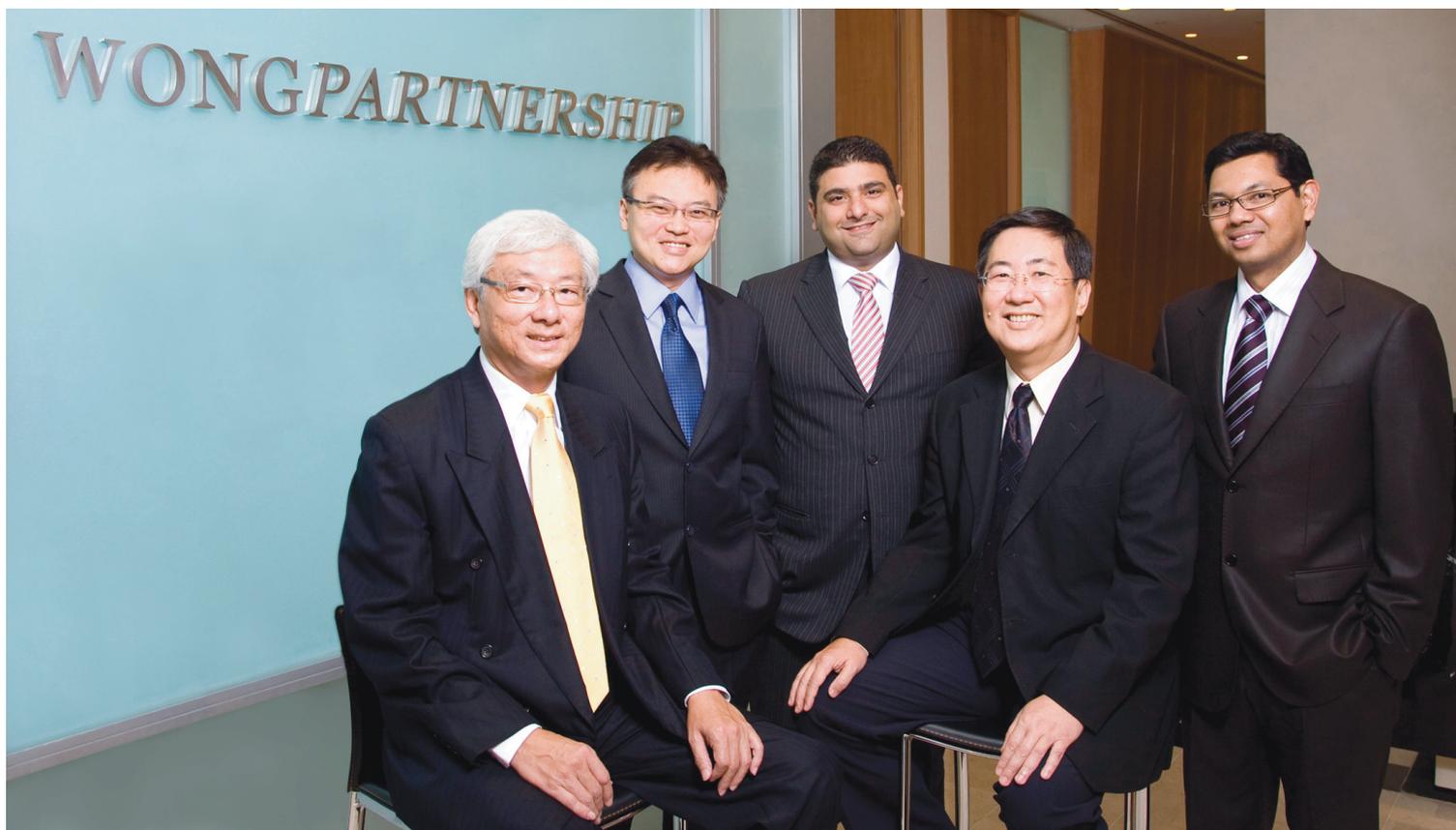


WONGPARTNERSHIP EXPANDS IN THE MIDDLE EAST WITH NEW OFFICE IN ABU DHABI

WongPartnership LLP has opened its second Middle East office in Abu Dhabi, taking the lead from the Singapore Government's push for companies to look towards business opportunities presented by the growing Middle East region. As one of the leading law firms in Singapore, WongPartnership has continually pursued global opportunities, firmly establishing its footprint overseas in the flourishing Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) region. The Abu Dhabi office is the Firm's third overseas office after its Qatar office which opened in May 2007, and Shanghai office, established in 2004.

With over US\$2 trillion worth of projects in the pipeline, the oil-rich GCC consists of some of the world's fastest-growing economies. Recognising the tremendous growth potential in this region, WongPartnership has established the Abu Dhabi office as the centre of its Middle East operations, which is headed by Partner, Paul Sandosham.

WongPartnership, established in 1992, has rapidly expanded to become one of the largest law firms in Singapore, seeing an exponential increase from 11 lawyers to over 200 lawyers within a short span of 16 years. WongPartnership's establishing of multi-jurisdictional operations is a natural step given that much of its work involves a cross-border element and almost 30% of its lawyers are non-Singaporeans, including lawyers from the People's Republic of China, Malaysia, India, Brunei, Japan, Vietnam, Indonesia and Lebanon.



L-R: Wong Meng Meng, Senior Counsel; Ng Eng Leng; Ziad Touma; Tan Chee Meng, Senior Counsel; and Paul Sandosham

Ng Eng Leng, a key senior Partner in WongPartnership's Corporate/Mergers & Acquisitions (M&A) practice has been transferred to the Abu Dhabi office to spearhead the development of the Firm's M&A and transactional platform in the Middle East, highlighting the Firm's commitment to establishing itself in the thriving Gulf States. Ziad Touma, an experienced commercial and real estate lawyer, who most recently worked at the leading UAE firm Habib Al Mulla, has also joined the Firm's Middle East team as Head of Corporate and Real Estate (Middle East). Ziad, who is fluent in Arabic, English and French, brings on board his years of working experience in the Middle East and his familiarity with the region.

Pooling together their experience and breadth of legal skills, the core Middle East team comprises Ng Eng Leng, Ziad Touma and Carol Anne Tan in the areas of corporate and commercial transactions, M&A and real estate, and Tan Chee Meng, Senior Counsel and Paul Sandosham in the area of infrastructure, projects & construction. The team is further augmented by the involvement of the Firm's Founder, Wong Meng Meng, Senior Counsel who has over 35 years of experience and whose principal focus is the development of the Firm's Middle East platform with the core team. Drawing from the expertise of over 200 lawyers experienced in local and cross-border work spanning Singapore, South East Asia, China, India and the Middle East, WongPartnership's Middle East Practice is well-placed to serve clients with their global and regional interests, in all fields of law and across a broad range of industries.

The legal landscape has changed in tandem with the globalised world and is no longer confined by national boundaries. WongPartnership's continual expansion underscores its commitment to better serve its clients' needs and also to tap into a pool of potential clients. With more overseas offices including the new Abu Dhabi office in the heart of the Middle East, WongPartnership is on the ground to assist clients and their increasingly globalised needs with well-honed expertise across the fields of capital markets, funds formation, M&A, real estate financing transactions and infrastructure, projects & construction work.

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WongPartnership LLP (Registration No. LL0800003D) is a limited liability law partnership registered in Singapore under the Limited Liability Partnerships Act (Chapter 163A). On 1 January 2008, it was converted from a firm to a limited liability partnership.