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**PRESS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release

**ROBERT LAGERWEY IS GENERAL MANAGER FOR THE BRAND  
NEW HOTEL EQUATORIAL, KUALA LUMPUR**

Kuala Lumpur, 11 April 2018

Hotel Equatorial proudly announces the appointment of Robert Lagerwey as the General Manager for its brand new hotel, located on Jalan Sultan Ismail, Kuala Lumpur. Robert brings 25 years of leadership experience and dedication to the hospitality industry to his new role within Hotel Equatorial. Robert was recently with Pontiac Land Group for 7 years under the hospitality and real estate division, where he held various positions including Regional Vice President of Operations for the Capella Hotel Group Asia and General Manager of Capella Singapore.

Robert's degree in Hospitality from Hotel School The Hague provided him with a solid foundation for his success. Starting as a dishwasher and working his way up ensured that he knew the ins and outs of what makes a hotel work and providing great service. His career soared and was soon working for numerous independent and chain hotels in Chicago, Philadelphia, San Francisco, London, Bali, Seoul, Singapore, and most notably the Ritz-Carlton Singapore and BVLGARI Bali in the early 2000s.

Robert's passion for service excellence is contagious and his efforts were recognised when he was awarded by Hospitality Asia Platinum Awards (HAPA) as General Manager of the Year in Asia and Most Dynamic General Manager in Indonesia. On top of that, Robert was formerly Chairman of the Bali Hotel Association. Also, during his time at Capella Singapore, the hotel was awarded the *Forbes Travel Guide* Five-Star Rating several years in a row.

The original Hotel Equatorial was one out of a handful of 5-star hotels in 1970s and at the forefront of Malaysia's tourism industry. On 31 March 2012, the management made a forward-thinking decision to close its doors and build a new Equatorial. "We are delighted to have Robert head the new Equatorial KL. His experience and enthusiasm is perfect for how we intend to position the new flagship property for the Equatorial brand. The original hotel became a part of the social fabric in so many peoples' lives and the anticipation for the re-opening is enormous. As the new building takes its place in the new Kuala Lumpur skyline, we believe this wonderful new hotel will continue this tremendous legacy," said Mr. Donald Lim, Chief Operating Officer of Hotel Equatorial Management Sdn. Bhd.

Robert shared his vision, "The goal for Hotel Equatorial is to be positioned as the best in its class and set new service standards that will truly touch the hearts of its loyal supporters."

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#### **About Hotel Equatorial**

Hotel Equatorial operates a group of 5 international class hotels in China, Malaysia and Vietnam. With more than 4 decades of experience in offering affordable business-class accommodation in Asia, Hotel Equatorial is also recognized for its high quality food and beverage services, such as its award-winning signature restaurants, Golden Phoenix (Chinese) and Kampachi (Japanese). Further information on the Equatorial is available at [www.equatorial.com](http://www.equatorial.com)

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