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Myanmar Legal, Tax & Business Insights

28 May 2015, 9.00am - 5.30pm, Sheraton Towers, Singapore

"Myanmar is considered amongst the top investment destinations in ASEAN for 2015, with a growth forecast at 8.5 percent and with a quarter of its population living in large cities by 2030."

UOB Asian Enterprise Survey 2014 conducted by the United Overseas Bank (UOB)

'Singapore Investments Soar in Myanmar'
The Straits Times, 6 April 2015

Singapore tops the list of 27 foreign countries with investments in Myanmar for the 2014-15 fiscal year, according to Directorate of Investment and Companies Administration"
Myanmar Business Network, 2 April 2015

Myanmar continues to lure foreign investors with its reform policies, booming market forecast and abundant untapped opportunities. However, as the country continues refining its foreign investment regime from time to time, it is imperative for investors to keep abreast of its latest laws, tax regime, employment policies and business practices. Apart from knowing how to enter this new market, it is also essential for investors to educate themselves about the common disputes that foreign investors face and how best to resolve them.

Attend Myanmar Legal, Tax & Business Insights' conference to be updated and informed on the latest developments on Myanmar's foreign investment laws, tax regime, employment legislation and other essential matters. You will also learn about the dispute resolution mechanisms, alternate dispute resolution in Myanmar and how to mitigate common problems faced by foreign investors. This conference is relevant for companies that are looking to venture into Myanmar as well as companies that have already ventured into Myanmar.

Don't Miss Expert Presentations and Case studies from:



Chester Toh
Director

Rajah & Tann NK Legal
Myanmar Company



James Finch
Partner

DFDL Myanmar



Goh Wanjing

Partner- Infrastructure
Group & Country
Representative- Myanmar



Jean Loi
Managing Partner
VDB Loi

Who Should Attend:

- Government/ Regulators
- Lawyers
- Accountants & Auditors
- Business Development Directors
- Commercial Managers
- CEOs, COOs, CFOs, CIOs
- Consultants

from:

Banking & Finance, Real Estate & Property, Infrastructure, Construction, Oil & Gas, Transport & Logistics, Energy, Telecommunication, Industrial Estate, Hospitality & Tourism, Manufacturing, Consumerism and more.

Organised by:



Supporting Organisation:



10 Key Take-Aways That You Cannot Miss!

- Updates on the recent changes to the Myanmar Foreign Investment Law
- Key business structures and investment vehicles
- Myanmar's Tax regime, commercial taxation matters as well as double tax agreements matters
- Land ownership and usage laws & restrictions impacting foreign businesses
- Highlights of the Condominium Act, Transfer of Immovable Property Restriction Law, Common Property & Limitation Act
- Mergers & acquisitions and joint venture market forecast and strategies
- Employment & labour laws
- Dispute resolution mechanisms, legal framework, jurisdiction, procedures and case studies
- Alternate dispute resolution framework
- Arbitration framework & strategies

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Programme Agenda:

9.00 Updates and Developments on Key Investment Policies and Regulations in Myanmar

- Overview on economic prospects and foreign investment opportunities in Myanmar
- Recent revision to the Myanmar Foreign Investment Law
- Key Structure of the Myanmar FIL
- Concept of foreign investors
- Update on prohibited/ restricted sectors for foreign investment
- Investment guarantee and protection

Goh Wanjing, Partner- Infrastructure Group & Country Representative- Myanmar

10.00 Networking Coffee & Tea Break

10.30 Mergers & Aquisitions, Partnerships and Joint Ventures with Local Companies in Myanmar

- Update on M&A and JV activities and forecast in Myanmar
- Key legal considerations for M&As and/ or JVs with local partners in Myanmar
- Due diligence in Myanmar - important issues and challenges
- Identifying a suitable local JV partner
- Top tips for getting the deal through

Chester Toh, Head of Integrated Regulatory Practice, Rajah & Tann & Director, Rajah & Tann NK Legal Myanmar Company Limited

11.30 Tax Regime and Key Considerations for Business Investment and Set up in Myanmar

- Insight to the Union taxation law and commercial taxation matters
- Types of tax, returns & assessment, tax audit process and statute limitations
- Stamp duties for contracts and select transactions
- Withholding tax regime for foreigners
- Double taxation agreements

Jean Loi, Managing Partner, VDB Loi

12.30 Networking Lunch

2.00 Land Ownership and Usage Laws & Restrictions Impacting Foreign Businesses

- Update on the 'Transfer of Immovable Property Restriction Law' and its impact on foreign investors
- Overview of Myanmar's new Condominium Law -enacted in Oct 2014
- Key legislation under the 'Common Property & Limitation Act'

3.00 Employment Law and HR Matters in Myanmar

- Revision to foreign skilled labour laws
- Key employment contract matters
- Employee dispute resolution mechanism

