

Your Gateway to Legal Excellence Across the Continent

CMS Africa



Local insight. Global reach. Committed to Africa.



Pedro Couto
Chairman, CMS Africa Steering Committee
T +258 84 333 3340
E pcouto@cga.co.mz

It is my pleasure to introduce you to CMS Africa's latest brochure, reflecting our ambition to set the standard for legal services across the continent.

Africa's opportunities are evolving rapidly. The continent's growth is driven not only by its natural resources but also by urbanization, a dynamic and youthful population, and technological innovation. At CMS Africa, we are uniquely positioned to help clients navigate this fast-changing landscape, combining international standards with African excellence. Our approach is shaped by the realities and opportunities of Africa today: the emergence of new industries, rapid urbanization, and the vibrancy of its people. We are committed to guiding our clients through this dynamic environment, leveraging deep local insight alongside the highest international standards.

We have a clear mission: to be a top-tier, client-focused African law firm, building trusted relationships and harnessing our heritage and dynamism to support clients across Africa's key markets. We achieve this by partnering with high-quality local practices and lawyers, delivering seamless, international-standard legal services rooted in local insight.

Our multidisciplinary teams, managed by a single point of contact, ensure a seamless, client-driven service in your language and sector, across all key jurisdictions.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or should you require any further information.

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Our coverage

CMS is one of the most active law firms on the continent, with our seven offices located in dynamic African hubs: Casablanca, Ebene, Johannesburg, Luanda, Maputo, Mombasa and Nairobi, and a longstanding network of local correspondents and trusted relationships with law firms in most other countries across the continent.





Proven and distinct sector knowledge

Every industry is different—unique market dynamics, specialized jargon, and distinct regulations. That's why CMS Africa is built around the sectors our clients work in. Our lawyers are immersed in and passionate about their clients' industries, delivering expert, pragmatic, and business-focused advice, as well as innovative, industry-shaping solutions that help you move forward with confidence.

With strong Arabic, Francophone, Lusophone, Anglophone, and now Mauritian offerings, CMS delivers services focused on your sector and speaks your language. CMS Africa specializes in energy, infrastructure, hotels & leisure, financial institutions, and technology, media & communications (TMC).



Committed to Africa for the long term

CMS Africa is core to CMS's global strategy. We are investing in our teams across our offices in Casablanca, Johannesburg, Nairobi, Luanda, Maputo, Mombasa, and Ebene. This long-term commitment means extensive

investment in our local and international clients, supporting those investing and operating in Africa for sustainable growth and success.



A proven track record

With decades of experience in legal and tax advisory services across Africa, we have worked with states, governments, global corporations, investment funds, financial institutions, and economic operators in a wide range of sectors. This breadth of experience enhances our lawyers' commerciality, cultural sensitivity, and technical expertise—bringing

you well-rounded experts who anticipate challenges and meet them head-on. We ensure that our CMS Africa offices benefit from the technical resources of a global organization, including bespoke CMS-developed technology and AI solutions that deliver cost and time savings to our clients.

CMS Africa at a glance



Africa Top 50, 2024

14th largest law firm in Africa

Highly ranked by Chambers Global, IFLR1000 and Legal 500

500 in Angola, Kenya, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, South Africa as well as in our international Africa desks



Specialist and established Africa-focused teams and desks serving clients in all major business languages: English, French, Arabic, Dutch, and Portuguese



Over 150 lawyers

across Africa and our international Africa desks



7 offices in African hubs

Johannesburg, Nairobi, Mombasa, Maputo, Luanda, Casablanca, and Ebene



Deals completed in over 40 African countries between 2016 and 2025



Sector and Practice Expertise

CMS has been helping clients succeed in Africa for over 50 years, advising across all major industry sectors. By working with CMS Africa, our clients benefit from the expertise and experience of our market-leading local practices and direct access to high-quality, coordinated, and multi-jurisdictional legal advice across the continent and beyond.

