

LITIGATION, ARBITRATION AND ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION

PRACTICE PROFILE



Welcome

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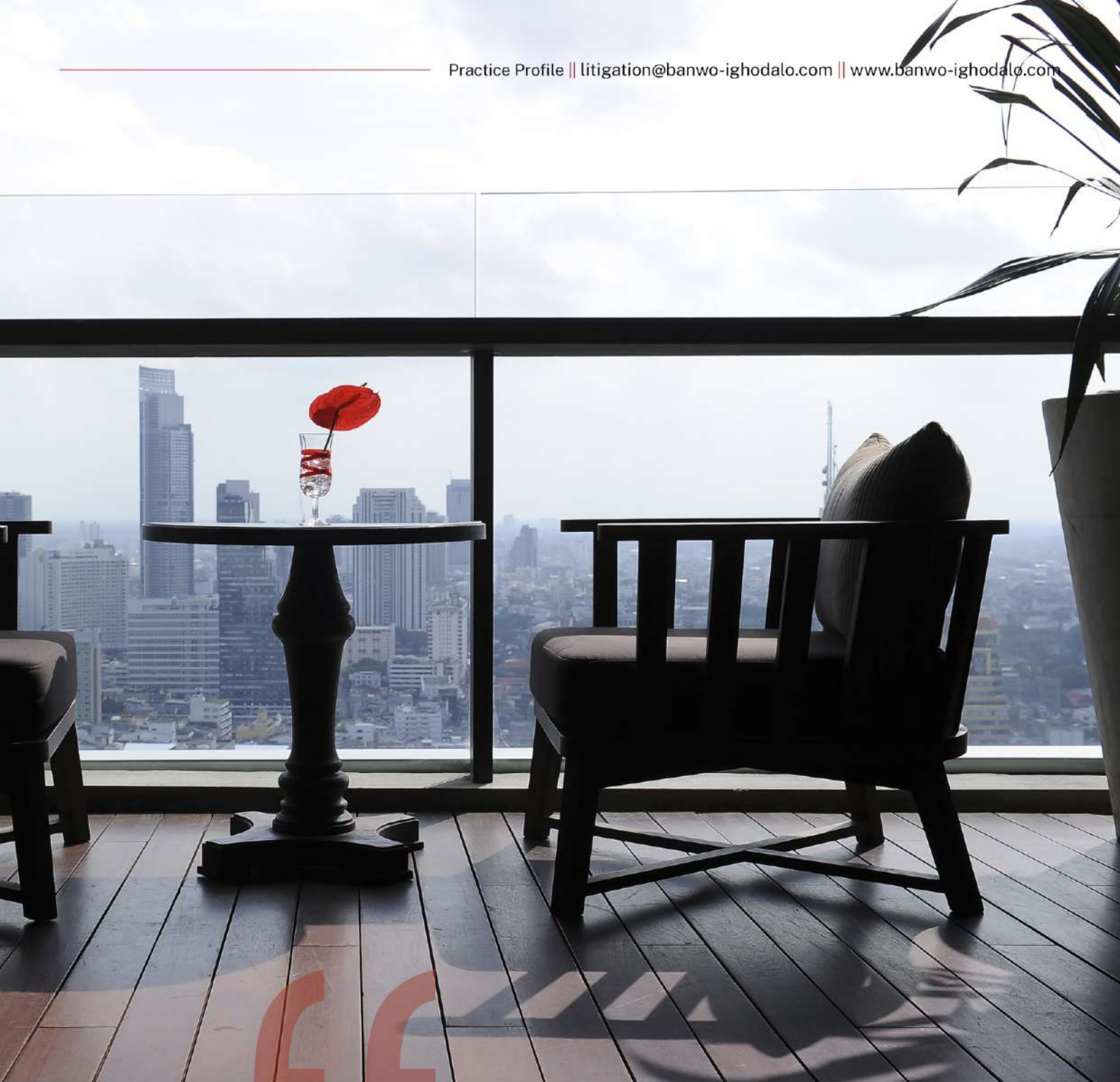
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About Us



“In a complex matter, look no further than **Banwo & Ighodalo.**”

- The Legal 500, 2022

About Us

The firm was established on the 1st of February 1991, with a determination on the part of its founding partners to build a first-class institution, which would rank among the best in the world. From our clients' feedback, we are acclaimed to be very innovative and outstanding in the provision of efficient, commercially savvy and cost-effective legal solutions to matters brought to us.

