# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

CRYSTALLEX INTERNATIONAL CORP.,	)	
Plaintiff,	)	
v.	) N	Misc. No. 17-151-LPS
BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA,	)	
Defendant.	)	

# SPECIAL MASTER'S MOTION REQUESTING (I) EXTENSION OF DEADLINE TO FILE THE NOTICE OF FINAL RECOMMENDATION AND (II) ADJOURNMENT OF SALE HEARING

Robert B. Pincus, in his capacity as Special Master (the "Special Master") for the United States District Court for the District of Delaware (the "Court"), respectfully requests an (i) extension of the deadline to file the Notice of Final Recommendation (the "Final Recommendation Deadline") to a date that is on or about September 26, 2024 and (ii) a corresponding adjournment of the Sale Hearing date and extension of all objection and response deadlines in the Court's August 27, 2024 *Oral Order* [D.I. 1242] (the "Sale Hearing Order"), respectively.<sup>1</sup>

#### **BACKGROUND**

In support thereof, the Special Master respectfully states as follows:

1. On October 11, 2022, the Court entered the Sixth Revised Proposed Order (A)

All capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to such terms in the Sixth Revised Proposed Order (A) Establishing Sale and Bidding Procedures, (B) Approving Special Master's Report and Recommendation Regarding Proposed Sale Procedures Order, (C) Affirming Retention of Evercore as Investment Banker by Special Master and (D) Regarding Related Matters [D.I. 481] (the "Sale Procedures Order").

Establishing Sale and Bidding Procedures, (B) Approving Special Master's Report and Recommendation Regarding Proposed Sale Procedures Order, (C) Affirming Retention of Evercore as Investment Banker by Special Master and (D) Regarding Related Matters (the "Sale Procedures Order") [D.I. 481].

- 2. The Court established July 15, 2024 as the tentative date for the Sale Hearing in its *Memorandum Order* dated July 17, 2023. See Mem. Order at 11 [D.I. 643].
- 3. Following two prior extension requests,<sup>2</sup> on August 23, 2024, the Special Master, with the support of the Sale Process Parties, filed the *Special Master's Motion Requesting (I)* Extension of the Deadline to File the Notice of Final Recommendation and (II) Adjournment of the Sale Hearing [D.I. 1241] (the "Adjournment Motion") requesting the Court adjourn the Sale Hearing to a date on or about November 7, 2024.
- 4. There being no objections to the Adjournment Motion, on August 27, 2024, the Court entered the Sale Hearing Order, (i) granting the Special Master's Adjournment Motion, (ii) scheduling the Sale Hearing for November 19, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. (prevailing Eastern Time); (iii) directing the Special Master to file his Notice of Final Recommendation (the "Final Recommendation") on or around September 16, 2024; (iv) directing any objections to the Final Recommendation be filed no later than 21 days from the filing of the Final Recommendation; (v) directing the Special Master and any Sale Process Party or Additional Judgment Creditor to file a response in support of the Final Recommendation no later than 14 days after the filing of the objection; and (vi) directing any party objecting to the Final Recommendation to file any reply in

See Special Master's Motion Requesting Adjournment of the July 15, 2024 Tentative Sale Hearing [D.I. 1201]; Oral Order, dated July 3, 2023 [D.I. 1213]; Special Master's Motion Requesting (I) Extension of Deadline to File Notice of Final Recommendation and (II) Adjournment of Sale Hearing [D.I. 1232]; Oral Order, dated August 1, 2024 [D.I. 1233].

support of their objection no later than three (3) business days after the filing of any response to which it is replying. *See* Sale Hearing Order.

- 5. Since filing of the Adjournment Motion, the Special Master and his Advisors have continued to engage in robust negotiations with a bidder.
- 6. On September 9, 2024 the Special Master filed the *Special Master's Motion to Enjoin the Alter Ego Claimants from Enforcing Claims Against the Republic or PDVSA by Collecting from PDVH or Its Subsidiaries in Other Forums* [D.I. 1248] (the "Alter Ego Motion"), as well as a motion to expedite briefing on and consideration of the Alter Ego Motion and accompanying materials [D.I. 1251, 1254–58] (the "Motion to Expedite").
- 7. On September 12, 2024, the Court entered a *Memorandum Order* [D.I. 1259], granting the Special Master's Motion to Expedite. Therein the Court set forth an expedited briefing schedule and a hearing date of October 1, 2024 on the Alter Ego Motion.

