GUIDE

Moving a company to Hong Kong: conditions and timing

Since 23 May 2025 a foreign company can move to Hong Kong and keep its contracts, assets and history. Who it suits, what is needed and which deadlines to meet.

The same company
contracts, assets and history are preserved

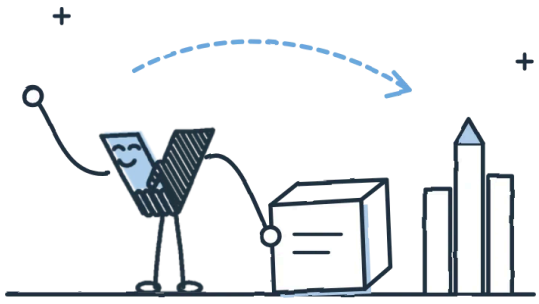
8 conditions
check them before filing

~2 weeks
Registry processing of a complete package

120 days
to leave the previous register

The key point. A move is possible only if the law of the country where the company is now allows an exit. So that is the first thing to check.

The rule: a move makes sense when the company has something to keep — contracts, assets, history.



8 conditions for the move

1 **The country’s law allows the exit**
For example, the BVI, the Cayman Islands, Luxembourg, the AIFC. Not from Russia or Singapore.

2 **A suitable form**
A company with a share capital. Companies without shares do not qualify.

3 **The first financial year has ended**
By the filing date.

4 **Members’ resolution**
Under the country’s law or the articles; if there are no rules — at least 75% of the members with voting rights.

5 **Solvency**
The debts can be paid within 12 months after filing.

6 **No winding-up**
And no such proceedings against the company.

7 **Creditors notified**
Each one individually, before filing.

8 **Good faith**
Not to defraud creditors and not unlawful.

Move or a new company

Move

- The same company, its history is kept.
- Contracts and assets stay with the company.
- A lawyer in the departure country and a translation are needed.

New company

- Faster and cheaper.
- Contracts and assets — must be re-papered.
- The old company — closed separately.

Stages and deadlines

1 **Check**
Departure-country law, form, debts.

2 **Package**
The departure-country lawyer's opinion and the directors' confirmation — no older than 35 days.

3 **Filing**
The Companies Registry takes about 2 weeks.

4 **15 days and 1 month**
Directors' consent, members' details, recording of charges.

5 **120 days**
Leaving the previous register and confirming it in Hong Kong.

Taxes after the move

Hong Kong

- Tax by source of profits: 8.25% on the first HKD 2 million, 16.5% above that.
- The departure country's tax on gains in asset value may be credited.

Foreign income

- Dividends, interest and disposal gains on equity interests from abroad — under the FSIE rules.
- Economic substance matters.

For owners abroad: check whether new controlled foreign company notifications are needed in your country after the move.

Want to move your company? We can help

We will check free of charge whether your country allows the exit and whether the company qualifies.

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