

# Jaco Meyer

Director



Jaco Meyer is a Director in our Corporate & Commercial practice. He focuses on mergers and acquisitions, corporate and commercial transactions, black economic empowerment transactions, company law and corporate governance. Jaco has experience in advising on the acquisition and divestment of companies and businesses in South Africa and Australia, including due diligence and the corporate and commercial aspects regarding implementation of those transactions

## About Jaco

Jaco joined Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr in April 2020. He was previously at a multinational firm in Melbourne, Australia. Jaco was appointed Senior Associate in 2021 and was appointment Director in September 2022.

## Credentials

### Education

- Non-Award Undergraduate | Australian Catholic University | 2019
- Postgraduate Certificate: Advanced Company Law I | University of the Witwatersrand | 2018
- Bachelor of Laws (cum laude) | North-West University | 2015
- Year of admission as an attorney: 2018
- Registered with the Legal Practice Council

### Membership

- Golden Key Honour Society

## Experience

- Advising on merger and acquisition transactions and drafting and negotiating merger and acquisition transaction agreements across a number of industries.
- Advising on company law and general commercial and corporate matters.
- Drafting, negotiating and reviewing constitutional documents, memoranda of incorporation, shareholders' agreements and general company secretarial attendances.

## Contact Jaco

+27 (0)11 562 1000

[jaco.meyer@cdhlegal.com](mailto:jaco.meyer@cdhlegal.com)

[Jaco on LinkedIn](#)

## Expertise

[Corporate & Commercial Law](#)

[Insurance Law](#)

[Mining & Minerals](#)

## Location

Johannesburg

## Language

English

- Advising on all aspects of establishing and doing business in South Africa, including BEE, corporate governance and Companies Act compliance, as well as specific regulatory advice in the mining, aviation, industrial and logistics sectors.
- Drafting transaction agreements relating to the implementation of BEE ownership structures.
- Advising South32, a global mining and metals company headquartered in Perth, Australia (listed on the ASX and JSE), with its South African office headquartered in Melrose Arch, Johannesburg, on high value long-term supply and offtake agreements, standard form and bespoke agreements for all steps of the supply chain, as well as corporate documents such as shareholders' agreements, memoranda of incorporation, trust deeds, committee charters and resolutions.
- Assisted Loesche South Africa in respect of its template agreements for the procurement of goods and services.
- Acted for the target company, a cement producer in Southern Africa, in the proposed acquisition of some of its share capital by a foreign company.
- Advising Anglo American on a number of general commercial issues in respect of its supply chain.
- Advised Knight Piesold in its joint venture with a Greek engineering consulting company and a multinational construction company in respect of the consulting, engineering and construction of infrastructure in Botswana.
- Advised Computershare, a multinational company secretarial services provider, on the proposed acquisition of the entire issued share capital of a local company secretarial services provider.
- Advised the Goldrush Group in its joint venture with a Botswanan company and a Zimbabwean company, respectively, to establish and operate a gambling business in Botswana and Zimbabwe.
- Advising a diversified afro-global conglomerate in respect of the construction of infrastructure in the DRC.
- Advised a 51% black-owned coal mining company on:
  - the acquisition of various mining and prospecting rights in South Africa; and
  - the acquisition of a Build-Own-Operate-and-Transfer beneficiation and coal wash plant.
- Advised a 51% black-owned coal mining company on; the acquisition of various mining and prospecting rights in South Africa; and the acquisition of a Build-Own-Operate-and-Transfer beneficiation and coal wash plant.
- Advised a multinational metal alloys and other metallurgical products company on; the disposal of its non-core assets (timber farms) used in connection with its silicon smelter; and its empowerment restructure.
- The empowerment restructure involved exiting the existing black shareholders and creating new shareholders in a manner that ensured the "once empowered, always empowered" principle applied. It also involved preparing new documentation, specifically a memorandum of incorporation, shareholders' agreement and trust deed, to regulate the relationship between the new shareholders.
- Advised Clientèle Limited, listed on the JSE, on the acquisition of the entire issued share capital of 1Life Insurance Limited.
- Advising a consortium on the acquisition of a specialised agri-inputs business across Southern Africa, East Africa, and Turkey.
- Advised Top Vending on the termination of its distribution relationship with Nestlé, and the subsequent sale of the South African Nespresso® business to Nestlé.
- Advised a multinational information technology and defence systems company on the equity financing of its South African subsidiary.

