

SEPTEMBER 2025 VIETNAM BUSINESS FORUM

The on-going policy dialogue channel between the Government of Vietnam and business community towards a favorable business environment since 1997

NEW

CALL FOR SPONSORSHIP FOR ANNUAL VBF 2025

This year, we are honored to partner with the Ministry of Finance, the World Bank Group, and the International Finance Corporation to host our flagship Annual Forum in late September 2025 in Hanoi.

Theme:



**“VIETNAM: ENABLING
QUALITY GROWTH THROUGH
REFORM, INNOVATION AND
PARTNERSHIP”**

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LATEST NEWS



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VBF BANKING WORKING GROUP KEY ACTIVITIES

VBF Banking Working Group Contributes to National Assembly Seminar on Bankruptcy Law Amendment

📍 On 7 Aug 2025, the National Economic and Financial Committee of the National Assembly hosted a Seminar on the Amendment of the Bankruptcy Law at the National Assembly Office, bringing together key representatives from the Supreme People's Court, Ho Chi Minh City People's Court, Ministry of Construction, IFC, law firms and administrators & liquidation firms.

🏛️ The Vietnam Business Forum (VBF), through its Banking Working Group (BWG), actively contributed to the discussion by presenting technical recommendations on enhancing legal certainty for close-out netting.



🏛️ Representing the BWG, Ms. Phan Thi Hong Thuy, Head of the BWG Legal and Compliance Subcommittee and Chief Legal Officer of MUFG Bank, delivered a presentation on proposed amendments to the Bankruptcy Law to enable close-out netting, highlighting challenges faced by the banking sector and advocating for stronger alignment with international legal standards.



🏛️ This conference is part of a broader series of consultation activities that VBF experts have been actively involved in, offering technical insight and policy recommendations throughout the drafting process of the Bankruptcy Law amendment.

VBF BANKING WORKING GROUP KEY ACTIVITIES



Meeting with the SBV's International Cooperation Department

and the Vietnam Bank for Social Policy to discuss the upcoming CSR activity – August 11, 2025

BWG members met with representatives from the State Bank of Vietnam's International Cooperation Department and the Vietnam Bank for Social Policies to discuss preparations for the upcoming CSR activity.



Engagement with the IFC and VNBA to advocate for factoring – August 12, 2025

On August 12, 2025, the IFC and VNBA hosted a policy dialogue on the development of factoring in Vietnam. Representing BWG, Ms. Lai Minh Thuy, Acting CEO of Citibank Vietnam, delivered a presentation focused on fostering an enabling environment for factoring and proposed relevant policy recommendations.



VBF CAPITAL MARKETS WG KEY ACTIVITIES

- ▶ On 1 August, CMWG submitted its position paper on the Draft PIT Tax (superseding) to the relevant Government authority, presenting its viewpoints on personal income tax regime for securities investment and proposing policy recommendations.
- ▶ On Friday, 8 August, the custodian bank (CB) members of the VBF Capital Markets Working Group met with the Vietnam Securities Depository and Clearing Corporation (VSDC) to discuss several technical issues concerning CB daily operations. The meeting, held both in person and online, was productive. Both sides expressed their willingness to hold similar face-to-face meetings in the future, particularly during the process of upgrading to emerging-market status.
- ▶ On Friday, 29 August, CMWG had an internal meeting with Mr. Lyndon Chao, Managing Director – Head of Equities and Post Trade, Asia Securities Industry & Financial Markets Association (ASIFMA), in Hanoi. The meeting aimed to discuss about account opening process for foreign institutional investors and update about how the CCP design being approached and how best to engage for feasible solution.



