Legal Framework for FDI and for setting up a business in Argentina

### Preliminary comments about Argentina

- Legal System: continental law (like Germany, France, Italy)
- Argentine Constitution: preamble and section 20. Foreign investors and the investments they make are protected by Argentine law. The document that best reflects the spirit of Argentina in this regard is the Argentine Constitution, which guarantees foreigners equal treatment in its preamble, in addition to section 20, which establishes that foreigners have the same rights as Argentine nationals
- Foreign Investment Law (No. 21382): establishes certain general definitions, grants foreign investors certain rights and equal treatment

### Basic steps to organize a company and start a business



## Basic steps to organize a company and start a business

#### Foreign corporate entity – requirements (i) By-laws

(ii) POA to represent the company as share/quota holder of a local Argentine company
(iii) Registration within the Commercial Registry jurisdiction of residence
(iv) Financial statements

Foreign natural person – requirements (i) POA to represent the individual as shareholder of a local Argentine company (ii) Special tax identification

 All documents have to be certified as authentic copies, and such certification has to be legalized by the "Apostille" procedure.

# Basic steps to organize a company and start a business

Corporation (Sociedad Anónima)	Limited Liability Company (Sociedad de Responsabilidad Limitada)	Argentine Branch
<ul> <li>(i) At least two shareholders</li> <li>(ii) Management body: 1 person and 1 sustitute</li> </ul>	<ul><li>(i) At least two quota holders</li><li>(ii) Management body: 1 person</li></ul>	(i) Management body: 1 person
(a) Minimun capital AR\$ 100.000	<ul> <li>(a) Minimun capital AR\$ <ul> <li>12.000</li> </ul> </li> <li>(b) In case of a transfer of quotas need to register before the local Commercial Register</li> </ul>	<ul><li>(a) Minimun capital AR\$ o</li><li>(b) Direct Responsability from the Headquarters</li></ul>

## Summary – timetable

Internal discussion regarding partners – type of company – legal purpose – capital – preparation of documents from abroad (if needed)	Clients choice
Registration foreign company/ies	8 – 12 weeks (if documents send from abroad)
Registration local company	2-3 weeks
Registration tax authorities	2 weeks
Opening bank account	1 week
Registration as Importer/Exporter if necessary	2-4 weeks

Ready to be operative!

Additional			
Taxes	Hiring Employees	Intelectual Property	
<ul> <li>Federal Taxes <ul> <li>Income tax (35%)</li> <li>Value Added Tax (10,5% - 21%)</li> <li>Minimun Presumed Income Tax (1%)</li> <li>Personal Assets Tax (0,5% - 1,25%)</li> <li>Taxes on Debits and Credits in Bank Accounts (0,06%)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Provincial taxes <ul> <li>Gross Income Tax (1,5% - 4%)</li> <li>Real Estate Tax (0,562%)</li> <li>Stamp Tax (1%)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Municipal taxes <ul> <li>Collect fees for various services related to industrial safety, public hygiene and lightning to name a few.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Non-fixed term contracts Special work contracts Seasonal/temporary contracts Casual work contracts Compensation: 1 month for each worked year (+1 month notice period)	<ul> <li>Copyright (Law 11723)</li> <li>Industrial property - Brands (Law 22362)</li> <li>Patents (Law 24481)</li> <li>Transfer, assignment or license for technology or brands (Law 22426)</li> </ul> International Conventions <ul> <li>Washington Inter- American Convention</li> <li>Universal Copyright Convention</li> <li>Berne Convention</li> <li>Berne Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property</li> <li>Strasbourg Agreement Concerning International Patent Classification</li> <li>Nice Agreement / Classification for Goods and Services</li> </ul>	

## **Environmental legislation**

- Enviromental Law No. 25675
- Integrated Management of Industrial Waste and Services Activities Law No. 25612
- Hazardous Waste Law No. 24051 / Adoption of the Basel and Stockholm Conventions
- Water Management Regime Law No. 25688
- Promotion of renewable energy Law 26.190



Thank you for your kind attention.

For questions, doubts and/or comments don't hesitate to contact me/us.

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