

NEGOTIATION

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Learning Objectives

Definition

- Types
- ✤Essentials
- Process/Stages
- Negotiation Strategies
- Bringing Value to Negotiation

Definition

Negotiation is a process by which two or more people (or groups) resolve an issue or arrive at a better outcome than just a compromise. It is a strategic discussion that resolves an issue in a way that both parties find acceptable.



Types

Distributive: Also called "hard bargaining". It takes place when both parties take an extreme position and one side's win is believed to be the other side's loss (a win-lose solution).

This operates on a "fixed pie" principle, in which there is only a set amount of value in the negotiation, and one side will walk away with the better deal.

♦ Eg: haggling prices in real estate or at a car dealership.

✤Integrative: Parties engaging in integrative negotiation don't believe in a fixed pie. Instead they assert that both sides can create value or mutual gains by offering trade-offs and reframing the problem so that everyone can walk away with a win-win solution.



Essentials

Setting Goals: The **goals** should be quantitative and precise, and the negotiator must be held accountable for them.

- They must be somewhat difficult to achieve and must be recalibrated over time.
- A caveat is that "reaching a fair agreement" is *not*a goal. There is no such thing as dividing the pie fairly because *fairness* is not an objective metric.
- If the counter party does better than you do, you feel it is unfair even though you may have achieved your goals.

✤Your Best Alternative to a Negotiated Agreement (BATNA): It is the alternative to the deal if you cannot come to an agreement (plan B).

The Reservation Price: It is the walkaway point that you will not breach and which you cannot reveal at any cost.

◆For an outcome lower than the reservation price, no agreement is preferable.

Process/Stages

- ♦ Prepare
- Exchange Information
- Clarify
- Bargain and solution
- Conclusion and Implementation



Prepare

- Vital first stage
- Break down expectations
- Research both workable and non-workable aspects
- Making a list of concession you wish to provide
- Determine relationship with the other party

Prepare BATNA

Preparation can also include the definition of the ground rules: determining where, when, with whom, and under what time constraints the negotiations should take place

Exchange Information

- Share initial position
- Share underlying interests and concerns
- Take away at the end of negotiation

Clarify

Discussion starts as per the second stage

Justifying and bolstering claims

In case of a disagreement, discuss the disagreement in details and reach to a middle path/understanding

✤Take one step at a time

Bargain and Solution

Both sides begin give and take

Each offer must have a counter offer to suit the discussion

Manage concession

Keep your emotions in check

Use verbal and non-verbal communication (active listening, feedback, body language)

Come to a win-win situation

(a positive course of action)



Conclusion and Implementation

- Conclude the negotiation on a positive and high note
- Try to establish long term and mutually profitable relationship
- Outline the conclusion as expectation
- Assure/ensure the expectation to be implemented effectively and in time bound manner
- Ends with written contract
- Follow up the smooth implementation

Negotiation Strategies

- Convey confidence
- Set the stage for Agreement
- Do not hesitate in telling your mind
- Ask open-ended questions (Eg: tell me more about.....)
- Listen and restate to avoid confusion or misunderstanding
- Watch the non-verbal cues
- Stay calm and depersonalize disagreements
- Separate discussion over a problem from exploration of solution



Negotiation Strategies (contd...)

- ✤Do not compare offers
- Don't issue an ultimatum
- Use deferment as a trade off
- Use your leverage
- Bring up documents that support your position
- Reach closure

Bringing Value to your Negotiation

- ♦Never tell a lie
- ♦Be nice
- Consider the timing
- Do your homework
- Evaluate yourself:
 - What additional preparation would have helped me?
 - Did I listened enough?
 - Did I clarify statements from the other party?
 - Were options explored sufficiently?
 - How much did the outcome each party's real needs?

Integrated Value Creation



