Africa
Lawyers in Mayer Brown’s dedicated Africa practice group (including lawyers at Tauil & Chequer Advogados) have worked on deals in more than 30 countries throughout the continent. We offer practical experience, technical skills and commercial knowledge of the various African markets, culture and languages to our clients and understand the challenges and rewards that exist when doing business in Africa. These services are provided by lawyers who are qualified in a broad cross-section of jurisdictions and who, in many cases, have the ability to work in several languages including English, French and Portuguese.

What we offer
The African continent provides a wealth of opportunities both to clients seeking to expand their operations and to new entrants to these countries. Our Africa specialists support clients with an interest in African jurisdictions and have proven experience in addressing and resolving issues as they arise. We have a comprehensive track record in both common and civil law jurisdictions throughout Africa, working on transactions across a wide range of industries in addition to advising on disputes which may occur.

How we can help
We are able to support clients in all aspects of their projects and operations in Africa, offering:

- A dedicated, internationally qualified team with experience of working on a range of matters in Francophone, Anglophone, Lusophone and other jurisdictions;
- The firm’s fully integrated skills in key areas such as project finance, international arbitration, M&A, joint ventures, capital markets, international banking, tax, mining, electricity, oil and gas, telecoms and infrastructure;
- Global coordination throughout our Mayer Brown offices across the Americas, Asia and Europe to provide seamless communication and prompt action regardless of where parties are located;
- Tried and tested project management skills to ensure that both on-site and remote support on African projects is delivered effectively; and
- Close relations with local counsel throughout the continent.

Our approach
We provide a partner-led service, assigning a lead partner to direct and manage each assignment from inception to completion, giving our clients the comfort and security of knowing that this individual will keep them informed and be able to answer any of their questions about a transaction at every stage. To facilitate work that often takes place under tight deadlines, our lawyers ensure that there is proper analysis of the transaction at its outset; early identification of potential problems; and rigorous project planning and timelines. We ensure our approach is flexible enough to allow for and to deal with last-minute issues, and we have a proven ability to field additional lawyers and resources from our worldwide offices at short notice to meet our clients’ needs.

Our alliance in Morocco
Through our alliance with Afrique Advisors, Mayer Brown is able to serve our clients should they require legal advice in the Kingdom of Morocco. Morocco represents a major economic region within the African continent, with the creation of Casablanca Finance City establishing an important financial hub in Morocco’s commercial capital. Its development caters for companies looking for international and regional headquarters and also provides a financial gateway for investors looking to access the fast-growing markets of Africa, playing a vital role in the country’s social and economic development. Our alliance with Afrique Advisors means that we are able to assist clients who have aspirations to explore such opportunities and require lawyers with strong local knowledge as well as feet-on-the-ground presence to deliver the advice and services they need. To learn more about Afrique Advisors, please contact Talal Belrhiti on tbelrhiti@afriqueadvisors.com or Laila Slassi on lslassi@afriqueadvisors.com.

Africa Team

“Draws upon the expertise of partners across the globe when assisting with project development, transactions and related disputes.”

Chambers Global 2017 Africa Wide - Projects and Energy

“Highlighted for its pre- eminent mining practice as well as project financing in the sector.”

Chambers Global 2017 Africa Wide - Projects and Energy

LAW360 “FIRM OF THE YEAR” 2016 AND 2017
“Firm of the Year” by legal industry publication Law360 which recognizes Mayer Brown’s global capabilities.
Africa - our highlights

The following map shows the range of countries in Africa in which we have representative experience.

- Represented several companies in relation to joint ventures in multiple iron ore projects.
- Represented Xstrata on its takeover of Sphere Minerals.
- Represented Endeavour Mining on the construction and ongoing projects at three gold mines in Mali, Ghana and Burkina Faso. This project won the African Mining Deal of the Year 2013 Project Finance Magazine.
- Represented the arrangers of a $610 million debt financing for the development of the Loulo gold mine.
- Represented the arrangers of a $590 million debt financing for the development of the Morila gold mine.
- Represented the Government of Gambia on an ICSID arbitration.
- Represented Goldbelt Resources on its takeover by Avocet Mining, and the financing and construction of the $128 million Inata gold mine in Burkina Faso.
- Represented a leading Chinese mining company on its proposed acquisition of copper assets.
- Represented the Kingdom of Morocco on both its $750 million and $1.3 billion note offerings.
- Represented a project sponsor in connection with the project financing of a gold mine.
- Represented a project sponsor in connection with the project financing of a gold mine.
- Advised bidders (including Abengoa Water, Sojitz and Marubeni) in respect of their participation in the Mile 6 IWP in Namibia.
- Represented the mandated lead arranger on the proposed project financing of a platinum project.
- Represented the lenders on a project finance facility for the development of a uranium mine.
- Represented the lenders on a project finance facility for the development of a uranium mine.
- Represented the lenders on a project finance facility for the development of a uranium mine.
- Represented a large engineering company on the enforcement of a substantial ICC award in Libya and Europe.
- Represented a financial institution on the $229.8 million financing of an anhydrous ammonia project being developed by Egypt Basic Industries Corporation. The transaction was Ex-Im Bank’s first limited recourse project financing in Egypt.
- Represented Newn Resources on the development and financing for a $510 million gold/copper/silver deposit.
- Represented the lenders on a $570 million project financing of Kenya’s first large-scale mine. The Kwale Mineral Sands project is expected to be one of the world’s largest producers of ilmenite and rutile in the world. The output from the mine’s expected to overtake coffee as the country’s fourth biggest export earner.
- Represented African Eagle Resources plc on a number of matters as it progressed in its transition from an exploration company to a development company, including its disposal of 90% of its interest in the Outwa project to Blackdown Minerals.
- Represented a project sponsor in connection with the project financing of a greenfield copper project.
- Represented Nevsun Resources on the development and financing for a $300 million gold/copper/zinc/silver deposit.
- Represented the mandated lead arranger on the proposed project financing of a platinum project.
- Represented the lenders on a $170m project financing of Kenya’s first large-scale mine. The Kwale Mineral Sands project is expected to be one of the world’s largest producers of ilmenite and rutile in the world. The output from the mine’s expected to overtake coffee as the country’s fourth biggest export earner.
- Represented Nevsun Resources on the development and financing for a $300 million gold/copper/zinc/silver deposit.
- Represented the mandated lead arranger on the proposed project financing of a platinum project.
- Represented a financial institution on the $229.8 million financing of an anhydrous ammonia project being developed by Egypt Basic Industries Corporation. The transaction was Ex-Im Bank’s first limited recourse project financing in Egypt.
- Represented Newn Resources on the development and financing for a $510 million gold/copper/silver deposit.
- Advised E&P companies and service providers in the Mozambique Rovuma basin projects.
- Represented the lenders on a project finance facility for the development of a uranium mine.
- Advised a financial institution on the $229.8 million financing of an anhydrous ammonia project being developed by Egypt Basic Industries Corporation. The transaction was Ex-Im Bank’s first limited recourse project financing in Egypt.