BRIEFING ON NEW REGULATIONS ON WORK PERMITS

On 13 Aug 2025, the VBF Human Resources Working Group (HRWG) hosted a virtual briefing on the new Decree on Work Permits for Foreign Workers in Vietnam (Decree 219/2025/ND-CP), recently issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

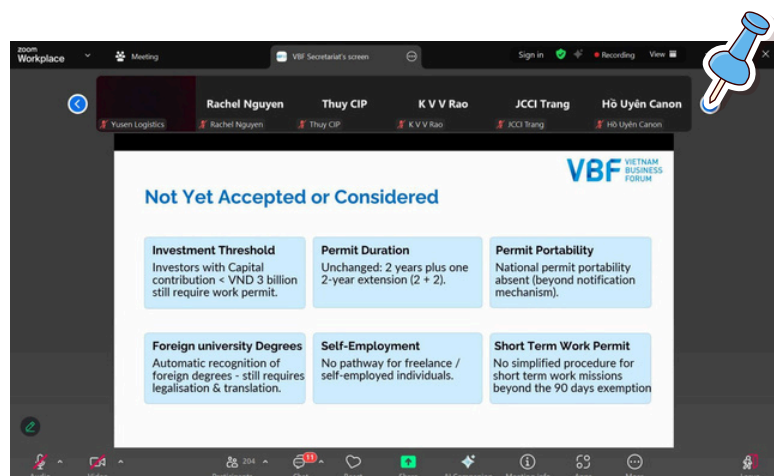
🎯 This milestone follows our sustained advocacy efforts on this important legal framework, and we are proud to see many of our long-standing recommendations reflected in the new regulations. Notable improvements include:

- ◆ Greater flexibility in matching degrees with job positions
- ◆ Simplified procedures for foreigners working across multiple provinces
- ◆ Removal of the longstanding bi-annual reporting requirement
- ◆ An overall limit for short-term exemptions of under 90 days per calendar year, replacing the previous cap of <30 days per trip and three trips per year

🎯 During the session, speakers also highlighted areas where implementation guidance is still required and outlined several recommendations that were not considered in the new decree.

🌸 Our sincere thanks to the HRWG - Mr. Colin Blackwell, WG Head, Ms. Giang Dang and Mr. Laurent Quistrebert, Steering Committee members, for sharing their valuable insights and contributing to an engaging discussion.

🌸 Finally, this meeting would not have been such a success without the active participation of more than 200 attendees — your engagement made the conversation truly impactful.







AUGUST HIGHLIGHTS

VBF Joined MOJ Appraisal Meeting on Draft Decree for Labor, Employment, and Social Security in International Finance Centers

On Wednesday, 27 August 2025, the Vietnam Business Forum (VBF) was pleased to participate in the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) appraisal meeting on the Draft Decree regulating labor, employment, and social security in International Finance Centers (IFC) in Vietnam, held at the MOJ Office in Hanoi.

The meeting was hosted by MOJ in collaboration with MOHA – the drafting agency – and gathered representatives from the Office of Government, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Public Security, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Science and Technology, State Bank of Vietnam, State Securities Commission, Vietnam Social Security, and the People's Committees of Ho Chi Minh City and Da Nang.

On behalf of VBF, Ms. Huyen Nguyen, Partner, People Advisory Services, EY Consulting Vietnam, led the VBF delegation and presented key inputs emphasizing:

-  The need for feasible and implementable regulations to support IFC development.
-  Alignment of optional social insurance/unemployment insurance participation for foreign employees with the Law on Social Insurance and Law on Employment.
-  Clear guidance for foreign workers already enrolled in overseas social security schemes.
-  Avoiding overlaps with existing legal frameworks.

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Ladies and Gentlemen,

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With the sincere appreciation, we are delighted to inform that Prime Minister H.E.Mr. Pham Minh Chinh has kindly confirmed to attend and deliver the keynote speech at the Forum.

To facilitate the successful organisation of this significant Forum, we are offering four levels of sponsorship you could choose from, including:

- **Sole Diamond: VND 397,000,000 (~ USD 15,000);**
- **Co-Diamonds: VND 132,000,000 (~ USD 5,000);**
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MORE INFO

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For any further queries, please reach out to VBF Secretariat at info@vbf.org.vn; **Tel: +84 24 3715 2223; 0906 277 991 (Ms. Uyen Nguyen)**