

Chinedu Kema

Managing Associate



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Overview

Chinedu Kema is a Managing Associate in the Energy and Project Finance practice group of Dentons ACAS-Law (formerly ACAS-Law).

Kema advises on diverse transactions and arrangements, including mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, project development, licensing, and general corporate and commercial matters in the oil and gas, conventional energy, renewable energy and mining sectors. He also has extensive experience advising on different banking and finance matters, representing lenders and borrowers on secured and unsecured bilateral and syndicated lendings.

Kema has significant exposure to diverse areas of Nigerian law, including foreign investment law, corporate and commercial law, exchange control, employment and labour law, environmental law, local content compliance and regulatory compliance, having acted for various project developers, domestic and cross-border investors and companies operating in Nigeria.

Kema is passionate about ensuring energy access, environmental protection, technology transfer and indigenous content development in Nigeria and has advised extensively on related transactions.

Experience

- **Africa Oil Corp.:** Advising Africa Oil Corp. in relation to the acquisition of a 50% ownership interest in Petrobras Oil and Gas B.V., an indirect holder of an 8% interest in OML 127 and 16% interest in OML 130.
- **Confidential client:** Advising the client in its bid to acquire working interest in two deep-water assets – OMLs 118 and 135.
- **ADM Energy:** Advising ADM Energy in relation to its acquisition of 51% interest in K.O.N.H. UK Limited, an indirect interest holder in a risk service agreement for OML 141.
- **ADM Energy:** Advising ADM Energy in relation to its acquisition of participating interest in OML 113.
- **Confidential client:** Assisting the client, an international offshore energy services company, in connection

with its operations in the Nigerian oil and gas industry and compliance with Coastal and Inland Shipping (Cabotage) Act 2003 and the Nigerian Oil and Gas Industry Content Development Act 2010.

- **Confidential client:** Assisting the client, a global engineering company, in relation to compliance with the Nigerian Oil and Gas Industry Content Development Act, 2010.
- **Confidential client:** Assisting the client, a multinational EPCI company, in relation to setting up operations in Nigeria under a local content compliant joint venture arrangement.
- **GIZ:** Advising in relation to the legal aspects for the development of renewable energy projects in Nigeria.
- **Confidential client:** Advising the client, a leading EPC contractor and investor in solar and wind power projects, in relation to the construction of a solar power plant in Nigeria.
- **Confidential client:** Advising the client, an international energy company, in relation to acquisition of majority shareholding in a leading off-grid electric power company.
- **Insurance Corporation:** Advising the client, an export and credit insurance corporation, in relation to the financing of a 17MW solar power PV project.
- **PowerChina Hubei:** Advising PowerChina Hubei Engineering Co. Ltd. in relation to the financing of the development of a road project in Nigeria.
- **Nigerian bank:** Advising a Nigerian bank in relation to the financing of the development of an off-grid gas-fired power plant.
- **Frigoglass SAIC:** Advising the Nigerian Frigoglass companies in relation to the restructuring of the group's existing bank facilities.
- **MCB:** Advising MCB in relation to an up to US\$100 million pre-export financing facility granted to an upstream entity for the development of 2 offshore OMLs.
- **Oppenheimer Partners:** Advising Oppenheimer Partners in relation to a convertible loan financing to GZI, a leading aluminium can manufacturer.

Recognition

- Yusuf Ali, SAN prize for the best male student of the year in the August 2012 Bar Final Examinations
- Sir Adetokunbo Ademola prize for the best student of the year in the August 2012 Bar Final Examinations
- Dr. Taslim Elias prize for the best overall performance (1st prize) in the August 2012 Bar Final Examinations
- Justice Atanda Fatai-Williams prize for the best student of the year in the August 2012 Bar Final Examinations

Insights

- Co-author, "2020 Marginal Fields Bidding Round – Frequently Asked Questions," ACAS-Law article, June 10, 2020
- Co-author, "Raising Finance – A Quick Look at the New Tax Exemption Regime on Interest Rate Payable on Foreign Loans under the Finance Act, 2019," ACAS-Law article, May 27, 2020
- Co-author, "Covid – 19: The Road to Recovery – Time to Step-up the Contribution of Off-grid Renewable Energy Solutions," ACAS-Law article, May 6, 2020
- Co-author, "Post-Covid-19: Crowdfunding as a Viable Fund-Raising Option – A look at the Rules Proposed by the Securities and Exchange Commission," ACAS-Law article, April 2020

- Co-author, “Running a Crowdfunding Portal/Platform: Key Compliance Obligations,” ACAS-Law article, April 22, 2020
- Co-author, “Complying with the Guidelines for the Release of Staff in the Nigerian Oil and Gas Industry 2019,” ACAS-Law article, April 8, 2020
- Co-author, “Covid-19: Declaration of Force Majeure by the DPR: Can Operators, Contractors and Service Providers in the Nigerian Oil and Gas Industry Rely on the Same?” ACAS-Law article, April 2020

Activities and Affiliations

Memberships

- Member, Nigeria Bar Association
- Member, Nigeria Gas Association
- Member, Nigerian Association of Energy Economics
- Member, Energy Institute

Prior and Present Employment

- Senior Associate, Dentons ACAS-Law (formerly ACAS-Law), 2020 – present
- Senior Counsel, ACAS-Law, 2017 – 2019
- Associate, G. Elias, 2013 – 2017
- Junior Associate, Tayo Oyetibo LP, 2012 – 2013

Areas of focus

Practices

- Energy and Project Finance
- Banking and Finance
- Project Finance
- Energy and Natural Resources
- Corporate and Commercial
- Foreign Investment
- Structured Finance
- Securitization
- Labor and Employment
- Mergers and Acquisitions

Industry sectors

- Mining

- Oil and Gas

Education

- Imo State University, 2011, LLB

Admissions and qualifications

- Barrister and Solicitor, Supreme Court of Nigeria, 2012

Languages

- English