



CORPORATE DEBT, TURNAROUND & RESTRUCTURING





UNMATCHED SUPPORT FOR OUR CLIENTS

Our seasoned team of lawyers in the Corporate Debt, Turnaround & Restructuring sector has deep experience in supporting companies, wherever they may find themselves along the distress and recovery curve.

We also act for and support the stakeholders (particularly shareholders, investors, creditors, employees and regulators) of these companies.

Whatever our clients' interests and role may be, we specialise in guiding them through the intricate landscape of corporate debt recoveries, informal business turnarounds and formal restructurings, to formulate and implement viable solutions for our clients.

We support our clients in making the right decisions at the right time. As American rock climber and mountaineer Conrad Anker said – The summit is what drives us, but the climb itself is what matters.

Due to our multi-disciplinary approach, we are able to build a deep understanding of our clients' businesses and their pressure points. At CDH, we don't just understand the law, we understand the numbers.

Where appropriate, we work closely with our clients' stakeholders to manage the diversity of expectations from start to finish.

Our approach and expertise ensure that we deliver innovative strategies and tailored solutions for our clients that are both pragmatic and commercial.



Our track record speaks for itself - our commitment to our clients has earned us accolades from industry peers and clients alike:

"The firm has an excellent team that adopts a pragmatic approach."

"Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr has a very competent and capable team. It provides quick responses and is always readily available."

"The lawyers are responsive and knowledgeable and give practical advice."

CHAMBERS GLOBAL 2025

"They have the ability to manage all our matters and take care in providing the best legal assistance to tend to the complexity of the matters."

CHAMBERS GLOBAL 2025

"The firm has a strong multidisciplinary team that is extremely skilled and knowledgeable."

CHAMBERS GLOBAL 2024

"Their knowledge of the law is outstanding. They are always practical in their commercial approach, and to the point."

CHAMBERS GLOBAL 2024

Whether you are a distressed company seeking a lifeline, a stakeholder that wishes to protect their position, or an investor eyeing distressed assets, CDH is the partner that will support and stand with you, throughout the process.

Corporate Debt, Turnaround & Restructuring

Our service is comprehensive and tailored to all aspects of corporate debt recoveries, informal business turnarounds and formal restructurings. We understand the legal and regulatory landscape, and can advise on:

Corporate Debt

- Recovery of debts (including perfection of security)
- Forensic Investigations
- Protective orders
- Insolvency Enquiries
- Piercing the corporate veil
- Cross-border recognition proceedings




Restructuring (formal process)

- Compromises
- Business rescue
- Liquidation and sequestration proceedings
- Cross-border insolvency and recognition proceedings


Turnaround (informal process)

- Business Optimisation
- Structural and operational reorganisation
- Capital restructuring
- Advising on risks
- Crisis stabilisation
- Stakeholder management
- Board/shareholder deadlocks
- Distressed M&A





We also share our considerable knowledge for the benefit of our clients through continuous skills training. We keep clients informed on developments through seminars and our regular Alerts.



A safe pair of hands and
teamwork can make
stepping stones from
obstacles and turn trials
into triumphs.

Reach out. We've got you.

MARKET RECOGNITION

Our Corporate Debt, Turnaround & Restructuring team is externally praised for its depth of resources, capabilities and experience.

Chambers Global 2018–2025 ranked us in Band 2 for restructuring/insolvency.

Nastascha Harduth is the Head of our Corporate Debt, Turnaround & Restructuring sector and a Director in our Dispute Resolution practice. *Chambers Global 2023–2025* ranked her in Band 4 for restructuring/insolvency. *Chambers Global 2020–2022* ranked Nastascha as 'Up & Coming' for restructuring/insolvency.