Industry Sectors



Consumer Products



Funds



Energy & Climate Change



Life Sciences & Healthcare



Hotels & Leisure



Private Equity



Infrastructure & Projects



Technology, Media & Communications



Insurance

Practice areas



Banking & Finance



Employment & Pensions



Competition & EU



Intellectual Property



Commercial



Public Procurement



Corporate/M&A



Real Estate & Construction



Dispute Resolution



Tax

Our track record

Energy & Utilities / Oil & Gas

Azule Energy – Advising on the first international farm-out transaction, involving the acquisition of a 42.5% participating interest in Block 2914A, offshore Namibia.

BP / Eni Joint Venture – Advising on Angolan law aspects relating to the integration and consolidation of upstream portfolios in Angola.

BP plc (Egypt) – Advising on the acquisition of a 10% stake (with an option for a further 5%) in the Zohr gas field.

Bumi Armada Berhad – Advising on the EPC framework, construction and operation of an FPSO offshore Angola.

ENI – Advising on the Coral South FLNG Project in Mozambique, Africa's first deep-water FLNG development.

Local Consortium (Angola) – Advising on the financing, construction and O&M structuring of an FPSO to support offshore oil developments.

Ministry of Petroleum & Mining (Kenya) – Advising on the development of mid-stream and downstream petroleum regulations and sector policy.

MODEC – Regulatory and compliance advice relating to FPSO operations offshore Ghana.

National Oil Company (Angola) – Representing in two LCIA arbitrations concerning unpaid cash calls under a JV (approx. USD 80m).

Schlumberger (Nigeria) – Advising on a USD 1bn offshore investment structured under a performance-linked "pseudo-equity" model.

West African Independent O&G Company – Advising on an equity/asset swap with Eco (Atlantic) relating to Block 3B/4B in South Africa.

Power / Renewables

Development Bank of Southern Africa – Equity lender in two 100 MW private offtake solar PV projects.

GMNK / Mphanda Nkuwa – Advising on one of Africa's largest hydropower developments on the Zambezi River.

Kenya Power & Lighting Company – Advising on Africa's largest wind IPP, the Lake Turkana Wind Project.

Sun Africa – Advising on a USD 1.9bn national electrification and solar mini-grid programme (500 MW).

Mining

Chinese Investors – Advising on a USD 471m investment in the Chibuto heavy mineral sands project (Mozambique).

Exxaro Resources Limited – Advising on the disposal of Exxaro Coal Central, South Africa's largest coal asset transaction.

Global Platinum Group Metals Producer – Advising on intragroup funding for the acquisition of Canadian mining assets.

IFC / Engee PET Manufacturing (Nigeria) – Advising on the financing of a 150,000 MT/year PET polymerisation facility.

Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) – Advising on multi-jurisdictional acquisitions across Australia and Africa.

Pan-African Financial Services Group – Advising on a EUR 500m revolving credit facility to a global diamond producer.

Infrastructure & Projects

African Development Bank – Advising on a USD 1bn, 25-year loan to Transnet SOC (South Africa).

AfDB & DBSA – Advising on a USD 70m loan to Mozambique Railways (CFM) for rolling-stock procurement.

Consortium of financial institutions in Hungary
– Advising on the financing and security structuring of a bond issuance to support a toll road and related cross border infrastructure between Zambia and the Democratic Republic of Congo, involving Hungary and Mauritius.

Gemcorp – Advising on a USD 6bn national water infrastructure modernisation programme (Angola).

Global Logistics Operator – Advising on a USD 280m JV with Marsa Maroc for the operation of the Nador West Med terminal.

Lagune Tagba Coastal Works (Côte d'Ivoire) – Legal and tax structuring for large-scale coastal protection works.

Meridiam – Advising on contractual arrangements for the Dakar Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Project.

Pemba Bulk Terminal (Mozambique) – Advising on the development of a USD 222m port and logistics hub.

TransNamib Rail Services – Advising on a EUR 110m DBSA loan for fleet renewal and technology upgrades.

Unicargas (Angola) – Advising on port concession renegotiation and JV structuring with Abu Dhabi partners.

Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs)

Department of Labour (South Africa) – PPP for rehabilitation centres under the Compensation Fund.

eThekweni Water & Sanitation – PPP for the Northern Kwa Mashu Wastewater Treatment Works.

