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雷曼律师事务所

PRESS RELEASE

Director-General of the International Labor Organization (ILO) Visits Lehman, Lee & Xu Beijing Office

Beijing, China – August 8, 2007 Mr. Juan Somavía, Director-General of ILO; His Excellency Ambassador Fernando Reyes Matta, Chilean Ambassador to China and his first secretary Ms. Gloria Cid, visited our Beijing's offices today to better understand the newly promulgated Labor Contract Law of the People's Republic of China, which will take effect on January 1, 2008.

Mr. Juan Somavía was elected to serve as the ninth Director-General of the ILO by the Governing Body on 23 March 1998. His five-year term of office began on 4 March 1999, when he became the first representative from the Southern hemisphere to head the organization. In March 2003, Mr. Somavía was re-elected for a second five-year term. An attorney by profession, he has held many positions in the United Nations and other inter-governmental organizations before joining the ILO, such as the Presidency of the United Nations Economic and Social Council and the Preparatory Committee for the World Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen.



Participants at the New Labor Contract Law presentation



Edward Lehman giving presentation at the Firm's Multimedia Lecture Room

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The Managing Director of the Firm, Edward E. Lehman along with the members of the Spanish Department hosted our visitors, by giving a short presentation on the overview of the new Labor Contract Law. Immediately after the presentation, they met to discuss the imminent effects of the new law on China's labor and social unrest. Both Mr. Somavía and Mr. Lehman emphasized that harmonizing interests of all players involved will result in better enforcement of the new law. "Governmental authorities, labor unions and workers should find a balance to effectively enforce the law. This is the only way to guarantee an effective implementation of the law in the future", commented Mr. Somavía after the meeting.



From left: Gordi Casas (Foreign Counselor of LEHMAN); Ms. Gloria Cid (first secretary to Chilean Ambassador), His Excellency Ambassador Fernando Reyes Matta (Chilean Ambassador to China); Edward E. Lehman (Managing Director of Lehman, Lee & Xu); Mr. Juan Somavía (Director-General of ILO and Vicente Muedra (IVEX rep to LEHMAN)

Juan Somavía will stay in Beijing during this week where he will participate along with Tian Chengping, the Minister of Labor and Social Security of China, in the seminar named "Growth Employment and Decent Work", from August 13th to 15th.