



Leyou Tameru

Head of Arbitration, TWA & Partners, Ethiopia

Leyou Tameru is an arbitrator and counsel based in Ethiopia, she heads the arbitration practice at TWA & Partners. Listed in GAR's 45 under 45 global leaders of their generation in international arbitration, she sits as arbitrator and advises as counsel in international arbitration cases concerning African private and state owned entities.

She advises governments and international government organizations on investment and policy matters, such as serving as an expert in the drafting process of the African Continental Free Trade Area protocols, advising the Africa. Union on the ICSID rules amendment process and providing contract and pre-dispute negotiations on large government contracts.

Leyou is the founder of I-Arb Africa, an online platform providing data on arbitration in Africa, and a former ICC Court member. Currently she is serving on the editorial boards of the ICC Bulletin and the Kluwer Journal of International Arbitration. She previously taught law at Addis Ababa University.



Konyin Ajayi SAN

Partner, Olaniwun Ajayi LP., Nigeria

Konyin is a Senior Advocate of Nigeria with over four decades of experience in complex and high-value cross-border disputes. A Harvard-trained LL.M. graduate and Cambridge Ph.D. holder, Konyin is widely sought after as counsel, arbitrator and advisor in major arbitration matters. His track record includes representing an oil and gas company in a US\$20 million LCIA arbitration, acting for an international oil company in a US\$606 million crude oil supply dispute, and representing an investor in an ICC arbitration in the power sector, etc, reflecting his

cross-border dispute expertise across multiple sectors.

Beyond dispute resolution, Konyin is experienced in banking, project finance, capital markets, power, infrastructure, M&A, energy and natural resources, and privatization. Konyin contributes significantly to national and continental policy development. He serves on the advisory board of the Nigerian Economic Summit Group, is an Independent Non-Executive Director of Dangote Fertilizer Plc., and sits on the Advisory Committee of the African CDD Repository Platform of Afreximbank. He is also a member of the Capital Market Master Plan Implementation Committee, has advised Nigerian governments on reform initiatives, and serves as a consultant to the UN Economic Commission for Africa on interstate infrastructure.



Jabbar Alide

Justice, High Court of Malawi, Malawi

Jabbar Alide is a Judge of the High Court of Malawi and sits in the Commercial Division. He was appointed as Judge in March 2020. Prior to his judicial appointment, he served in various positions in the public and private sector in Malawi. Among others he served as Legal Director for Millennium Challenge Account - Malawi; Director of Administration and Company Secretary for the Electricity Supply Corporation of Malawi (ESCOM); General Counsel for the Malawi Communications Regulatory Authority (MACRA); and Company Secretary for INDEFUND Limited. He also previously ran his own private legal firm.

Throughout his career he has also held several key leadership and professional positions. He has previously served as Chairman of the Board of Trustees for Telekom Networks Malawi's Mobile Money Trust; Director for NICO Life Insurance Company Limited; Director for Get Bucks Limited; Vice Board Chairman for the Malawi National Food Reserve Agency; Board Member for the Malawi Social Action Fund III; Board Member for the Malawi Public Universities' Student Loan Scheme Trust; Vice President of the Football Association of Malawi; and also as Secretary of the Malawi Law Society. He was also appointed as a member of the Presidential Commission of Inquiry that investigated the death of the former President of the Republic of Malawi, Dr. Bingu wa Mutharika in 2012, and as the Chairman for the recent Presidential Commission of Inquiry that investigated the aircraft accident that led to the death of the former Vice President of the Republic of Malawi, Dr. Saulos Klaus Chilima, and eight others in 2024.

Justice Alide has been involved in complex legal and management advisory work and has overseen numerous commercial transactions and presided over numerous ADR sittings, including arbitration. He has also undertaken company secretarial work and involved in complex commercial transaction and contract negotiations, and has done a lot of legal drafting, compliance and regulatory work, as well as civil and criminal litigation. At the time of his appointment, he was in private legal practice and was a member of the Malawi Law Society for over 25 years.

Justice Jabbar Alide earned his LLB (Hons) from the University of Malawi in 1995 and obtained a Master of Business Administration at the University of Salford, in England, in 2002. He has also attended numerous professional short courses, seminars, conferences and workshops.



