



One Firm Worldwide<sup>SM</sup>



## AFRICA PRACTICE

Jones Day has had decades of experience advising clients on transactions and disputes in more than 30 African countries. While we focus on the energy and mining sectors, our experience also encompasses banking and finance, commodities, telecommunications and water. We have acted for a variety of oil and gas majors and independents, state-owned and parastatal petroleum companies, power and construction firms, and mining companies on financing, developing and managing activities from Algeria to Zambia. Our involvement covers the entire transactional cycle, ranging from the structuring of investments to project development and financing. We act on corporate and asset acquisitions (particularly in the mineral and hydrocarbon sectors), crisis management and dispute resolution, and our range of services includes project finance, energy, mergers and acquisitions, general corporate and commercial law, banking and finance, capital markets, tax, and litigation and arbitration.

Our Africa team, led by lawyers in the Paris Office, includes lawyers resident in 19 Firm offices on four continents, providing clients with access to French-, UK- and US-qualified lawyers across all major time zones. Our team comprises seasoned practitioners who have spent extended periods in Africa (some on client secondment) and who are accustomed to advising clients in this region. We regularly travel across the continent and constantly monitor commercial and legal developments as they unfold.

Our lawyers are able to advise on matters of French, English and US law and regularly provide input on contracts in English, French, Portuguese and Spanish—the major business languages of Africa. Additionally, we can deploy dual-qualified practitioners at ease with civil- as well as common-law structures, drawing on valuable experience that enables us to navigate between these two systems to protect the interests of our clients.

The Firm has cultivated nonexclusive relationships with reliable and competent local law firms in each jurisdiction that are qualified to opine on questions of local law identified by our team. Thanks to this extensive network, we can easily identify qualified local counsel, whether our client's business involves offshore oil drilling in Angola, telecommunications in Madagascar or gold mining in Guinea. We have also built relationships with bar associations, regulatory authorities, local and national governmental authorities, and supranational organizations charged with managing the development of business law, and we leverage these relationships in support of the client's objectives.

## A NUANCED APPROACH

At Jones Day, we are convinced that combining a sophisticated understanding of the legal, social and commercial conditions on the continent with clear insight into our clients' needs affords us the ability to counsel international clients on inward investments in Africa and guide African companies in their outward financing and operational activities.

## LEADERSHIP IN AFRICAN OIL AND GAS

The lawyers in our Africa Practice have multidisciplinary experience in the oil and gas sector in Africa that encompasses the entire petroleum supply chain, including the following:

- Project structuring, development and operation.
- Upstream, midstream and downstream oil and gas, including LNG.
- Mergers, acquisitions and joint ventures.
- Construction and operations contracting.
- Domestic and international dispute resolution.
- Local, national and cross-border tax.

Drawing on extensive experience in the oil and gas sector, our lawyers have advised clients throughout the bidding process for upstream or downstream assets, with respect to the origination of fresh awards as well as private acquisition and disposal of oil and gas assets or corporations.

We assist clients from the preliminary review of documentation prior to bidding through the structuring of transactions, in addition to the drafting and negotiation of transfers or grant documentation.

We also have experience managing disputes in the oil and gas sector, not only during litigation and arbitration procedures, but during the pre-litigation stages as well.

## AT THE CUTTING EDGE: AFRICAN MINING

The Firm's Africa Practice has advised mining companies, financial institutions and state-owned entities on all aspects of mining projects in French-, Portuguese-, Spanish- and English-speaking countries across the African continent.

### LARGE-SCALE MINING PROJECTS

Jones Day has acquired significant experience in large-scale mining projects involving not only exploration, mining and processing, but also the development and construction of associated infrastructure, including energy supply, roads and railways, and port facilities. These projects cut across diverse legal disciplines, requiring the navigation of corporate, commercial, tax, environmental and investment protection issues.

### MINING ASSET ACQUISITIONS AND DISPOSALS

Members of our Paris team frequently advise clients on the acquisition and disposal of direct or indirect interests in mining titles and on the corporations holding such assets.

