



Charles Morrison

Partner

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Charles Morrison is a leading trade and project finance lawyer with a particular focus on energy work, especially oil and gas.

His energy experience extends to upstream, midstream and downstream oil and gas, power projects and the related financings. His clients include governments, oil companies, trading houses, banks and other financial institutions.

Charles is known for his work in Africa, where his experience and contacts, developed over 25 years of Africa-related work, are second to none amongst UK-based lawyers. Charles was for a number of years Chair of the Sub-Saharan Africa Market Advisory Group of City UK - the joint HM Gov/City Corporation body that promotes the marketing of the City abroad.

Charles was for five years the Global co-Chair of the Finance and Projects practice of DLA Piper, and previously head of the Energy Infrastructure Finance and Commodities team.

EXPERIENCE

- Advising the Commonwealth Secretariat and the IFC on the Commonwealth Small States Trade Finance Facility
- Leading the legal team on Sinopec's bid to acquire Chevron South Africa/Botswana
- Advising a bidder on the acquisition of the Petrobras west Africa upstream assets
- Advising the Office of the Quartet on the Gas for Gaza, gas pipeline Project
- Advising the downstream gas company of Cyprus, DEFA.
- Advising the Cyprus Hydrocarbons Company on various upstream gas matters in Cyprus
- Advising a Chinese SOE on a farm-in into the Area 4 ENI gas interests in Mozambique.
- Advising the National Development Corporation of Tanzania on its US\$3 billion joint venture with Sichuan Hongda to develop a coal to power (300MW) project and iron ore mine and smelter project in Mtwara, Tanzania (DLA Piper recognised by the Financial Times as "The Most Innovative Firm in Finance Law in 2012" for this transaction)
- Advising Standard Chartered Bank on the restructuring of the IPTL 100MW power plant project financing in Tanzania
- Leading the legal team advising Morgan Stanley and KKR on the Coryton Refinery/Petroplus Administration transaction

RELATED SERVICES

- Infrastructure Finance
- Projects, Energy and Infrastructure
- Finance
- Oil and Gas
- Corporate
- Debt Finance
- Mergers and Acquisitions

RELATED SECTORS

- Financial Services
- Energy and Natural Resources

CREDENTIALS

Professional Qualifications

- Solicitor of the Senior Courts of England and Wales
- Solicitor-Advocate in England and Wales
- Advocate of the High Court of Tanzania

Prior Experience

- 2005 - Date DLA Piper, Partner

Recognitions

- Charles' work and experience is widely acknowledged throughout the legal directories
- "Dual-qualified in the UK and Tanzania and based in the London, Charles has a strong oil and gas practice, handling a range of transactional and project development matters in the sector. He also acts on other large energy projects and recently advised HSBC and Standard Chartered Bank on a US\$500 million credit facility extended to Ghana National Petroleum Corporation" - Africa-wide, Projects & Energy - *Chambers Global 2018*
- Charles is noted as a Foreign Expert for Africa and is praised for his "excellent analytical skills," as well as for his "commitment to delivering quality service." He handles matters such as the development and financing of oil and gas projects and has extensive experience of work in Africa - *Chambers Global 2018*
- "Charles Morrison is a key figure in the energy and infrastructure finance team, and widely regarded as an expert on energy matters, particularly in the oil and gas sector. He recently advised integrated energy company Victoria Oil & Gas on a complex farm-out arrangement with Africa-focused oil and gas exploration group Bowleven in relation to a production-sharing contract for the Bomono Block in Cameroon" - London: Finance - Emerging Markets - *Legal 500 2017*
- Charles is recognized as a leading individual within Project and Energy and provides "fantastic commercial insight" - London: Projects, Energy & Natural Resources - *Legal 500 2017*
- "Charles Morrison is a highly experienced practitioner, known for his knowledge of project work in Africa. He has particular experience of oil and gas issues." - *Chambers Global 2016*
- "Charles Morrison has strong relationship management skills and is always available to provide solutions whenever issues are escalated to him by his team" - *IFLR 1000 - 2016*
- A team led by Charles from the firm's London and Dar es Salaam offices, won the Financial Times "Most Innovative Firm in Finance Law Award", for their work for the National Development Corporation of Tanzania on an energy joint venture with Sichuan Hongda, the largest value investment transaction in East Africa to date

Education

- Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh, B.A. Business Law, 1983

Memberships

- Recorder of the Crown Court
- The Association of International Petroleum Negotiators (AIPN)
- Tanganyika law society

Other Appointments

Appointed by the British Government (DFID)/Central Bank of Uganda, as an Inspector, to review the sale of Uganda Commercial Bank to Stanbic Bank.

INSIGHTS

Charles is a regular conference speaker on energy issues, the editor of the Guarantees and Indemnities section of Longmans "Practical Lending and Security Precedents", and is on the editorial board of "Global Trade Review".

Publications

Sinopec's proposed acquisition of a downstream oil business in Southern Africa

19 DEC 2018

A fundamental shift in the downstream market

- Charles is the editor of the Guarantees and Indemnities section of Sweet & Maxwell's leading practitioners' publication "Practical Lending and Security Precedents".
- "May the oil and gas odds be ever in Nigeria's favour" - 24 Nov 2017
- Nigeria remains the largest producer of crude oil in Africa, with production reported to be around 1.8 million barrels per day excluding condensate, which makes the commodity by far the country's most important export and source of revenue. However, Nigeria has been substantially affected by the continued fluctuation in global oil prices since 2014, which has in turn led to a well-publicized reduction in deal activity and investment in the country.