B&I is structured as a partnership and is a large-sized Nigerian law firm, currently comprising fifteen (15) partners and over Eighty (80) additional lawyers. Our personnel are youthful and energetic, dedicated, knowledgeable, motivated, and dynamic; and have consistently demonstrated uncommon commitment to excellence in their various areas of legal practice.

The firm currently has **five (5)** core practice groups:

- Litigation, Arbitration and Alternative Dispute Resolution;
- Corporate, Securities and Finance;
- Shipping, Aviation, and International Trade;
- Intellectual Property and Information Technology; and
- Energy & Natural Resources.

We are consistently ranked as a tier-1 law firm in all of our core areas of practice by leading global

ABOUT US

Our Litigation, Arbitration and Alternative Dispute Resolution Practice



We have emerged as one of the leading, dedicated, and experienced litigation and arbitration practices in Nigeria. Our lawyers are skillful litigators, arbitration experts, negotiators, and mediation advocates. The practice is led by a Senior Advocate of Nigeria (equivalent of King's Counsel), with significant public sector experience as a former Attorney-General and Commissioner for Justice.

The team's expertise is broad and deep and was developed over the years from handling commercial litigation and arbitration, in almost every industry and market sector, including consumer products, telecommunication, energy, financial services, and health care.

We also have significant expertise and demonstrable capacity in specialised disputes, including, tax, white-collar crimes, anti-trust/ competition, intellectual property, and employment disputes. To deliver results to our clients, we collaborate with colleagues in other practice groups within the firm who are subject-matter experts in the identified specialised areas. Thus, we have helped to extend and clarify the frontiers of law, especially through litigation.

We have represented clients before all

types of trial, appellate, regulatory, law enforcement and alternative dispute resolution tribunals in Nigeria. We have also represented clients in arbitration proceedings, including arbitration proceedings conducted under the auspices of the London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA) and International Chambers of Commerce (ICC). Also, we regularly represent international clients seeking to enforce foreign judgments and arbitral awards in Nigeria.

We combine in-depth legal knowledge with a demonstrable track record of managing and working alongside our clients to ensure the provision of effective bespoke service, within client driven deadlines. Our primary objective is to ensure that disputes arising from the business and commercial activities of clients are effectively resolved timely.

Recognising that costs is an important concern for clients, we pride ourselves on our ability to work with clients in a cost-efficient manner to meet their budget requirements, while providing high quality responsive service within set timeframes



Testimonials



Their out-of-the-box thinking is unparalleled!

"In a complex matter, look no further than Banwo & Ighodalo. Their out of the box thinking is unparalleled and you can always count on them to go over and above their tasks."

"We have worked very closely with counsel at Banwo & Ighodalo for nearly six years and have been very impressed by the service provided so far. Their **counsel's quick response time, well-articulated and complete responses** provide a unique outlook of the practice".

"Chinedum Umeche is **result-oriented, forward thinking and very creative in offering solutions in any case.**"





They can turn around work really quickly!

“When we have a complex transaction, they would always be the first to come to mind. **We find them to be extremely creative and always helpful.**”

“We find them very resourceful, always a very good sound board to discuss ideas with. They’re very nimble, they can turn around work really quickly. **You can’t go wrong with them; they’re professional and deeply experienced.**”

Abimbola Akeredolu is well versed in litigation and arbitration. **She is committed to client service and provides timely feedback and advice. She’s articulate in court**”

Chambers
AND PARTNERS

Credentials

Credentials

- Acted for **Union Global Partners Limited** and **Atlas Mara Limited**, former majority shareholders of Union Bank of Nigeria Plc. (UBN) in a shareholder dispute arising from the sale of their majority stake in UBN.
- Acted for an international oil company in an action seeking to compel it to pay a suite of taxes and levies in the sum of NGN184,495,740,000 (One Hundred and Eighty-Four Billion, Four Hundred and Ninety-Five Million, Seven Hundred and Forty Thousand Naira).
- Acted for **Total E&P Nigeria Limited**, an affiliate of French multinational oil company, TotalEnergies SE in a contractual dispute relating to the performance of several contracts for the provision of vessel and technical services.
- Acted for an international oil company in relation to contractual disputes arising from a Gas Project Production Platform modification installation.
- Acting for several indigenous exploration and production companies, under the auspices of the **Independent Petroleum Producers Group**, in a suit against two agencies of the Federal Government of Nigeria in relation to ultra vires tax assessments.
- Acting for a Chinese company in mediation proceedings involving a construction contract worth USD81,000,000 (Eighty-One Million United States Dollars) in respect of an international hotel.
- Acted for **Heritage Energy Operational Services Limited (HEOSL)**, an indigenous oil and gas company, on the propriety of tax assessments notes issued by the Revenue Mobilization, Allocation and Fiscal Commission and the purported demand and enforcement of same by the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission. Also acted for HEOSL in an arbitration involving a contractual dispute with a monetary claim above USD75,000,000 (Seventy-Five Million United States Dollars).

