

Legal Alert – China: Entry into Force of the Apostille Convention

On March 8th, 2023, the People's Republic of China communicated its accession to the Hague Convention Abolishing the Requirement of Legalization for Foreign Public Documents, known as the "Apostille Convention," which will enter into force in the country on November 7th of the current year.

Under the terms of the Apostille Convention, official documents sent from China to other Contracting States will no longer require a complex legalization process. Instead, they will only need to request the certificate known as an "apostille". This simplification of the document legalization process eliminates the need to go through multiple stages, significantly expediting the procedure.

Additionally, the Apostille Convention allows official documents sent from other contracting countries to mainland China to only require the apostille from the country of origin, rather than undergoing the legalization process at the Chinese consulate or embassy.

This will facilitate and expedite commercial transactions, legal and administrative cooperation, and the circulation of essential documents for business activities. Consequently, it will simplify the interaction between Chilean and Chinese companies by reducing the bureaucracy associated with document legalization, ultimately decreasing the time involved in administrative procedures related to commercial exchange.

Therefore, the entry into force of the Apostille Convention in China is a significant milestone in terms of commerce and law, as it will promote the streamlining and efficiency of document legalization processes, greatly benefiting companies operating between Chile and China.

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