# Negotiation Skills for Internal Auditors

**NEGOTIATING EFFECTIVE AGREEMENTS** 



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## Let's Explore!

What is negotiation? Why negotiate? When not to negotiate? Plan for effective negotiation. Negotiate win-win agreements. Strengthen relationships.

### Your Experience With Negotiation

How often do you negotiate?

- (a) Never
- (b) Rarely
- (c) Occasionally
- (d) Often

# Your Experience With Negotiation

What is your current level of expertise in negotiation?

- (a) Novice
- (b) Proficient
- (c) Competent
- (d) Expert

#### What is Negotiation?

"The process of discussing something with someone in order to reach an agreement with them, or the discussions themselves."

-- Cambridge Dictionary

What does "negotiation" mean to you? Share your brief description in a comment.









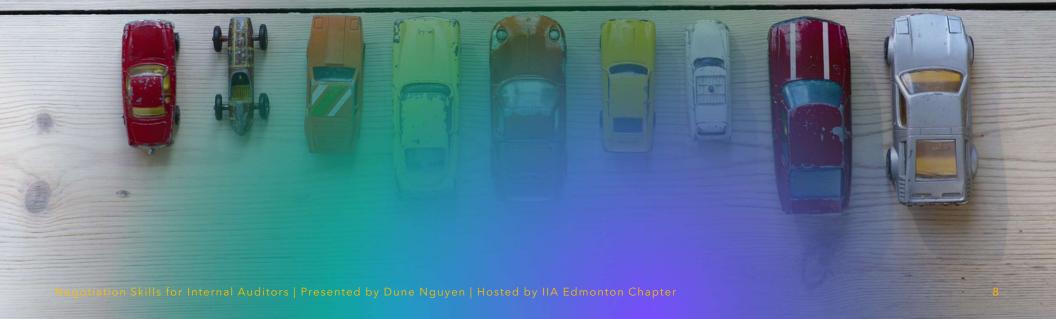
#### Solve Problems Achieve Results Build Relationships

#### When Not to Negotiate?

- If the problem(s) cannot be solved
- If desired or acceptable result(s) are not feasible
- If negotiating would damage valuable relationship(s)

# One Person's Trash is Another Person's Treasures

100



#### **Elements of Effective Negotiation**

#### OBJECTIVES

- Your Interests
- Their Interests
- The Agreement
- The Relationship(s)

#### PHASES

- Preparation
- Exchanging Information
- Bargaining
- Closing

#### Phase 1 – Preparation

- The context
- Your interests
- Their interests
- Key stakeholders & negotiating authority
- Zone of possible agreement (ZOPA)
- Best alternative to a negotiated agreement (BATNA)

### Phase 2 – Exchanging Information

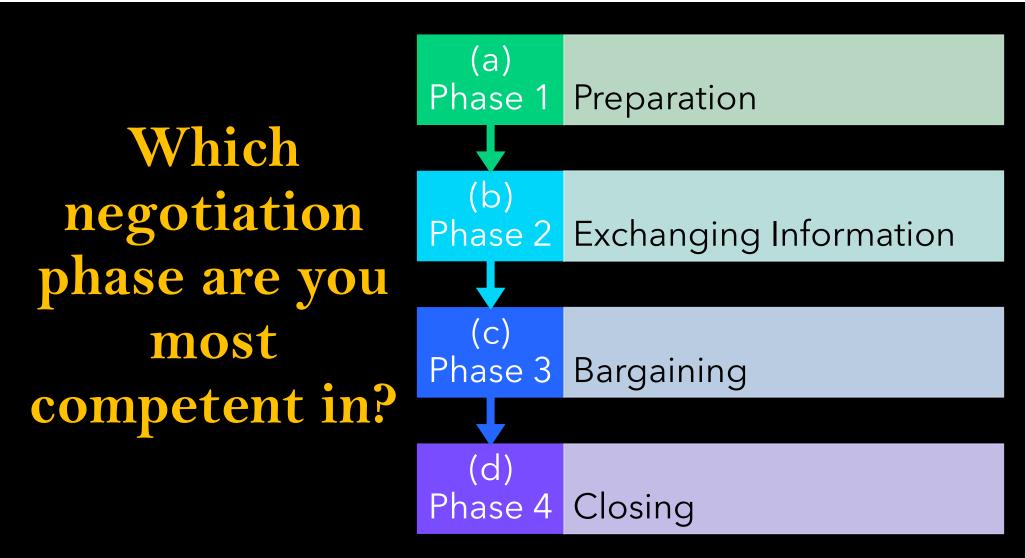
- Share information
- Receive information
- Ask questions
- Answer questions
- Confirm all relevant information have been shared