- Successfully recovered the sum of USD930,252.44 (Nine Hundred and Thirty Thousand, Two Hundred and Fifty-Two United States Dollars, Forty-Four Cents) guaranteed by a reputable Nigerian bank on behalf of a US Fortune 500 company.
- Acted for **Julius Berger Nigeria Plc** – the foremost Nigerian construction firm in an LCIA arbitration involving the construction of a cement plant in Nigeria.
- Acted for **Energio Nigeria Free Zone Enterprise; and Energio Nigeria Limited** (a former Nigerian subsidiary of Energoprojekt Oprema a.d.) in two ICC arbitration proceedings, relating to contractual issues arising from several construction projects in Nigeria.
- Representing French multinational oil company **TotalEnergies SE** and its Nigerian affiliate, **Total E&P Nigeria Limited** in an employment dispute involving a contract staff whose employment lapsed by effluxion of time.
- Acting for the **Nigerian Ports Authority**, an agency of the Federal Government of Nigeria in charge of port operations in three separate arbitrations under the auspices of the Lagos Regional Centre for International Arbitration with combined claims in excess of USD814,000,000 (Eight Hundred and Fourteen Million United States Dollars).
- Representing **Oriental Energy Resources Limited**, an indigenous oil and gas company, in several contractual disputes with third parties.
- Acting for multinational oil company, **ExxonMobil Corporation**, and its Nigerian affiliate, **Mobil Producing Nigeria Unlimited** in several employment disputes involving the termination of employment of over 800 Supernumerary Police Officers.

- Acting for **Serimax SAS**, a French company that offers orbital and manual welding solutions to international clients in a recovery action against a Nigerian oil servicing company.
- Acted for an international oil company in a contractual dispute arising from a Master Service Agreement.
- Advised a notable indigenous company on its contractual rights and remedies arising from a contract for the installation of a hydroelectric power station.
- Advised **Manitowoc Company Inc.** one of the world's largest providers of lifting equipment for the global construction industry in an alleged breach of contract/warranty claim by a Nigerian company.
- Acted for **Dangote Industries (Zambia) Limited**, Zambia's leading cement manufacturer in a Lagos seated arbitration proceeding.
- Acted for a technology company in an ICC arbitration centered on the interpretation of a price protection clause in a Telecommunications Capacity Agreement.
- Successfully represented a notable Nigerian company at the Federal High Court in the enforcement of a foreign arbitral award handed down in London.
- Acting for **9 Payment Service Bank Limited**, Nigeria's first payment service bank in an arbitration involving a contractual dispute involving sums in excess of NGN200,000,000 (Two Hundred Million Naira).
- Advising **Flour Mills of Nigeria Plc.**, Nigeria's leading integrated food business and agro allied group, and its subsidiaries in a breach of warranty dispute.

- Acted for and obtained judgment on behalf of a top Nigerian bank in an action filed by a customer (corporate organization) which failed to liquidate the sums outstanding on overdraft facilities granted to it by the bank.
- Advising **Heli-Union**, a leading helicopter services provider in a breach of contract claim against a Nigerian company.
- Acting for a Dutch entertainment company, **Endemol B.V** in a dispute for the protection of its copyright in a popular reality television broadcast against a Nigerian entertainment company.
- Acting for **GlaxoSmithKline Consumer Nigeria Plc**, one of the world's largest and integrated pharmaceutical companies and subsidiary of GlaxoSmithKline Plc (UK) in a suite of over 80 employment related matters at the National Industrial Court of Nigeria.
- Acting for the owners of a large housing estate seeking to recover outstanding debts in respect of leases granted to third parties.
- Acting for a financial institution to recover a debt in excess of NGN550,000,000 (Five Hundred and Fifty Million Naira) representing the outstanding sum from a credit facility granted to an international company and its Nigerian subsidiary.
- Acting for the **Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission**, an independent regulatory body with authority over the regulation of the electric power industry in several litigation matters at various courts across Nigeria.
- Acted for **Emerging Markets Telecommunication Services Limited**, a former affiliate of Emirates Telecommunication Group Company PJSC and a multinational telecommunications service provider in litigation and arbitration matters in different States of the Federation, including Rivers, Imo, Abia, Anambra, Enugu, Bayelsa, Akwa Ibom, Kwara, Ebonyi, Nasarawa, Ondo, Oyo, Osun, Edo, Delta, Ekiti, Kano, Cross River, and Kaduna States.