Inemesit Dike

Founder, The Legal Concierge, Nigeria

Inemesit Dike is a Technology Lawyer, TradeTech Strategist, and AI Consultant with nearly 20 years of experience driving digital transformation across public and private sectors. She help organizations design smarter systems, navigate complex regulatory environments, and deliver high-impact technology solutions that unlock growth, especially at the intersection of law, innovation, and trade.

As the founder of LegalX, she lead a future-focused platform that equips lawyers and legal professionals with the digital skills, tools, and frameworks needed to thrive in today's tech-driven economy. LegalX blends legal education with innovation, helping professionals across Africa and the diaspora navigate the evolving legaltech and TradeTech landscape.

She is a member of the US- Nigeria Commercial Investment Partnership created by the Ministry of Trade, Nigeria and USA. Her background spans enterprise technology, digital governance, cross-border trade, and AI-enabled systems. She specialize in advising on digital strategy, regulatory compliance, and B2B expansion, particularly within the US-Africa trade and innovation ecosystem. She work closely with stakeholders to lead Integrated Product Teams (IPTs), shape digital policy, and scale tech-enabled programs that deliver measurable results.

She's passionate about using technology to bridge gaps—between business and regulation, between Africa and the global market, and between traditional systems and the future of work.



Hamid Abdulkareem

Counsel, Three Crowns LLP, United Kingdom

Hamid Abdulkareem is counsel at the London office of Three Crowns LLP, where he advises and represents clients in international commercial and investment arbitrations under a variety of rules, including the ICC, LCIA, UNCITRAL and ICSID rules. He has particular experience in upstream oil and gas and infrastructure-related disputes, having worked on matters across the value chain in those sectors, and across multiple continents. He began his career in Nigeria, where he played a leading role in several arbitrations and related court proceedings stemming from Nigeria's deep offshore production sharing contracts.

Hamid is the Africa Regional Forum Liaison Officer of the IBA's Arbitration Committee. Previously, he has held successful terms as co-chair of both the Committee's Insolvency and Arbitration Workgroup and its Arb40 Group. In addition, he is co-chair of the ITA's Diversity and Inclusion Task Force and serves on the Advisory Board of the Lagos Court of Arbitration's Young Arbitrators' Network. Hamid's expertise has earned him recognition from Who's Who Legal as an "Arbitration Future Leader" and from the Africa Arbitration Academy as one of "Africa's 30 Most Promising Arbitration Practitioners". He is also listed in Legal 500 for his work in international arbitration and public international law.



Funmi Roberts

Principal Partner, Funmi Roberts & Co, Nigeria; Member, ICC International Court of Arbitration

Funmi Roberts, an award-winning lawyer, Chartered Arbitrator and CEDR-Accredited Mediator, combines an extensive 40-year legal background with proven conflict management systems design experience to assist clients to manage different types of disputes effectively and efficiently. She founded one of the largest female-owned law firms in Nigeria, Funmi Roberts & Co. with Chambers in Lagos and Ibadan, Oyo State with focal point in Abuja.

Funmi belongs to several local and international arbitration and mediation institutions, including the International Chamber of Commerce, Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, (UK), Nigerian Institute of Arbitrators, International Bar Association etc.

Apart from being on the teaching faculties of both Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, UK (Nigeria Branch) and Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution (CEDR) in the UK, Funmi is on the Global Panel of United Nations Ombudsman and until June 2025, Regional Mediator for the World Bank Group. She served until 2024 on the Dispute Resolution Panel of the National Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC) and was one of the pioneer directors of the Lagos Court of Arbitration, having served as a member of the committee that drafted the Lagos Arbitration Law, 2009.

She has gained tremendous experience from participating either as arbitrator, registrar or counsel in more than fifty arbitrations, and countless mediations covering diverse sectors such as construction and project development, oil and gas, real estate, banking and finance, etc. A member of the Mediation Thought Leadership Group of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, Funmi has also mediated numerous commercial, workplace and family-based disputes, and has acted as adjudicator in construction dispute.

A member of the ICC Arbitration and ADR Commission, Funmi served as Chairman of the National Committee on the Repeal and Reform of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1988 which produced the Arbitration and Mediation Act, 2023, which was assented to by the former President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, President Muhammadu Buhari, GCON on 26th May, 2023.

In 2024, in recognition of her expertise and contribution to the arbitration and ADR space in Nigeria, Funmi was invited to the ICC Court of International Arbitration and was appointed by the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to represent Nigeria on the Permanent Court of Arbitration at the Hague in 2024.