#### **RELIEF REQUESTED**

- 8. Pursuant to the Sale Procedures Order, the Court is authorized to "adjourn[] or reschedule[]...[the Sale Hearing] upon notice by the Special Master." Sale Procedures Order, ¶ 2.
- 9. The Special Master is continuing to negotiate sale documentation with a bidder and in consultation with the Sale Process Parties. The documentation is impacted by, among other things, the pending alter ago claims that are subject to the Alter Ego Motion.
- 10. Accordingly, after consideration and consultation with his Advisors, as well as notice to and consultation with the Sale Process Parties, the Special Master believes, in his reasonable discretion, that extending the Final Recommendation Deadline and the Sale Hearing-related deadlines is necessary to finalize the selection of the Successful Bidder.

# **PROPOSED TIMELINE**

11. To ensure the Special Master has adequate time to finalize the selection of the Successful Bidder and that all parties-in-interest have sufficient notice and opportunity to comment on the Final Recommendation, the Special Master proposes the following timeline, subject to Court approval, which provides for the same duration for objection and reply periods as previously approved by the Court. In the event the Special Master believes further adjournment beyond the tentative schedule set forth below is necessary, he will promptly notify the Court and parties-in-interest.

Event	Date	
Notice of Final Recommendation and	On or about September 26, 2024	
Notice of Successful Bid		
Deadline to Object to the Notice of Final	Any objections to the Notice of Final	
Recommendation	Recommendation shall be filed no later	
	than 21 days from the filing of the Notice	
	of Final Recommendation (on or about	
	October 17, 2024)	
Deadline to Respond to Objections	The Special Master and any Sale Process	
	Party or Additional Judgment Creditor	
	supporting the Final Recommendation	
	may file a response to any objections by no	
	later than 14 days after the filing of the	
	objection (on or about October 31, 2024)	
Deadline for any Objector to File a Reply	Any objector may then file a reply in	
in Support of Objections	support of objections no later than three (3)	
	business days after the response to which	
	it is replying (on or about	
	November 5, 2024)	
Sale Hearing	December 3, 2024	

- 12. In light of the foregoing, the Special Master respectfully requests that the Court enter an order (i) extending the Final Recommendation Deadline to a date that is on or about September 26, 2024 and (ii) adjourning the Sale Hearing date and extending all objection and response deadlines in the Sale Hearing Order, respectively.
  - 13. The Special Master conferred with the Sale Process Parties regarding this Motion,

and the Sale Process Parties do not oppose the relief requested herein. The Special Master respectfully requests expedited consideration of the Motion and the relief requested herein.

# **CONCLUSION**

For the reasons articulated above, the Special Master requests that the Court enter an order (i) extending the Final Recommendation Deadline to a date that is on or about September 26, 2024, and (ii) adjourning the Sale Hearing date and extending all objection and response deadlines in the Sale Hearing Order, respectively.

## OF COUNSEL:

Ray C. Schrock (Admitted pro hac vice)
David Lender (Admitted pro hac vice)
Alexander W. Welch (Admitted pro hac vice)
Chase A. Bentley (Admitted pro hac vice)
WEIL, GOTSHAL & MANGES LLP
767 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York 10153
Telephone: (212) 310-8000
Facsimile: (212) 310-8007
Ray.Schrock@weil.com
David.Lender@weil.com
Alexander.Welch@weil.com
Chase.Bentley@weil.com

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Respectfully submitted,
POTTER ANDERSON & CORROON LLP

## /s/ Myron T. Steele

Myron T. Steele (#00002)
Matthew F. Davis (#4696)
Bindu A. Palapura (#5370)
Hercules Plaza, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor
1313 North Market Street
P.O. Box 951
Wilmington, DE 19801
Telephone: (302) 984-6000
Facsimile: (302) 658-1192
msteele@potteranderson.com
mdavis@potteranderson.com
bpalapura@potteranderson.com

Counsel for Special Master Robert B. Pincus