

Legal precision in privacy, data security and data protection

Expert legal advisers in Africa

Precious resources need meticulous care

The challenges arising from data are countless and inescapable in our maturing technological landscape. To future-proof your organisation, and unlock opportunity from your data, you need alert and experienced lawyers who will deliver practical advice. Our team of experts includes former regulators who have been right at the heart of the development of the legal landscape in this critical area.

One-stop-shop 

Clients turn to CMS to advise on global data privacy, protection and information security projects. Leading multinational companies, many of which hold large amounts of sensitive data and are heavily regulated, instruct us to advise on multi-jurisdictional projects.

Global AND local 

Our teams are flexible in that they handle both large multinational projects but can also deep-dive for niche, country-specific advice. The teams are on the ground in the most dynamic regional hubs in Africa, speak the local language and understand the local laws – but crucially in a global context.

Pragmatism and business acumen 

CMS has a knack for turning legal advice into practical solutions that make sense not just to your legal teams, but to your other employees, such as the HR function, or software engineers.



Selected experience

CMS is highly experienced in delivering data protection and information security projects for large multinationals and growing businesses alike. In addition to our extensive geographical scope across Africa and a pragmatic and commercial mindset, CMS is well-placed to turn legal advice into practical solutions for your business.

An American medical technology provider

On their compliance with the requirements of South Africa's data privacy legislation and localising their Global privacy policies (which had been drafted to comply with the EU GDPR).

A South African fibre and mobile network construction solutions provider

On a highly sensitive and confidential investigation into a cybercrime incident with resultant economic losses. Based on the investigative procedures performed, we advised on securing its IT systems & registration of a criminal case.

A global beauty & cosmetic brand

On the application of South Africa's Data Privacy Legislation to the rollout of electronic and automation systems specifically focusing on sales (invoicing customers), purchases (receiving invoicing from suppliers) and storage of information.

A leading technology platform provider

On data breach and notification/reporting obligations under data protection legislation in Kenya.

Kenyan Corporates

On the full spectrum of data protection issues arising from Kenyan data protection legislation particularly on the statutory obligations of data controllers and processors.

A listed South African telco

In relation to its compliance with South Africa's Data Privacy Legislation, the Protection of Personal Information Act No 4 of 2013.

The World Bank

On digital ID authentication legal and regulatory frameworks in Zimbabwe, Lesotho, Madagascar and Sudan.

International online platform

On the design and implementation of a solution for the platform's data subject access request process, including resource, process and technology.

Multinational pharmaceutical provider

On several complex Ad Tech projects, including its sophisticated data-sharing arrangements and centralisation of its data management platforms.

The World Bank

In Eswatini and Bolivia as regards to matters of privacy, data protection, data sharing, cybersecurity, interoperability, non-discrimination and inclusions, and the recognition and equivalence of digital transactions.

Data protection tools and insight



Data Law Navigator



Want a quick snapshot of data privacy and cybersecurity laws in more than 30 countries?

Visit: datalawnavigator.com



GDPR Enforcement Tracker



View a running list of fines and penalties which data protection authorities within the EU have imposed under GDPR.

Visit: enforcementtracker.com



Law-Now



Our market-leading electronic information service provides regular updates on key legal issues. This tailored service enables you to keep up to date with the legal developments that matter to you. Register at cms-lawnow.com



The team is commercial, practical and responsive which helps get deals done smoothly.

Legal 500, Angola



Market observers report that it is “a practice of very good quality”.

Chambers and Partners Global Guide



Customer service, availability, dedication and knowledge of the subject and local legislation.

Chambers and Partners Global Guide



Prominent player offering multifaceted expertise and significant experience across the OHADA region.

Chambers and Partners Global Guide

Our coverage

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



CMS Africa at a glance



Legal 500

*Ranked in 21 categories (5 in tier 1)
6 leading lawyers, 2 Hall of fame*

Chambers

*Ranked in 5 categories (1 band 1)
9 ranked lawyers (2 band 1)*



**Specialist Africa-focused teams in Africa,
France, Portugal, the Middle East, Asia
and the UK**



> 120 experts



**6 offices in
African hubs**



**Services in French, Arabic, English &
Portuguese**



**Deals completed in over 40 African
countries between 2016–2020**

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