



# HERBERT SMITH FREEHILLS AND KEWEI JOINT OPERATION ADD CORPORATE COUNSEL TO STRENGTHEN CHINA CAPITAL MARKETS CAPABILITY

China  
News

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**[ARIEL LIN](#) JOINS HERBERT SMITH FREEHILLS IN HONG KONG\***

**[AGATHA SHEN](#) JOINS US AND CHINA QUALIFIED PARTNER STANLEY XIE, WHO LEADS THE HERBERT SMITH FREEHILLS KEWEI JOINT OPERATION'S CAPITAL MARKETS TEAM**

Leading global law firm Herbert Smith Freehills and its Shanghai joint operation firm Kewei have welcomed two new corporate counsel, Ariel Lin and Agatha Shen, further expanding capability in China capital markets expertise.

"These appointments come as our China capital markets team expands to meet growing client demands, particularly for listings in Hong Kong," said [Matt Emsley](#), Herbert Smith Freehills' China managing partner. "With extensive experience, Ariel and Agatha will join our busy high-performing teams, which work intensively on capital markets transactions and regulatory issues."

In the past two years, Herbert Smith Freehills and the joint operation have advised on 16 China IPOs in Hong Kong, ranking the eighth among 98 firms advising on international law aspects of offerings. The firm advised 10 of the 41 biotech IPOs listed under Chapter 18A,

ranking second in this sector with a market share of approximately 25%.

"With international expertise and local knowledge, Ariel, Agatha and our teams offer particular strength in advising Chinese companies on cross-border capital markets transactions," said [Stanley Xie](#), partner at Herbert Smith Freehills Kewei Joint Operation.

"From Hong Kong, Shanghai and Beijing, our talented local teams, qualified in the US, Hong Kong, PRC and other jurisdictions, have provided quality advice to clients on tight timelines, moving swiftly to assist their successful public offerings and other high-profile capital markets transactions. We are glad to welcome Ariel and Agatha on board to continue to strengthen our team," said Matt.

Ariel and Agatha will join a team of 15 corporate partners between Herbert Smith Freehills and the joint operation with Kewei based in Hong Kong, Shanghai and Beijing.

*\*Ariel's title is 'Foreign Registered Lawyer' to meet regulatory requirements in Hong Kong.*

### **ARIEL LIN**

Ariel advises a wide range of issuers and underwriters on capital markets transactions and corporate compliance issues. She specialises in initial public offerings (IPO) and general regulatory compliance matters for companies listed on the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong. Admitted in New York and New Jersey, Ariel holds a juris doctor degree and a master's degree in economics from Syracuse University and a bachelor's degree in international studies and business administration from Queens University in the United States. Fluent in English, she is a native Mandarin speaker and speaks FooChow and Cantonese.

### **AGATHA SHEN**

Agatha specialises in capital markets and other corporate finance transactions. She advises issuers and underwriters on initial public offerings (IPOs), share placings, spin-offs and mergers and acquisitions, and also works on subsequent compliance for companies listed in Hong Kong. Agatha holds a bachelor's degree in law from Fudan University in China and a master's degree in law from Columbia University in the United States. She has a PRC bar qualification and has passed the New York bar exam. Fluent in English, she is a native Mandarin speaker and also speaks Shanghainese.

ARIEL LIN\*

AGATHA SHEN STANLEY XIE

Herbert Smith Freehills (HSF) has announced the appointment of Ariel Lin and Agatha Shen as new partners in its Beijing office.

Matt Emsley, a partner in the firm's London office, has been appointed as a non-executive director of the company.

The firm's 16th IPO in the region, valued at \$98 billion, is expected to be completed by the end of 2018. The firm's revenue in the region is expected to increase by 25% in 2018.

Stanley Xie, a partner in the firm's Beijing office, has been appointed as a non-executive director of the company.

The firm's 10th IPO in the region, valued at \$41 billion, is expected to be completed by the end of 2018. The firm's revenue in the region is expected to increase by 15% in 2018.

The firm's 15th IPO in the region, valued at \$15 billion, is expected to be completed by the end of 2018.

\*In Jakarta, Herbert Smith Freehills' international counsel practise alongside its affiliate firm, Hiswara Bunjamin & Tandjung, one of Indonesia's leading commercial and corporate law firms.

Herbert Smith Freehills

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## NOTES FOR EDITORS

Operating from 26 offices across Asia Pacific, EMEA and North America, Herbert Smith Freehills is at the heart of the new global business landscape. With a nearly 40-year history in Asia, Herbert Smith Freehills has over 300 lawyers and legal professionals in the region, advising clients on complex corporate, disputes and finance matters from offices in Bangkok, Beijing, Hong Kong, Jakarta\*, Kuala Lumpur, Seoul, Shanghai, Singapore and Tokyo.

The firm's China corporate practice comprises 14 partners and over 60 lawyers, a leading practice in the region. The team advises on M&A, joint ventures, takeovers, demergers and capital market transactions from offices in Beijing, Hong Kong and Shanghai.

Herbert Smith Freehills is one of only eight international law firms permitted to integrate China law advice with international legal services through its joint operation with Kewei in the Shanghai Free Trade Zone.

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