Sasol & CTRG – Advising on Mozambique's first large-scale gas-fired power PPP (140 MW).

Umgeni Water – PPP for biogas cogeneration IPP linked to wastewater infrastructure.

United Nations – PPP regulatory training and advisory support to Angola's Logistics Regulatory Agency.

Corporate/M&A, Commercial, Private Equity & Funds

Acumen Resilient Agriculture Fund – Agritech investments across Mauritius and Ethiopia.

Africa's Largest Asset Manager – Acquisition of a 40% stake in a €250m property SPV.

Eaton Corporation plc – Advising on EMEA-wide aspects of the USD 3bn sale of its Global Hydraulics Business.

Jubilee Holdings – Expansion of insurance operations across five African jurisdictions.

Orey Africa – Advising on a USD 20m multi-jurisdictional MBO and equity restructuring.

PPF & Vox Ventures – Acquisition of Robertson & Caine, South Africa's leading boat manufacturer.

Primary Health Properties plc – Secondary listing on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange.

Siemens Gamesa – Advising on the EUR 600m disposal of a wind farm portfolio (EU, Kenya, Greece).

Technology, Media & Communications

Inframed / Eutelsat JV – Satellite broadband rollout across Sub-Saharan Africa.

MTN – CeTTA – Establishment of the Pan-African Tech Transformation Centre.

Multichoice Africa Holdings – Acquisition of BetKing.

The Walt Disney Company – Feasibility study for the rollout of a digital app across Africa.

US Technology Conglomerate – Development of a hyperscale data centre in Cape Town.

World Bank – Multi-jurisdictional advisory on digital ID, authentication and cybersecurity.

Tax

Global Renewable Energy Company – Tax structuring for the acquisition of a nuclear steam business, including SA securities transfer tax.

Marine Contractor (Senegal) – Tax structuring for subsea works at the Sangomar oil field.

Maritime Sector Client – Tax audits and compliance support for port expansion projects in Tunisia and Mauritania.

Safaricom PLC – Advising on an USD 8m cross-border employee share award scheme (Kenya/Ethiopia).

Banking & Finance

Absa Bank – ZAR 1bn term facility for a major telecom operator.

Agence Française de Développement – €200m green bond subscription (DBSA).

FMO – Dutch Development Bank – USD 10m financing using Mauritian/African guarantor structures.

InfraCo Africa – Debt investment supporting rural agriculture in Senegal.

JUMO World Uganda – First structured crypto-finance lending deal in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Standard Bank – USD 2bn Structured Note Programme.

Dispute Resolution

African Development Finance Institution – Recovery of €30m in a major infrastructure dispute in Mali.

Fresh Del Monte Produce Inc. – Large-scale human rights litigation involving 500+ claimants (Kenya).

Alteo Energy Ltd – Successfully represented the taxpayer in a landmark case before the Supreme Court of Mauritius on the interpretation of the partial exemption regime in line with the BEPS Action 5 proposals and its commitment to satisfy OECD's BEPS minimum standard.

D. Galea – Successfully represented the taxpayer before the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in London. The judgment now stands as the authority on the meaning of "business" and "view to profit" within the meaning section 2 of the ITA, marking a first precedent in Mauritius.

Global Oilfield Services Multinational – USD 2bn+ EPC arbitration relating to a chemical plant in Nigeria.

Minerali Industriali SRL – Representing in ICSID arbitration under the Italy–Tunisia BIT.

Patel Engineering Ltd. – Representing in a USD 3.2bn arbitration under the Mozambique–India BIT.



Working better, faster

The world is changing rapidly — and so are we.

At CMS, our clients benefit from bespoke CMS-developed technology as well as industry-leading AI solutions. Our global partnership with **Harvey**, one of the most advanced GenAI platforms in the legal sector, further strengthens our ability to deliver faster, smarter and more efficient legal services across Africa and beyond. Below are some of the ways we use technology to create real value for our clients.

