

Christelle Wood

Counsel



Christelle Wood is Counsel in our Corporate & Commercial practice. She holds BA Law, LLB and LLM degrees from the University of Johannesburg (all of which were obtained cum laude).

Christelle specialises in finance transactions with a particular focus on preference share funding transactions, acting for both borrowers and lenders. She also has experience in mergers and acquisitions, private equity and general corporate and commercial law matters.

About Christelle

Christelle joined Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr as a Candidate Attorney in 2014. In 2016 she was appointed as an Associate and admitted as an attorney and notary public of the High Court of South Africa. Christelle was promoted to Senior Associate in 2019. Christelle was appointed Director in 2022.

Credentials

Education

- BA Law (cum laude), University of Johannesburg
- LLB (cum laude), University of Johannesburg
- LLM in Commercial Law (cum laude), University of Johannesburg
- Certificate of Competence in Advanced Company Law I (with distinction), University of the Witwatersrand
- Certificate of Competence in Advanced Company Law II (with distinction), University of the Witwatersrand
- Year of admission as an attorney and notary public: 2016
- Registered with the Legal Practice Council

Experience

• FirstRand Bank Limited

The establishment of the FirstRand Bank Limited ZAR5,000,000,000 Preference Share Programme in September 2019.

• RMH Asset Holding Compan

The establishment of the RMH Asset Holding Company Proprietary Limited ZAR7,500,000,000 Preference Share Programme in September 2019.

Contact Christelle

+27 (0)11 562 1372

christelle.wood@cdhlegal.com

[Christelle on LinkedIn](#)

Expertise

[Corporate & Commercial Law](#)

[Mergers & Acquisitions](#)

[Corporate Governance](#)

Location

Johannesburg

Language

English

- **FirstRand Bank Limited**

The issue of unlisted fixed rate preference shares to FirstRand Bank Limited (acting through its Rand Merchant Bank division) and another local financial institution (in aggregate amounting to ZAR1,750,000,000), in October 2019, under the RMH Asset Holding Company Proprietary Limited ZAR7,500,000,000 Preference Share Programme.

- **FirstRand Bank Limited**

The issue of unlisted floating rate notes to FirstRand Bank Limited (acting through its Rand Merchant Bank division) and other local financial institutions (in aggregate amounting to ZAR2,501,000,000), between February 2018 and March 2020, under the RMH Treasury Company Limited ZAR15,000,000,000 Domestic Medium Term Note and Preference Share Programme.

- **FirstRand Bank Limited**

The issue of unlisted fixed and floating rate preference shares to FirstRand Bank Limited (acting through its Rand Merchant Bank division) and another local financial institution (in aggregate amounting to ZAR1,479,444,000), between June 2017 and October 2018, under the RMH Treasury Company Limited ZAR15,000,000,000 Domestic Medium Term Note and Preference Share Programme.

- **RMI Treasury Company Limited**

The issue of unlisted fixed, floating and mixed rate preference shares to various local financial institutions (in aggregate amounting to ZAR10,644,000,000), between February 2017 and October 2019, under the RMI Treasury Company Limited ZAR15,000,000,000 Domestic Medium Term Note and Preference Share Programme.

- **Pepkor Holdings Limited**

The raising of ZAR18,000,000,000 in debt and preference share funding by Steinhoff Africa Retail Limited (now Pepkor Holdings Limited) and its subsidiaries (2018);

- **RMI Treasury Company Limited**

The issue of unlisted floating rate notes to a local financial institution (in aggregate amounting to ZAR2,840,000,000), in February 2017, under the RMI Treasury Company Limited ZAR15,000,000,000 Domestic Medium Term Note and Preference Share Programme.

- **Retailability Proprietary Limited**

Retailability Proprietary Limited's acquisition of Edcon's "Legit" business comprising of 217 retail stores across 6 countries including South Africa, Lesotho, Swaziland, Namibia, Botswana and Zambia – circa ZAR637,000,000 (2017).

- **Liquid Telecoms**

Liquid Telecoms acquisition of Neotel – circa ZAR6,55 billion (2016).

- **due diligence investigations**

Christelle has also been extensively involved in legal due diligence investigations for both local and international clients in the mining, telecommunications, construction, engineering, retail, food and beverage sectors.

News

[Anti-cancellation clauses and restitution: Fraud unravels all](#)

The matter of Titan Asset Management (Pty) Ltd and Others v Lanzerac Estate Investments (Pty) Ltd and Another (2102 / 2020) ZAWCHC 136 (9 June 2023) relates to an action instituted by Christo Wiese and five other plaintiffs against Lanzerac Estate Investments (Pty) Ltd and Markus Jooste.

[Proxies: The power is in the mandate](#)

In the Supreme Court of Appeal (SCA) case of Malatji v Ledwaba No and Others (1136/2019) ZASCA 29 (30 March 2021), the court considered whether a general meeting of the Mamphoku Makgoba Community Trust (Trust) was convened in compliance with an order handed down by the SCA in 2018 (2018 Order) and the trust deed of the Trust (Trust Deed).

[Approval of special resolution by court - Condonation for non-compliance with 10 day cut-off period](#)

Under section 115(2) of the Companies Act 71 of 2008 (Act), a fundamental transaction (namely, transactions that involve a disposal of all or the greater part of the assets or undertaking of a company, an amalgamation or merger or a scheme of arrangement) must be approved by a special resolution, at a meeting called for that purpose. Such resolution may in certain circumstances be required to be reviewed and confirmed by a court if there are objections to the resolution by minority shareholders.

[Do not trust a trustee \(without the necessary authority\)](#)

In *Goldex 16 (Pty) Ltd v Capper NO and Others (543/2018) (2019) ZASCA 105 (4 September 2019)*, the court considered whether a trustee who signed a sale agreement on behalf of a trust without the necessary authority could be held personally liable for payment of the purchase price.

[All news by Christelle Wood →](#)