

## Working with international law firms and international business clients – top tips for business development

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## Speakers and Moderators

- Moderator:
  - Kimitoshi Yabuki (Japan), Vice-Chair of the IBA's Bar Issues Commission
- Speakers:
  - Dilip Jamnadas, Jamnadas & Associates, Fiji
  - Heilala Tabete, Director, Client Engagement & Business Development, Corney & Lind Lawyers, Australia
  - Lou Hong, Shenzhen Lawyers Association



Main subjects in this session: Business Development by Law Firms

#### **Part 1: Ask yourself three questions**:

- 1. What is my market?
- 2. What is my "offer"? What makes it different?
- 3. What do the clients I want to serve, really want?

### Part 2: Take three decisions:

- 4. What is my international growth strategy?
- 5. How do I want to position myself in the market?
- 6. How will I reach new potential clients?



Topics to be discussed - (1) international business development through comparison with domestic practice

- What kind of assistance do international clients expect from law firms and lawyers in their international business?
- Do international clients prefer to use reputable domestic law firms or international law firms?
- What are the advantages of using domestic law firms or international law firms respectively?
- What are the disadvantages of using domestic law firms or international law firms respectively?



# Topics to be discussed - (2) collaboration between domestic law firms and international law firms

- How can domestic law firms collaborate with international law firms?
  - Work together and information exchange in the market differentiation of your practice from others
  - Client referrals how will international clients find your law firm?
  - Training of young lawyers how will your young lawyers get knowledge and practice in the international legal market



Topics to be discussed - (3) role of bar association and international lawyers' organization such as the IBA

- Bar association's role in enhancing business development of its members
  - Enforcement of best practice
  - Awareness and empowerment
  - Training of young lawyers
  - Coordination with government
- Role of international lawyers' associations such as the IBA to assist local bars