

Reactivate 1MDB special taskforce, MACC man tells AG

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Zikri Kamarulzaman

Attorney-General Mohamed Apandi Ali has been urged to reactivate the special taskforce probing 1MDB.

Outgoing MACC deputy commissioner (management and professionalism) Zakaria Jaafar said this is because the taskforce has not met for quite some time.

"I understand that the special taskforce has not met since MACC chief Abu Kassim Mohamed returned from overseas to get more information to strengthen the case in late July," he said.

Speaking at his retirement ceremony in Kuala Lumpur today, Zakaria said this is in line with the Conference of Rulers decree for the 1MDB probe to be wrapped up quickly.

Apandi has said that the taskforce has not been disbanded, contrary to an MACC statement in August citing him as saying that the taskforce is no more.

Of the taskforce members, only the police and MACC have not completed their probe.

The AGC has decided not to pursue further action on Bank Negara's probe into 1MDB.

To avoid public distrust over such decisions, Zakaria proposed that Apandi set up an independent panel to review investigation papers on 1MDB, SRC International and Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak's RM2.6 billion donation.

The panel he said should consist of an ex-AG, a former judge, and a member of the Malaysian Bar.

"This is similar to the panel of three former judges who reviewed investigation papers on former-AG Abdul Gani Patail," Zakaria said.

He also wants the MACC to submit its investigation papers to the independent panel overseeing the graft buster before handing it to the AG's Chambers.

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