Emil Brincker is the Practice Head of our Tax & Exchange Control team. *Chambers Global 2003–2025* has consistently ranked him in Band 1 for tax. *The Legal 500 EMEA 2017–2025* recommended Emil as a 'Leading Individual' for tax and named him Lawyer of the Year for tax in 2021. *The 2025 ITR World Tax release* ranked Emil as 'Highly Regarded' in tax controversy in South Africa.

Aadil Patel is the Practice Head of our Employment Law team, and the Head of our Government & State-Owned Entities sector. *Chambers Global 2024–2025* ranked Aadil in Band 1 for employment. *Chambers Global 2015–2023* ranked him in Band 2 for employment. *The Legal 500 EMEA 2021–2025* recommended Aadil as a 'Leading Individual' for employment and recommended him from 2012–2020.

Tim Smit is the Head of our Consumer Goods, Services & Retail sector, and a director in our Dispute Resolution practice. *Chambers Global 2025* ranked Tim in Band 3 for Corporate Investigations. *The Legal 500 EMEA 2025* recommended him for dispute resolution and from 2020–2023 recommended him as a 'Next Generation' lawyer.

The Legal 500 EMEA 2018, 2020–2025 recommended **Timothy Baker** for construction.

The Legal 500 EMEA 2023 recommended **Petr Erasmus** for tax.

Chris Charter is the Practice Head of our Competition Law team. *Chambers Global 2018–2025* ranked him in Band 1 for competition/antitrust. *The Legal 500 EMEA 2017–2025* recommended Chris as a 'Leading Individual' for competition. *The Legal 500 EMEA 2012–2016* recommended him for competition. *IFLR1000 2019–2024* recommended him as a highly regarded lawyer. *IFLR1000 2011–2018* recommended Chris as a leading lawyer. *Global Competition Review 2020–2021* named Chris a highly recommended lawyer.

David Thompson is a director and the Deputy Practice Head of our Corporate & Commercial practice. *Chambers Global 2024–2025* ranked David in Band 5 for corporate/M&A. *Chambers Global 2015–2023* ranked him in Band 4 for corporate/M&A. *The Legal 500 EMEA 2020* and 2022–2023 recommended him for corporate, commercial/M&A. *IFLR1000 2021–2024* ranked David as highly regarded in M&A.

Chambers Global 2023–2025 ranked **Albert Aukema** in Band 5 for competition/antitrust. *Chambers Global 2020–2022* ranked him as an 'Up & Coming' competition/antitrust lawyer. *The Legal 500 EMEA 2021–2025* recommended Albert for competition.

The Legal 500 EMEA 2015–2021 recommended **Eugene Bester** for dispute resolution.

Chambers Global 2019–2025 ranked **Peter Hesseling** in Band 2 for corporate/M&A. *Chambers Global 2023–2025* ranked him in Band 3 for Capital Markets: Equity. *Chambers Global 2017–2018* ranked him in Band 3 for corporate/M&A. *The Legal 500 EMEA 2012–2025* recommended Peter for commercial, corporate/M&A. *The Legal 500 EMEA 2022* recommended Peter for banking & finance. *IFLR1000 2021–2024* recommended Peter as a market leader for restructuring & insolvency, and M&A. *IFLR1000 2018–2020* recommended Peter as a highly regarded lawyer for restructuring & insolvency, and M&A.

Sammy Ndolo is the Kenya Managing Partner. *Chambers Global 2025* ranked Sammy Ndolo in Band 3 for Fintech. *Chambers Global 2021–2025* ranked Sammy in Band 4 for corporate/M&A. *Chambers Global 2025* ranked him in Band 3 for banking & finance and in Band 4 from 2023–2024. *The Legal 500 EMEA 2024–2025* recommended Sammy as a 'Leading Individual' for banking, finance & capital markets. *The Legal 500 EMEA 2022–2023* recommended him for banking, finance & capital markets. *The Legal 500 EMEA 2023–2025* also recommended Sammy for corporate, commercial/M&A. *IFLR1000 2021–2024* ranked him as a 'Notable Practitioner'.

