

Business Trip in Mumbai

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Company: MINAMIFUJI LLC

1. Background

This report summarizes the business trip about an invitation to annual general meeting from Moores Rowland Asia Pacific (MRAP), a member firm of IPG. IPG dispatched Ms. Honey Dave, Partner at Laytons ETL, and Mr. Kentaro Yadomi, Partner at MINAMIFUJI LLC, as representatives of IPG.

2. Purpose of the Trip

The primary purpose of this trip was to participate in MRAP's annual general meeting. The invitation by MRAP was an opportunity to strengthen the relationship between IPG and MRAP.

3. Destination

The trip took place in Mumbai, India.

4. Trip Activities

Here is a summary of the key activities during the annual general meeting:

September 1, 2023: Welcome Dinner

The meeting began with a welcome dinner, providing an opportunity for initial networking and introductions.

September 2, 2023: Day 1 of Annual Meeting

- Opening address by Mr. Thomas Lee, Chairman of MRAP
- Participant introductions by Mr. Baudouin Coomans, Secretary-General of MRAP
- Session 1: "Robotic Process Automation for Mundane Accounting"
- Session 2: "Data Analytics Tools for Audit"
- Session 3: "How MRAP Can Generate New Business from Property Investment in Australia"

September 3, 2023: Continuation of Annual Meeting

- Annual General Assembly
 - Report on the development and achievements of MRAP
 - Finance report by Baudouin Coomans (Secretary General of MRAP)

- Introduction of a new member firm to MRAP, Nobani & Marouf C.P.A.
- Session 4: "BEPS and POEM in a Global Context: How Corporations Plan Tax Strategies"
- City Tour

5. Achievements

During the meeting, IPG representatives engaged in productive discussions and strengthened relationships with the management and partners of MRAP's offices in India, Singapore, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Indonesia, and the Philippines. The networking and trust-building efforts with the leadership of MRAP's various branches were considered significant achievements. Furthermore, Nobani & Marouf, C.P.A. from Jordan, newly joined MRAP's network. This expanded MRAP's presence into the Middle East, covering countries such as Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Egypt, Iraq, Syria, and Oman. MRAP's expansion into the Middle East is also highly valuable for IPG, given the scarcity of member firms covering this region within the IPG network.

6. Challenges

While the annual meeting was generally successful, a comment was made concerning the relationship between IPG and MRAP. The comment highlighted the need for ongoing assessment of the effectiveness between IPG, primarily a network of law firms based in Europe, and MRAP, which mainly focuses on accounting services based in Asia. Needless to say, IPG is a group of various professional firms, including not only law firms but also accounting firms, audit firms, and other advisory firms. This concern is not serious or urgent. However, we need to activate further cooperation among member firms of accounting and auditing firms while demonstrating our strength as a group of firms that have diversity.