*Experience of Tauil & Chequer Advogados in association with Mayer Brown
**Denotes matters handled prior to joining Mayer Brown
Our Mozambique expertise

We have extensive experience in Mozambique, practicing for almost a decade advising international investment projects in the country, notably from Brazilian companies. Much of our practice in Mozambique is focused in the areas of infrastructure, construction & engineering, energy and oil & gas, mining, heavy industries, agriculture and development of related large scale projects. In addition to advice focused on specific industries we also advise on general legal issues, including advice on taxation, mergers & acquisitions, finance and foreign exchange matters, regulatory and public bids, labor and immigration matters, and corporate matters among others.

For projects in Mozambique, we have lawyers based in Brazil displacing permanently to Mozambique, besides having partnerships with experienced local lawyers. This combination unites local experience, which includes a unique perspective on local needs and the country’s business environment, with access to our global platform. Thus, we use our local and international lawyers depending on client needs and on the complexity of the projects. We handle client’s affairs with a direct approach, linking our several offices, depending on the nature of the work and the profiles of the lawyers involved. Thus, we assign a leading lawyer to drive and manage the project from its start to its completion, offering our clients the comfort and security of knowing that our team will keep them informed of the work carried out, in all its stages.

Our lawyers are accustomed to working to tight deadlines and they take a proactive approach to ensure that the eventual legal issues are fully anticipated and resolved. In practice, this means proper analysis of the project at its outset, the early identification of potentially sensitive areas and the elaboration of rigorous planning and timelines. We also assure our approach is flexible enough to allow for and deal with last-minute issues, providing fast and efficient solutions, whenever necessary.

In short, we work to meet our client’s needs and exceed their expectations. We present ourselves as an international firm in a unique position by having full service capabilities in Mozambique, which allows us to assist multinational companies in all legal matters.

Our Angolan expertise

Taui & Chequer & Advogados in association with Mayer Brown (TCMB) is one of the few leading law firms with a strong presence in Africa, notably in Angola. With a deep understanding of the local businesses, culture, and language, our attorneys have been assisting clients in Angola on a daily basis, doing both major transactions as well as day-to-day work. TCMB has long been a believer in the great potential of Angola and of the African continent in general and our longstanding presence in the region is testament to these beliefs.

Much of our Angola-related representations involves infrastructure projects, project development, engineering, construction, and the global energy industry. In addition to industry-focused counsel, we have also handled general corporate matters, mergers and acquisitions, finance and tax matters, foreign exchange issues, immigration, distribution disputes, and litigation in which our attorneys have taken depositions and developed evidence, all while working with African-based attorneys.

For operating in Angola we have a group of lawyers with great expertise in the traditional areas of Law and with a unique insight on the country legal environment and client needs. Our Angola desk combines local support with access to the Mayer Brown worldwide platform by effectively using local/international based attorneys depending on the need of our clients. We handle our client issues directly from different offices depending on the nature of the assignment and the profile of the attorney to be involved. We assign a lead partner to direct and manage the assignment from inception to completion, giving our clients the comfort and security of knowing that this individual will keep them informed about the work being done at every stage.

We present ourselves as a full service law firm in Angola.
Our representative African experience

Algeria

- Advised Suhail Bahwan Group and Sonatrach on the proposed $1 billion+ Arzew fertiliser project in Algeria.

Angola

- Advised the Contractor Group in connection with the implementation of a subsea offshore optical cable network that will initially connect the platforms operating in offshore blocks in Angola.
- Represented an oil and gas producer farming into an offshore block.
- Represented providers of debt financing to an SPV that leased aircraft to an oil provider.
- Represented Mercury Telecomunicações and various major IOC’s operating in Angola with the project documents and agreements necessary to set up the “Sonangol Offshore Optical Cable” network project, regarding the construction of such a network offshore Angola.
- Represented Maersk Oil & Gas on various regulatory and tax issues in Angola, as well as on the purchase and disposal of participating interest regarding Angola concessions.
- Represented Maersk Oil & Gas with regards to setting up the business structure for the Block 16 development, advising on various legal, tax and foreign exchange matters pertaining to such projects
- Represented Aker Solutions regarding its Angola business structure
- Represented BP with FCPA issues resulting from the enactment of a new Law on Administrative Probity.
- Represented Hercules Offshore on various day-to-day legal and tax issues in Angola.
- Represented the Ministry of Petroleum of Angola and Sonangol, the national oil company of Angola in drafting the Hydrocarbons Law of Angola.
- Represented the Ministry of Petroleum of Angola and Sonangol, the national oil company of Angola in drafting the new Downstream Law.
- Represented the Ministry of Petroleum of Angola and Sonangol, the national oil company of Angola in drafting the Natural Gas Act of Angola.
- Represented the Ministry of Petroleum of Angola and Sonangol, the national oil company of Angola in studies for drafting the ethanol concession law and the regulation of biofuels in Angola.
- Represented Sonangol Empresa Publica, BP Angola, Cabinda Gulf Oil Company, ENI Angola and Esso Angola as project counsel in developing a fiber optic network for offshore oil and gas operators (Project Sooc).
- Represented Sonangol in relation to the acquisition of a refinery in Angola in the total amount of $650 million.
- Represented Sonangol in relation to the acquisition of shares to consolidate its position as the controlling shareholder of Starfish Oil & Gas S.A., an independent Brazilian oil and gas company. The total estimated value was US $300 million.
- Represented Sonangol in relation to the global corporate reorganization of the Sonangol’s group, the country’s participation in OPEC.
- Represented Schlumberger with regards to setting up the business structure for the Block 16 development, advising on various legal, tax and foreign exchange matters pertaining to such projects.
- Represented a major oil production client with the negotiations on a drilling contractor for Angola offshore work. We have been advising the client on how to handle the report of sensitive Angola-related financial information such as Bonus payments.
- Represented Tidewater to establish their new joint venture investment in Angola with Sonangol towards the provision of marine services to the Angola-based oil industry.
• Represented Cameroon in relation to structuring their business operations in Angola regarding a tender for a US$2 billion subsea project offshore Angola. Advising, through the Paris office, on certain aspects of this project that are subject to French law.*