Mashudu Mphafudi is the Practice Head of our Banking, Finance & Projects practice. *The Legal 500 EMEA 2021–2025* recommended Mashudu for banking & finance. *IFLR1000 2019–2024* recommended him as a highly regarded lawyer for banking, capital markets: debt, and project finance. *IFLR1000 2018* recommended Mashudu as a 'Rising Star' for banking, capital markets: debt and project finance.

MARKET RECOGNITION...continued

André de Lange is the Head of our Agriculture, Aquaculture & Fishing sector, and Director in our Corporate & Commercial practice. *The Legal 500 EMEA 2025* recommended him for commercial, corporate/M&A and in 2022 recommended him for banking & finance.

Gerhard Badenhorst was awarded an individual 'Spotlight Table' ranking in *Chambers Global 2022–2025* for tax: indirect tax. *Chambers Global 2009–2021* ranked him in Band 1 for tax: indirect tax. *The Legal 500 EMEA 2023–2025* recommended him as a 'Leading Individual' for tax. *The Legal 500 EMEA 2012–2022* recommended Gerhard for tax. *The 2025 ITR World Tax release* ranked Gerhard as 'Highly Regarded' in indirect tax in South Africa.

Chambers Global 2024–2025 ranked **Jerome Brink** as and 'Up & Coming' tax lawyer. *The Legal 500 EMEA 2023–2025* recommended Jerome as a 'Next Generation' lawyer for tax. *The Legal 500 EMEA 2022* recommended him for tax.

The Legal 500 EMEA 2024–2025 recommended **Dane Kruger** for commercial, corporate/M&A.

Chambers Global 2021–2025 ranked **Imraan Mahomed** in Band 2 for employment and in Band 3 from 2014–2020. *The Legal 500 EMEA 2020–2025* recommended him for employment.

The Legal 500 EMEA 2021–2025 recommended **Howmera Parak** for tax.

Chambers Global 2023–2025 ranked **Lucinde Rhoodie** in band 4 for dispute resolution. *The Legal 500 EMEA 2021–2025* recommended her for dispute resolution.

Chambers Global 2025 ranked **Deon Wilken** in Band 4 for banking & finance and from 2021–2024 in Band 3. *The Legal 500 EMEA 2013–2023* recommended him for banking & finance. *IFLR1000 2018–2023* recommended Deon as a highly regarded lawyer for capital markets: debt, energy and infrastructure, and for project finance.

The Legal 500 EMEA 2025 recommended **Sentebale Makara** for dispute resolution and construction.

David Pinnock is the Joint Head of our Private Equity sector, and a director in our Corporate & Commercial practice. *Chambers Global 2025* ranked David in Band 2 for private equity and in Band 1 from 2017–2024. *Chambers Global 2025* ranked him in Band 5 for corporate/M&A. *The Legal 500 EMEA 2020–2023* recommended him as a 'Leading Individual' for commercial, corporate/M&A. *The Legal 500 EMEA 2016–2019* recommended him for commercial, corporate/M&A. *IFLR1000 2018–2024* recommended David as a 'Notable Practitioner' in private equity, and M&A.

Chambers Global 2024–2025 ranked **John Webber** in Band 1 for real estate. *Chambers Global 2021–2023* ranked John in Band 2 for real estate and in Band 3 in 2019–2020. *The Legal 500 EMEA 2021–2025* recommended him as a 'Leading Individual' for real estate.

The Legal 500 EMEA 2025 recommended **Desmond Odhiambo** for employment. *The Legal 500 EMEA 2022–2024* recommended him for dispute resolution.



OUR TEAM

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BBBEE STATUS: LEVEL ONE CONTRIBUTOR

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

This information is published for general information purposes and is not intended to constitute legal advice. Specialist legal advice should always be sought in relation to any particular situation. Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr will accept no responsibility for any actions taken or not taken on the basis of this publication.

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