Increasing efficiency and reducing the costs of disputes

Disputes often involve large volumes of documentation. Our e-disclosure team, **CMS Evidence**, uses the latest review and analysis tools to organise, search and structure complex data in a cost-effective way. This allows us to scope, budget and manage the entire disclosure process from start to finish — saving time, reducing costs and improving accuracy.

Using AI to improve processes

Due diligence, data analysis and contract review can be time-consuming and complex. With advanced AI tools — including Harvey's GenAI technology — we can review vast quantities of information rapidly and with precision. These tools enable us to:

- Cluster, compare and analyse data from multiple sources
- Visualise key patterns and insights
- Search thousands of documents accurately and at speed
- Reduce manual review effort while enhancing quality

By integrating cutting-edge GenAI into our workflows, we help clients make better decisions, faster — and ensure CMS Africa continues to deliver innovative, efficient and future-focused legal solutions.

Keeping you up to date

As well as sharing our insights and experience with individual clients, we publish a wide range of material on legal developments and trends.

Legal Updates



Our market-leading electronic information service provides regular updates on key legal issues. This tailored service enables you to stay up to date with the legal developments that matter to you.

Register at [cms.law](https://www.cms.law)

CMS eLearning



Our online eLearning solution helps clients build and evolve their compliance and risk-management programmes. Read more about our off-the-shelf courses or explore how a bespoke solution can meet your needs at [CMS eLearning](#)

Training and seminars

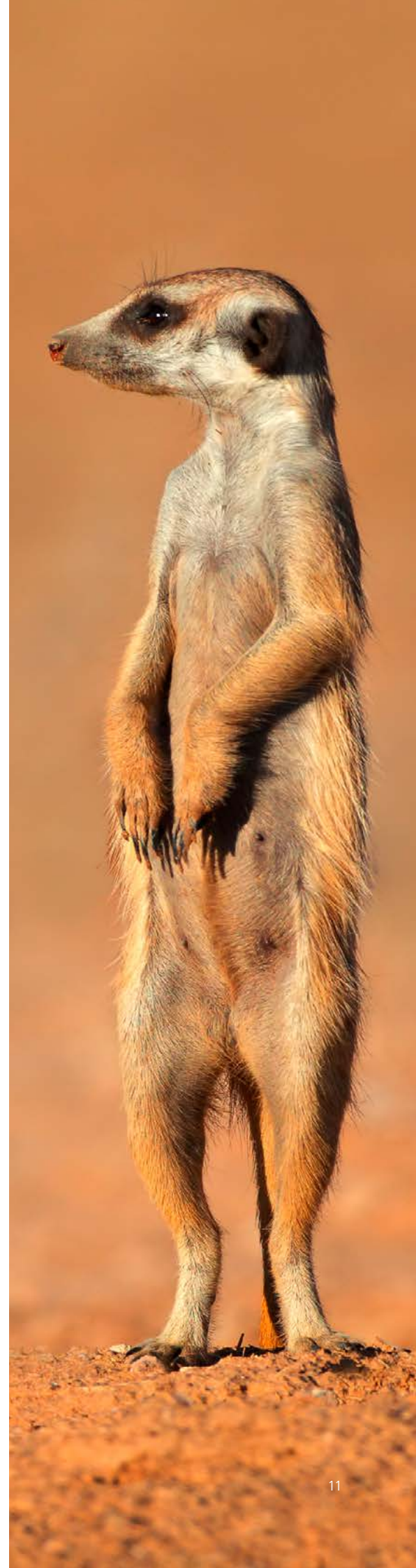


We regularly host interactive webinars, bespoke training sessions and seminars led by CMS experts across multiple jurisdictions. These sessions give clients direct access to real-time legal and business insights, helping them stay informed and supported as trusted advisers and corporate partners.

LinkedIn



Follow CMS Africa on [LinkedIn](#) to be part of our conversation. We post articles, event information and general commentary.





They are very responsive and knowledgeable about African markets. The quality of their approach and the relationship is uncommon and deeply appreciated.