- Advised one of South Africa's largest book retailers regarding the carve-out of a portion of its business (in respect of a specific O.R. Tambo International Airport tender) and the subsequent empowerment of that stand-alone business. The work involved the drafting and negotiating of key transaction documents, including new memoranda of incorporation, shareholders' agreements, incorporation minutes, etc.
- Advised numerous HNIs on the restructure of their group entities and affairs. The work involved the drafting of bespoke memoranda of incorporation, incorporation documents, asset-for-share agreements and various company secretarial attendances.
- Advised a family group comprising 17 companies and 10 trusts valued at approximately AUD84 million, on the division of its real property portfolio between various beneficiaries.
- Advised a telecommunications company listed on the ASX on the acquisition of the entire issued share capital of three other private telecommunications companies as part of its strategic growth plan.
- Advised a multinational pharmaceuticals company on its license and supply agreement with another company for an exclusive license to commercialise its intellectual property in the USA. In terms of the agreement, the company received payments and milestone fees in equity and cash for an amount of at least USD295 million.

## News

### [Is your mining investment safe? What the Expropriation Act means for South Africa's mining sector](#)

The Expropriation Act enables the South African Government to acquire property either for public purposes – such as roads, schools or utility infrastructure – or in the public interest, particularly for land reform. What sets this Act apart from its predecessor is its explicit provision for expropriation without compensation in exceptional cases. Examples include abandoned land, property not being used in a socially productive manner, or where the state has historically invested significantly in developing the property. These cases are, by design, narrow. The Act does not give the state carte blanche to seize property arbitrarily – nor does it negate compensation as a rule. Instead, it introduces a broader definition of justice, which takes into account the past as well as the present.

### [Key considerations for investors in mining mergers and acquisitions in Africa](#)

Africa's mining sector presents significant opportunities, but it also comes with unique challenges for investors. It is being reshaped by both global and local forces, with international powers competing for valuable resources and regional initiatives enhancing trade and investment. The importance of navigating regulatory complexities, understanding shifting geopolitical dynamics, and embracing new technologies within this environment cannot be overstated.

### [Regulatory challenges in cross-border African M&A: A brief overview](#)

Africa's dynamic economic landscape presents immense opportunities for cross-border mergers and acquisitions (M&A). With abundant natural resources, expanding markets and deepening regional integration, the continent continues to attract investors seeking growth and diversification. Yet, this potential is tempered by the continent's regulatory complexity. Africa's legal and regulatory environment is diverse, shaped by a mix of common law systems, as seen in South Africa, and civil law systems, particularly in Francophone West Africa. This diversity demands not only a tailored approach but also an acute awareness of jurisdictional nuances.

### [Reflections on the 2024 Joburg Indaba](#)

The 2024 Joburg Indaba (Indaba) can be aptly summarised in the words of Rafiki from The Lion King: "Oh yes, the past can hurt. But the way I see it, you can either run from it, or learn from it."

### [Judicial perspectives on corporate disputes: A look at the High Court's ruling in Langeni and Another v South African Women In Mining Association and Others](#)

In the case of Langeni and Another v South African Women In Mining Association and Others (27669/2022), the Gauteng High Court delved into the intricacies of section 71(3) of the Companies Act 71 of 2008 (Companies Act), which pertains to the removal of directors by the board. The applicants sought judicial intervention to overturn their dismissal from the board of the South African Women in Mining Association NPC (SAMIWA) and to be reinstated as directors, among other reliefs.

## Videos

### [Drone regulations in South Africa](#)

Jaco Meyer, Director in the Corporate & Commercial practice recently did an interview on Business Day Live with Noluthando Mthonti-Mlambo to discuss drone regulations in South Africa.

### ['Positive disruption' at the Mining Indaba](#)

Jaco Meyer joined Tumisang Ndlovu on Newzroom Afrika.

## Podcasts

### [Navigating the complexities of business acquisitions](#)

Jaco Meyer discusses "Navigating the complexities of business acquisitions"

### [2024 Investing in African Mining Indaba provided a platform for opportunity and engagement](#)

Director Jaco Meyer from our Corporate and Commercial practice joined Simon Brown on Moneyweb Now to discuss 30 years of the Mining Indaba and the hopes for this year's event.

[All news by Jaco Meyer →](#)

## Recognition

- The Legal 500 EMEA 2024 - 2025 recommended Jaco for commercial, corporate/M&A.