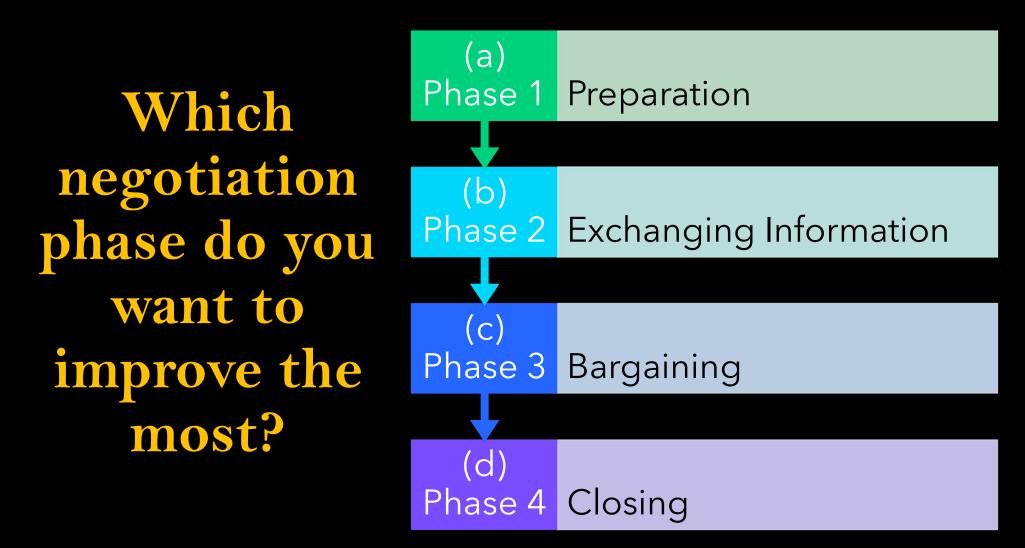
#### Phase 3 – Bargaining

- Discuss/bargain key parameters/variables
- Listen for concerns and address them if possible
- Check for incremental agreement and spotlight them
- Enlarge the pie if possible
- Remain flexible

#### Phase 4 – Closing

- Confirm agreement
- Clarify next steps
- Document/formalize the agreement
- Strengthen the relationship
- Debrief with the appropriate people





### **Negotiate Win-Win Agreements**

- Ask open-ended questions
- Maximize understanding
- Enlarge the pie if possible
- Careful with hot buttons
- Nurture the relationship

#### **Recommended Book**

"Getting to Yes: Negotiating Agreement Without Giving In" -- Roger Fisher and William Ury & for the revised editions, Bruce Patton of the Harvard Negotiation Project



Key Skills for Successful Negotiation

- Creative Thinking
- Effective Communication
- Relationship Building

## Your Negotiation Journey

Going forward, how often would you want to negotiate?

- (a) Never
- (b) Rarely
- (c) Occasionally
- (d) Often



## Your Negotiation Journey

- What level of negotiation expertise would you aim for?
- (a) Novice
- (b) Proficient
- (c) Competent
- (d) Expert





## Negotiating = Problem Solving



### We can all improve our negotiation skills !!!

# Questions & Answers

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