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Anantara Lawana Koh Samui Resort is delighted to announce that Executive Chef Azizskandar Awang has won the prestigious Chef Hotelier of the Year award at The Hotelier Awards Asia 2018.

The fifth annual Hotelier Awards was hosted on 23 May 2018 in Singapore to recognise outstanding professional excellence across Asia's hospitality sector. Attended by over 350 hoteliers and industry professionals, the glittering event celebrated award winners who shone amongst stiff competition, decided by a panel of expert industry judges in a two-round process, based on applications, interviews and testimonials.

The Hotelier Awards Asia 2018 showcases the region's most talented and hardworking hoteliers who create the most meaningful guest experiences, deliver the best financial results and make a positive impact on team members. Hospitality professionals were shortlisted from over 70 international hotel brands, with Executive Chef Azizskandar Awang of Anantara Lawana Koh Samui Resort crowned the Chef Hotelier of the Year.

Malaysian-born Chef Aziz has a stellar reputation for skilful creativity and culinary art. Hailed as The Best Young Chef in Malaysia, he is now the proud Executive Chef of Anantara Lawana Koh Samui and played a vital role in the resort's recent awards, including Thailand Tatler Best Restaurant 2017, the TripAdvisor Winner of the 2017 Top 10 Fine Dining Restaurants Thailand, The 2017 World Luxury Restaurant Awards – Luxury Unique Experience: Continent Winner, The 2017 World Luxury Restaurant Awards – Fine Dining Cuisine: Country Winner, and the Award of Excellence 2017 by Wine Spectator.

In the past year, Chef Aziz has exceeded expectations by developing his HACCP skills, volunteering to train kitchen staff at a new sister resort on Koh Samui, and participating in an animal rescue charity initiative. Renowned for his great working relationship with other hotel departments, he keenly shared his best practices and concepts with Housekeeping, Spa and Front Office to raise service and operation standards across the hotel.

Impressive testimonials highlight his professionalism and popularity. Anantara Lawana's General Manager Dylan Counsel applauded his excellent performance to enhance the hotel's reputation and increase revenue. In 2017 Chef Aziz organised highly successful wine dinner events in collaboration with other top Koh Samui chefs. Elevating dining experiences at Anantara Lawana, Chef Aziz managed key kitchen upgrades and crafted an excited new menu for the signature restaurant Tree Tops Sky Dining & Bar. During the resort's renovation period,

Chef Aziz volunteered for a task force team at the first Anantara in Europe, Anantara Vilamoura Resort in Portugal, where he was congratulated for his outstanding work in sharing his knowledge and experience with more than 70 team members at six high quality outlets. Glowing testimonials from resort team members commended Chef Aziz for his culinary mastery, passion, calmness, leadership and integrity, mentoring skills and true team spirit, as well as being a great communicator with high praise for his hardworking staff.

Discover five-star island dining crafted by award-winning Executive Chef Azizskandar Awang – exclusively at Anantara Lawana Koh Samui Resort.

For reservations or more information, please tel +66 77 960 333, email lawanasamui@anantara.com or visit www.anantara.com/en/lawana-koh-samui

Picture shows (from left to right):

- 1. Mr. Christophe Laurent, Values Ambassador of Ecole hôtelière de Lausanne (EHL)
- 2. Chef Azizskandar Awang, Executive Chef of Anantara Lawana Koh Samui Resort
- 3. Mr. Renaud Tinel, Regional Business Manager, Nespresso Asia