4.00 Networking Coffee & Tea Break

4.30 Addressing Dispute Resolution Challenges in Myanmar including Alternate Dispute Resolution Strategies

- Court action—general observations, law and precedent, licensing lawyers, hierarchy of courts
- Beginning a court action, hearings, relief, enforcing foreign judgments
- Arbitration—legal framework, jurisdiction and procedure
- Arbitral awards, enforcement
- Administrative actions—background, particular laws, case study

James Finch, Partner, DFDL Myanmar

5.30 End of Conference

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Speaker Profiles:

Jean Loi **Managing Partner** **VDB Loi**

Jean Loi is widely recognized as one of the region's most experienced tax specialists. She was formerly a tax partner with PricewaterhouseCoopers in Southeast Asia, RSM Chio Lim in Singapore and with DFDL. Jean is a highly successful tax advisor with a CPA background. She has advised on a large number of project transactions in Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Vietnam and Thailand, such as hydro and coal power plant projects, oil exploration blocks, and the market entries of international banks and multinationals. She has particular expertise in projects related to the infrastructure, energy, telecommunications and financial services industries in the region, as well as having extensive experience with supply chains. Jean has assisted investment funds and other clients with their international tax structures, addressing their tax risks and formulating their transfer pricing strategies in Southeast Asia. She oversaw the growth of PricewaterhouseCoopers in Cambodia and has been recognized for her outstanding practice in Cambodia, Myanmar and Vietnam with a number of awards. She speaks Mandarin, Bahasa Malay, Cantonese and English.

Chester Toh, **Head of Constructions & Projects and** **Partner, Rajah & Tann**

Chester Toh joined us as a Partner in our Integrated Regulatory Practice after leaving Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer in 2010. He brings with him years of cross-border and regional experience having previously worked in London, Singapore, Hong Kong and Beijing. In his earlier days of practice in Singapore, Chester was actively involved in the consultation process for the enactment of Singapore's Competition Act and advised a number of multinational companies on competition law compliance and enforcement. During his time in Hong Kong and Beijing, he was similarly active in counselling clients on the introduction of a proposed competition law in Hong Kong and the implementation of China's Anti-Monopoly Law. With both specific and broad-based regulatory experience, Chester is well-positioned to undertake, organise and assign resources for regulatory work within the Integrated Regulatory Practice, ensuring that our clients receive maximum benefit from the Firm's combined experience, seamless informational flow and industry know-how. He is appointed Head of our Integrated Regulatory Practice in January 2014. With the recent economic reforms in Myanmar, Chester is also very much involved in the Firm's foray into this new emerging market and co-heads our Myanmar Practice. He has been regularly advising a number of multinational companies and Singapore companies in their investments into Myanmar.

Goh Wanjing, **Partner- Infrastructure Group &** **Country Representative- Myanmar** **Wong Partnership**

GOH Wanjing is a Partner in the Infrastructure, Construction & Engineering Practice and the Firm's Country Representative for Myanmar. She actively engages with both inbound clients from Singapore who are looking to set up and invest in Myanmar, as well as the Firm's Myanmar clients who are involved in numerous industries such as property development, construction, hospitality, as well as government projects such as power plant and oil and gas projects. In the Infrastructure, Construction & Engineering Practice, her main areas of practice encompass both front-end advisory work for various construction and infrastructure projects, as well as contentious work involving owner-developers, consultants and contractors at various stages of proceedings and forums. Wanjing has been involved in various significant matters which includes acting for Resorts World at Sentosa Pte. Ltd. (part of the Genting Group of Companies), on a long-term retainer for the preparation and review of various infrastructure and construction-related project documents including main contracts, sub-contracts and consultancy agreements, for the development and construction of Resorts World Sentosa ("RWS"), Singapore's first Integrated Resort ("IR") and one of the world's most extensive IRs, built at cost of S\$6.59 billion. RWS is home to numerous attractions, including, Southeast Asia's only Universal Studios theme park, the world's largest Marine Life Park, a luxurious casino and six uniquely themed hotels. She was also involved in drafting and advising on tender and contract documentation for the Singapore University of Technology and Design.

James Finch **Partner &** **Managing Partner- Naypyidaw** **DFDL Myanmar**

James was previously a partner with Russin & Vecchi in Hanoi and in 1996 became the first managing director of Russin & Vecchi's newly opened office in Yangon. He has continued to provide legal advice in Myanmar since 1996. In Myanmar he has advised on energy, hard minerals, corporate issues, tax, aircraft leasing, hotel development, banking and finance matters, among others. He currently heads the DFDL Naypyidaw office and provides advice on a host of issues for his clients in DFDL's offices in both Yangon and Naypyidaw. He speaks English and Spanish.

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