• Represented the Government of Angola and an Angolan national oil company on OPEC matters.*

• Represented a major Brazilian cement producer in the negotiations of a JV and development of a cement plant with investments of more than US$400 million.*

• Represented Cameroon in the negotiation and incorporation of a joint venture with local partners for the operation of a Christmas Trees plant in Angola.*

• Represented CEPSA on the acquisition of a participating interest in an Angolan concession.*

• Represented Heerema Marine Contractors in the negotiation of a JV with a potential Angola partner to provide services for IOCs in Angola.*

• Represented CEPSA in a farm-in transaction for the acquisition of China Sonangol International Holding Limited’s 10% interest in block 19/11 (an oil block based in Angola). Our role in this transaction consists mainly of:
  (i) advising CEPSA on the legal and tax structuring of the transaction;*
  (ii) analysing and reviewing the Finance Agreement, the Production Sharing Agreement and the Farm-in (Assignment) Agreement;* and
  (iii) advising and assisting on the negotiation of the Joint Operating Agreement with the other co-venturers.*

• Represented Tidewater in the negotiation of a JV with a potential Angola partner and in the restructuring of its Angolan operations.*

• Represented Transocean in the negotiation of a JV with a potential Angola partner and in the restructuring of its Angolan operations.*

• Represented MS Telcom in the negotiation of a US$42 million EPC for communications and e-services for the Angola LNG Project.*

• Represented SBM on various day-to-day legal and tax issues in Angola.*

• Represented VLB, a Brazilian engineering company, in a US$240 million project to build a dam in Angola.*

• Represented BP on a major financial transaction named “Project Vuvevula” where we addressed local law on different matters pertaining to such transaction, such as foreign exchange requirements and tax exposure.*

• Represented Heerema Marine Contractors on the negotiation of an Export Credit Facility pertaining to the construction of a Marine Supply Base in Angola.*

• Represented Statoil on various regulatory and tax issues in Angola.

• Represented a major European-based oil company on negotiations with a supermajor for the unitization of petroleum development areas in the lower Congo Basin, Angola, and/or facilities sharing arrangements.*

• Advised a Brazilian engineering company in the project to build a water dam in Angola, a project of US$240 million.*

• Advised a major Brazilian construction company in several infrastructure deals in Mozambique and in Angola, including a project to build a major dam in Mozambique, projects of US$900 million.*

• Advised an American Houston based geophysics service company on various legal issues related to its projects in Mozambique, Angola and Brazil.*

• Advised a consulting company in the implementation and development of its operations in Mozambique and in Angola.*

• Represented the Government of Angola and an Angolan national oil company on OPEC matters.*

• Represented the lenders on the restructuring of a US$200 million credit facility for Endeavour Mining for the purpose of supporting existing mining operations in Ghana, Burkina Faso and Mali and to further develop its exploration activities in the Côte d’Ivoire and elsewhere.

• Represented the lenders on the US$50m financing of the Karma Gold Project in Burkina Faso.

• Represented Goldbelt Resources on its takeover by Avocet Mining, and the financing and construction of the US$128 million Inata gold mine in Burkina Faso.

• Advised Samsung C&T Corporation on a US$20 million gold prepayment facility with Amara Mining plc (formerly Cluff Gold plc) for the Kalsaka gold project in Burkina Faso.**

• Advised an international bank on a proposed mining fleet financing for a gold mining project in Burkina Faso.**

• Represented Caterpillar Financial in relation to an equipment finance transaction for a Burkina Faso holding company active in construction and infrastructures.

• Represented the Government in connection with proposed joint venture with Predictive Discovery for the development of Boundiali, Ferkessedougou and Kounahni mining deposits.

• Represented a lender on the structuring of a US$200 million credit facility for Endeavour Mining for the purpose of supporting existing mining operations in Ghana, Burkina Faso and Mali and to further develop its exploration activities in the Côte d’Ivoire and elsewhere.

• Represented the Government in respect of an ICC arbitration relating to mineral rights.

• Advised Société Générale the arranger of US$40 million and AS$60 million debt facilities for the acquisition of a listed company owning mining assets in Australia, Sudan and Ivory Coast.**

• Represented Foreign Investment Advisory Service (FIAS) of the IFC and The World Bank in the provision of legal advice to the governments of Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d’Ivoire and Mali in respect of the application of the promotion of foreign direct investment in public infrastructure and services.

• Represented the Government on a border dispute with another country involving proceedings before an International Court and potentially before the International Court of Justice in The Hague.

• Represented a gold exploration and development company in connection with proposed joint venture with Predictive Discovery for the development of Boundiali, Ferkessedougou and Kounahni mining deposits.

• Represented a gold exploration and development company in connection with the project financing and development of a gold mine.

• Represented an Asian national oil company in relation to its development of a petroleum &E&P project in Chad, including the procurement of engineering and construction works and well services.**

• Represented Africa Finance Corporation (AFC) as lender on a US$2.5 million bridge facility and a US$20 million term loan facility repayable in physical gold for the acquisition of two gold mines in Ivory Coast through a share purchase. The structure of the deal required taking security over assets in various jurisdictions including Singapore, Mauritius and Ivory Coast.

• Represented the Government in ICC arbitration matters.

• Represented a Congolese company in an arbitration relating to aeronautic services.

• Represented the Government in connection with the privatizations of the electricity and water sectors.

• Represented an international beverage company in a dispute with its Congolese distributor.