We are a modern firm that
listens and understands.

- Acting for a Pan-African cloud and digital service provider – inq., and its Nigerian affiliate, inq. **Digital Nigeria Limited** in a dispute filed by former employees alleging wrongful termination of employment and payment of redundancy benefits.
- Acting for **Nigerian Breweries Plc**, a notable brewery listed on the Nigerian Exchange Group in a suit filed by a former employee alleging injury / physical impairment during the course of his employment.
- Acting for an indigenous oil company in relation to contractual disputes arising from the provision of marine logistics and offshore support services.
- Successfully acted for an indigenous oil servicing company in relation to contractual disputes arising from the supply of mudlogging units and ADT services.
- Advising a client in relation to its contractual rights and remedies arising from a contract for the provision of welding, NDE and FJC services for the Escravos Export System Project.
- Acting for an indigenous oil company in relation to contractual disputes arising from the supply of vessels to a (marginal) oil field project.
- Acting for an indigenous oil company concerning contractual disputes arising from the cleaning and evacuation of liquid bulk tanks.
- Acted for a major telecommunications company in a suit challenging the powers of the Rivers State Government and the Rivers State Ministry of Transport to impose and demand taxes outside the purview of the relevant tax legislation.

- Acting for a client in a suit filed by the relevant state Internal Revenue Service, for failure to furnish tax remittance certificates and non-payment of Personal Income Tax.
- Advising a French multinational company, **Accor S.A** in the protection and exploitation of its "Accor" global trademark by a Nigerian hospitality and tourism company.
- Acting for a multinational company based in Denmark in a suit against a French company, which has infringed on its patent in Nigeria.
- Acting for a technology company in a suit for the protection of its business relationship with a Nigerian telecommunications company.
- Acting for a Nigerian company in a suit for the protection of its goodwill and business interests against the continuous infringement of its registered trademarks.
- Acted for **E-Motion Advertising Limited**, an outdoor signage and advertising company in a contractual dispute involving circa NGN1,400,000,000 (One Billion, Four Hundred Million Naira).
- Represented a property development company in arbitration proceedings in respect of a dispute pertaining to the breach of a building contract valued at over NGN2,000,000,000 (Two Billion Naira).
- Represented **IROKING**, an online music and video streaming platform in a copyright infringement action instituted against it by a notable Nigerian artiste.
- Acting for **Black Pelican Limited**, a major total interior solutions company, in a suit for the protection of its registered trademarks, goodwill and business interests.

- Advised a multinational insurance company on reporting obligations under Nigerian data protection laws following a security breach which compromised personal data of thousands of customers including Nigerian citizens and residents.
- Acting for a notable shipping line and international logistics company in proceedings arising from a dawn raid order by the Federal Competition and Consumer Protection Council.
- Advised **Sterling Bank Plc**, a notable Nigerian bank, on a privacy infringement claim arising from its use of a stock photograph in social media advertisements.
- Representing **Premier Specialist Hospital**, a notable Nigerian private hospital in ongoing investigations for alleged breaches of consumer rights.
- Represented nine foreign nationals in connection with criminal charges bordering on terrorism and unlawful possession of firearms.
- Acting for a notable businessman in connection with a charge of obtaining the sum of USD1,417,000.00 (One Million, Four Hundred and Seventeen Thousand United States Dollars) by false pretence.
- Acting for two indigenous real estate and web development companies and their Managing Directors in connection with criminal charges bordering on money laundering.

Representative Client List



Key Contacts



Key Contacts



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Excellent minds,
Excellent solutions



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