

I-An Lim

Senior Partner



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Singapore

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Overview

Lim I-An is a senior partner in Dentons Rodyk's Corporate practice group and Head of the Private Equity practice. He is also Co-Head of the Employment and Investment Funds practices.

I-An acts for clients in diverse areas including mergers and acquisitions, fund management, private equity and venture capital, e-commerce and employment matters. His fund management experience encompasses advising on unit trust funds, offshore and onshore fund structures, and investment advisory matters. He has assisted with the establishment of numerous unit trust funds in Singapore as well as assisting foreign fund managers with the offering of their offshore funds in Singapore. In relation to his portfolio of unit trust matters he regularly advises fund managers, both local and offshore, and trustees on regulatory, compliance and operational issues.

I-An also advises education institutions in relation to their ongoing human resource, employment, contractual and commercial matters. He is retained by the Republic Polytechnic to advise them on their corporate, commercial and human resource matters. In addition, I-An has advised UK-based universities in relation to their Singapore matters.

I-An has been involved in the establishment of numerous offshore funds domiciled in Mauritius, the British Virgin Islands and the Cayman Islands. He has advised in relation to investment advisory matters involving licensing and regulatory issues, investment management, custodial and administration matters.

I-An advises on issues pertaining to the establishment of venture capital and private equity funds. His experience extends to the investment transactions undertaken by such venture capital and private equity funds, as well as their downstream divestments.

I-An is actively involved with mergers and acquisitions. He has advised both acquirers and vendors in relation to their transactions.

I-An has also acted for several Trustees in relation to REIT acquisition transactions.

I-An also frequently advises and represents multinational corporations and foreign clients which are seeking to expand their business footprint and operations in Singapore.

He advises on Singapore entity establishment matters, legal and regulatory requirements, immigration issues and work permit applications.

In addition, I-An advises on employment and human resource matters. He has worked with both employers as well as high level management executives in relation to their employment matters. He regularly advises on employment contractual matters, and conducts reviews of HR policies.

Experience

- **AEP Investment Management:** Acting as Singapore counsel to formed by Saudi Arabia-based private firm Al Rajhi Group and Singapore's AsiaEquity Partners, which intends to invest up to US\$100 million in syariah-compliant real estate in Singapore and the region. The Saudi-Singapore joint venture has already raised US\$100 million and is looking to raise a further US\$200 million.
- **Auric Technology Fund by Auric Pacific Group Ltd:** Acting for the establishment and advising on various legal, commercial and SGX requirements.
- **BNP Paribas Trust Services Singapore Limited:** Acting in the migration of the UOB United Choice Portfolio I & II unit trust funds.
- **BNP Paribas Trust Services Singapore Limited:** Acting in the migration of the Aberdeen Select Portfolio of unit trust funds.
- **City Developments Limited:** Acted for City Developments Limited in the review of a joint venture agreement and fund establishment.
- **Convergys Corporation:** Acting in relation to its India-Asia Corporation restructuring exercise.
- **DBS Trustee Limited:** Acted for DBS Trustee Limited in relation to the establishment of the Nikko AM SGD Investment Grade Corporate Bond ETF. The fund is currently traded on the SGX-ST.
- **Fund Manager:** Acted for the fund manager in setting up a Cayman Islands domiciled segregated portfolio company with 2 initial sub-funds. We worked with Conyers Dill & Pearman on this transaction. The targeted AUM for the fund will be up to US\$100 million.
- **Fund Manager:** Acted for the fund manager in the establishment of a Singapore domiciled unit trust fund with an AUM of US\$50 million.
- **HSBC Institutional Trust Services (Singapore) Limited:** Acted for HSBC Institutional Trust Services (Singapore) Limited in relation to the establishment of the Lion-Phillips S-Reit ETF. The fund is currently traded on the SGX-ST.
- **HTL International Holdings Limited:** Acting for Singaporean sofa manufacturer and leather tanner in its S\$38.3 million acquisition of German upmarket furnishing solutions franchisor Domicil Moebel.
- **IPACS Asia Pte Ltd:** Advising on its e-commerce, web hosting and portal activities.
- **IPACS Computer Services (S) Pte Ltd:** Acting on the S\$19 million investment by National Computer Systems Pte Ltd.
- **J O Hambro Capital Management Limited:** Review of the offering documents / information memorandum for the J O Hambro Funds, restricted schemes domiciled in Ireland and the UK, including amending and advising the manager on the regulations application to such funds, drafting the Singapore information memorandum and the registration of the information memorandum and product highlight sheet with the Monetary Authority of Singapore.
- **Lion Global Investors:** Acting in relation to its unit trust funds.
- **Lion Trust (Singapore) Limited:** Acted for Lion Trust (Singapore) Limited as trustee in relation to the set up of NS Private Equity Trust IV which is a Singapore unit trust fund.
- **Macquarie Global Property Advisors (MGPA):** Acting for a private equity real estate fund management firm partly owned by Australia's Macquarie Bank Group, in its S\$2.02 billion bid for a prime plot of land in Marina

View.