Claudia Salomon

President, ICC International Court of Arbitration, France

Claudia Salomon is the President of the ICC International Court of Arbitration. She is the first woman to lead the world's most preferred arbitral institution in its almost 100-year history.

Ms. Salomon is also an independent arbitrator, specialising in international, investor-state and complex commercial disputes. She is widely recognised as one of the leading arbitration practitioners of her generation.

Ms. Salomon has experience as arbitrator and counsel in some of the most complex, high value and

significant disputes. Her cases span a broad range of industry sectors, including construction, energy and natural resources (oil and gas, hydroelectric, solar, wind farm), financial services, hospitality, life sciences, technology, and telecommunications. She is particularly adept at multi-party, multi-contract claims involving complex financial agreements, post-M&A disputes and intellectual property rights.

Additionally, Ms. Salomon is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators. She is a sought-after speaker and writer on international arbitration and the co-editor of *Choice of Venue in International Arbitration*, published by Oxford University Press.

Ms. Salomon is a member of the New York Bar and a solicitor in England and Wales. She graduated from Harvard Law School, cum laude, and Brandeis University, summa cum laude with honours. She also studied at Somerville College, Oxford University.



Babatunde Ajibade SAN

Managing Partner, S.P.A. Ajibade & Co, Nigeria

Dr. Babatunde Ajibade is the managing partner of S. P. A. Ajibade & Co, a leading corporate and commercial law firm with offices in Lagos, Ibadan and Abuja, Nigeria.

He is a dispute resolution specialist and has substantial expertise in various aspects of commercial litigation and commercial arbitration. He has acted as counsel in both ad hoc and institutional arbitration proceedings and also sits as an arbitrator.

He is the Chair of the International Bar Association's Section on Public and Professional Interest (IBA-SPPI) and was a Vice-President of the International Chamber of Commerce ("ICC") Arbitration Commission's Steering Committee until June 2024. He is a member of the ICC's Africa Commission, a Director of ICC Nigeria, a Director of the Lagos Chamber of Commerce International Arbitration Centre (LACIAC), and a member of the Lagos Court of Arbitration (LCA).

He was the Chairman of the Judiciary Committee of the Nigerian Bar Association for two consecutive terms ending in August 2024.

Dr. Ajibade was called to the Nigerian Bar in 1989. He obtained an LLM degree in corporate and commercial law in 1990 and a PhD in private international law in 1996, both from King's College London. He was elevated to the rank of Senior Advocate of Nigeria in December 2007. He was awarded the International Practice Fellowship of the International Bar Association in Madrid in October 2009 and became a fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators UK in January 2015.



Babajimi Ayorinde

Partner, The New Practice (TNP), Nigeria

Babajimi is a partner at TNP where he heads the Dispute Resolution Practice Group.

He practices commercial law, specialising in commercial litigation and arbitration. His main practice areas include energy, mergers and acquisitions, corporate finance, banking and fintech. His experience includes advising on independent power projects, and natural gas sale and purchase transactions. He regularly acts as an advocate in arbitration and court proceedings. He also acts as an arbitrator and is occasionally instructed in court and arbitration proceedings as an expert witness on matters of Nigerian law.

He is a non-executive director of the Lagos Chamber of Commerce International Arbitration Centre (LACIAC), a member of the Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC) Africa User's Council, a member of the Association of International Energy Negotiators (AIEN), and an Official Contributor to the UNCITRAL New York Convention Guide Project.



Živa Filipič

Managing Counsel, ICC International Court of Arbitration, Paris

As Managing Counsel of the ICC International Court of Arbitration, Živa oversees and coordinates the work of the ICC Court Secretariat's case management teams in Paris, New York, Hong Kong, Sao Paulo, Singapore and Abu Dhabi.

She previously acted as Counsel in charge of the case management team dealing predominantly with cases from the Eastern Mediterranean and the Gulf regions, which followed her work in the Eastern European and North American ICC case management teams. Prior to joining ICC, she worked as a clerk at the Ljubljana district court, as legal assistant to Professor Martin Hunter at Essex Court Chambers in London, as an associate in the Banking and Finance team at Schoenherr Rechtsanwälte Attorneys at Law in Vienna, and as legal counsel at the Bank of Slovenia. She is a qualified Slovenian lawyer and holds an L.L.M. in International Business and Commercial Law from King's College London (KCL). She was a member of the first KCL's team for the VIS Moot and KCL team's main coach during the oral rounds in 2010, which the team won.