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• Represented a Congolese company in an arbitration relating to aeronautic services.
- Represented Helios on the financing of mobile telecommunication towers.
- Advised Arvilt Mining plc on the proposed project financing for development of stage II of the Kinsevere copper and cobalt mine in the Democratic Republic of Congo.
- Advised a seller/borrower on a proposed copper concentrate prepayment facility in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

**Egypt**
- Advised the lenders on a project financing of Tahrir Petrochemical Project’s multi-billion petrochemical plant in Egypt.
- Represented IFC and the commercial Lenders on a $300 million loan to Petroceltic International.
- Represented BNP Paribas and HSBC on the $50 million financing of an anhydrous ammonia project being developed by Egypt Basic Industries Corporation.
- Represented PetroSA in relation to the negotiation and execution of PSC agreements with Equatorial Guinea.
- Represented PetroSA in relation to the renegotiation of an EPC agreement with Blue Water company in the Sable Field. Drafting an Amendment to the EPC Contract previously executed.

**Equatorial Guinea**
- Represented a US company in connection with a private port to be built in a Free Trade Zone under a government concession from the Government with facilities to include oil storage and transfer facilities, container, bulk and liquids handling facilities, argheld and runway for air cargo operations and related facilities.
- Represented Mitsui & Co, Ltd in the acquisition of shares in Equatorial Guinea LNG and subsequent project implementation matters.
- Represented PetroSA in relation to the negotiation and execution of PSC agreements with Equatorial Guinea.
- Represented an international hotel chain on a trademark connection with the USAID financed wastewater project.

**Eritrea**
- Represented Nevsun Resources on the first financing in Eritrea for the $30 million development of a gold/copper/zinc/silver deposit.

**Ethiopia**
- Advised a manufacturer of fertilizer on the Dallo Potash Project, representing a significant investment into Ethiopia.
- Represented Ethiopian/Saudi Arabian business interests in the recovery of US$30 million assets involving proceedings in five jurisdictions and worldwide freezing orders.
- Represented an Irish operating lease company in connection with the operating lease of one Boeing 737 aircraft and one Lockheed C-130 freight transport aircraft.
- Represented an international hotel chain on a trademark application.

**Gambia**
- Represented the Government of Gambia on an ICSID arbitration.
- Represented our client on a number of arbitration matters connected with the mining industry.

**Ghana**
- Represented Citibank on a $500M structured deposit with the Central Bank of Ghana. The deposit was secured over a portfolio of Central Bank’s foreign government bond holdings held with the Bank of New York Mellon in London.
- Represented the arrangers on a corporate loan facility for the Wassa mine.
- Represented the arrangers of debt financing for development of the Bibiani gold mine.
- Represented Ghanaian investors on a breach of contract involving an application to the Court of Appeal in Ghana.
- Represented the arrangers of debt financing for development of the Tarkwa gold mine.
- Represented Helos on the financing of mobile telecommunication towers.
- Represented a lender on the structuring of a US$200 million credit facility for Endevour Mining for the purpose of supporting existing mining operations in Ghana, Burkina Faso and Mali and to further develop its exploration activities in the Côte d’Ivoire and elsewhere.
- Represented Chase Petroleum on the fuel supply and storage joint venture with Vitol, the energy and commodity trading group, in connection with the construction and operation by Chase of a light crude oil tank farm in Tema, Ghana. The LCD tank farm is part of a wider project by Cenpower, an independent power producer, to construct a 399MW power plant which will provide 15% of Ghana’s total installed capacity. Vitol will be the exclusive supplier of crude and will distribute the power plant while Chase will construct and operate the storage facility and related infrastructure and supply distillate to Vitol.
- Advised FirstRand Bank Limited on an ECIC-covered $30 million financing to Ghana Grid Company Limited for the supply, construction and commissioning of the Smetler II substation in Ghana.
- Advised FirstRand Bank Limited on a $120 million financing to Ghana Ports and Harbours Authority for the construction and operation of an unloading jetty at Tema Port, Ghana.

**Guinea**
- Advised a French oil and exploration company on an EPC contract for the construction of an oil pipeline in Tanzania, negotiation of a farm-in agreement regarding an oil and gas license in Gabon, and the renewal of mining permits in France.
- Represented JP Morgan acting as arranger for a US$50,000,000 oil royalties securitization in respect of a BVI company. The oil revenues originated in Gabon.
- Represented a gold exploration and development company in connection with development of mining projects in Gabon in joint venture with Government of Gabon.
- Represented an initial public offering on AIM of a gold exploration and development company and related placing of shares.

**Gambia**
- Represented the lenders on a project finance facility for the development of a bauxite mine.
- Represented a trust agreement and documents for a mining project.
- Represented Pearl Overseas Investments Ltd. on a proposed hotel investment and a hotel management agreement with Sheraton.

**Kenya**
- Represented the lenders on a $970m project financing of Kenya’s first large-scale mine. The Kwale Mineral Sands project is expected to be one of the world’s largest producers of ilmenite and rutile in the world. The output from the mine is expected to overtake coffee as the country’s fourth biggest export earner.
- Represented Tiomin Resources in connection with its US$301 million mineral sands project for extraction of titanium and zircon. This was the country’s first major mining operation.
- Represented a private sector developer in the approximately $300 million development and financing of a commuter rail concession in Nairobi, Kenya.
- Represented ILFC in connection with the operating lease of an A310 aircraft to Kenya Airways.
Advised Africa Finance Corporation on a US$50 million convertible loan facility to a Kenyan-based mining and cement manufacturing company for the development of mining assets in Kenya, Tanzania, South Africa and Rwanda. **

Advised Standard Chartered Bank, BNP Paribas, Société Générale and Barclays Africa Group as MLAs on a five-year up to US$2.2 billion loan facility to Canadian First Quantum Minerals. **

Represented a bank syndicate in a secured facility for lease aircraft to a Madagascar carrier.  

