



LINCOLN LEGAL SERVICES (MYANMAR) LIMITED

NEWSLETTER 67 - 8th November 2019

Dear Readers,

This is just to inform you that the Central Bank of Myanmar is about to completely open the banking sector to foreign investment.

New bank licensing round; retail banking permitted

On 7th November 2019, the Central Bank announced (<https://tinyurl.com/y6lg36hg>):

1. Foreign banks with a rep office in Myanmar are eligible for a **branch license** (minimum capital: USD 75 million of which USD 40 million are locked up for a two year period). The branch license will allow the bank to open one place of business and provide wholesale banking services.
2. Alternatively, foreign banks with a rep office in Myanmar may apply for a **subsidiary license** (minimum capital: USD 100 million). The subsidiary license will allow the bank to open up to 10 places of business (brick-and mortar and/or ATM), provide wholesale banking services and, from 1st January 2021, provide retail banking services.
3. Existing branches of foreign banks having operated for at least 3 years may be converted into a subsidiary starting June 2020.
4. Foreign investment into local banks in excess of the current ownership cap of 35% will be permitted on a case-by-case basis starting 1st January 2020.
5. The Central Bank will solicit expressions of interest from eligible foreign banks soon.

We hope that you have enjoyed reading our newsletter and found it useful.

Sebastian Pawlita
Managing Director

Nyein Chan Zaw
Director



LINCOLN LEGAL SERVICES (MYANMAR) LIMITED

NEWSLETTER 67 - 8th November 2019

About Lincoln Legal Services (Myanmar) Limited

Lincoln Legal Services (Myanmar) Limited provides the full range of legal and tax advisory and compliance work required by investors. We pride ourselves in offering result-oriented work, high dependability and a fast response time at very competitive prices. Please do not hesitate to contact us:

- Sebastian Pawlita, Managing Director
Phone: +95-9-262546284 (English)
E-Mail: sebastian@lincolnmyanmar.com
- Nyein Chan Zaw, Director
Phone: +95-9-790488268 (Myanmar)
E-Mail: nyeinchanzaw@lincolnmyanmar.com

Office address: La Pyi Wun Plaza, Room 409 (4th Floor), 37 Alan Pya Pagoda Road, Dagon Township, Yangon

Web: www.lincolnmyanmar.com