decision to appoint highly respected and experienced Brazilian individuals to the Board of Directors of GPA is in line with its vision that Brazilian people must continue to play a key role regarding the management and the governance of GPA. In appointing these members, Casino brings new and complementary profiles to GPA's Board, which will be of great importance in the way the Board will support GPA's management going forward.

Casino reaffirms its full support and confidence in GPA's outstanding management and its long term commitment to Brazil.

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