

AmCham Legal and VBF Liaison Committee Meeting, Ho Chi Minh City Chapter

Agenda, Tuesday, 8 October 2013

I. Legal Committee Administrative

- A. Meetings are usually held on the second Tuesday of every month, 5:00-6:00pm
 - 1. **Next meeting:** 12 November 2013 at **Baker & McKenzie**, 12/F, 29 Le Duan.
- B. AmCham Community Day (19 October)

II. Update on US/Vietnam Trade Talks and ASEAN and other international developments

- A. Trans Pacific Partnership update
 - 1. Some delay to Q1 or Q2 2014 expected
 - 2. See AmCham website for presentations from Sep 27 TPP Seminar in Da Nang with Leading Business Club and US Embassy:
<http://www.amchamvietnam.com/events/tpo-opportunities-challenges--how-can-vietnam-companies-become-suppliers-to-u-s-buyers/>
 - 3. Increased support among Vietnamese businesses for TPP
- B. New York Bar Association International Section Conference, Hanoi (25 - 27 October)
 - 1. Attendees to provide update at November Legal Committee meeting.
- C. Discussion of Vietnam's plan to join UN Convention on Contracts for International Sale of Goods (CISG).

III. Legal Committee Topics to Monitor

A. **WTO Trade Policy Review (September 2013)**

- 1. Available online: http://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/tpr_e/tp387_e.htm
- 2. Comments emphasize improving operations of trade policies

B. **Decree 102 will become effective 1 November 2013**

- 1. Discussed requirements related to the annual report that must be provided to the People's Committee
- 2. Discussed requirements related to duration of an employment contract with a foreign employee and the limits on renewal of work permits

C. **Outsourcing**

- 1. Concerns related to the limited types of jobs that may be outsourced.
- 2. Discussion of whether one year time limit for each outsourced worker is too short.

D. **Draft Laws on Housing and Real Estate Business**

- 1. Comments submitted through VBF

E. **Draft Decree on Foreign Exchange**

1. Discussion of draft decree and impact on hospitality and tourism industry, export processing enterprises, etc.

F. VAT Position Paper

1. Revised position paper to be circulated for comment.

G. Amendment to Enterprise Law

1. MPI to host series of seminars on proposed amendments to Enterprise Law
2. Discussion of proposed amendments
3. Note to be circulated to Legal Committee regarding next MPI seminar

IV. Report on VBF and Project 30

A. VBF Governance Committee

1. Update on survey
2. Roundtable discussion scheduled 30 October in Hanoi for presentation of position paper