



The **AMERICAN CHAMBER** of Commerce in Mongolia

AMCHAM NEWSLETTER

March 2019

AMCHAM POLICY AND ADVOCACY EFFORTS

Joint Meeting with BCM hosting Chairman of the State Great Khural, Zandanshatar Gombojav



The AmCham Mongolia and the Business Council of Mongolia held a joint meeting hosting new Speaker Zandanshatar on March 4, 2019. In his remarks, Speaker Zandanshatar introduced the three-pillar policy reforms he plans to implement; the first pillar – governance reform, which highlights the importance of rule of law, second - economic reform, which encourages economic diversification, private-led growth, and lastly, the third pillar - social reform, which signifies Public Private Dialogue. He also stated that the Parliament is working on a public participatory law-making e-parliament program. The digitalization of the law-making process, and the encouragement of public participation in the process, will enhance transparency.



Monthly Meeting with the Minister of Food, Agriculture and Light Industry, Ulaan Chultem



AmCham Mongolia also hosted Minister Ch. Ulaan in our March Monthly Meeting on March 12, 2019. During the meeting, Minister Ch. Ulaan introduced his policy priority areas, legislative reform initiatives, and action plans for 2019 in policy making, followed by a question and answer session. Investors asked a range of questions on topics including the Mongolia Third Neighbor Trade Act, land permits in Dornod Province, market orientation (a private sector-led economy vs a SOE-driven economy), and pasture land issues.



Update on Tax Amendments

During the plenary session of Parliament held on Saturday, March 22, the revised amendments to the Law on General Taxation and the Law on Corporate and Personal Income Tax were passed by Parliament. At a press conference held on March 26, the Minister of Finance stated the reasons for the new tax amendments include the expansion and diversification of the Mongolian economy since tax amendments were last adopted in 2006. The tax reforms will prevent multi-national companies from avoiding taxes, using methods like transfer pricing; making tax legislation more transparent through increased information exchange; and removing Mongolia from the EU's blacklist of tax havens. AmCham Mongolia developed an update on tax amendments relevant to AmCham members and shared it with them.

AmCham Financial Services Committee

AmCham Financial Services Committee had lunch meeting with Mr. Erdembileg, Deputy Governor of Bank of Mongolia on March 29. The committee members received the latest update from the Deputy Governor regarding current status of capital adequacy in the banking system, Bank of Mongolia FCY/MNT swap facilities, Draft Foreign Currency Law and Investment Banking Law, and Anti-Money Laundering and expressed their concerns and suggestions related with issues of the financial sector.



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Pioneers in Beef and Dairy Development in Mongolia

International Finance Corporation (IFC) partnering with Mercy Corps Mongolia, Food and Agriculture Organization of United Nations (FAO), and AmCham Mongolia hosted an initiative to promote modern livestock technologies in Mongolia to boost productivity. The initiative created a first-of-its-kind platform to bring together beef and dairy business leaders, industry experts, and policymakers, who shared their expertise to bolster the country's livestock sector. The presenters and participants of the workshop stated that pasture management, animal genetic structure, and affordable financing are critical components in the development of the beef and dairy sectors, and stressed the need for more partnership through cluster farms; information sharing via regional forums and workshops; establishing training centers and preparing human resources; and improving hygiene and safety standards.

EVENTS



Welcoming Reception for the U.S. Ambassador to Mongolia

On 21 March 2019, AmCham hosted a Welcoming Reception for the newly appointed U.S. Ambassador to Mongolia, His Excellency Michael S. Klecheski. The event was held at Kempinski Khan Palace Hotel, and was sponsored by MSM Group. 90 esteemed guests, and honorable public figures attended the event, making it a huge success. In his speech, Mr. Klecheski highlighted the importance of AmCham's role in embassy advocacy, as well as the responsibility AmCham carries by being the bridge between American and Mongolian business relations.



Asia Pacific Council of American Chambers of Commerce Business Summit 2019

Asia Pacific Council of American Chamber of Commerce Business Summit 2019 was held on March 4-5 in Hong Kong, and we are pleased to announce its success. The Summit held a productive Executive D meeting on Saturday, and a General Meeting on Sunday. AmCham Mongolia founder, Jackson Cox, attended the event. The organization elected a new Chairman, Richard Weisman from Baker McKenzie in Hong Kong. We look forward to the important work ahead and next year's Spring Business Summit, which will be held in Singapore in March 2020.

MEMBER UPDATES

Jacobs' employee wins an award

The Association of Women in Mining and Resource in Mongolia held its inaugural awards night to celebrate the role women play in the industry and recognize the outstanding women working in mines and supply businesses on March 6. Jacobs was very proud to have two award nominees; Gerelsaikhan Dashnyam, National Capability Development Lead, who was nominated for the Outstanding Woman in Support Service for her exceptional work in developing national capability, and Uyanga Davaajargal, Project Engineer, was nominated as the Rising Star of the Year in the mining and resource industry in Mongolia. We are delighted to announce that our very own Uyanga Davaajargal was awarded the Rising Star of the Year!



MEMBER CSR



Abu Dhabi 2019 Special Olympics World Summer Games

Abu Dhabi 2019 Special Olympics World Summer Games was held on March 14-21, and 7500 athletes from 190 countries participated. Mongolian athletes brought back home 3 gold, 7 silver, and 8 bronze medals. Congratulations to our honorable athletes for highly representing Mongolia! We are proud to announce that our members Deloitte, International School of Ulaanbaatar, Redpath and Shangri-La Hotel participated in sponsoring Team Mongolia.



