



### Joseph Tato

Partner

US CO-CHAIR, PROJECTS AND INFRASTRUCTURE  
DLA PIPER AFRICA COMMITTEE

joseph.tato@dlapiper.com

**New York**

T: +1 212 335 4975

F: +1 212 884 8469

M: +1 917 365 0417

Joseph Tato serves as Global Co-Chair of DLA Piper's Energy and Natural Resources Practice and oversees a sector that includes more than 100 partners globally in the power, oil and gas, renewables and mining areas.

Joe also is US Co-chair of the Projects and Infrastructure practice. He is a member of the DLA Piper Africa Committee. Joe regularly represents project sponsors, equity investors, financial institutions and governments in the development and financing of power, oil and gas, LNG, water and other infrastructure projects in the US, Africa, Latin America and Europe.

Joe also represents sponsors and financial institutions in mergers and acquisitions, restructurings and workouts.

#### RELATED SERVICES

- Finance
- Corporate

#### RELATED SECTORS

- Energy and Natural Resources

## CREDENTIALS

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### Admissions

- New York
- New Jersey

### Prior Experience

Before joining DLA Piper, Joe was chair of another global law firm's Global Project Finance and Infrastructure Group as well as chair of its Africa Practice Group.

### Recognitions

Joe has been repeatedly recognized by *Chambers Global* for his Projects and Energy practice in the US and has been recognized as a Foreign Expert for Africa-wide. "Clients say: 'He has great business judgement, provides great legal advice and is a great

lawyer." *Chambers USA* has recognized Joe for his nationwide Projects practice and has quoted sources who report that Joe is "experienced and he doesn't try and push the envelope. He knows what his clients are looking for, he is realistic and practical and he gets things done." *The Legal 500 United States*, *The Legal 500 Latin America*, *The Best Lawyers in America* and Legal Media Group's Expert Guides have also recommended Joe.

He was honored at the 2018 Africa Energy Forum for his more than 20 years of leading private investment in the energy sector in Sub-Saharan Africa. Joe was one of only six lawyers among the 32 private sector individuals receiving this award. The awards were announced at the plenary session of the Africa Energy Forum and those receiving awards were nominated by their energy sector peers.

Honoree, IFLR 1000 Leading Lawyers - Highly Regarded 2019

## Education

- J.D., New York University School of Law 1979
- B.A., Columbia College 1975

## Memberships

- Director, Covanta Energy Corporation (formerly Ogden Corporation), NYSE Listed (2000 – 2004)
- Steering Committee, US-South Africa Business Forum (2010 – ongoing)
- Assistant Secretary and Counsel to the Board of Directors of SITA USA, a subsidiary of SUEZ Environnement (1996 – 1999)
- Director, Cameroon Enterprises, LLC (an agri-business company) (2015-ongoing)

## INSIGHTS

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### Publications

#### **Electrify Africa Act is now law**

2 MARCH 2016

The law demonstrates broad bipartisan support for a comprehensive US policy aiming to facilitate private financing and PPP structures as tools to develop power projects in sub-Saharan Africa, which should provide opportunities for investors, sponsors and lenders to advance their projects.

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#### **US commits \$7B to ambitious Power Africa initiative**

2 JUL 2013

A new initiative aiming to double access to power in sub-Saharan Africa

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#### **EPA reduces natural gas GHG emission estimates; Pennsylvania reaffirms property law on "minerals"**

16 MAY 2013

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## Events

## RECENT PRESENTATIONS AND SEMINARS

- Moderator, "Africa Gas-to-power," Africa Investment Exchange: Power & Renewables meeting (November 2018)
- Moderator, "The Importance of the Africa-USA Partnership," Africa Energy Forum (June 2018)
- Panelist, "The Big Debate: Reaching the Base of the Pyramid," Powering Africa Summit (February 2018)
- Moderator, "Project Finance for a Changing Power Supply," 28th Annual Global Power Markets Conference, Las Vegas (April 10, 2013)
- Lecturer at conferences sponsored by the Africa Energy Forum, the Pan African Energy Congress, the International Project Finance Association and the International Private Water Association