

Angeli Arora

Partner



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Overview

Angeli is the Regional Leader (Africa) of the Dentons Private Equity Group and a senior member of the General Corporate Advisory Group. Angeli has around 20 years of experience in acting for funds, banks and corporate enterprises on high stake or complex investments around the world, including numerous regions around Africa, Asia and Europe.

Angeli has advised on all aspects of an investment from entry, portfolio management/strategy to exit. In addition, Angeli has extensive corporate experience, having acted on some of the most high profile financial restructurings, numerous cross-border mergers and acquisitions and many important global investor actions.

In Africa, Angeli is involved in a number of initiatives which aim to address some of the complex investment challenges on the continent. Angeli has spearheaded numerous projects to support best corporate governance practices in South Africa, especially focussing on young companies and assisting VCs.

Angeli has received numerous recognitions and accolades for her record-breaking successes in the international legal arena, having spent time working in senior positions at firms in England, Hong Kong and South Africa.

Clients say Angeli's "ability to bring creative ideas and craft novel solutions to problems deemed unsolvable by other counsel is amongst those attributes that have made her a consistent first preference within an increasingly competitive field of advisors. It is rare to find such a combination of abilities, which consistently set her apart from the competition."

Experience

- **Various financial institutions:** Advising on various equity and finance investments (generally exceeding US\$50mn) in over 65 countries, including South Africa, Tanzania, Nigeria, Ghana, Mozambique, Mauritius, Egypt, England, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Netherlands, United States, South America, Australia, Malaysia, Vietnam, India, Philippines, Indonesia, New Zealand and Korea. This scope of work extends to various industries, including telecommunications (including a multi-million-dollar investment in a large Nigerian telecoms group), hotel, leisure, healthcare, technology, oil and gas, infrastructure, shipping, transport, mining, and finance.

- **Various investment funds:** Advising on structuring funds and fund managers in various jurisdictions in Africa, Asia and Europe and providing regular advice on arbitrage, regulatory and compliance issues.
- **Various listed corporate clients:** Advising one of the world's leading manufacturers of solar products on their investments in the SADC region; a large public Japanese company in the acquisitions, joint ventures and divestitures of a number of technology companies and assets operating in the EU, U.S., Africa and Asia; one of the largest American multinational technology corporation in various acquisitions in the United Kingdom; one of the largest global manufacturers of medical devices on their acquisitions and divestitures of a number of companies in Europe.
- **Joint ventures:** Advising on numerous joint-ventures between financial institutions and corporates, including an oil and petroleum business operating in the Middle East, a litigation funding business in Europe, a gold bullion business in Tanzania and a number of mining businesses in Africa and the United States.
- **Various Noteholders:** Advising noteholders in numerous European LBO restructurings, including the €1.2bn restructuring of the Quinn Group and Energis plc; advising on the distressed sales of the businesses and assets of Connaught plc, the UK's leading integrated service provider; advising bondholders in the wind down activities of one of the collapsed Icelandic banks; advising certain bondholders in the bankruptcy of a large European telecommunications company.
- **Confidential clients:** Advising on numerous investor actions around the world, including a high-profile legal battle with a defaulting large state-owned company in Asia; a legal battle with an Asian government relating to a major government-backed project in that country and a high-profile proxy battle in respect of one of the largest companies in New Zealand.
- **Emerging Companies:** Partnering with Startupbootcamp Afritech to advise and mentor their startups.

Recognition

- Partner of the Year (female): Highly commended, African Legal Awards 2020.
- Best female M&A lawyer 2019, WOZA (women in law in South Africa) awards.
- Ranked (as group leader) in the Legal 500 for (i) Investment Funds and (ii) Private Equity.
- Recognised in Who's Who Legal.
- Regional leader for team winning "Best Advisory firm: private equity" at the Africa Global Funds Awards, 2020.
- Regional leader for team winning "Best Advisory firm: fund structuring" at the Africa Global Funds Awards, 2019.
- UK Super Lawyers honoree.
- Finalist in the Asian Women of the Year (UK) awards.

In the Media

- Profiled in Forbes Africa: Private Equity Supplement, Oct 2020 (page 17)
- Featured in the First 100 years celebrating the achievements of women in law over the past century

Insights

- Contributor, "Corporate Governance for the African lawyer", online University of Cape Town Law-works/Africa Legal course (Highly commended at the African Legal Awards 2019, innovation category).

Activities and Affiliations

- Member of the Board of Governors, International School of Cape Town.
- Expert council member for African Women on Board.

Areas of focus

Practices

- Corporate Governance
- Corporate
- Mergers and Acquisitions

Industry sectors

- Energy
- Aviation and Aerospace
- Communications
- Financial Institutions
- Government
- Manufacturing
- Media and Entertainment
- Private Equity
- Technology
- Transportation

Region

- Africa

Education

- Lincoln College, University of Oxford, 1995, MA Jurisprudence

Admissions and qualifications

- Solicitor, Senior Courts of England and Wales

Languages

- English