

Promoting Business Law in Africa

An assessment of OHADA law and the dynamics of legal integration

Invitation

Seminar on **Friday 19 October 2007**

Eversheds Frere Cholmeley
8 place d'Iéna, 75116 Paris
M° Iéna/Boissière
Bus 22-30-32-63-82
Parking Kléber

For almost ten years now, the OHADA Treaty and the eight Uniform Acts derived from it have introduced a safe and standardised practice of business law in Africa. This system has already made it possible to secure and encourage the development of national private sectors, as well as direct foreign investment in the sixteen member countries (and it will soon do so the same in several other countries).

If the standardisation process is to continue, this now raises issues relating to the development, enlargement, and modernisation of the scope of the Treaty, both from the point of view of the sector and from a geographical point of view. What is the future for a new harmonised economic and legal area in Africa?

Experts will be present to share their views and answer your questions. Together with other professionals, you will be able to discuss the issues raised by the enlargement of OHADA and the continuation of the legal integration process in Africa.

Speakers

Adesegun A. Akin-Olugbade, General Counsel, African Development Bank

Seydou Ba, President of UNIDA (Association for the Unification of Business Law in Africa) and former President of the Common Court of Justice and Arbitration

Jacques Blanché, Vice President, ACP Numérique

Jean-François Dupuy, Principal Counsel, International Finance Corporation

Henry Lesguillons, Professor, Editor, International Business Law Journal

François Lichère, Professor of Public Law, Eversheds

Bertrand du Marais, Conseiller d'Etat, Professor, University of Paris-X (CRDP)

Boris Martor & Sébastien Thouvenot, Avocats, Eversheds

Claire Moore Dickerson, Visiting Professor & Sen. Breaux Chair in Law, Tulane University, New Orleans, USA

Hélène N'Garnim-Ganga, Head of Legal Department, Agence Française de Développement

Christophe Nègre, Deputy Head of Division, European Investment Bank

Minutes of the debates will be published in the International Business Law Journal.
www.iblj.com



Programme

- 08:30 Registration and coffee
- 08:45 Chairman's welcome
- 09:15 Issues raised by the standardisation and an assessment of the progress of a uniform law
- 09:45 The draft Uniform Acts and the revision of the OHADA Treaty
- 10:00 Break
- 10:15 Bringing in English-speaking countries and linguistic problems
- 10:45 The lenders' point of view on the need for harmonisation
- 11:15 Other ideas for modernising business law: PPPs, sector harmonisation (energy and telecoms)
- 11:45 Close

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Friday 19 October 2007 from 08:30 to 12:00 at Eversheds Frere Cholmeley

- I would like to attend the seminar.
 I am unable to attend, but would like to be kept informed of future events.

Full name: (Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss/Other)

Position:

Business address:

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Tel: Fax:

E-mail:

Please let us know if you have any access requirements:

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Please feel free to pass copies of this document to colleagues who may be interested in attending. However, please note that places are limited and we encourage you to register promptly.

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