Represented the lenders on a project finance facility for the development of a uranium mine. **

Represented AirFinance Corporation (AFC) as lender on a €20.5 million bridge facility and a €20 million term loan facility with ICBC for the construction and development of a 900 MW coal-fired IPP in Lamu, Kenya.**

Represented a major European-based oil company on two offshore farming transactions in Kenya.**

Represented a major American Oil & Gas E&P company in the development and structuring of a petrochemical plant in Mozambique.**

Represented a bank on the implications of entering into derivatives transactions with Mauritian entities. **

Represented the lenders on a project finance facility for the development of an integrated project including natural gas production, enforcement of a substantial ICC award in Libya and Europe. **

Represented the Kingdom of Morocco in $750 million and $1.5 billion U.S. note offerings. **

Represented a bank in an M&A transaction for the acquisition of a South African/Mozambican company.*

Advised a major French Oil & Gas service provider on various legal issues related to its Mozambique projects.*

Advised Subsea7 on various legal issues related to Rovuma basin projects.*

Advised Major Energy Equipment Manufacturer company in an M&A transaction for the acquisition of a South African/Mozambican company.*

Advised Intract on various legal issues related to Rovuma basin projects.*

Advised a major Japanese conglomerate in the development and structuring of a petrochemical plant in the Rovuma Basin onshore area in Mozambique, a project of US$780 million.*

Advised a major South African Oil & Gas company on various legal issues dealing with the utilization of the Mozambique-South Africa pipeline.*

Advised the Kingdom of Morocco in a significant infrastructure contract dispute involving a European contractor. **

Advised a leading North African and European bank on the restructuring of subsidiaries and related matters, involving tax, regulatory, corporate and employment matters. **

Advised the Chinese National Oil Company in its project for exploration of natural gas in Mozambique’s Rovuma Basin Area 4, a project of US$12 billion.*

Advised a major South African Oil & Gas company on various legal issues related to its Mozambique projects.* **

Advised The Royal Bank of Scotland Group plc on several bank syndicated deals in Mozambique and in Brazil. **

Advised a major American airline company on the leasing of a Boeing 757 aircraft to Royal Air Maroc. **

Advised a major Japanese conglomerate in the development and structuring of a petrochemical plant in the Rovuma Basin onshore area in Mozambique, a project of US$780 million.*
Advised a Trafignura group on various legal issues and transactions in Mozambique and Brazil for their Oil & Gas midstream and downstream division, including.*

Advised Craton Equity Partners, a private equity firm that is focused on clean technology investments, in making investments in Principle Energy Limited ("PEL") in Mozambique.*

Advised a Brazilian bioenergy company on a project to develop biomass and installing a bioenergy plant in Mozambique, a project of US$ 350 million.*

Advised a Brazilian agribusiness group in investments in agricultural business in Mozambique, in a project of US$ 127 million.*

Advised a Brazilian agribusiness group in investments in an integrated agriculture and livestock project in Mozambique, in a project of US$ 100 million.*

Advised a Brazilian company in an integrated agribusiness and manufacturing project in Mozambique and in its operations in Brazil.*

Advised a French-Swiss major commodity trading company in its agribusiness deals in Mozambique.*

Advised a major Brazilian construction company in several infrastructure deals in Mozambique and in Angola, including a project to build a major dam in Mozambique, projects of US$ 900 million.*

Advised a major German engineering company in the provision of engineering services for multiple major infrastructure projects in Mozambique, including the Maputo-Catembe Bridge, a project of US$ 700 million.*

Advised a major Brazilian construction company in multiple infrastructure projects in Africa, including countries as Mozambique, Ghana and Equatorial Guinea, projects of US$ 1.5 billion.*

Advised a major construction company in the project Gigawat – Ressano Garcia Power Plant (CTRG), in Mozambique, a project of US$ 235 million.*

Advised a major German-Brazilian engineering company in a tender for provision of engineering services for Mega Projects in Mozambique, a project of US$ 160 million.*

Advised the major Brazilian construction company in the finance structuring of a major airport infrastructure project in Mozambique, a project of US$ 220 million.*

Advised a major Brazilian engineering company for provision of engineering services in its multiple international projects, including: Mozambique, Bolivia, Paraguay and Dominican Republic, projects of US$ 200 million.*

Advised a major Brazilian construction company in the finance structure of a major hydroelectric dam project in Mozambique, a project of US$ 5.5 billion.*

Advised a major Brazilian industrial construction company in a bidding to build infrastructure for Vale Mozambique, a project of US$ 100 million.*

Advised a major Portuguese construction & engineering group in a project to build a water dam in Mozambique, a project of US$ 65 million.*

Advised a Brazilian engineering company, in the provision of engineering services for a Mega Project in Mozambique, a project of US$ 60 million.*

Advised a Brazilian engineering company, in the development and implementation of its operation in Mozambique.*

Advised a Brazilian major mining company, including: the negotiation of several commercial agreements relating to the project finance for the construction of a coal-fired power plant; on the development of a gas-fired IPP; and, in several environmental matters of its projects in Mozambique, and, also in several deals in Brazil.*

Advised the Government of Mozambique in connection with the sale of coal concessions by Rio Tinto to International Coal Ventures Limited.*

Advised a Mozambican group in a M&A transaction for the sale of its shares in mining in Mozambique, a project of US$ 80 million.*

Advised a Spanish-Brazilian mining and construction group in a project to handle the heavy mining operations of a major mining project in Mozambique.*

Advised a Brazilian automation company, in the provision of automation services for a major mining Mega Project in Mozambique.*

Advised Mozal with several legal and tax cross-border issues regarding its operations in Mozambique.*

Advised AB-Inbev/SABMiller/CDM in its operations in Mozambique.*

Advised Eurofarma, a global leading multinational pharmaceuticals & life sciences company with its international operations, including greenfield and M&A projects, in several countries as: Mozambique, South Africa, Nigeria, Brazil, USA, and Philippines.*

Advised Sindicem, the Brazilian Union that represents several metal-mechanic equipment industries for the operations in Mozambique of the affiliated industries.*

Advised a major Brazilian bank in a joint venture with local Mozambican bank for joint operations of banking loans in Mozambique, in a project of US$ 30 million.*

Advised a financial company of a major American manufacturing group in relation to asset finance transactions in Mozambique.*

Advised a French-British company leading of human power and outsourced services in its projects in Mozambique and in Brazil.*

Advised CIS, the French leading catering and supply services company in its projects in Mozambique and in Brazil.*

Advised Diagonal, the company of engineering and social resettlement in providing services for several Mega Projects in Mozambique and Malawi.*

Advised a information technology company in the implementation and development of its operations in Mozambique.*

Advised Diagonal, the company of engineering and social resettlement in providing services for several Mega Projects in Mozambique and Malawi.*

