



A&Z LAW FIRM

A&Z Monthly Newsletter June 2017

Passion - Professionalism - Collaboration

Dear friends,

This is a monthly newsletter focusing on legal matters in China, and related issues that shape the general business environment for foreign companies operating in China.

Should you have any comments or questions, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Mireia Paulo at mpaulo@a-zlf.com.cn, or visit [A&Z website](#).

Sincerely,

The Editors

Legal Updates

- [State Council's Latest Negative List for Pilot FTZs Only Includes Less than 100 Entries](#)

The General Office of the State Council has issued the Special Administrative Measures (Negative List) for Foreign Investment Access to Pilot Free Trade Zones (FTZs) (2017 Edition), effective from July 10, 2017. Compared to its previous edition, the latest negative list covering existing 11 FTZs cancels 10 entries and 27 measures.

- [GAC Clarifies Matters on Implementing the Sino-New Zealand AEO Mutual Recognition](#)

The General Administration of Customs ("GAC") issued an Announcement on Implementing the Mutual Recognition of Authorized Economic Operators (AEO) between the Customs of China and New Zealand (the "Announcement").

- [Sino-Swiss Social Security Treaty Becomes Officially Effective](#)

The General Office of the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security ("MOHRSS") issued the Circular on Implementing the Treaty between China and Switzerland on Social Security (the "Circular"), aiming to ensure the implementation of the Agreement

A&Z Upcoming events

11 July, Bangkok, Thailand

Dr. Sophie An, Director of A&Z Firm and Principal Partner, will be invited to participate in the Boao conference on Asian regional cooperation to be convened in Bangkok, Thailand. The theme of which is "Asian regional Cooperation: New Challenges, New Approaches".

[Learn more](#)

8 and 14 July, Shanghai

Dr. Sophie An, Director of A&Z Firm and Principal Partner, will be invited to participate the opening ceremony and closing ceremony of the China (Shanghai) International Youth Football Invitational, 2017, which is jointly held by the Shanghai Federation of Returned Oversea and Education Ministry and other social and governmental organizations, having been held periodically every year since 2015.

[Learn more](#)

5 July, Shanghai

Dr. Sophie An, as member of the Legal Counsel Board, and Director of A&Z Firm and Principal Partner, will be

between the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Swiss Federal Government for Social Security (the "Agreement"). Both legislations have entered into force from June 19, 2017.

- [SIPO Includes Nine More Provinces and Municipalities into the Pilot Program of Arbitration and Conciliation of IP Disputes](#)

The State Intellectual Property Office ("SIPO") issued the Circular on Determining the Fourth Batch of Pilot Regions Subject to Arbitration and Conciliation of Disputes Involving Intellectual Properties (IP) (the "Circular").

A&Z Legal Opinion



Start-ups require focus on legal matters

Mireia Paulo, Director of the European-American Market

The phenomenon of start-ups is spreading throughout the world, but do these young entrepreneurs know that legal issues can risk the success of their new businesses? And what role is China playing in the field of start-ups?

China is already considered as the Asian giant, not only because of its fast-economic development, but also because of its great inventions throughout history. But now, in its economic swing, China also intends to be known for its innovations, leaving behind its former perception as a country that only makes counterfeits. Such is the objective of the Government of the People's Republic of China, which has been investing the equivalent of millions of euros in the creation of new technology companies, a firm and substantial commitment that far exceeds that which is invested by Europe.

[Read More.](#)

Industry News

[Hong Kong, Chinese mainland evolve relationship into one of mutual support, interdependence](#)
People's Daily, 29 June

invited to participate in the "Intellectual Property Law" legal knowledge forum held by the Shanghai Federation of Returned Overseas, which will take place at the Merry Hotel, and the keynote speaker of which is a senior expert from Shanghai's Third Intermediate People's Court.

A&Z Past events

2 June, Shanghai



Eric Zhang, Vice Director and Senior Partners at A&Z law firm, was invited to Tsinghua University to lecture on compliance problems in the transition of Chinese society. This lecture focused on the social background, latest news, common cases, commercial bribery, and compliance management. The Lecture's content was a combination of theoretical approach and practical expertise. Participants benefitted greatly from Mr. Zhang's interaction and highly appreciated this lecture.

About A&Z Law Firm

A&Z is a leading Chinese law firm, which employs over 50 experts composed of a team of professionals comprising

[Hong Kong needs to wake up and smell the coffee to stay relevant](#)
South China Morning Post, 29 June

[China's industrial profits up 22.7% in Jan-May](#)
Xinhua, 27 June

[Syngenta Aims To Profitably Grow Market Share As ChemChina Deal Closes](#)
RTTNews, 27 June

[Li Keqiang Reaffirms China's Commitment to Global Trade](#)
CAIXIN, 27 June

[Alibaba hires top scientist to mastermind AI drive](#)
Chinadaily, 27 June

[China's sharing economy is now exporting innovations](#)
Chinadaily, 27 June

[Beijing Hosts the 2017 American Intellectual Property Protection Seminar](#)
SIPO, 27 June

[Rail and road cooperation to make Chinese logistics more efficient, cleaner](#)
Global Times, 26 June

[Beijing issues first foreign work permit under new system](#)
Global Times, 26 June

Beijing authorities issued its first work permit for a foreigner on Monday since China launched a streamlined work permit system for foreigners in April.

[Zhengzhou Airport flying high with Henan Cargo Airlines, Cargolux/Emirates partnership and AirAsia China JV](#)
Crucial Perspective, 22 June

[Prices of Edible Agricultural Products Increase Slightly and Prices of Means of Production Remain Steady](#)
MOFCOM, 21 June

[Vanke Founder Wang Shi, Chinese Property Developer, Steps Down](#)
NYTimes, 21 June

[WATCH: Electric cars perform crazy stunts around Chinese lake](#)
Euronews, 18 June

attorneys, legal assistants, Japanese translators, client managers, and business specialists across 5 offices in 11 jurisdictions. Having been active in Shanghai since 2004, A&Z's presence was expanded through the establishment of offices in Beijing, Dalian, Wuhan, and Tokyo. A&Z focuses on advising multi-national groups, major corporations, banks, and SMEs on various legal issues relevant to their business endeavors.

A&Z's practices include Foreign Investment, Overseas Investment, Competition and Antitrust, Intellectual Property, M&A and Corporate Restructuring, Labour and Social Security, Dispute Resolution, Compliance and CSR, Finance and Capital Markets, Customs Logistics and Maritime Commerce, and Environment, Health and Safety (EHS).

The information contained in this Newsletter is for reference on matters of interest only, and is not intended to be comprehensive. Although we try to ensure accuracy, please note that the application and impact of laws can vary based on contextual and circumstantial variables. Before taking any action, please ensure that you obtain professional advice specific to your circumstances.

A&Z welcomes any and all questions pursuant hereto. For this reason, we recommend that you directly contact one of our attorneys in assisting you to address your needs.

There are numerous ways for you to keep up-to-date with legal updates, A&Z's practice, and valuable events:

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