- **Nanyang Technological University:** Advising in relation to its investment matters.
- **Prime Asia Asset Management Pte Ltd:** Acted for Prime Asia Asset Management Pte Ltd, the fund manager, in relation to the establishment of a US\$71million Singapore domiciled fund. The fund seeks to invest in China.
- **RBC Dexia Trust Services Singapore Limited:** Acting as solicitor for the Trustee of the DBSAM Investment Funds, DBS Unit Trust Funds and the DBS Enhanced Income Funds, all constituting retail unit trust funds offered to the public in Singapore.
- **RF Fund Management Pte Ltd:** Acted for RF Fund Management Pte Ltd in obtaining their fund management licence. Subsequently, we also assisted them in establishing their first fund of US\$50 million, which will be Singapore domiciled and will be structured as a variable capital company.
- **Temasek Lifescience Accelerator Pte Ltd:** Acted for Temasek Lifescience Accelerator Pte Ltd, the fund manager, in relation to the establishment of a S\$10 million Singapore domiciled fund.
- **TNT GLOBAL CAPITAL PTE. LTD.:** Assisted with the establishment of an open-ended Cayman Islands fund with a principle investment objective to seek consistent returns from investments over a full range of different asset classes.
- **Various clients:** Advising on regulatory and licensing issues in relation to fund management activities in Singapore.
- **Various firms:** Acting for Keppel Investment Management Limited, APS Asset Management Pte Ltd on its unit trusts and Dexia Trust Services Singapore Limited in relation to its role as trustees of various unit trusts.
- **VDO Group Companies:** Acting as Singapore counsel for the merger, including advising on corporate actions and employment issues.
- **Confidential client:** Acted for a financial institution registered in Singapore in the establishment of 2 Cayman Islands domiciled funds with assets under management of US\$20 million and US\$35 million respectively.
- **Confidential client:** Acted for a company registered in Singapore in the setting up of a private equity fund based in Cayman Islands in the form of a limited partnership structure worth US\$300 million.
- **Confidential client:** Provided client with regulatory and licensing advice in relation to their request to participate in fund management. We provided a legal opinion setting up the necessary steps and requirements in order for the listed company to manage its own and related party funds.
- **Confidential client:** Acting and leading the transaction in the incorporation of the fund for the purchaser Norman Winata who incorporated a fund for the acquisition of One Finlayson Green at a purchase price of S\$145 million.
- **Confidential client:** Advising on regulatory and licensing issues in relation to fund management activities in Singapore.
- **Confidential client:** Assisting a registered fund management company to establish a Cayman Islands segregated portfolio company which will invest in early and growth stage technology intensive ventures.
- **Confidential client:** Assisting a capital markets services licence holder for fund management to establish a Singapore unit trust fund with an AUM of US\$100 million which will invest primarily in the securities of globally recognised technology companies with near term visibility of an initial public offering.

Recognition

- *Chambers Asia Pacific:* Leading Individual for Investment Funds: Domestic, 2011 - 2021

- *IFLR1000*: Highly regarded (Leading Lawyer) in Private equity, 2019 - 2022
- *IFLR1000*: Highly Regarded (Leading Lawyer) in M&A, 2017 - 2022
- *IFLR1000*: Highly Regarded (Leading Lawyer) in Investment Funds, 2015 - 2022
- *Asialaw Profiles*: Recognized as Leading Lawyer in Investment Funds, 2011 - 2014
- *Practical Law Company*: Recommended lawyer for investment funds, 2009
- "[I-An Lim] ... is 'business-minded and able to provide pragmatic and cost-effective solutions.'" – *Chambers Asia Pacific*, 2020
- "[I-An Lim] ... is noted for assisting clients with the formation and management of a wide range of funds, including unit trusts, private equity funds and venture capital funds. He is additionally sought out for his experience in compliance and regulatory matters." – *Chambers Asia Pacific*, 2019

Insights

- "Harmonising of work pass policies: New changes to work pass requirements for Dependant's Pass holders," *Dentons Rodyk Reporter Issue 03 (2021)*
- "COVID-19: Implications for employers," *Dentons Rodyk Reporter Issue 04 (2020)*
- "Variable Capital Company – New Entity launched to attract new Funds to Singapore," *Dentons Rodyk Reporter Issue 02 (2020)*
- "The new Work Injury Compensation Act – steps towards enhanced protection for employees and employers," *Dentons Rodyk Reporter Issue 05 (2019)*
- "Variable Capital Company – Review of new corporate entity from an administration viewpoint," *Dentons Rodyk Reporter Issue 03 (2019)*
- "Singapore Employment Act Amendments: Expanding coverage to professionals, managers and executives while tightening rules on hiring foreigners," *Dentons Rodyk Reporter Issue 02 (2018)*
- "Venture Capital fund managers may begin operations in record time in Singapore," *Dentons Rodyk Reporter Issue 04 (2017)*
- "S-VACC: Future of the Singapore fund industry," *Dentons Rodyk Reporter Issue 03 (2017)*
- "The Crowdfunding Landscape In Singapore," *Rodyk Reporter July 2015*
- "Regulatory Updates Relating To The Registration Of Funds In Singapore," *Rodyk Reporter September 2013*
- "New Licensing Regime For Fund Management Companies," *Rodyk Reporter September 2012*
- "Investors' Rights And Unit Trust Funds," *Rodyk Reporter September 2009*

Activities and Affiliations

Presentations

- Crowdfunding: A Lawyer's Perspective, July 31, 2015

Prior and Present Employment

- Senior Partner, Dentons Rodyk & Davidson LLP (formerly Rodyk & Davidson LLP) (1999 - present)

- Messrs David Lim & Partners (1997 - 1999)

Areas of focus

Practices

- Corporate
- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Employment and Labor

Industry sectors

- Private Equity

Education

- University of Sheffield, 1995, LLB (Hons)

Admissions and qualifications

- Barrister-at-Law, Middle Temple, 1996
- Advocate & Solicitor, Singapore, 1997