Advised a information technology company in the implementation and development of its operations in Mozambique.*

Advised a consulting company in the implementation and development of its operations in Mozambique and in Angola.*

Advised a Brazilian major private equity group in the implementation and development of a road transportation project in Mozambique.*

Advised the Brazilian-Mozambican Association that promotes the economic relationship between the two countries, along several businesses and projects that totaled over US$ 850 million, involving the affiliated companies.*

Advised an American NGO in its projects in Mozambique.*

Advised a major Brazilian construction company in several infrastructure deals in Mozambique and in Angola, including a project to build a major dam in Mozambique, projects of US$ 900 million.*

Advised an American Houston based geophysics service company on various legal issues related to its projects in Mozambique, Angola and Brazil.*

Advised a consulting company in the implementation and development of its operations in Mozambique and in Angola.*

Namibia

Represented an equipment financier on the financing of equipment for Ba Gold’s Otjiwarongo gold mine.

Represented Namibia Copper Mines inc., in connection with the development and financing of the Haib copper mine.

Represented US Ex-Im Bank in connection with refinancing of one Boeing 747 aircraft through a tax lease from a South African bank of a Namibian air carrier.

Represented the lenders in relation to the US$150 million credit facility for Dundee Precious Metals Inc., Canada which involved assets in Namibia.

Nigeria

Advised a Nigerian focused upstream oil and gas company on: the acquisition of a US listed African oil and gas explorer; securing operational of its main licence in Nigeria; a multi-million fundraising; and general corporate affairs.
Represented the preferred bidder on the acquisition of an “OML26” in Nigeria.

Represented BNP Paribas (and other commercial lenders) on the extension and increase of the $270 million RBL facility for Faroe Petroleum.

Represented FCMB (Nigeria) and Stanbic (Nigeria) on a $750 million acquisition and borrowing base facility for FHN Nigeria in Nigeria.

Represented BNP Paribas on the refinancing of the borrowing base financing for the Okoroh Field in Nigeria.

Represented Petrobras Nigeria in relation to development of Engina Project field with different participating parties (NOC, Sapetrol, Total, local company and IOC`s), assistance in the negotiation of a set of agreements, including E&P contracts, hydrocarbon transportation agreement, processing and LNG plants, and financing deals.

Represented the lead book-runner on the $75 million issuance of subordinated Tier II debt by First Bank of Nigeria PLC, the country’s largest bank. This was a first-of-its-kind transaction.

Represented a state petroleum corporation on breach of agreements relating to environmental protection.

Represented Commercial interests in relation to a COA dispute proceeding before the UK High Court, Nigerian Court of International Justice and Court of Appeal.

Represented a contractor on the proposed contracts for three CHP plants.

Represented Halliburton Company on an asset sale of lift boat operations in Nigeria to Hercules Offshore Inc. for approximately $35 million.

Advised for IFC and Standard Bank on the financing of the acquisition and turnaround maintenance of the Elme Petrochemical.


Represented Merrill Lynch International as initial lender and facility agent in two $100 million loans to the Nigerian company Oando PLC, one guaranteed by Guaranty Trust Bank Plc and the other guaranteed by Zenith Bank Plc.

Represented a contractor and supplier on the construction documentation for a major housing development project.

Represented one of Nigeria’s largest banks in connection with the multi-million dollar financing of equipment purchases from a world-leading telecoms and network equipment provider.

Represented Eland Oil & Gas PLC, an independent oil and gas company focused on production and development in West Africa, on its share placing. The placing will generate gross proceeds of approximately $18.5 million that will be used to expand Eland’s assets and further its production.

Republic of Congo (Congo Brazzaville)

Represented a Swiss off-taker on the first project financing and offtake agreement for the Kouilou Potash Project, a proposed $42 million development.

Rwanda

Advised Africa Finance Corporation on a US$50 million convertible loan facility to a Kenyan-based mining and cement manufacturing company for the development of mining assets in Kenya, Tanzania, South Africa and Rwanda.

Senegal

Advised Société Générale on a secured revolving credit facility and intercreditor arrangements with a gold stream purchaser for Teranga Gold in relation to the Sabodala gold mine project in Senegal.

Sierra Leone

Represented a PRC SOE on its US $1.5 billion investment in an iron ore mine in Sierra Leone including the negotiation of a complex ore offtake contract between the project company and the PRC SOE.

Represented Solar Era on the development of a 5MW multi-site solar electricity generation plant in Sierra Leone. This will be one of the first renewable project finance power plants in the country.

Represented Zenith Bank in connection with a US$270,000,000 secured facility to a Sierra Leone company to develop, construct and operate a jetty for oil tankers in Sierra Leone.

Advised Addax Bioenergy on the Makeni ethanol and power project in Sierra Leone.

Advised Standard Chartered Bank on a US$210 million secured facility for the development of the Koidu kimberlite diamond mine in Sierra Leone.

Somalia

Represented a French finance lessor and syndicate of offtakers on the first project financing of the Leeuwkop platinum mine in South Africa.

South Africa

Represented the South African National Treasury, Department of Energy and Development Bank of South Africa on the country’s upcoming base and mid-load IPP programme (including 2.5GWs of gas-fired IPPs and 2.5GWs of coal-fired IPPs and cogeneration).

Represented one of the largest steel producers in the world on a major arbitration in relation to its mineral rights.

Represented the Department of Constitutional Development on legal reforms, regulatory framework requirements and institutional and public financing arrangements.

Represented a bank group in the debt acquisition financing for a mining company.

Represented the Ministry of Public Works on concession contracts for two new prisons under 25 year, PPP financing structures.

Represented a Southern African entity on setting up a mediation centre to serve Southern Africa.

Represented a large multinational consumer goods company on the restructuring of its businesses and joint venture arrangements.

Represented Caterpillar in the $15 million sale of a mining equipment distribution and support business in South Africa and Botswana.

Represented Construtores Quebec (Construction & Engineering), advised Brazilian construction company in a project to build a hydroelectric plant in South Africa.

Advised a leading European energy company on a farm exploration project operated by a supermajor in the Orange Basin (South Africa).

Advised Africa Finance Corporation on a US$50 million convertible loan facility to a Kenyan-based mining and cement manufacturing company for the development of mining assets in Kenya, Tanzania, South Africa and Rwanda.

