

January 15, 2019

ASEAN CEO's Message

We start 2019 in the midst of uncertainty. No one knows whether there will be a resolution of the trade war between China and the United States. No one knows whether real progress on denuclearisation of North Korea will happen. No one knows how Brexit will really affect trade across the globe. These are only three of the major uncertainties.

Closer to home, S.E. Asia has seen winds of political change and these too have created new uncertainties over future directions.

We at Dentons Rodyk do not, of course, have definitive answers. But we do have unrivalled regional and global reach to help us help clients in an uncertain yet interconnected world. In addition, we adapt in three key ways:

- We think long and hard about the business fallout from events and offer clients insights and advice on how to manage that fallout. One example of this is our current highly successful series of webinars on Brexit.
- We work with clients to understand their businesses, and the technological and other challenges that they face.
- We equip our lawyers with perspectives that are not merely legal, giving them opportunities through secondments to financial centres like London or New York, emerging markets like Myanmar, or with industry leaders in technology or finance, as well as training that is broader than the purely legal.

In our own industry of legal services, change continues apace. Over the past 12 months we have invested a great deal in innovations to strengthen our delivery of legal services. We joined the Singapore Academy of Law's Future Law Innovation Program (FLIP) and many projects were concluded and many others are in progress. Client testimonies prove the value of these efforts.

Two examples:

- Our Developer's DRIVER tool allows real estate developers to keep up to date with the progress of unit sales through a secure site where they can instantly keep track of relevant information, such as upcoming deadlines for buyers, and outstanding or completed payments.
- Contract Companion leverages artificial intelligence to enable our lawyers to complete tasks such as reviewing and proofreading agreements more quickly.

Most importantly, we have built on our traditional strengths to achieve truly market leading positions in at least five areas:

- Commercial disputes, where our disputes team achieved numerous wins for clients through 2018

- Real Estate, where we again led the market in relation to en-blocs, commercial real estate and developers' projects
- ICO and Blockchain, where we scaled up to meet burgeoning demand
- Energy, where we were involved in major projects from Bangladesh to China
- Personal Data Protection, where we put our experience and expertise in service of clients who were facing major data breaches

In 2019, we will continue to do our very best for clients, in good times and bad, helping them scale new heights, or when such help is needed, recover from the depths.

In the first half of the year we also have several useful client events lined up – on obtaining injunctions across multiple jurisdictions, on cybersecurity and in our annual Dentons Rodyk Dialogue (for which we partner with SMU) privacy and data breaches.

Before that on 15 and 16 February 2019, you can catch some of our lawyers and staff dancing as part of the Bicentennial Edition of Chingay, representing the legal profession as Singapore's oldest law firm!

Happy New Year – and an early Gong Xi Fa Cai!

Philip Jeyaretnam, SC

Global Vice-Chair and ASEAN CEO

Welcome to the 1st issue of the Dentons Rodyk Reporter in 2019.

The Dentons rodyk Reporter is a compendium of commentaries produced and published by Dentons Rodyk Academy on a weekly basis. You may download the PDF report to read the complete issue, or read the articles using the links below. The updates and articles on the latest developments in the law and industry practices are conveniently categorised in these specialist bulletins:

Arbitration Review

- Winding up a company in record time despite claim of dispute subject to arbitration

Business Bulletins

- Fundraising basics for start-ups: a legal perspective
- Strides towards improved borrower protection and increased regulation in the moneylending industry

Property Notes

- Building a Resilient and Vibrant Global City
- Impact of the new Developers (Anti-Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing) Bill

Building a Resilient and Vibrant Global City

November 26, 2018

Skyscrapers and dazzling skylines come to mind when one thinks of how to build a resilient and vibrant global city. However behind the swanky facade, we will be well poised to remember that in the race to enhance Singapore's position as an attractive and vibrant city known throughout the world, there is much that we need to do in order to

bring about a greater environmental consciousness for sustainable living.

Fundraising basics for start-ups: a legal perspective

November 19, 2018

Singapore is one of the most diverse start-up ecosystems globally and in the region. With a conducive ecosystem for start-ups to grow and flourish, this article seeks to highlight certain legal pointers as a broad guide and framework for start-ups and founders to be aware of when approaching fundraising exercises.

Impact of the new Developers (Anti-Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing) Bill

December 18, 2018

Just four months after the Government's introduction of increased stamp duties on the purchase of residential properties from 6 July 2018, Parliament has on 20 November 2018 passed the Developers (Anti-Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing) Bill (the AML Bill).

Strides towards improved borrower protection and increased regulation in the moneylending industry

December 12, 2018

The Moneylenders Act was introduced in 2008 to provide protection to vulnerable borrowers who are susceptible to exploitation by moneylenders. The latest step in this effort is through the implementation of the Moneylenders (Amendment) Act 2018.

Winding up a company in record time despite claim of a dispute subject to arbitration

December 13, 2018

In the recent High Court judgment in *VTB Bank (Public Joint Stock Company) v Anan Group (Singapore) Pte Ltd* [2018] SGHC 250, Dentons Rodyk, acting for the plaintiff, successfully obtained a winding up order on a debtor company just six weeks after the service of a statutory demand for an underlying debt of US\$ 250 million.

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