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# **Expansion into China**A webinar series hosted by Koehler Group



Koehler Group is pleased to announce its Expansion into China Webinar Series from March 20th to 31st 2017. Together with Koehler Group's China Alliance we will be formulating webinars on the pertinent issues that small-to-medium sized, privately owned companies as well multinational corporations must focus on when entering and/or operating in the Chinese market. If you are interested in joining in the Series, please find the topics, dates and times of the various webinars, including the registration links. We look forward to seeing you there!

NOTE: Only registrants of the webinars will receive the presentations and recordings (if agreed on by our speakers).

## Newly-revised China Foreign Investment Law – how does this impact companies incorporating in China?

Speaker: Mrs. Kristina Koehler-Coluccia, Director at Koehler Group

Website: www.koehlerservices.com

Date: March 20th 2017 @ 5pm China Standard Time

Establishing a legal presence in China is not as straightforward as incorporating an entity in the Western World. There are several aspects that require due consideration, including:

- The general business scope and activity of the entity, which needs to be clearly defined from the start of the incorporation
- The physical office requirement for the entity as its registered place of business
- The structure and budget for the investment that need to be carefully thought through
- The opening, operation, and maintenance of three sets of bank accounts in China for continuous operations

On October 1st 2016, China changed its system for government ocntrol over foreign investment. The change was accomplished by revising the statutes concerning wholly foreign owned enterprises (WFOEs), equity joint ventures and contractual joint ventures and by promulgating a new basic regulation govening registration of foreign invested entities (FIEs). The big change under China's new system is that government regulation of foreign invested entities will move from a system that requires MOFCOM approval to one that will now just require a simple registration with MOFCOM. Many in the profession see the change in China's FIE laws as a move to open up China to increase foreign investment.

In this webinar will discuss these topics in greater detail, as well as go over a pre-investment checklist as your guide to success.

Register now for this complimentary webinar. Space is limited.

To register for the webinar, click here

### A close-up of the "pilot" Free Trade Zones in China

Speaker: Mrs. Kristina Koehler-Coluccia, Director at Koehler Group

Website: www.koehlerservices.com

Date: March 21st 2017@ 5pm China Standard Time

In order to attract foreign investors to the Chinese market in times of slow economic growth, the People's Republic of China is continuing to set up Free Trade Zones (FTZs) throughout the country. In recent years, the government already opened 4 FTZ's and in August 2016 the establishment of 7 additional Free Trade Zones was confirmed. The advantage of many of these zones is to expedite the import and export of goods for entities in the FTZ, recently the Shanghai Customs released several important rules to ease the customs clearance process. Among others, the following three rules may attract the attention of enterprises: Firstly, the Declaration after Goods Entry Mode rule allows eligible enterprises to import goods in advance by showing the manifests and completing the customs declaration process within 14 days after the goods have been imported. Secondly, the Collective Declaration for Batches of Goods Transported regulation allows enterprises to declare several batches of goods on one form, and to make collective declaration for several batches of goods imported or exported. With such an arrangement, enterprises will enjoy greater declaration flexibility with lower clearance costs. Thirdly, the Centralized Tax Payment rule grants enterprises to pay tax in a one off lump sum within a prescribed period for the goods that have already been imported. In addition, customs supervision, methods are altered, e.g. from real-time check to a follow-up tax audit.

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### Permanent Establishment in China - how does it affect Foreign Investors?

Speaker: Gilbert Shen, Senior Associate, Head of Tax at CMS China

Website: www.cmslegal.cn

Date: March 22nd 2017 @ 5pm China Standard Time

The presentation will address the general rationale of the assessment of permanent establishment ("PE") based on normal bilateral double taxation treaties ("DTTs") and the PRC tax implications in case a PE is constituted in China. Digests will be made for the PE articles of DTTs based on the interpretations issued by the PRC State Administration of Taxation. The presentation will also cover the general considerations for avoiding a PE in China when a foreign enterprise undertakes business in China.

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To register for the webinar, click here

### China's Value-Added Tax Reform - The end!

Speaker: Mrs. Kristina Koehler-Coluccia, Director at Koehler Group

Website: www.koehlerservices.com

Date: March 23rd 2017 @ 5pm China Standard Time

On March 26th 2016 the State Administration of Taxation (SAT) and the Ministry of Finance (MoF) jointly issued Circular 36, the final step of the pilot program first issued in 2012. Circular 36 contains the Value Added Tax (VAT) rates and rules applicable to all industries that thus far have not been affected by the transitioning from Business Tax (BT) to VAT and which have now transitioned with effect since May 1st 2016. With the promulgation of the circular the VAT reform chapter has officially been completed – as the BT has been fully replaced by the VAT in all industries of Mainland China.

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### The evolving China Transfer Pricing Landscape

Speaker: Mr. Steven Carey, Managing Director, Quantera Global

Website: www.guanteraglobal.com

Date: March 24th 2017 @ 5pm China Standard Time

The Chinese tax authorities have been at the forefront of the global tax debate underway over the last few years. This was reflected in the release of Bulletin 42 in 2015, imposing significant further transfer pricing compliance obligations on companies doing business in China. This session presents an overview of Bulletin 42 and what you need to know, with a focus on cost effective documentation for companies of all sizes, as well the opportunity for optimising tax outcomes and cash flow management through transfer pricing planning.

Register now for this complimentary webinar. Space is limited.

