# Practice Group Regional Desk Africa





# **Practice Group**

Our Africa Desk helps clients, in particular investors, financial institutions and leading international corporations, whether they are entering the African market for the first time or are expanding existing projects to new sectors, anticipate and navigate the evolution of this ever-changing business and legal environment. We also represent clients in international disputes related to Africa through our international arbitration practice in Singapore and Switzerland.

# 66

First-rate with a breadth of very experienced, excellent and recommended lawyers.

Who's Who Legal

## Expertise

As a leading law firm in Switzerland, our strong experience and expertise in transactions allows us to assist clients in mergers and acquisitions, restructurings, investments, projects financing, commodities and trade finance, equity finance, bond issues and other projects in Africa.

We can offer our extensive knowhow in particular in terms of process, due diligence of target companies, negotiations and drafting of agreements, and this in various growing sectors such as infrastructure, transport, energy, natural resources, new technologies and telecom, as well as representation in related disputes.

Schellenberg Wittmer brings together world-leading experts, top legal practitioners with diverse backgrounds, and training, and distinct international outlooks. Our team constantly develops and enriches its knowledge on Africa by leveraging its unparalleled understanding of the cultural, political and legal landscape, along with commercial distinctions, in multiple jurisdictions within the continent.

While our bond with French-speaking Africa is particularly strong, we also assist clients on continent-wide matters with the help of close collaborators and our strong network of local counsel. This collaboration guarantees the same high standard of service for our clients for this specific market as they have come to expect from us internationally.

## **Deals and Cases**

- Assistance and advice to banks in connection with the financing of various construction projects in Africa, such as solar power plants and electricity production
- Assistance and advice to a naval construction group in the acquisition of an international group specialized in logistics and international transport in Africa and its subsequent implementation in Switzerland

- Advising investors in the financing, constructions and acquisitions of hotels in West Africa
- Advised an international group on the creation of joint ventures in the telecom sector
- Assistance and advice to investors on several private equity deals in North Africa (e.g. IT business, textiles and food industry)
- Lead counsel in a dispute relating to a water desalinization plant and project finance issues in an African state
- Lead counsel to a major African state in a large case before the Swiss Supreme Court

## Recognitions

The group and leading practitioners are highly ranked and recognised among leading law firms in global directories and publications:

# Chambers & Partners

- Legal 500
- Who's Who Legal
- The IFLR

# Contacts



**Tarek Houdrouge, LL.M.** Partner Geneva Head of Africa Desk



George Ayoub Partner Geneva



Philippe Bärtsch, LL.M. Partner Geneva



Louis Burrus Partner Geneva



**Elliott Geisinger** Partner Geneva



Julie Raneda Partner Singapore



**Anya George** Partner Zurich



**Bernard Vischer, LL.M.** Partner Geneva



**Yves Jeanrenaud, LL.M.** Partner Geneva



David Wallace Wilson Partner Geneva



**Dr. Jean-Frédéric Maraia** Partner Geneva



**Grégoire Wuest, LL.M.** Partner Geneva

>150 lawyers 15 languages 30 nationalities 21 practice areas 15 sectors and industries 1,836 years of experience Collaboration with 300 law firms worldwide in more than 50 jurisdictions

Schellenberg Wittmer Ltd is your leading Swiss business law firm with more than 150 lawyers in Zurich and Geneva, and an office in Singapore. We take care of all your legal needs – transactions, advisory, disputes.



Schellenberg Wittmer Ltd Attorneys at Law

# Zurich

Löwenstrasse 19 P.O. Box 2201 8021 Zurich / Switzerland T +41 44 215 5252 www.swlegal.com

### Geneva

15bis, rue des Alpes P. O. Box 2088 1211 Geneva 1 / Switzerland T +41 22 707 8000 www.swlegal.com

#### Singapore

Schellenberg Wittmer Pte Ltd 6 Battery Road, #37-02 Singapore 049909 T +65 6580 2240 www.swlegal.sg