### BUILDING SUCCESSFUL BUSINESS RELATIONSHIPS



Marisa Planells Valero Foreign Legal Counselor

### **Fostering Fruitful Friendships**

# 1.- Are relationships really so important to doing business in China?

- They are mainly based in:
- Reciprocity
- Trust



#### 2.- How can "Guan xi" help me in China?

- With government officials
- With business people

### **Fostering Fruitful Friendships**

### 3.- How can I develop my own "guan xi"?

The key:

To be PROACTIVE.



## Chinese business etiquette

1.- What is the appropriate behavior to doing business in China?

"Good manners make good business"

- <u>Dress</u>: Conservatively
- Value Seniority: The Chinese want to know who the company's leaders are.
- Present your business card



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### Chinese business etiquette

#### 2.- What can I expect of a Chinese Banquet?

- >Three important aspects:
- Arriving at the restaurant
- Arranging the seating
- Keeping conversation light



### Chinese business etiquette

#### 3.- Is gift giving a common practice in China?

> Done in the right way, exchanging gifts can help build a stronger relationship with the Chinese.

#### 4.- What is the right time for exchanging gifts?



> After you have concluded your business dealing.





# 1.- What is involved in doing Due Diligence in China?

- Due Diligence = investigation of potential aspects of your business.
- Business license: (AIC) > Validity
  - > Business scope
  - > Signatory authorizations
  - > Ownership
  - > Capitalization





2.- What is the focus of the practice of Due Diligence for Joint Ventures?

>Assets >Workers

3.- What is the focus of the practice of Due Diligence for <a href="Individuals">Individuals</a>?



Reference checking with previous employers and other references

Resolving disputes through Arbitration

8.- What is the best way for solving commercial disputes in China?

#### **ARBITRATION**





LESS EXPENSIVE

THAN LITIGATION

#### Resolving disputes through Arbitration

# 9.- What should an ARBITRATION CLAUSE specify?

- Arbitration body
- Place of Arbitration
- Arbitration language
- That the arbitration is binding
- The number of tribunal members and the selection process
- Procedural rules
- That the award may be enforced in any court
- Governing law of the contract

Resolving disputes through Arbitration

# 10.- What are the chances that I can enforce my arbitration award?

- Under Chinese law > a court always must enforce an arbitration award for monetary damages.
- If a court refuses to enforce it > it must justify itself to the <u>Supreme People's Court</u>.



**Protecting Intellectual Property** 

# 11.- How much do I have to worry about IP infringements when doing business in China?

- China's IP system is a "First-to-File system"
- You should:
  - > Register all your IP in China as soon as possible.



- > Sign confidentiality and non-compete agreements with: - employees
  - consultants
  - potential suppliers
  - business partners



**Protecting Intellectual Property** 

# 12.- What kind of other practical measures can I take to protect my IP?

- Don't let anyone see the whole picture
- Guard your tools and equipment
- Don't partner with potential competitors









### CONCLUSION

### The Keys to Success

- Good relations
- Good behavior



Good protection against business risk in China

### **THANK YOU**

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