



24 March 2026

Phetheni Nkuna

appointed as Chief Operating
Officer in key leadership milestone



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CDH has announced the appointment of Phetheni Nkuna, Director of Executive Management, as the firm's Chief Operating Officer, effective 1 April 2026. In this role, she will oversee the firm's operations across CDH's offices in South Africa, Kenya, and Namibia, supporting the continued integration of its African operations. As an award-winning law firm on the continent, this appointment reinforces CDH's strategic objective to drive innovation, transformation, and operational excellence amid a rapidly evolving legal landscape.

Phetheni holds LLB and LLM degrees, a Certificate in Advanced Labour Law, and a Postgraduate Diploma in Business Administration, as well as a Master of Business Administration (MBA) from the Gordon Institute of Business Science (GIBS). She joined CDH in October 2020 as a Director in the Employment Law practice and was subsequently appointed Director of Executive Management in June 2023. In this role, she oversaw several operational portfolios and worked closely with CDH CEO Brent Williams in advancing the firm's strategic agenda.

Phetheni's appointment to the Executive Management Office marked an important step in broadening her contribution beyond legal practice at a comparatively early stage of her

leadership journey. She embodies a forward-looking leadership mindset, one that not only drives performance and innovation, but is equally focused on laying the groundwork for the future by enabling emerging legal professionals to realise their potential. In doing so, she is helping to embed a culture where talent is equipped, supported, and empowered to succeed.

Since stepping into the role, Phetheni has become an increasingly central architect of the firm's strategic direction, playing to the unique strengths that define CDH. She has played a pivotal role in shaping the firm's operational strategy, advancing its people-first agenda, and driving client and business development priorities. In parallel, she has contributed significantly to client engagement and market intelligence, with a particular focus on innovation and the evolving legal landscape across Africa and globally.

Much like Phetheni's own measured and forward-looking approach, CDH's expansion across Africa reflects a broader strategic synergy, one that is systematic, thoughtful, and grounded in meaningful, long-term impact. Her progression mirrors the firm's big-picture vision: carefully calibrated, people-centred, and aligned with evolving market realities, ensuring that growth is not only sustainable, but also deliberately positioned for the future and deeply integrated across jurisdictions and practice areas.



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Our BBBEE verification is one of several components of our transformation strategy and we continue to seek ways of improving it in a meaningful manner.

PLEASE NOTE

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