



Emery Mukendi Wafwana & Associates  
*International Law Firm*

**NATURAL RESOURCES**

**BANKING & INSURANCES**

**INFRASTRUCTURES**

**LITIGATION & ARBITRATION**

**INVESTMENT, TRADE & INDUSTRIES**

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# International Footprint



When it comes to investing or doing business in Africa, **Emery Mukendi Wafwana & Associates** is the international law firm on which many investors and businesses rely for the implementation of their projects.

For the past 20 years, we have been offering our clients expert legal services that meet international standards in the following areas: natural resources; energy and infrastructure; investments, trade and industry; banking and insurance; family; as well as litigation and arbitration.

With our multicultural and multidisciplinary teams, leveraging our dynamic structures and extensive legal data base, we efficiently advise and assist our clients (SMEs, major public and private companies, investors, international financial institutions, international law firms and governmental agencies) in various projects in Africa.

Our strategic interantional presence, especially in Africa, vouches proximity, efficiency, and proactiveness in the management of our clients' businesses. This strategic interanational presence is the result of a development plan implemented as part of our continuous efforts to always meet the growing needs of our clients. Investment projects require legal assistance from major business hubs where they are designed to where they are implemented in Africa. Our offices in New York (USA), Johannesburg (RSA), Kinshasa, Lubumbashi and Matadi (DRC) and Brazzaville (Republic of Congo), respond to these needs.

In addition to our offices, our international footprint is strengthened by a solid network of partner law firms throughout Africa. Under our professional responsibility, they team up with us to efficiently assist our clients in countries forming part of the Organization for the Harmonization of Business Law (OHADA), West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU/UEMOA), Economic and Monetary Community of Central Africa (CEMAC) and Southern African Development Community (SADC).

## Areas of expertise

### 1. Natural Resources



Africa's natural resources exploration and exploitation attract more and more international investments, leading African States to develop, revise and/or reform their legal and regulatory frameworks governing mining, oil, forestry, agriculture activities and hydraulic resources. Our lawyers and consultants boast thorough knowledge and full proficiency in their respective areas of practice on legal issues and challenges relating to :

•Mining Law

•Hydrocarbons Law

•Forestry Law

•Agricultural Law

•Environmental Law

•Water Ressources Law

### 2. Banking and Insurances



Regional, pan-African and foreign financial groups are growing exponentially in Africa financial. As result, Africa is becoming a large market for the financial sector, especially for banking and insurance industries. These are increasingly being regulated by States and/or regional communities (CEMAC, WAEMU/UEMOA and SADC). Our lawyers and consultants, in their respective areas of expertise, are at the cutting edge of the changes brought to the legal and regulatory frameworks governing these sectors. This allows them to provide expert legal support to investors and businesses in these industries, with respect to :

•Banking Law

•Insurance Law

•Exchange Regulation

### 3. Infrastructures



The prospect of a significant increase of foreign investments in Africa made competitiveness front and center for most African States. Individually or collectively, the latter are increasingly working towards reducing their gap in energy-generation, transport, and telecommunications infrastructures. The goal is to reduce production costs in order to attract direct foreign investments into the African continent.

New policies and strategies as well as scaled up infrastructures development programs are being regularly implemented through laws and regulations reforms as well as striking of public private partnerships agreements. The implementation of these legal instruments raises major legal challenges, leading our lawyers and consultants, in their areas of expertise and jurisdiction of skills, to keep pace with the rapidly changing legislative and regulatory frameworks as well as the resulting contractual practices. This enables them to efficiently address the needs of our national and international clients with regard to the latter's investment or financing projects in Africa. Our areas of practice here include :

- Electric Energy Law
- Telecommunications and ICT Law
- Transportation Law
- Land and Property Law

### 4. Litigation & Arbitration



Since arbitration has now become the standard for the settlement of international disputes, Beyond their role as Counsel, most of our lawyers and consultants practice litigation and arbitration in their respective jurisdictions. We have a good reputation in representing our clients in amicable and/or judicial settlement of disputes arising from contracts or the implementation of laws and regulations.

Our lawyers and consultants assist and represent our clients in all matters before courts and tribunals, including High Courts

of Justice such as the Courts of cassation, the State councils, the Constitutional Courts and the Common Court of Justice and Arbitration, « CCJA ».

Our lawyers and consultants advise and assist the clients in the drafting of arbitration conventions and their representation before the local and international law courts. Our lawyers and consultants have had the privilege to represent some of our clients before the arbitration tribunals of the Paris International Court of Arbitration, the arbitral tribunal and the ad hoc committee of the International Center for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID), as well as the arbitrations governed by the arbitration rules of the CCJA

### 5. Investment, Trade & Industries



Most African States aim to become emerging countries by the next two decades. Many of them are diversifying their economies by turning into the manufacturing industry and tourism. The African States regularly organize and revise their legal, fiscal and customs frameworks, to make them incentive and favorable to investments in certain industries and specific businesses. This abundant and fast rapid normative production by the African States or by economic, financial and monetary institutions impacts the legal security of businesses and requires an effective legal assistance for projects and commercial transactions carried out in Africa. This is the constant preoccupation of our lawyers, and consultants who constantly follow up, in their areas of practice , the development of legislations, regulations and jurisprudence relating to :

- General Business Law
- Company Law and EIG
- Intellectual Property Law
- Labor and Social Security Law
- Security Law
- Tax and Customs Law
- Business Contracts
- Legal Evaluation of Projects
- Public Procurement Law

# Our Offices

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## Our Partners

Our partner Law Firms and lawyers are located in the UEMOA/ECOWAS, CEMAC/ECAC and SADC regions: Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Comoros, Ivory Coast, Gabon, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Equatorial Guinea, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Togo, and Zimbabwe.

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