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**Motion 7.7**

Our ref: -

Date: 11 Mac 2022

Your ref: -

Sent by: E-mail / Hand

**Secretary of the Malaysian Bar**  
**Malaysian Bar Council**  
Bar Council  
Wisma Badan Peguam Malaysia  
2 Leboh Pasar Besar  
50050 Kuala Lumpur

Dear Sir,

**MOTION TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF MEMBER FIRMS AND LAWYERS IN EACH MEMBER FIRM FOR GROUP LAW PRACTICES**

I refer to the Notice of Annual General Meeting of the Malaysian Bar (19 March 2022) sent via Malaysian Bar Circular No. 035/2022 on 21 February 2022.

I propose to move the enclosed motion in the Annual General Meeting of the Malaysian Bar on 19 March 2022.

Thank you.

Sincerely,  
for *AmerBON*

**New Sin Yew**  
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Encl.

HEADS OF CHAMBERS

Amer Hamzah bin Arshad  
Edmund Bon Tai Soon

ADVOCATES

New Sin Yew  
Joshua Tay H'ng Foong  
Michael Cheah Ern Tien

Chin Yuen Xin  
Ainur Syuhada binti Jefri  
Lee Yee Woei

PUPILS-IN-CHAMBERS

Jacqueline Hannah Albert

TREASURERS

Norhayati binti Jamari  
Jenny Goh Siew Yin

**MOTION TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF MEMBER FIRMS AND  
LAWYERS IN EACH MEMBER FIRM FOR GROUP LAW PRACTICES**

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1. **WHEREAS** on 25.06.2018, the Legal Profession (Group Law Practice) Rules 2018 (“**GLP Rules**”), drafted by the Malaysian Bar and approved by the Attorney-General, came into force.
2. **WHEREAS** the rationale behind the GLP Rules at that material time was to enable small firms to save operational costs by allowing them to share such costs by forming a Group Law Practice (“**GLP**”).
3. **WHEREAS** the GLP Rules places a limit of 5 member firms and 5 lawyers for each member firm.
4. **WHEREAS** the reason for such limit was that a majority of law firms in Malaysia has less than 5 lawyers and as such, the GLP Rules would benefit the majority of firms in Malaysia.
5. **RECOGNIZING** that the GLP model has enabled numerous firms to not only save operational costs but also to grow as a GLP and market themselves as a GLP.
6. **RECOGNIZING** that such GLPs are prevented from admitting more than 5 member firms and from having their member firms take on more than 5 lawyers, thus putting them in a position to leave or disband the GLP to grow.
7. **RECOGNIZING** that there is no basis to limit the GLP in the manner provided for under the GLP Rules.
  - 7.1. Even using the rationale behind the GLP Rules, which was to assist small firms, there are small firms with more than 5 lawyers.

- 7.2. The GLP Rules are discriminatory against such firms as they are still considered small firms but are prevented from adopting the GLP model.
- 7.3. Further, there is no basis to restrict the GLP model to only small firms. If other firms can benefit from the same model, they should be allowed to.
- 7.4. There is also no basis to limit the number of member firms to 5. Firms form GLP not only to save operational costs, but also for branding and marketing purposes.
- 7.5. There is no reason to prevent more than 5 small firms from forming a GLP in order to provide expertise in various subjects or areas of the law to clients under a united brand,
8. **RECOGNIZING** that other jurisdictions such as Singapore and Hong Kong which allow for the GLPs have placed no limit on the number of member firms and lawyers in member firms.
9. **RECOGNIZING** that the freedom of association is a fundamental right guaranteed under Article 10(1)(c) of the Federal Constitution and that lawyers should be given as many options for professional practice which best suit their own unique needs.
10. **RECOGNIZING** that the Malaysian Bar is statutorily bound to act in the best interest of the legal profession and its members as a whole and not just a particular segment of its members.

**IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED THAT:**

- (a) The Bar Council immediately take the necessary steps to amend the GLP Rules in the following manner:
1. The restriction on the maximum number of firms in a GLP under Rule 3(1) be removed; and
  2. The restriction on the maximum number of advocates and solicitors in each member firm under Rule 3(1)(a) be removed.
- (b) Alternatively, the Bar Council immediately take the necessary steps to amend the GLP Rules in the following manner:
1. The maximum number of firms in a GLP under Rule 3(1) be increased to 10 firms; and
  2. The maximum number of advocates and solicitors in each member firm under Rule 3(1)(a) be increased to 10 advocates and solicitors.
- (c) The amended GLP Rules be immediately sent to the Attorney-General for his approval and for it to be gazetted.

**Proposed by:**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>BC Number</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>ALVIN OH SEONG YEW</b>	<b>A/1844</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>LARISSA ANN LOUIS</b>	<b>L/2478</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>NEW SIN YEW</b>	<b>N/2169</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>SARAH YONG LI HSIEN</b>	<b>Y/807</b>
<b>5.</b>	<b>SURENDRA ANANTH</b>	<b>S/2982</b>

6.	VIVEK SUKUMARAN	V/278
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Seconded by:

No.	Name	BC Number
1.	ABANG MOHD IWAWAN BIN ABG NARAWI @ ABG NAWAWI	A/2478
2.	ABU HAZIQ BIN ABU TALIB	A/2486
3.	AISYAH AMALINA BINTI NORHAN	A/2869
4.	ALEX ANTON NETTO	N/1657
5.	ANAND RAJ	A/638
6.	AVTARAN SINGH A/L A D TEJWANT SINGH	A/303
7.	CHAI SIM ANN	C/1911
8.	CHAN EDWIN TOMAS JUNIOR	C/2249
9.	CHARLES HECTOR	C/712
10.	CHIN YUEN XIN	C/2296
11.	DENISE NG WAI LING	D/488
12.	DK VIVI FAZRENNIA BINTI ZAIDUN	D/505
13.	FOONG CHENG LEONG	F/358
14.	HANA NADIA BINTI ZAMRI	H/1258
15.	HARISH NAIR	H/967
16.	HAZWEEN SAMEERA MD HASSAN	H/1171
17.	HOR SU YING	H/891
18.	IRENE KAM SOK KHUAN	I/280
19.	IVAN FEDRIC	I/294
20.	JOLIN YEW CHEE IT	J/733
21.	JOSHUA WU KAI-MING	J/821

22.	KEE HUI YEE	K/1470
23.	KUHAN MANOKARAN	K/1515
24.	LAI YEE FAN	L/2007
25.	LEE MEI XIAN	L/2780
26.	LEE WEI YET	L/1994
27.	LIEW KWOK HAN	L/2693
28.	LIM WEI JIET	L/2466
29.	MARY ANN	M/3057
30.	MOHAMAD IZWAN BIN ZAKARIA	M/2344
31.	MUHAMMAD IZZAT BIN ZAINAL	M/3121
32.	NADHIRAH AMALINA BINTI ABDUL RAHMAN	N/3831
33.	NADIAH BINTI SALMAN	N/4404
34.	NIK ELIN ZURINA	N/155
35.	NURFATINI AIMAN BINTI MOHD ZAKI	N/4694
36.	OOI JIA LIANG	O/485
37.	PARVINDER KAUR	P/579
38.	PHOON WAI WEING	P/678
39.	PUA JIN HOUI	P/699
40.	RAJSURIAN PILLAI	R/1148
41.	SHUGAN RAMAN	S/3126
42.	SIA WAN JIN	S/3129
43.	STEPHENIE YUAN HUEY THENG	S/3275
44.	TAI ZEE QUEEN	T/2235
45.	TEH GUAT HONG	T/1151
46.	TOH GIM PHAIK	T/2178
47.	TUN YUN MING	T/1892
48.	WAN GUAN HUI	W/902
49.	WEERA PREMANANDA	W/970
50.	WILLIAM CH'NG WEI LIM	W/848