



Bruce Mullins

Partner

OPERATING MANAGING PARTNER - OMAN

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Bruce Mullins is a Partner, and the Managing Partner for DLA Piper in Oman.

Bruce qualified in June 1980 in London, worked in Hong Kong, and has been resident senior legal adviser in Oman since May 1996. His practice covers project work applicable in Oman to the development of infrastructure, utilities, energy, LNG, ports and shipping, tourist complexes and related financing.

With over 39 years experience, for the past 24 years he has advised the Government of the Sultanate of Oman through their various Ministries and investment entities on various strategic projects. During that time he has been involved in many of the country's strategic projects, from inception through operational phases, including the development of infrastructure, utilities, energy, LNG, ports and shipping, environmental waste, integrated tourist complexes, and financings.

RELATED SERVICES

- Corporate
- Projects, Energy and Infrastructure
- Infrastructure Finance
- Litigation, Arbitration and Investigations

RELATED SECTORS

- Hospitality and Leisure

EXPERIENCE

- advising on the privatisation/development of ports, including Port Salalah Container Terminal (US\$250m), Port Salalah Conventional Port Facilities (US\$100m), Sohar Industrial Port (US\$250m), Sohar international container terminal, Oman national navigational aids concession, Duqm drydock and ship repair facility (US\$300m), and Port of Duqm development
- advising on the privatisation/commercialisation/development of portable water projects, including Al Masarrat Water Scheme (US\$120m) and Ash'Sharqiya Water Scheme (US\$150m)
- advising on the privatisation/commercialisation/development of wastewater, including Muscat/Oman Wastewater System (US\$300m) and Salalah Wastewater System (US\$31m)
- advising on the privatisation/development of electricity including Salalah Power System (US\$260m), Sharqiya Power System (US\$200m), Manah Power II System (US\$90m), and Al Ghubrah IWPP
- advising on the privatisation/commercialisation/development of environmental waste including national hazardous waste and solid waste
- advising on the development of LNG shipping, including initial development Third Train LNG review (now Qalhart LNG); the construction, acquisition, financing, operation and chartering of several new LNG vessels (Japan and Korea - total purchases

US\$1bn); and LNG sales (short term, and 30 years) and the establishment of Oman Shipping Company and operational subsidiaries

- advising on the development of national high-speed vessel services, including the construction and acquisition of 7 fast state-of-the-art ferries and rescue craft (Italy and Australia – US\$90m), 2 passenger RoRo motor vessels, and the acquisition of supply landing craft, and related operations
- advising on the operation of the Sohar Industrial Port covering 2,100 hectares, including port rules and regulations, land plot agreements, concessions, and licenses for petrochemicals, metals, and logistics clusters (22 industries to date, totalling over US\$12 billion investment, and increasing), and project and infrastructure financings
- advising on the establishment and development of the Sohar Free Zone covering 4,000 hectares, including land plot agreements, rules and regulations, corporate development, project and infrastructure financing, and operations
- advising on the development of tourism concessions, including Tourist resort complexes such as The Wave / Al Mouj Muscat development (US\$700m) and Blue City (US\$1bn), Tourist operations (Al Hoota Cave), and counselled on the Review of Foreign Ownership of Integrated Tourist Complex Law
- advising on the development of The Wave / Al Mouj Muscat, including sale and purchase agreements (projected 4,000 units), and its property rules and regulations
- advising on the £445 million acquisition of a major property development in the City of London through a joint venture offshore corporate entity, and subsequently advised in relation to the highly profitable sale of the same property
- advising on the Oman Water and Wastewater Sector PPP Study analysing the water and wastewater system in Oman and recommending reforms to facilitate development of the systems utilising public-private partnerships of various sorts and non-recourse financing based on system revenues
- advising on the Sultanate of Oman Logistics Sector 2040, as part of the preparation of the "Vision 2040" national development requested by H.M. The Sultan, advising task force on review and strategy for the development of the logistics sector in Oman towards its development as a major hub and gateway to The Gulf, especially customs, legislation and regulatory issues
- advising the Sultanate of Oman in relation to the first claim being brought by a US investor under the US Oman Free Trade Agreement, being an ICSID arbitration, since 2011. The tribunal awarded in favour of Oman in November 2015
- advising the Sultanate of Oman in relation to an international construction claim being brought by a Saudi for several hundred million USD since 2017
- advising an investment entity of the Sultanate of Oman in relation to a dispute concerning a mining concession lease being brought by two Emirati companies for several hundred million USD since 2017
- advising on the concession agreement for the Muscat International Airport and Salalah Airport
- advising on the land rights and development agreement for the establishment of the Khazaen Economic City
- advising on various national economic development consultancies
- advising on national finance projects, including sovereign loans and defence procurements, including several billion USD facilities since 2015
- advising an investment entity of the Sultanate of Oman on credit facilities with local and international banks for several million USD for project construction development
- advising another investment entity of the Sultanate of Oman on credit facilities with local and international banks for several million USD for project construction development
- advising a national oil and gas developer in the Sultanate of Oman on investors for EP development and credit facilities with local and international banks for several million USD
- advising on sensitive security procurements totalling several million USD

CREDENTIALS

Prior Experience

Bruce has prior experience practising as a barrister and later working in international law firms in Hong Kong and Oman.