

IBRAHIM SORIE, ESQ.

Mr. Sorie is a Barrister & Solicitor and a Partner at Sorie & Bangura with over 20 years post qualification experience. He is also an Attorney in the States of New York and Virginia in the United States. He is a skilled litigator and consummate solicitor who possesses a sharp intellect and is solutions driven. Mr. Sorie is a result-oriented professional, a performer who gets the job done while maintaining the highest ethical standard. He handles commercial and corporate matters including but not limited to incorporating companies, joint ventures, acquisitions, mergers, share transfers, liquidations, winding up and closeouts. His experience also covers a wide range of legal issues which include working on energy projects as well as other project finance transactions, litigation, procurement, conveyancing and real estate, mines and minerals law, admiralty/shipping law, providing end-to-end support in land lease processes for the private sector especially in the provinces of Sierra Leone where private sector companies engage with local chiefs and indigenous land owning families, family law, succession law including obtaining letters of administration and probate, and labour/employment law. He has had prior experience drafting legislation relating to energy, arbitration and agriculture and has significant experience advising on all aspects of employment and labour law including contracts of employment, termination, dismissals, benefits and redundancies.

Mr. Sorie has advised clients such as United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), Oxford Policy Fellowship/Ernst & Young UK, Climate Fund Managers B.V. ("CFM"), The Waste Transformers B. V. ("TWT") and Freetown Waste Transformers on project financed transactions involving multi-million dollar projects in the renewable energy sector such as bio waste and solar energy projects which included drafting, preparing and reviewing legal structuring and financial agreements including highlighting local law issues identified in drafting and negotiation of project finance and security documents, including enforcement, perfection of security, tax, conflicts of laws, recognition of foreign judgments and arbitral awards, environmental matters, creditors rights generally, bankruptcy and insolvency issues as well as advising on whether there were any limitations on Project SPVs from receiving or remitting forex funds from Sierra Leone while confirming and obtaining all relevant licenses, permits and authorizations to be obtained from competent authorities.

Mr. Sorie routinely litigates civil matters in the superior courts of Sierra Leone including the Supreme Court (the Highest Court in Sierra Leone) and has won very prominent and landmark cases. He was a member of the Committee set up to revise the rules of procedure for the Fast

Track Commercial Court, (a specialized commercial court established to ensure the speedy adjudication of commercial matters). He has represented companies such as Orange, Pee Cee & Sons, Guaranty Trust Bank, Ericsson, Delmas and Dawnus, local NGOs (including the largest Farmer based organization in Sierra Leone – NaFFSL) as well as foreign NGOs (INGOs). He also has recovered debts for commercial banks such as the Sierra Leone Commercial Bank and Rokel Commercial Bank. He has recovered significant sums of money for clients including a \$19 million judgment against one of the largest mining companies in Sierra Leone. He is retained solicitor for Orange Money Sierra Leone. He has also done due diligence on behalf of a potential purchaser for the acquisition of one of the most prominent banks in Sierra Leone.

Mr. Sorie has also served as principal legal advisor and lead negotiator of a startup renewable energy company in negotiations with the Government of Sierra Leone (the Attorney General and Minister of Justice, the Minister, Deputy Minister and Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Energy, Special Adviser to the President on Energy and the Solicitor General, amongst others) and project financiers. He has also worked with a Middle Eastern company that has negotiated the sale of thermal plants to the Government of Sierra Leone for installation in several districts around the country. He provides transactional advice on Public Private Partnership (“PPP”) Projects and Utilities Regulations as well as develops contract documents.

Mr. Sorie routinely provides legal consultancy services to numerous entities on variety of issues including energy projects. The Millennium Challenge Corporation Unit (“MCCU”) an autonomous entity with independent legal authority to oversee, manage, and implement a Threshold Program funded by the Millennium Challenge Corporation (“MCC”) has twice utilized his services as a consultant. MCC is a U.S. government agency. MCCU amongst other things has engaged Mr. Sorie’s services to enhance regulatory strengthening of the Electricity and Water Regulatory Commission which oversees and regulates the electricity and water sector in Sierra Leone. Part of Mr. Sorie’s tasks included preparing a Power Purchase Agreement (“PPA”) between EGTC and EDSA. The review of the draft was done with EGTC, EDSA, Ministry of Energy, MCCU, MCC, EWRC and a consultant from Adams Smith which resulted in acceptance of the terms of the PPA by the Parties. He also provided advice on different legal issues and prepared legal opinions, memoranda, and other legal documents; advised the Director General and the Commission on drafting, interpretation, and implementation of the SLEWRC Act 2011 and other regulatory laws and regulations impacting the role and functions of the Commission. He coordinated the final legal review of the draft Main and Mini regulations relating to the electricity and water sectors with the Law Officers Department.

Mr. Sorie returned to Sierra Leone from the United States in 2009, where he had been employed since 2004 by Global Recovery Group, LLC, ("GRG") an international debt collection firm engaged by the Export-Import Bank of the United States, the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, foreign export agencies and development banks and was appointed Portfolio Director - Africa & the Middle East in 2007. At GRG, Mr. Sorie obtained a number of distinctions; highest fee earner for four consecutive years, most recovery to date in the history of the company, highest single case recovery, amongst others. Mr. Sorie's negotiating skills are well respected by GRG and its clients. He has worked closely with a group of experienced and talented lawyers and other recovery professionals throughout Africa as well as in England, Switzerland, Malaysia, Trinidad & Tobago and Guyana.

He holds two masters' degrees from the George Washington University in International & Comparative Law (2003), as well as in Litigation & Dispute Resolution (2005). He obtained a Bachelor of Laws (LL.B. (Hons.)) degree from the University of Sierra Leone in 1999. He is admitted to practice law and a member of the Bar in the Commonwealth of Virginia since 2007, the State of New York since 2007, and the Republic of Sierra Leone since 2000. He is also a member of the American Bar Association. In June 2014 he was elected President of the Sierra Leone Bar Association, the oldest Bar Association in Sub-Saharan Africa and served as President for two terms. He is currently a member of the General Legal Council, the statutory body that regulates the legal profession in Sierra Leone.