

LEHMAN, LEE & XU



雷曼律师事务所

PRESS RELEASE

CHINA ADOPTS LAND REFORMS FOR FARMERS

Beijing, China – October 16, 2008 –The Chinese Communist party took a large step on Sunday to reform China’s state-controlled agricultural system. Under a newly adopted plan, farmers may be able to trade or rent out their lands to private individuals or companies.

Currently, the government permits families to farm their land under 30-year contracts, but the farms’ small size, about 1.66 acres on average, means that they are not always profitably managed. Experts believe that the new land reform will lead farmers to lease their land to larger, industrial-scale farming conglomerates who will be able to work more efficiently, although no official details have yet been given.

Edward Lehman, the managing director of Lehman, Lee & Xu, believes that this is a positive step in developing China’s legal system. “The farmers are one group of the population that China has largely neglected in its development,” he said. As a 21-year resident of China, Lehman has watched law in China develop from an embryonic state to a fully functioning legal system with protections for its citizens. “It’s great that the government is focusing on these 800 million people who benefit the country so much.”

In recent years China’s peasants have loudly demanded more property rights, especially in response to government officials seizing their properties and reselling them to developers. Analysts believe that this is a significant step toward appeasing this large discontentment. BBC News calls the policy, “one of the most significant political reforms in three decades.”

Lehman, Lee & Xu is a prominent Chinese corporate law firm and trademark and patent agency with offices in Beijing, Shanghai, Shenzhen, Hong Kong, Macau, and Mongolia. The firm has been recognized as one of the top trademark firms in China by several intellectual property magazines and is managed by Mr. Edward Lehman, a leading expert on corporate law with 20 years of practice experience in Mainland China.

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