

**ALB MALAYSIA LAW AWARDS 2017**

**METHODOLOGY GUIDELINES**

**Part I**

**IMPORTANT DATES**

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| --- | --- |
| December 30 2016 | Opening of nominations |
| February 13 2017 | Deadline for nominations  *(Please submit nomination forms to*  [*yvonne.lau@thomsonreuters.com*](mailto:%20yvonne.lau@thomsonreuters.com)*)* |
| March 2017 | Announcement of finalists |
| 6 April 2017 | Awards ceremony (Kuala Lumpur) |

**Awards Inquiries**

Contact [Yvonne.Lau@thomsonreuters.com](mailto:Yvonne.Lau@thomsonreuters.com) or call (+852) 2843 6547 for any queries regarding the nomination process.

**Sponsorship Inquiries**Contact [Amantha.Chia@thomsonreuters.com](mailto:Amantha.Chia@thomsonreuters.com) or (+65) 6870 3917 for further details regarding sponsorship.

**Part II**

**GENERAL GUIDELINES**

1. All nominations must be written in the ALB nomination form provided, and ALB will not accept entries in any other format.
2. ALB accepts self-nominations in addition to third-party nominations.
3. Every work entry submitted in the nomination forms must be completed within the timeframe of 1 June 2015 to 31 May 2016.
4. For queries regarding eligibility, confidentiality and the nomination and assessment processes, please visit our FAQ Page.

**Part III**

**DEFINITION OF TERMS**

**The work highlights provided in the nomination forms will be judged based on the following criteria.**

**Breadth** - the degree to which the work spanned different jurisdictions, practice areas, parties and industries;

**Complexity** - the degree to which the work requires intricate legal principles or advanced techniques and structures;

**Impact or significance** - the degree by which the stakeholders, the bench and bar or the Malaysia community at large is affected;

**Improvement** - the degree to which the work involved improved techniques and structures;

**Innovation** - the degree to which the work involved original techniques and structures or innovative legal rules or regulations;

**Malaysia element** - any or all of the following: (a) one of the law firms involved must be based in Malaysia; (b) one of the parties to the deal must be based in Malaysia; (c) the contract/deal was executed/completed in Malaysia; or (d) the contract/deal must, in any way, be related to Malaysia;

**Third-party award or recognition (if applicable)** - that which is given by any award-giving organisation, public or private, other than ALB; and

**Work** - any transactions, cases or matters handled, and other legal services provided within the organisation or otherwise.

**Part IV**

**AWARD CATEGORIES**

**Deal Categories**

1. Debt Market Deal of the Year
2. Equity Market Deal of the Year
3. Islamic Finance Deal of the Year
4. M&A Deal of the Year (Midsize)
5. M&A Deal of the Year (Premium)
6. Malaysia Deal of the Year\*

(1) Specific Guidelines

1. **Malaysia element** Every entry submitted in the deal categories must have a Malaysia element as defined in Part II.
2. **Debt Market Deal of the Year; Equity Market Deal of the Year**; **Islamic Finance Deal of the Year** An organisation may submit up to three (3) deals for any of these categories. Each deal must have a minimum financial value (MFV) of USD 200 million.
3. **M&A Deal of the Year** **(Midsize/Premium)** An organisation may submit up to three (3) deals for either of these categories. Each deal must have a minimum financial value (MFV) of USD 250 million for the premium category; or be at least USD 50 million but not greater than USD 250 million for the midsize category.
4. **Deal of the Year** The winners from the other deal categories will automatically become finalists for Deal of the Year.

(2) Criteria. The evaluation of deals will be based on the following factors:

1. Complexity
2. Innovation/improvement
3. Breadth;
4. Impact/significance; and
5. Third-party awards/recognition.

**Team Categories**

**(i) Firm Categories**

7. Arbitration Law Firm of the Year

8. ASEAN Practice of the Year

9. Aviation Law Firm of the Year

10. Banking and Financial Services Law Firm of the Year

11. Boutique Law Firm of the Year

12. Corporate Citizenship Law Firm of the Year

13. East Malaysia Firm of the Year

14. Energy, Projects and Infrastructure Law Firm of the Year

15. International Deal Firm of the Year

16. Intellectual Property Law Firm of the Year

17. Islamic Finance Law Firm of the Year

18. Labour and Employment Law Firm of the Year

19. Litigation Law Firm of the Year

20. Malaysia Deal Firm of the Year

21. Malaysia Law Firm of the Year\*

22. Maritime Law Firm of the Year

23. Matrimonial and Family Law Firm of the Year

24. Mediation Law Firm of the Year

25. Real Estate Law Firm of the Year

26. Rising Law Firm of the Year

27. Technology, Media and Telecommunications Law Firm of the Year

28. West Malaysia Law Firm of the Year

**(ii) In-House Categories**

29. Banking and Financial Services In-House Team of the Year

30. Energy and Resources In-House Team of the Year

31. Malaysia In-House Team of the Year

32. Technology, Media and Telecommunications In-House Team of the Year

1. Specific Guidelines
2. **Physical office** All in-house teams with a physical office in Malaysia are qualified to join the nominations for any in-house categories. All law firms headquartered in Malaysia are qualified for any firm categories except for International Deal Firm of the Year; international law firms with offices in Malaysia are qualified to submit for the aforementioned.
3. **Malaysia In-House Team of the Year** In-house teams from all industries are qualified to submit for this category.
4. **Minimum Financial Value (MFV)** No MFV is required for deals submitted for any of the firm categories.
5. **Malaysia/International Deal Firm of the Year** Local law firms are qualified to nominate for the former, and law firms headquartered outside Malaysia are qualified to nominate for the latter. Each deal must have a “Malaysia element” as defined above.
6. **ASEAN Practice of the Year** Domestic law firms headquartered in Malaysia may join the nomination for this category.
7. **East/West Malaysia Law Firm of the Year** Law firms based in West Malaysia (Kuala Lumpur, Penang, etc) are qualified to submit for West Malaysia Law Firm of the Year; law firms based in East Malaysia (Sabah, Sarawak, etc) are qualified to submit for East Malaysia Law Firm of the Year.
8. **Boutique Law Firm of the Year** This category is open to Malaysian law firms with less than fifteen (15) partners and have a specific/niche practice area; it is not open to full service law firms.
9. **Rising Law Firm of the Year** This category is open to Malaysian law firms that have ten (10) partners or less and have established their offices in Malaysia for no more than three (3) years.
10. **Malaysia Law Firm of the Year** is not open for nomination. The winners from the above firm categories will automatically become finalists.
11. Criteria. The evaluation of entries for in-house categories will be based on the following factors:
12. Complexity;
13. Innovation/improvement;
14. Breadth;
15. Impact/significance; and
16. Third-party awards/recognition (when applicable)
17. No. of completed transactions (when applicable); and
18. Volume of completed transactions in USD (when applicable).

**Individual Categories**

1. Barrister of the Year
2. Dealmaker of the Year
3. Malaysia In-House Lawyer of the Year
4. Managing Partner of the Year
5. Woman Lawyer of the Year
6. Young Lawyer of the Year
7. Specific Guidelines
8. **Malaysia Award In-House Lawyer of the Year** An organization may only nominate one of its lawyers for this category, but may nominate more than one lawyer for any third-party nominations.
9. **Managing Partner of the Year** An organization may only nominate one of its lawyers for this category, but may nominate more than one lawyer for any third-party nominations.
10. **Woman Lawyer of the Year** A law firm partner or in-house lawyer who is female may nominate for this category.
11. **Young Lawyer of the Year** A law firm partner who is not more than forty (40) years of age may nominate for this category.