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Golomt Bank joins UNEP IF to initiate Principles for Responsible Banking

Within the framework of the United Nations Environment Program's Financial Initiative (UNEP FI), Golomt Bank has developed "Principles for Responsible Banking" with 28 banks from 19 countries. The main purpose of these principles is to increase the scale and influence of the banking sector in achieving sustainable environmental and social development. Golomt bank first joined UNEP FI in 2017, and is actively promoting the principles to other banks within the industry, co-hosting "Principles for Responsible Banking" with Mongolian Sustainable Financing Association. The meeting discussed the importance of UNEP FI's principles and their implementation plan in relation to the principles of Mongolian Sustainable financing development and the importance of green business.

Khan Bank's 11 year ongoing commitment to their community

Khan Bank established the "Khan Bank Foundation" in 2007, and running for 11 years, they have now completed over 370 community and service projects, invested 4 trillion MNT into the common good, and reached 2 million people in 21 provinces and 9 districts. In 2018, Khan Bank joined the United Nations Global Impact, and have voluntarily committed themselves to sustainable development and social responsibility. Their CSR projects are divided into 4 parts; "Sustainable Financing", "Sustainable Work", "Sustainability Investment", and "Sustainable Cooperation".

To highlight projects from their "Sustainable Financing" committee; "Lit House" project collaborates with "Mongol Basalt" and "Atmor" to house families in the ger districts, and Mongolian Sustainable Energy Financing Facility (MonSEFF) is a credit line developed by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, to reduce the corporation's energy consumption. "Sustainable Work" committee's priority is to increase equality in the workplace. Khan Bank employs 6213 workers, and constantly hires paid interns, hosts creative and athletic programs, and seeks to encourage balance in their employees' lives by implementing a program called, "Work and Life Balance" in their workplaces. "Sustainability Investment" has numerous projects including "Fighting Cancer", to which they contributed 1.1 trillion MNT, "Fighting High Blood Pressure", to which they contributed 150 million MNT, and "Rise" student development program. In the education sector, for 10 years, Khan Bank donated 1.6 trillion MNT, with over 90 projects. They have provided scholarships for 1,500 students, investing 800 million MNT. They also donated over 140 million MNT for 9 years to "Zorig Foundation". These are only a few of the projects they have invested in over the years.



MSM's active month

Employees are a company's greatest asset. This month, MSM and its subsidiary companies bought health insurance for all of their staff. MSM also contributed a generous donation to National Cancer Council Mongolia through "Shave for Cure" fundraising event organized on March 16th. We thank Major Drilling Mongolia for organizing such a great event! Lastly, MSM employees volunteered to support a charity concert for G. Erkhes, a young boy who is suffering from severe aplastic anemia, and sold concert tickets amounting to 12.5 million MNT, in addition to a donation of 10 million MNT.

Oyu Tolgoi implements road safety project for children

Oyu Tolgoi hosted a "Career Exposure Day" on Women's Day, in collaboration with Dalanzadgad Polytechnic College, and hosted over 40 girls to inform them about various challenges and opportunities women face in the mining industry. They held study groups and workshops to improve female representation in the mining and resource industry.



Skytel delivers entertainment to the public

91st Academy Awards, also known as the Oscars, honored the best films of 2018 on February 24. Skytel sponsored "Mongol HD TV" to air the Academy Awards live to the Mongolian public. The ceremony ran for 180 minutes, and as an official sponsor, Skytel's advertisement ran during the ceremony. For another CSR project, Skytel is sponsoring singer Chuluunchimeg's domestic tour from February 24-March 23. Skytel maintains their commitment to bring entertainment to the public.





Wagner Asia Equipment's "Opportunity" Project

Wagner Asia Equipment LLC started "Opportunity" project in 2018, aiming to offer an opportunity for unemployed and non-qualified citizens working by the Ulaan Chuluut garbage dump area, to be trained to earn their driving licenses and become qualified in heavy equipment operators and to have permanent jobs. We have trained and found jobs for all the graduates of the 2018 project. Wagner Asia Equipment LLC Corporate Social Responsibility committee members worked on the February 23, at the Ulaan Chuluut garbage dump area, registering new applicants to the "Opportunity" project and interviewing them. More than 100 people expressed their interest to join the "Opportunity" project, while the number of women interested was more than previous years. We have selected 30 people for next year's "Opportunity".

MEMBER PROMO



PRIVATE EVENTS

Time spent with family

What better way than to letting us organize the special birthday, anniversary, ceremony or graduation ceremony for you?



CATERING

BY KEMPINSKI

Plan your next event with us

We host meetings for as few as ten or as many as 200 people, and outside caterings for up to 400 people. Every meeting is customized to suit guests' preferences and budget.



WEDDING AND EVENT

Plan your next event with us

We host meetings for as few as ten or as many as 200 people, and outside caterings for up to 400 people.

Every meeting is customized to suit guest's preferences and budget.



DAILY DELEGATE RATE

Inspiring Offer

Crafted by Kempinski

10% off discount for all the new bookings until end of April 2019

Our expert dedicated team will be happy to organise the event aligned with all your expectations.

For detailed information please contact our sales managers at

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