



Rödl & Partner



The Seminar on the Legal Structure for Doing Business in the Islamic Republic of Iran

on the Occasion of

Inauguration of Roedl, Meyer-Reumann – Tehran Office

Speakers:

Mr. Rolf Meyer-Reumann	Senior Partner, Roedl, Meyer-Reumann ME Ltd, DIFC
Mr. Daniel Bernbeck	Managing Director, German-Iranian Chamber of Industry and Commerce, Tehran
Ms. Zahra Tahsili	Head of Roedl, Meyer-Reumann – Tehran Office
Ms. Lena Brand	Coordinator of Roedl, Meyer-Reumann – Tehran Office in Dubai

The Seminar on the “Legal Structure for Doing Business in the Islamic Republic of Iran” on the occasion of inauguration of Roedl, Meyer-Reumann –Tehran Office took place on March 10, 2009, at 11 a.m. in Tehran Grand Hotel, level 10.

After 15 minutes networking and registration, the seminar officially started by the welcoming message of Mr. Peer Horstmann, the head of the Economic and Commercial Section of German Embassy located in Tehran, Iran.

Then Mr. Meyer-Reumann shortly introduced Roedl, Meyer-Reumann, its partners and the field of activities.

At 11:20, the first presentation was delivered by Ms. Tahsili and Ms. Brand. They discussed about “Doing Business in the Islamic Republic of Iran – Legal Framework and Latest Developments” in seven chapters.

In the first chapter, Ms. Tahsili referred to some basic questions concerning the foremost questions which are likely to have aroused at the minds of potential foreign investors regarding doing business and investing in Iran. The second chapter was presented by Ms. Brand. She gave ten reasons why Iran is a good candidate for investment. In the third chapter some useful information regarding Commercial legal atmosphere of Iran were given by Ms. Tahsili. She spoke about:

- Commercial Code of Iran;
- Commercial Companies in Iran;
- Foreign Companies' Branch and Representative Office;
- The International Commercial Arbitration Act 1997;
- The enforceability of Foreign Judgment and Arbitral Awards in Iran, and
- The Issue of Protection of Intellectual Property Rights in Iran.

Then Ms. Brand gave some interesting general data and information on foreign investment in Iran, covered by Chapter four. In chapter five, Ms. Brand and Ms. Tahsili went through Iranian Foreign Investment Promotion and Protection Act (FIPPA), the legal frame of foreign investment in Iran. They examined:

- Definitions of the terms “foreign capital” and “foreign investment” under FIPPA
- The Methods and Procedures Introduced by FIPPA;
- Guarantees Provided by FIPPA for foreign investors;
- How foreign capital could be assigned;
- In case of raising any dispute which alternatives will be offered by FIPPA.

In chapter six, Ms. Brand examined Privatization Plan in Iran. And finally in chapter seven, Roedel, Meyer-Reumann sent its message to all potential foreign investors in Iran.

After 20 minutes coffee break and networking, Mr. Bernbeck gave his informative presentation. He talked about the “Spotlight on German/Iranian business relationships and current issues”.

First he referred to the current problems of German-Iranian trade such as

- Difficulties resulted from issuing and confirmation of L/Cs;
- The Complicated Export Control Procedures;

- Increase insecurity as a result of dynamics of embargo regulations;
- Delays or Cancellation of Deliveries, and
- No transfers in US-\$

He also examined the legal, social and political status of Iran. He highlighted that Iran has a huge economic potential due to its high amount of resources (natural, human) and its young and well educated population.

Furthermore, Mr. Bernbeck pointed out how valuable a local legal representative can be to a new investor. And he predicted that a western law company will be very much appreciated as partner both by foreign persons and legal entities who wish to invest in Iran.

At the end there was an open panel discussion with the participation of speakers, selected experts and attendees.

The seminar ended at 1 p.m.

Tehran, March 10, 2009

Roedl, Meyer-Reumann –Tehran Office