

# DIS40

**DIS40 Germany Goes to Africa!**

## **Arbitration in Africa - Seizing Opportunities in a Growing Investment Landscape**

**Part 1: Arbitration in Kenya, Ghana and Nigeria**

The DIS40 is delighted to announce the launch of the virtual event series on "Arbitration in Africa", an idea borne and realised together with our partner Ibukunoluwa Owa from Lagos, Nigeria.

The geopolitical situation has sparked significant interest from Germany and the wider Europe in investing in Africa. Over the past few years, German foreign direct investments in African states have surged, reaching an impressive € 8.5 billion between 2016 to 2020. With the current trajectory, these investments are expected to rise further in the coming years.

Key indicators underlining this growing engagement are, among others:

- Renewable energy and green hydrogen partnerships: As part of the global transition agenda, Germany is keen on establishing clean energy partnerships with African countries. This opens new avenues for renewable energy projects and green hydrogen initiatives.
- Global Gateway Initiative: Germany has embraced the European Union's new flagship project, the Global Gateway Initiative, aimed at providing an alternative to the Chinese Belt and Road Initiative. The Global Gateway Initiative plans to invest around € 150 billion in the African market, with an annual allocation of approximately € 20 billion to stimulate private investments.

As the flow of investments from Germany into Africa grows, the likelihood of commercial disputes arising also increases. To address this, our virtual event series will focus on providing young lawyers from both continents with foundational knowledge and information on arbitration in Africa. We believe this will empower practitioners to advise clients in disputes with Europe-Africa dimensions.

The first event will be focusing on arbitration in Kenya, Ghana and Nigeria.

The event is a virtual event. The discussion will be held in English and followed by two rounds of speed dating (8 minutes each) between the participating practitioners from Africa and Europe.

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Date: Thursday, 28 September 2023, 18:30 – 19:45 (CEST)

Place: Online, Zoom

Speakers: **Ibukunoluwa Owa**, Independent Arbitration Lawyer, Lagos, Nigeria (moderator)  
**Mercy A. Okiro**, Independent Consultant, M & O Advocates, Nairobi, Kenya  
**Nania Owusu-Ankomah Sackey**, Partner, Bentsi-Enchill Letsa & Ankomah, Accra, Ghana  
**Oladimeji Ojo**, Legal Counsel, International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes, Washington DC, USA

Please register by Wednesday, **26 September 2023** via e-mail at [claudia.wolf@cms-hs.com](mailto:claudia.wolf@cms-hs.com).

We look forward to seeing you virtually soon!

Your DIS40 Co-Chairs

**Evgenia, Christian, Nadja, Alessandro and Christoph**