Advised Afplats (PTY) Limited on a proposed debt financing of the Lwewkup platinum mine in South Africa.

Sudan

Advised an Indian oil company in relation to the construction of a multi-product pipeline in Sudan on a build-operate-lease-transfer (BOLT) basis and structuring for a prospective project financing.

Advised an Indian oil company in relation to the expansion and refurbishment of a major refinery in Sudan on a BOLT basis.

Advised Government of Southern Sudan on the proposed financing of a 50MW power plant in Juba, Southern Sudan.

Advised Société Générale the arranger of US$30 million and AS$60 million debt facilities for the acquisition of a listed company owning mining assets in Australia, Sudan and Ivory Coast.
Tanzania

- Advised a French oil and exploration company on an EPC contract for the construction of an oil pipeline in Tanzania, negotiation of a farm-in agreement regarding an oil and gas license in Gabon, and the renewal of mining permits in France.
- Represented African Eagle Resources plc on a number of matters as it progressed in its transition from an exploration company to a development company, including its disposal of 90% of its interest in the Dutwa project to Blackdown Minerals.
- Represented the lenders on a project finance facility for the development of a gold mine.
- Represented the Government of Tanzania on a commercial debt repayment.
- Represented the senior lenders, Barclays and the EIB, on a senior debt facility for the development, construction costs and working capital for the Munali nickel mine.
- Represented the lenders on a project finance facility for the development of a platinum mine.
- Advised an independent oil company on the drafting and negotiation of a Production Sharing Contract for use in a frontier hydrocarbon province in Tanzania.
- Represented an oil major as co-sponsor of an LNG project in Tanzania in collaboration with the owners of multiple deepwater blocks (with different licensing and development terms and timelines). The role included advising on the terms of a Host Government Agreement between the host government, the national oil company, and the international oil companies.

Uganda

- Advised a confidential client on a potential equity investment in two railway concessions in Kenya and Uganda.

Zambia

- Advised Standard Chartered Bank, BNP Paribas, Société Générale and Barclays Africa Group as MLAs on a five-year up to US$2.2 billion loan facility to Canadian First Quantum Minerals.
- Represented Standard Chartered Bank on the US$530 million financing of the Kansanshi copper mine.
- Represented the senior lenders, Barclays and the EIB, on a senior debt facility for the development, construction costs and working capital for the Munali nickel mine.
- Represented the Mandated Lead Arrangers in connection with a facility to First Quantum relating to the refinancing and development of copper and gold mines in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Zambia and Mauritania, in 2006 and 2014.
- Represented the lender in debt financing for development of the Dunrobin mine.
- Advised Lumwana Mining Company Limited the company on various issues relating to the construction contracts and mining fleet for the Lumwana copper project in Zambia.
- Advised Dresdner Bank and Barclays Capital on a US$60 million receivables-backed working capital facility for Konkola Copper Mines in Zambia.

Tunisia

- Represented US Ex-Im Bank in connection with asset-backed finance leases of six Boeing 737 aircraft to a Tunisian air carrier.
- Represented the underwriters in a US$650 million SEC-registered global bond offering by Banque Centrale de Tunisie.

“A superb reputation for its work in the mining arena... The team is very practical in its approach and takes consideration of the commercial aspects of the deal... They have a very strong international network.”

Chambers Global 2016, Projects - Global-wide

* Experience of Tauil & Chequer Advogados in association with Mayer Brown
** Denotes matters handled prior to joining Mayer Brown
**Key contacts**

**Americas**

ALEXANDRE CHEQUER  
Partner - Corporate & Securities  
Rio  
T: +55 21 2127 4212  
E: a chequer@mayerbrown.com

GONÇALO FALCÃO  
Partner - Corporate & Securities  
Rio  
T: +55 21 2127 4239  
E: g falcao@mayerbrown.com

VICTOR GALANTE  
Partner - Corporate & Securities  
Rio  
T: +55 21 2127 4275  
E: v galante@mayerbrown.com

PAULO RAGE  
Partner - Corporate & Securities  
Rio  
T: +55 21 2127 4247  
E: p rage@mayerbrown.com

ROBERT GRAY  
Partner - Corporate & Securities  
Houston  
T: +1 713 238 2600  
E: r gray@mayerbrown.com

CHRISTOPHER P.B. ERCKERT  
Partner – Finance  
Washington, DC  
T: +1 202 263 3808  
E: c erckert@mayerbrown.com

**Asia**

PABLO C. FERRANTE  
Partner - Global Projects  
Houston  
T: +1 713 238 2662  
E: p ferrante@mayerbrown.com

GEORGE MILLER  
Partner - Finance  
New York  
T: +1 212 506 2590  
E: g miller@mayerbrown.com

THOMAS MOORE  
Partner - Corporate & Securities  
Houston  
T: +1 713 238 2664  
E: t moore@mayerbrown.com

OLAYIWOLA (LAIYI) ALI-AJIBODE  
Associate - Corporate  
Houston  
T: +1 713 238 2498  
E: o ali-ajibode@mayerbrown.com

NORMAN NADORFF  
Special Counsel  
Houston/Rio de Janeiro  
T: +1 713 238 2653  
E: nnadorff@mayerbrown.com

**Europe**

NATHAN DODD  
Partner - Finance  
Singapore  
T: +65 6327 0235  
E: nathan.dodd@mayerbrown.com

MARK UHRYNUK  
Partner - Corporate & Securities  
Hong Kong  
T: +852 2843 4307  
E: mark.uhrynuk@mayerbrown.com

HALLAM CHOW  
Partner - Finance  
Hong Kong  
T: +852 2843 2350  
E: h hallam.chow@mayerbrown.com

NORAH MUGAMBI  
Associate - Corporate and Securities  
Singapore  
T: +65 6327 0637  
E: norah.mugambi@mayerbrown.com

**Europe**

IAN COLES  
Partner - Finance  
London  
T: +44 20 3130 3205  
E: icoles@mayerbrown.com

RACHEL SPEIGHT  
Partner - Finance  
London  
T: +44 20 3130 3859  
E: rspeight@mayerbrown.com