She is fluent in English, Italian, Spanish and French, and also speaks German, Croatian and Serbian.



Tope Adeyemi

**Barrister and Arbitrator, 33 Bedford Row Chambers,
United Kingdom**

Tope Adeyemi is a Barrister and Arbitrator practising from 33 Bedford Row Chambers in London. Dual qualified in England & Wales and Nigeria, her practice focuses on Alternative Dispute Resolution and Regulatory Law. She routinely appears before a wide range of courts and tribunals and acts as Counsel and Arbitrator in institutional and ad hoc arbitrations. Tope has published over 30 arbitral awards under various institutional rules (LCIA, ICC, CIARB, ABTA and Commercial Rent (Coronavirus) Act). Additionally, she undertakes adjudications as a member of the Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution's Consumer Panel (CEDR) and is a former member of the Financial Ombudsman Services' Panel of Ombudsmen. In 2024 she was appointed Vice Chair of the Appeals Committee of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW). She is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and past Chair of its London Branch Committee.



Sofia Vale

Independent Arbitrator, Luanda, Angola

Sofia Vale is a law professor and arbitrator based in Luanda, Angola. She has been acting as arbitrator in more than 40 arbitrations. She has also acted as legal expert in several arbitrations.

Sofia Vale is an expert in company law, commercial law, corporate governance, PPP/PFI, banking and finance, dealing with disputes in the just mentioned fields.

As consultant for the Centre for Out-of-court Dispute Settlement of the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights of the Republic of Angola, where she worked since its creation in 2014, she was engaged in the promotion and development of private arbitration centres in Angola. She has been appointed as a member of the Commission for the Reform of the Angolan Arbitration Law, created by the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights of the Republic of Angola. She was also in charge of the Arbitration Module inserted in the professional course for attorneys provided by the Angolan Bar Association.

Sofia Vale has been appointed in 2022 for the Panel of Arbitrators of ICSID by the Republic of Angola, and in 2024 for the ICC Commission on Arbitration and ADR.

Sofia Vale authors several works regarding arbitration, namely the Angolan Arbitration Law- Commented. Her publications can be accessed in her own website (www.sofiavale-arbitration.com) and in the following web sites: <https://fduan.academia.edu/SofiaVale> ; https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Sofia_Vale3 ; <http://ssrn.com/author=1994479>



Nene Amegatcher

**Consultant, Sam Okudzeto & Associates, Ghana;
Arbitrator, Ghana Arbitration Centre, Ghana; Retired
Justice, Supreme Court of Ghana**

Justice Nene Amegatcher holds a Master of Laws Degree in Advanced Litigation and Dispute Resolution from the Nottingham Trent Law School, UK. He practised law at the firm of Sam Okudzeto & Associates, where he rose to the position of Managing Partner before his elevation to the Supreme Court of Ghana. He also served as an adjunct lecturer in Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR), Advocacy, and Legal Ethics at the Ghana School of Law.

Justice Amegatcher is a Past President of the Ghana Bar Association and a past chair of the African Regional Forum of the IBA. Justice Amegatcher once represented Ghana on the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) Court of Arbitration in Paris. He currently serves as the Diversity & Inclusion Officer of the Judges Forum of the IBA.

Justice Amegatcher is a retired Justice of the Supreme Court of Ghana and is currently an Arbitrator with the Ghana Arbitration Centre and a consultant on the training and mentoring of young lawyers at the law firm of Sam Okudzeto & Associates.



Mamadou Gacko

Senior Associate, DLA Piper, France

Mamadou is a member of the Paris Bar and a senior associate at DLA Piper's Paris office, with over ten years of experience practicing international arbitration. Mamadou serves as both arbitrator and counsel in arbitral proceedings, primarily governed by ICC, LCIA, ICSID, and UNCITRAL rules, involving States, public entities, international organizations, private entities, and high-net-worth individuals. He also represents clients before French and OHADA courts in proceedings to set aside or recognize arbitral awards. Mamadou has been involved in more

than thirty arbitrations and related court proceedings. His practice maintains a strong focus on French-speaking Africa and regularly involves African parties and activities or businesses carried out across the continent.

Drawing on this experience, in January 2025, Mamadou founded afar (www.afarjournal.com), a monthly newsletter that has since evolved into an online journal where he regularly publishes articles and external contributions analyzing African arbitration cases and developments, as well as African economic and political dynamics through the lens of arbitration and international law.