

# Ian Hayes

Practice Head, Director



Ian Hayes, Corporate & Commercial Partner and Practice Head, is regarded as one of South Africa's foremost M&A specialists, as evidenced through market recognition. Ian was recently acknowledged as one of South Africa's iconic dealmakers by Ansarada and DealMakers SA in their publication celebrating 25 years of dealmaking.

Ian's deals span the full range of M&A and corporate and commercial work including takeovers, structuring and restructuring of business entities, IPOs, private equity acquisitions and disposals, and general corporate finance. Ian has an enviable portfolio of blue-chip clients in the mining, telecoms and retail sectors, among others. Ian is a member of our firm's Executive and Finance Committees.

## About Ian

Ian commenced his articles at Cliffe Dekker & Todd in 1991 and remained with the firm until September 2012. Ian moved onto ENSafrica as Director, joint head and subsequently joint business unit leader of the corporate commercial department. Ian rejoined CDH in 2021. In July 2023 Ian took over as the Head of the Corporate & Commercial practice, resuming this role that he had held prior to moving to ENSafrica.

## Credentials

### Education

- BA, University of the Witwatersrand
- LLB, University of the Witwatersrand
- Leadership in Professional Service Firms, Harvard Business School
- Admitted as an attorney of the High Court of South Africa

## Experience

### • Telesure

Telesure on its disposal of 1Life Insurance to Clientèle. As part of this one indivisible transaction and through a share exchange agreement, Clientèle issued a percentage of its own shares in 1Life to Telesure, resulting in Clientèle acquiring control over 1Life and Telesure remaining invested.

## Contact Ian

+27 (0)11 562 1593

+27 (0)83 326 4826

[ian.hayes@cdhlegal.com](mailto:ian.hayes@cdhlegal.com)

[Ian on LinkedIn](#)

## Expertise

[Corporate & Commercial Law](#)

[Mergers & Acquisitions](#)

[Healthcare & Pharmaceuticals](#)

[Mining & Minerals](#)

[Private Equity](#)

[Technology & Communications](#)

## Location

Johannesburg

## Language

English

Afrikaans

- **PPC**

PPC on the strategic disposal of its shares in CIMERWA, constituting 51 per cent of CIMERWA's entire issued share capital, to National Cement Holding.

- **Vodacom and Vodacom Tanzania**

Vodacom and Vodacom Tanzania on the transfer of all its passive tower telecommunications equipment and associated land use rights to its wholly-owned subsidiary, Vodacom Tower Company (TowerCo), for further shares in TowerCo.

- **Vodacom**

Vodacom on its acquisition of Neotel (abandoned); on its acquisition of an indirect 34.94% interest in Safaricom from Vodafone, and Vodacom Tanzania on its IPO and listing on the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange.

- **Vodacom Tanzania**

Vodacom Tanzania on its acquisition of 100 per cent of the issued share capital of Smile Communications Tanzania, from Smile Telecoms Holdings and Smile Telecoms IP.

- **Sibanye-Stillwater**

Sibanye-Stillwater on its acquisition of the Sandouville nickel hydrometallurgical processing facility in Normandy, France from Eramet SA.

- **Edcon**

Edcon on its various restructurings and the Business Rescue Practitioners of Edcon on the disposal of Edcon's Edgars and Jet businesses in South Africa, Namibia, Botswana, Lesotho and Eswatini.

- **Mpact**

Mpact on its acquisition of a controlling interest in Detpak South Africa and its listing on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange.

- **Kleoss and Leaf Capital**

Kleoss and Leaf Capital on the acquisition of a controlling interest in TrenStar.

- **Harmony**

Harmony on the disposal of Evander Gold Mines to Pan African Resources, and on its acquisition of full ownership of the Hidden Valley mine in Papua New Guinea.

- **Ethos**

Ethos on its acquisition of the RTT Group.

- **Waco Group**

A consortium led by Ethos and RMB Ventures on the acquisition of the Waco Group.

- **RMB Ventures and Capitalworks**

RMB Ventures, Capitalworks and certain senior management and executives of Ocon Brick, Technicrete and Rocla on the acquisition of the businesses of those entities from Murray & Roberts.

- **Capitalworks**

Capitalworks and certain senior management and executives of Much Asphalt on the acquisition of the business of Much Asphalt from Murray & Roberts.

- **Business Connexion**

Business Connexion on the acquisition by Telkom of the entire issued share capital of Business Connexion.

## News

### [MOI v Companies Act amendments: A fight best settled out of court](#)

As the dust settles following the President's belated Christmas gift of bringing the amendments to the Companies Act 71 of 2008 (Companies Act) into operation on 27 December 2024, it is clear that many companies are still grappling with the consequences of the amendments. An increasingly common issue is the inconsistencies these amendments bring about between the Companies Act (as amended) and a company's memorandum of incorporation (MOI).

### [The need to know of "casual vacancies"](#)

The stability of a company's board of directors is vital in maintaining good corporate governance. This stability may be challenged where unforeseen circumstances, such as death, sudden resignations or incapacity, give rise to vacancies on the board. The Companies Act 71 of 2008 (Companies Act) provides a process to be followed for filling such vacancies, which is, of course, subject to the company's memorandum of incorporation (MOI). The question that often arises is: how soon does a casual vacancy have to be filled before it is no longer considered a "vacancy"?

### [Beneficial ownership: An update on beneficial ownership registration filings](#)

Beneficial ownership filings have become a prominent administrative requirement since the Companies and Intellectual Property Commission (CIPC) implemented beneficial ownership filing procedures on 24 May 2023 in accordance with the then-promulgated Companies Amended Regulations, 2023 (Companies Regulations) published in the General Laws Amendment Act 22 of 2022. This alert deals with the most recent updates provided by the CIPC in Customer Notice 5 of 2024 and outlines who is required to file registration of beneficial ownership, what the updated timelines and deadlines are for filing registrations of beneficial ownership with the CIPC, and the consequences of failing to file beneficial ownership registration.

### [Looking through the telescope: Companies Amendment Bill on beneficial ownership](#)

The Department of Trade, Industry and Competition published the draft Companies Amendment Bill, 2021 ("Bill") which proposes several amendments to the Companies Act No. 71 of 2008 ("Companies Act").

[All news by Ian Hayes →](#)

## Recognition

- Chambers Global 2021 - 2025 ranked Ian in Band 1 for corporate/M&A.
- The Legal 500 EMEA 2015–2025 included Ian in the 'Hall of Fame' for commercial, corporate/M&A.
- The Legal 500 EMEA 2022–2025 recommended Ian in the 'Hall of Fame' for mining.
- The Legal 500 EMEA 2022 recommended Ian for banking & finance.
- IFLR1000 2021–2024 ranked Ian as highly regarded in capital markets: debt, capital markets: equity, energy and infrastructure, M&A, and private equity.