TOM ELDRIDGE  
Partner - Finance  
London  
T: +44 20 3130 3020  
E: teldridge@mayerbrown.com

JONATHAN HOSIE  
Partner - Construction  
London  
T: +44 20 3130 3343  
E: jhosie@mayerbrown.com

ROBERT HAMILL  
Partner - Corporate & Securities  
London  
T: +44 20 3130 3558  
E: rhamill@mayerbrown.com

**Americas**

ALEXANDRE CHEQUER  
Partner - Corporate & Securities  
Rio  
T: +55 21 2127 4212  
E: a chequer@mayerbrown.com

GONÇALO FALCÃO  
Partner - Corporate & Securities  
Rio  
T: +55 21 2127 4239  
E: g falcao@mayerbrown.com

VICTOR GALANTE  
Partner - Corporate & Securities  
Rio  
T: +55 21 2127 4275  
E: v galante@mayerbrown.com

PAULO RAGE  
Partner - Corporate & Securities  
Rio  
T: +55 21 2127 4247  
E: p rage@mayerbrown.com

ROBERT GRAY  
Partner - Corporate & Securities  
Houston  
T: +1 713 238 2600  
E: r gray@mayerbrown.com

CHRISTOPHER P.B. ERCKERT  
Partner – Finance  
Washington, DC  
T: +1 202 263 3808  
E: c erckert@mayerbrown.com

**Asia**

PABLO C. FERRANTE  
Partner - Global Projects  
Houston  
T: +1 713 238 2662  
E: p ferrante@mayerbrown.com

GEORGE MILLER  
Partner - Finance  
New York  
T: +1 212 506 2590  
E: g miller@mayerbrown.com

THOMAS MOORE  
Partner - Corporate & Securities  
Houston  
T: +1 713 238 2664  
E: t moore@mayerbrown.com

OLAYIWOLA (LAIYI) ALI-AJIBODE  
Associate - Corporate  
Houston  
T: +1 713 238 2498  
E: o ali-ajibode@mayerbrown.com

NORMAN NADORFF  
Special Counsel  
Houston/Rio de Janeiro  
T: +1 713 238 2653  
E: nnadorff@mayerbrown.com

**Europe**

IAN COLES  
Partner - Finance  
London  
T: +44 20 3130 3205  
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RACHEL SPEIGHT  
Partner - Finance  
London  
T: +44 20 3130 3859  
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London  
T: +44 20 3130 3020  
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JONATHAN HOSIE  
Partner - Construction  
London  
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London  
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**Americas**

ALEXANDRE CHEQUER  
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Rio  
T: +55 21 2127 4212  
E: a chequer@mayerbrown.com

GONÇALO FALCÃO  
Partner - Corporate & Securities  
Rio  
T: +55 21 2127 4239  
E: g falcao@mayerbrown.com

VICTOR GALANTE  
Partner - Corporate & Securities  
Rio  
T: +55 21 2127 4275  
E: v galante@mayerbrown.com

PAULO RAGE  
Partner - Corporate & Securities  
Rio  
T: +55 21 2127 4247  
E: p rage@mayerbrown.com

ROBERT GRAY  
Partner - Corporate & Securities  
Houston  
T: +1 713 238 2600  
E: r gray@mayerbrown.com

CHRISTOPHER P.B. ERCKERT  
Partner – Finance  
Washington, DC  
T: +1 202 263 3808  
E: c erckert@mayerbrown.com

**Asia**

PABLO C. FERRANTE  
Partner - Global Projects  
Houston  
T: +1 713 238 2662  
E: p ferrante@mayerbrown.com

GEORGE MILLER  
Partner - Finance  
New York  
T: +1 212 506 2590  
E: g miller@mayerbrown.com

THOMAS MOORE  
Partner - Corporate & Securities  
Houston  
T: +1 713 238 2664  
E: t moore@mayerbrown.com

OLAYIWOLA (LAIYI) ALI-AJIBODE  
Associate - Corporate  
Houston  
T: +1 713 238 2498  
E: o ali-ajibode@mayerbrown.com

NORMAN NADORFF  
Special Counsel  
Houston/Rio de Janeiro  
T: +1 713 238 2653  
E: nnadorff@mayerbrown.com

**Europe**

IAN COLES  
Partner - Finance  
London  
T: +44 20 3130 3205  
E: icoles@mayerbrown.com

RACHEL SPEIGHT  
Partner - Finance  
London  
T: +44 20 3130 3859  
E: rspeight@mayerbrown.com

TOM ELDRIDGE  
Partner - Finance  
London  
T: +44 20 3130 3020  
E: teldridge@mayerbrown.com

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London  
T: +44 20 3130 3343  
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ROBERT HAMILL  
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London  
T: +44 20 3130 3558  
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Positively impressed. Always my number-one choice.
Chambers Global 2015, Projects - Africa-wide

Band 1 for Projects & Energy:
Mining & Minerals: Africa-wide
Chambers Global 2017

Tier 1 for Energy & Infrastructure:
Sub-Sahara Africa: Mining
IFLR1000 2016

Europe (continued)

KWADHO SARKODIE
Partner - International Arbitration
London
T: +44 20 3130 3335
E: ksarkodie@mayerbrown.com

Olivier Méledo
Partner - Finance
Paris
T: +33 1 53 37 18 66
E: omeledo@mayerbrown.com

Connor Cahalane
Partner – Corporate & Securities
London
T: +44 20 3130 3571
E: ccahalane@mayerbrown.com

Dany Khayat
Partner – Litigation
Paris
T: +33 1 53 37 36 31
E: dkhayat@mayerbrown.com

Rebecca Bothamley
Partner – Corporate & Securities
London
T: +44 20 3130 3681
E: rbothamley@mayerbrown.com

Alban Dorin
Partner – Finance
Paris
T: +33 1 53 37 43 43
E: adorin@mayerbrown.com

Doye Balogun
Senior Associate – Finance
London
T: +44 20 3130 3463
E: dbalogun@mayerbrown.com

Dana de Vries
Counsel – Finance
London
T: +44 20 3130 3331
E: ddevries@mayerbrown.com
recommended for energy, mining, infrastructure and telecoms transactions. The team is ‘hands-on’ and provides ‘valuable input on interpreting complex legal frameworks and rules’.

Legal 500 EMEA, Africa