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### **Brace for Impact - Challenges in importing and exporting in China**

Speaker: Mr. Harry Zhang, Vice President, Greater China Practice Leader, STR China

Website: www.strtrade.com

Date: March 27th 2017 @ 5pm China Standard Time

Given the variations in practices or interpretations at different ports of entry in China, customs rules can present complex challenges in any jurisdiction. It is likely that companies may meet challenges at the border and post importation audits and investigations in various sectors. With an eye to the future, China Customs will continue to be tasked with large revenue collection target, a commitment of time, resources and strategic planning for companies on customs management will be required. To provide a better understanding the customs rules and help you to mitigate operational risks, manage costs and gain favorable recognition in the highly competitive marketplace, this webinar will introduce some of the intricacies of import and export challenges, with a focus on licenses, tariff classification, customs valuation and duty-exemption management in China.

Register now for this complimentary webinar. Space is limited

To register for the webinar, click here

### What is legal employment in China and how can one dismiss employees in China?

Speaker: Dr. Mario Feuerstein MBA, German Attorney-at-Law/ Partner, Schulz Noack Bärwinkel

Website: www.snblaw.com

Date: March 28th 2017 @ 5pm China Standard Time

The People's Republic of China is known to have a very employee friendly labor law. This means, for example, that it is difficult for the employer to unilaterally terminate the employment once an employment relationship has been established. Since any unlawful termination may cause severe legal consequences for the employer, it is important for all companies who are employing or going to employ staff in China to have a good knowledge about the Chinese labor law and to have suitable employment contracts implemented in order to avoid unnecessary risks. This Webinar will provide you with fundamental knowledge regarding the requirements for a legal employment relationship, as well as the requirements for a legal termination of employment contracts.

Register now for this complimentary webinar. Space is limited

### China Corporate Compliance – Updates and Tips for Securing one's China Investment

Speaker: Mrs. Kristina Koehler-Coluccia, Director at Koehler Group

Website: www.koehlerservices.com

Date: March 29th 2017 @ 5pm China Standard Time

Compliance is a headache for any investor. However complying with Chinese laws and regulations can be a major difficulty for any company doing business in China – particularly with language and cultural barriers. The endless introductions of new laws, regulations, circulars, guidelines followed by the variety of interpretations of these documents by central and local governments as well as corporate service providers, lawyers, accountants, auditors can create a compliance nightmare for any executive. Failure to ensure corporate compliance can carry penalties and a poor standing with the various government bureaus. This webinar is directed at company secretaries, administrators, in-house counsels and finance officers responsible for the operation and compliance of China Wholly-owned Subsidiaries, Joint Ventures and Representative Offices, who are looking to receive updates on compliance regulations and tips on general entity and document management in China.

Register now for this complimentary webinar. Space is limited

To register for the webinar, click here

### Anti-bribery and anti-corruption regulation and enforcement in China

Speaker: Mrs. Mireia Paulo, Director of Overseas Investment Projects and Business Development at the European-American Desk, A&Z Law Firm.

Website: www.a-zlf.com.cn

Date: March 30th 2017 @ 5pm China Standard Time

This webinar is divided into four parts. The first part briefly reviews key legal concepts, and it also provides an overview of the global enforcement and compliance trends. In the second part, it is introduced the legal context in China and the anti-corruption campaigns. The seminar then explores the frequent bribery vehicles, and will describe the anti-bribery legal framework and enforcement trends. The fourth part will cover the compliance program, monitoring, due diligence, and responding to noncompliance. Finally, the seminar will draw some tentative conclusions.

Register now for this complimentary webinar. Space is limited

To register for the webinar, click here

### How to exit China successfully - a brief guide on what to know

Speaker: Mrs. Kristina Koehler-Coluccia, Director at Koehler Group

Website: www.koehlerservices.com

Date: March 31st 2017 @ 5pm China Standard Time

The world's second-largest economy expanded 6.7 percent year-on-year in the first quarter 2016, slightly slower than the previous quarter's 6.8 percent pace, according to official data. The results were bang in line with market expectations and suggested that the government's target range of 6.5 to 7 percent growth for 2016 was feasible as long as officials continued to use their vast policy toolbox to stimulate the economy. For 2015, Beijing logged 6.9 percent growth, its slowest pace in 25 years. According to the European Union Chamber of Commerce in China's latest survey of 541 European companies, China reached an economic slowdown. Nearly one-fifth of the companies surveyed said they are considering shifting some of their China investments to other markets. One of the reasons for this development is the difficulties set by the Chinese government towards foreign companies, such as the restriction for market access to foreign banks and brokerage houses or the blocking of internet firms, like Facebook and Twitter. Regardless of how attractive and profitable China might be for foreign investors, there will always be companies that do not succeed or may have to liquidate due to external factors.

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### **About Us**

Koehler Group is an international accounting and management consulting firm established in 1979. Koehler Group provides a wide range of market entry consulting, incorporation, tax, accounting and human resource services to organizations interested in entering and expanding throughout Hong Kong, Singapore and China. Koehler Group is managed by an international and local team of over 120 consultants, accountants and legal professionals who work in our ten offices in Hong Kong, Singapore and China.

### **Our Services**

Incorporations Domiciliation & Management Legal Compliance & Administration Accounting & Payroll Tax Compliance Trade & Supply Chain Solutions Recruitment & HR Services Trust & Fiduciary Services

### **Our Team**

Our founder, Mr. Klaus Koehler, has lived in Hong Kong since 1970. After many years of international trading activities with Hong Kong and China, he established Koehler Group Holdings and its associated entities in 1979. Since then, Mr. Koehler has built up an experienced international team of accountants, legal and professional consultants (European, American, Chinese). Sven Koehler, is the Group Managing Director and is based in the Group Headquarters in Hong Kong. Kristina Koehler-Coluccia, is a Director in charge of the China operations based in the Shanghai office.

### **Our Offices**

Asia: Hong Kong, Singapore North China: Beijing, Tianjin East China: Shanghai, Hangzhou South China: Guangzhou, Shenzhen

West China: Chengdu

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