*Chambers & Partners
Global Guide
Projects & Energy – Africa Wide*

Your CMS Africa key contacts

CMS South Africa

3rd Floor, 82 Maude Street, Sandton, 2196,
Johannesburg, South Africa



Riza Moosa

Managing Director
T +27 (0) 87 210 0711
E riza.moosa@cms-rm.com

CMS Kenya

6th Floor ABC Towers ABC Place, Waiyaki Way,
Nairobi, Kenya

Sea View Plaza, Mama Ngina Drive, 80100,
Mombasa, Kenya



Samir Inamdar

Senior Partner
T +254 0711 064 000
E samir.inamdar@cms.di.com

CMS Mozambique

Av. 24 de Julho, 7 7º andar (floor) | Maputo
Moçambique



Pedro Couto

Chairman
T +258 21 496 900
E pcouto@cga.co.mz

CMS Angola

Edifício Kimpa Vita Atrium, Rua Joaquim Kapango,
5, Luanda, Angola



Luís Borba Rodrigues

Managing Partner
T +244 933 865 867
E luis.borbarodrigues@cms-lbr.com

CMS Morocco

Immeuble B, Résidence le Yacht, 63 Boulevard de la Corniche,
Casablanca 20250, Morocco



Rachida Charifi

Senior Counsel
T +212 522 22 86 86
E rachida.charifi@cms-fl.com

CMS Mauritius

Level 7, Icon Ebene, Rue de L'Institut, Ebene, Mauritius



Johanne Hague

Managing Director

T +230 403 0901

E johanne.hague@cms-prism.com

CMS Lusophone Africa Practice

Rua Castilho, 50 1250-071, Lisbon, Portugal



Alberto Galhardo Simoes

Head of Lusophone Africa Practice

T +351 21 095 81 00

E alberto.simoes@cmsportugal.com

CMS Francophone Africa Practice

2 rue Ancelle, 92522, Neuilly-sur-Seine Cedex, France



Deana D'Almeida

Head of Tax: Africa Practice

T +33 1 47 38 43 28

E deana.dalmeida@cms-fl.com



Foucaud Jaulin

Partner, Africa Practice

T +33 1 47 38 40 80

E foucaud.jaulin@cms-fl.com

CMS Anglophone Africa Practice

Cannon Place, 78 Cannon Street, London, EC4N 6AF, United Kingdom



Hugo Coetzee

Head of Anglophone Practice

T +44 20 7367 3395

E hugo.coetzee@cms-cmno.com



“What we like very much about the team is its balance in applying law to commercial realities. I have dealt with several lawyers at the firm and the quality is consistent.”

“The team is very responsive and knowledgeable about clients and the African market.”

“CMS is excellent on cross-border work.”

*Chambers & Partners
Global Guide
Corporate/M&A & Private
Equity – Africa Wide*

Staff

> **10,000**

58% female

Lawyers

> **7,200**

52,4% female



56 new partners in 2024, taking the total to over **1,300** 



19 Practice and Sector Groups working across offices

offices



92

cities



87

countries



50

The Americas

Bogotá
Lima
Mexico City
Rio de Janeiro
Santiago de Chile
São Paulo
Silicon Valley*

Europe

Aberdeen	Duesseldorf	London	Rome
Amsterdam	Edinburgh	Luxembourg	Sarajevo
Antwerp	Frankfurt	Lyon	Sheffield
Barcelona	Funchal	Madrid	Skopje
Belgrade	Geneva	Manchester	Sofia
Bergen	Glasgow	Milan	Stavanger
Berlin	Gothenburg	Monaco	Stockholm
Bratislava	Hamburg	Munich	Strasbourg
Bristol	Istanbul	Oslo	Stuttgart
Brussels	Kyiv	Paris	Tirana
Bucharest	Leipzig	Podgorica	Vienna
Budapest	Lisbon	Poznan	Warsaw
Cologne	Liverpool	Prague	Zagreb
Dublin	Ljubljana	Reading	Zurich



Casablanca
Ebene
Johannesburg
Luanda
Maputo
Mombasa
Nairobi

Africa

Abu Dhabi
Dubai
Muscat
Riyadh
Tel Aviv

Middle East

Beijing
Bengaluru
Brisbane
Chennai
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Hyderabad
Mumbai
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Asia-Pacific

*Representative Office

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