

## CORPORATE / MERGERS & ACQUISITIONS AFRICA

Mergers & Acquisitions is a core practice at Gide. On the African continent, our team has gained extensive experience in this area, working for decades on landmark, high-value M&A transactions and other corporate matters in a wide variety of sectors. We have assisted a broad spectrum of clients, including public and private companies, governmental bodies, financial sponsors, investment banks and individuals, in the successful completion of M&A transactions of all kinds throughout Africa.

Our lawyers are able to advise our clients in civil law and common law countries alike. While we have a particular expertise in francophone Africa (18 countries), where legal systems are usually based on French law, we frequently advise clients on their business interests in anglophone and lusophone jurisdictions. Our lawyers also have an extensive and in-depth knowledge of the unified legal system of the Organization for the Harmonization of Business Law in Africa (OHADA).

### An International Multidisciplinary Team with Local Knowledge

Our M&A team includes about 20 lawyers dedicated to M&A transactions in Africa and operates from our Paris, London and North African (Algeria, Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia) offices. They work with our offices in China (Beijing and Shanghai), and Turkey (Istanbul) to develop their growing practices in Africa.

As part of a full-service law firm, our lawyers can call upon teams from other departments to provide advice in specialist areas of law, such as Banking & Finance, Tax, Projects, Regulatory, Competition, Dispute Resolution, Insurance and Real Estate.

In addition, we have developed strong relationships with leading law firms throughout Africa to assist on local legal aspects of transactions, so as to deliver efficient and comprehensive services. Our established correspondents in Africa have a solid understanding of the legal and commercial particularities of the respective countries in which they operate. They have been carefully selected, not only for their legal expertise, but also for their relationships with government departments and agencies, and are therefore perfectly positioned to work with us to guide clients through the administrative procedures and formalities involved in doing business in Africa.

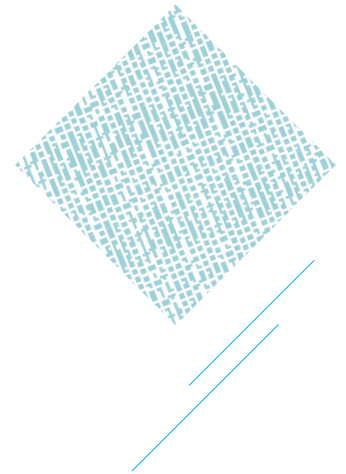
### Sector Knowledge & Areas of Expertise

We have significant experience of the issues that are particular to M&A in Africa, regularly advising clients from a large range of sectors, such as oil & gas, mining, telecommunications and technology, utilities, construction, manufacturing, transport, pharmaceuticals, banking and insurance.

We can provide our clients with comprehensive legal advice on all kinds of M&A deals throughout Africa, including:

#### General and Listed M&A

- Advising **Total** on the IPO of its Moroccan subsidiary on the Casablanca Stock Exchange.
- Advising **France Telecom Orange** on the acquisition of Congo Chine Telecom CCT, a mobile operator in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, previously owned at 51% by ZTE, a Chinese telecoms equipment manufacturer, and at 49% by the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.



ALGIERS  
BEIJING  
BRUSSELS  
CAIRO  
CASABLANCA  
ISTANBUL  
LONDON  
NEW YORK  
PARIS  
SHANGHAI  
TUNIS  
WARSAW

- Advising a **London-based petroleum and mining company** operating in Africa on the acquisition of the LPG business of BP in South Africa.
- Advising **Total** on the sale of Total E&P Cameroon, one of the major transactions in the oil and gas sector in Africa in 2011.
- Advising a **major Chinese oil and gas company** on the acquisition of a 20% participating interest in the Bloc 32 production sharing contract in Angola.
- Advising the **Government of Ghana** on the merger between Ashanti Goldfields and AngloGold, a South African mining company. This deal created the world's biggest goldmining company at the time.

## Cross-border Transactions

- Advising the tyre manufacturer **Michelin** on the sale of two subsidiaries in Mali and Senegal.
- Advising a **Swiss-based petroleum group** on its bid for the purchase of eight companies of the Chevron's group in various countries of Africa (Kenya, Uganda, Benin, Cameroon, Ivory Coast, Congo, Togo).
- Advising **CNCE** in relation to its merger with BFBP including all regulatory and corporate aspects of their activities in Africa (Cameroon, Congo Brazzaville, Mauritius and South Africa).
- Advising **BMCE**, Morocco's second-biggest private-sector bank, in the context of the acquisition of a 35% stake in Bank of Africa (operating in Mali, Benin, Niger, Ivory Coast, Burkina-Faso, Madagascar, Senegal, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania and Mauritius).

## Joint Ventures and Strategic Alliances

- Advising **Air Liquide**, the public group **Imetal** and the **National Investment Fund** (Fonds National d'Investissement, FNI) on the setting up of a joint venture (owned 51% by the Algerian party, and 49% by Air Liquide) aimed to the production of industrial gases.
- Advising **Renault** on the setting up of a joint venture owned 51% by the Algerian partners and 49% by Renault in order to develop the automotive industry in Algeria and support local market growth.
- Advising the mining group **Eramet** on the establishment of a joint venture (Tizir Limited) to combine Eramet Titanium & Iron (ETI) and Grande Côte Mineral Sands in Senegal.
- Advising the **UAE Sovereign fund AABAR** on setting up three joint ventures in Algeria in the automotive sector in partnership with a German industrial consortium and the Algerian Ministry of Defence.
- Advising a **German consortium led by EADS** GmbH on setting up a joint venture in the security and defence sectors in partnership with the Algerian Ministry of Defence.

## Privatisations

- Advising **Saint-Gobain** on its purchase of a 100% stake in Alver Spa, a state-owned glass manufacturing company.
- Advising the **Republic of Mali** on the privatisation of the Banque Internationale pour le Mali.
- Advising the **Government of Guinea** on the privatisation of various state-owned enterprises.
- Advising the **IFC** (World Bank group) and the Governments of Cameroon and Rwanda on the privatisation of their national carriers.

*“Widely regarded practice group with particular proficiency operating in francophone regions and in OHADA law. Represents a number of international conglomerates and equity firms on their acquisitions and divestments on the continent. Active in sectors including manufacturing, energy, oil and gas and hospitality with experience advising government entities. The practice is run from offices in locations including Paris, London, Algiers, Casablanca and Tunis.”*

**Chambers Global 2018**

**FT Innovative Lawyers Report 2012:**  
**Blaise Diagne International**  
**Airport (Senegal) deal** praised as  
**'Standout' in Corporate Law**

---

## CONTACT PARTNERS

SIMON AUQUIER  
Casablanca  
tel. +212 (0)5 2248 9011  
simon.auquier@gide.com

JULIEN DAVID  
Paris  
tel. +33 (0)1 40 75 61 84  
david@gide.com

CHRISTOPHE ECK  
Paris  
tel. +33 (0)1 40 75 36 21  
eck@gide.com

JEAN-GABRIEL FLANDROIS  
Paris & Tunis  
tel. +33 (0)1 40 75 29 79  
flandroids@gide.com

SAMY LAGHOUATI  
Algiers & Tunis  
tel. +213 (0)21 23 9494  
laghouati@gide.com