

Haafizah Khota

Senior Associate



Haafizah is a Senior Associate in our Corporate & Commercial practice. She specialises in mergers and acquisitions, as well as advising on company law, corporate governance and specialised commercial contracts.

About Haafizah

In 2018, Haafizah began her professional career as a Legal Analyst at Herbert Smith Freehills South Africa LLP. After a successful year, she then moved to Hogan Lovells Johannesburg Inc. in 2019 to commence her legal training. In 2020, she joined Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr Inc. as a Candidate Attorney and was appointed as an Associate in 2021. She was promoted to Senior Associate in 2024.

Credentials

Education

- Bachelor of Laws (LLB), with Distinction (University of the Witwatersrand)
- Post Graduate Certificate: Advanced Company Law I (University of the Witwatersrand)
- Post Graduate Certificate: Cyber Law (University of the Witwatersrand)
- Registered with the Legal Practice Council

Experience

- Advising local and multinational clients

Haafizah has experience advising local and multinational clients on mergers and acquisitions, due diligence investigations, corporate reorganisations and restructures, bespoke commercial contracts, Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment, corporate governance and Companies Act compliance. She has specialised knowledge of the South African regulatory landscape, with a focus on the mining, aviation, film, industrial and logistics sectors.

News

Contact Haafizah

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Expertise

[Corporate & Commercial Law](#)

[Mining & Minerals](#)

Location

Johannesburg

Language

English

[South Africa's Civil Aviation Policy: The next chapter](#)

South Africa's Department of Transport has published its Draft Comprehensive Civil Aviation Policy (a strategic roadmap designed to address critical gaps in South Africa's existing Civil Aviation Policy and propel the sector forward) for public comment on 23 May 2025. The closing date for written comments has been extended to 11 July 2025.

[Industry update: Change in air service licensing process](#)

In a significant shift for South Africa's aviation sector, the Minister of Transport has announced a crucial change regarding the processing of Foreign Operator Permit applications and Air Service Licence applications.

[Empowering women in M&A through the transformative power of female mentorship](#)

Haafizah Khota, Senior Associate in the Corporate & Commercial practice, was featured in the DealMakers Women 2024 issue, where she shared insights on Empowering women in M&A through the transformative power of female mentorship

[Drone operations in South Africa: An overview of the legal landscape](#)

In recent years, South Africa has embraced drone technology, with both hobbyists and commercial operators leveraging its potential. Drones, technically known as remotely piloted aircraft systems (RPAS) or unmanned aircraft (UA), are transforming various industries, including mining, agriculture, construction, environmental monitoring, emergency response, real estate and infrastructure inspection. In light of this, it is necessary for both private and commercial operators to understand the laws governing drone usage in South Africa to ensure safe and legal operations. Below is a brief overview of the current legal landscape.

[Skyward shift: Modernising air service licensing in South Africa](#)

In a move geared towards enhancing the efficiency of air service licensing in South Africa, local operators' air service licence applications and foreign operators' permit applications will now be submitted electronically to the South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA) for processing.

Videos

[The regulatory journey of drone regulations in South Africa](#)

Haafizah Khota, Senior Associate in the Corporate & Commercial practice joined Hugo Ribatika on Newzroom Afrika to discuss The regulatory journey of drone regulations in South Africa.

[All news by Haafizah Khota →](#)