



### Chris Baird

Partner

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#### London

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Chris Baird has a wealth of experience in M&A and private equity in a broad range of sectors, including agribusiness, consumer goods, energy & power, financial services, media and technology. Chris Baird's work sees him advising clients on cornerstone M&A and private equity transactions across Europe and Africa. Chris Baird is a leading member of our energy sector initiative and heads up DLA Piper's London desk for African M&A and private equity.

- Corporate
- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Emerging Growth and Venture Capital
- Private Equity
- Public Company and Corporate Governance

#### Recent Transactions

- Phatisa, a leading African development and PE fund manager, on the sale of a controlling shareholding in Meridian Group, a fertilizer and agricultural commodities company operating in Mauritius and Southeast Africa.
- John Swire & Sons on an acquisition made by its subsidiary, Agent Energy, of the biodiesel production, tank storage and cleaning facilities from the Amsterdam-based Simadan Group.
- Cellulant Corporation on its series C equity capital raising from The Rise Fund, its first African deal.
- Adenia Partners, a pan African private equity firm, on its acquisition of a controlling stake in Kanu Equipment, a specialist in the supply of quality mining, earthmoving, agriculture, construction and road construction equipment with distribution centres across the African continent.
- FMO on its investment in JCM Power, a Canadian based renewable energy independent power producer.

- Media, Sport and Entertainment
- Technology
- Financial Services
- Energy and Natural Resources

### Professional Qualifications

- Attorney registered with the Law Society of the Northern Provinces

## Recognitions

Chris is a regular speaker at industry events and gatherings, particularly in relation to private equity in Sub-Saharan Africa.

## Education

- University of the Witwatersrand, BCom, LLB

## Memberships

He is a member of the legal and regulatory committee for the African Private Equity and Venture Capital Association

## INSIGHTS

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## Publications

Chris is a regular speaker at industry events and gatherings, particularly in relation to private equity in Sub-Saharan Africa. He is a member of the legal and regulatory committee for the African Private Equity and Venture Capital Association.

## NEWS

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### **DLA Piper advises on the USD300m sale of Hindawi to Wiley**

8 January 2021

DLA Piper has advised the shareholders of Hindawi Limited ("Hindawi") on Hindawi's sale to John Wiley & Sons, Inc. ("Wiley") for an enterprise value of USD300 million. The transaction closed on 31 December 2020.

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