

CLIENTALERT

Leading Indonesian Antitrust Boutique Firm Rizkiana & Iswanto Teams Up with Assegaf Hamzah & Partners

Assegaf Hamzah & Partners is pleased to announce that it will join forces with dedicated antitrust boutique firm Rizkiana & Iswanto effective 1 October 2013. The tie-up will result in the creation of a new market leader in Indonesian antitrust/competition law.

Assegaf Hamzah is now one of the top four law firms in Indonesia, according to *Asian Legal Business*, with more than 60 fee earners and award-winning practices in capital markets, corporate finance, M&A and commercial litigation/arbitration. With two dedicated partners, and backed up by the four partners and 9 associates of our commercial litigation practice, the firm is ranked as "Highly recommended" by *Global Competition Review*.

For its part, Rizkiana & Iswanto, which was set up by former KPPU senior staff members HMBC Rikrik Rizkiyana and Vovo Iswanto in 2005, is a go-to firm in Indonesia for competition law, and is ranked as one of only two "Elite" competition/antitrust firms in the country by *Global Competition Review*. The tie-up will see the 7 member team, including lawyers and economists, led by founder and managing partner HMBC Rikrik Rizkiyana move to Assegaf Hamzah.

Overall, this move is also of strategic significance in the emerging landscape of antitrust practice in Southeast Asia. Recent rules issued by the KPPU greatly enhance and strengthen its capacity to monitor and control M&A activity, while the upcoming Asean Single Market in 2016 is expected to lead to a significant increase in crossborder M&A deals, with major implications for the development of the antitrust sector in this country.

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