### AT THE FOREFRONT OF LEGAL REFORMS

The Firm stays abreast of, and actively shapes, the new policies and legal frameworks driving investment. Jones Day lawyers regularly lecture visiting senior members of African mining authorities on international mining projects.

## FINANCING AFRICA'S DEVELOPMENT: BANKS, INFRASTRUCTURE AND TELECOMS

Jones Day has a strong commitment to assisting in the financing and development of Africa's financial, physical and communications infrastructure.

We have acted for global and African banks in a variety of financing transactions, for power companies in the development of conventional and renewable power plants and for telecom companies in the construction of new telephone and wireless networks. Jones Day is proud to have assisted in these projects, many of which received industry awards.

## POWERING AFRICA'S DEVELOPMENT: ELECTRICITY GENERATION

Jones Day has advised consortia of energy multinationals and global energy supermajors on the construction and development of thermal power plants in numerous African countries.

The Firm is currently advising the sponsors of a power plant conversion in Ivory Coast. Our comprehensive project service involves negotiating concessions and direct agreements with the state as well as drafting a suite of construction and project-specific contracts.

## SELECTED REPRESENTATIONS

- **A project company** in the project finance and development aspects of the conversion of an existing power plant in the **Ivory Coast**.
- **The Ivory Coast government** regarding international litigation issues related to toxic-waste exposure and major soil contamination.
- **A Chinese company** in an integrated mining project in **West Africa** worth more than US\$1 billion.
- **A leading international oil company** in relation to the development of an 800-MW power plant in **Nigeria**.
- **A Chinese oil and gas company** in the groundbreaking financing and development of a deepwater oil block in **Angola**.
- **A major mining multinational** in the development of an integrated iron-ore-mining project and associated railway and port infrastructure in **Guinea**.
- **A Nigerian oil company** in the acquisition of 400 petrol stations across **West Africa**.
- **A European gas multinational** in the development of its offshore gas field, construction of related onshore processing facilities, and offtake contracting related to activities in **Tunisia**.
- **Indian oil companies** in the acquisition of petroleum interests in deepwater offshore blocks in **Nigeria** and **Egypt**.
- **A European financial institution** in the acquisition of financial services firms in **Nigeria** and **Zambia**.
- **Cabinda Gulf Oil Company Ltd.** in the successful representation of a Chevron affiliate in an AAA (ICDR)-administered arbitration under UNCITRAL rules related to the construction of a 12-mile oil pipeline located off the coast of **Angola**.
- **A leading African telecommunications company** in the financing and development of a nationwide GSM cellular network in **Cameroon**.
- **A British oil company** in its exploration activities in the **Democratic Republic of the Congo**.
- **An international mining company** in the development of an integrated iron ore mine, including associated railway and port facilities in **West Africa** and resolution of a subsequent dispute with the government.

Our Africa Practice is led from Paris by partner Laurent Vandomme and includes the lawyers listed below. Additional lawyer profiles and contact information can be found on our web site, [www.jonesday.com](http://www.jonesday.com).



Laurent Vandomme



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Denis Bandet



Hervé Castelau



Kevyn Orr



Jeffrey A. Schlegel



Robert A. Mittelstaedt



Michael E. Arruda



Mathieu Hanaut



Arman Galledari

## GLOBAL REACH: 2,500 LAWYERS IN 35 OFFICES WORLDWIDE

Jones Day is One Firm Worldwide and ranks among the world's largest and most geographically diverse law firms, with a fully networked and balanced presence in major economic and financial centers around the globe. As a full-service firm, Jones Day provides clients seamless global access to a wide range of legal services. Our award-winning focus on client service means we bring the best of the Firm to every engagement—no matter where our clients are doing business.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For further information regarding our Africa Practice, please contact your principal Firm representative or one of the lawyers listed in this publication. General email messages may be sent using our "Contact Us" form, which can be found at [www.jonesday.com](http://www.jonesday.com).

## LAWYER CONTACTS

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## JONES DAY GLOBAL LOCATIONS

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ATLANTA

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