



# VM&A Advocates LLP

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ADVOCATES, COMMISSIONER FOR OATHS,  
NOTARY PUBLIC & PATENT AGENTS

FIRM PROFILE



# ABOUT US

## Overview

We are a law firm that serves a broad range of clients around the world in private equity, Conveyancing, Litigation, Oil and Gas law, Insurance law, Mergers & Acquisitions, Commercial and Corporate transactions, white collar and government disputes, restructurings and intellectual property matters.

We offer the highest quality legal advice coupled with extraordinary, tailored service to deliver exceptional results to our clients and help their businesses succeed. We invest in the brightest legal talent and build dynamic teams that operate at the pinnacle of their respective areas. We believe in empowering our Advocates, encouraging entrepreneurialism, operating ethically and with integrity, and collaborating to bring our best to every engagement.

These principles have guided us in building successful long-term partnerships with clients since our founding in 2015.

## Who we are

Our lawyers work together in multidisciplinary teams to provide full- service capabilities to clients on their most complex legal matters. We operate as an integrated whole, with a culture that encourages and draws strength from the diversity of our Associates' backgrounds, knowledge and skills, and supports the wellbeing of our Associates.



## Our Vision

The Firm aspires to be a premier law firm in Kenya and beyond, and to be acknowledged as a provider of competent, efficient, prompt and cost effective legal services on the widest possible spectrum of its client needs.

What the firm lacks in size it will make up with in determination and zeal to provide efficient personalised service

## Our Purpose

Market disruption is an accepted reality for business, as new competition and technologies drive the pace of change faster than ever before. Our clients want advocates who are prepared to lead, differentiate and adapt in a constantly changing world. They want advisors who are curious about the world, and embrace collaboration and candour.

As a law firm, we bring the right talent to every client issue, regardless of where the client is. We partner with our clients to deliver solutions for current as well as newly opening markets.

We are global citizens, industry savvy, diverse and have a thirst for innovation. Our strength is our ability to adopt a new type of thinking and use cutting-edge legal technologies to help clients overcome the challenges of competing in today's new world economic order.

We are The New, Vibrant Advocates on the block

We are VM&A Advocates



## Our Values

In everything we do connected with our People, our Clients and our Communities, we live by these values:



We treat everyone fairly and with respect and courtesy.

We are inclusive, approachable and supportive of our clients and colleagues.

We make a positive contribution to our local and global communities



We exhibit a global mind-set by celebrating our diversity and working seamlessly across borders.

We reach out to others, give help willingly and make ourselves available when needed.

We listen attentively and value new ideas and perspectives.



We are strategic and future-orientated, always thinking and planning ahead.

We challenge, and are open to being challenged.

We are resilient, we adapt quickly. We guide and help others do the same.



We focus on delivering the highest standard of legal advice and service excellence.

We get to the heart of issues and challenges and provide pragmatic, commercial solutions.

We operate with transparency and work efficiently to deliver value.

*This is a reflection of who we are as a firm*



## Our Commitment to Responsible Business

We believe business must take a central role in fostering and championing sustainability. We are proud to leverage our talent, innovation and relationships to make a positive and sustainable societal impact for our clients, our people and the world.

We are global citizens and recognize that the rule of law is an essential foundation for economic growth and development. Where the rule of law is strong, business leaders can feel optimistic about investing in the future.

Our Firm is therefore committed to the UN Global Compact, the Sustainable Development Goals and the UNGC's Ten Principles on human rights, labor, environment and anti-corruption.

Investments in these efforts is not only good business, but the right thing to do.

## Investing in Justice and Our Communities

We are committed to advancing the communities in which we live and work, and we dedicate substantial energy, talent and resources to meaningful causes and initiatives that reflect our values and vision.

For us, it's simple. We have a responsibility to make a difference and to help our communities succeed.

## Attributes of the firm

Technologically the Firm is fully computerized with modern equipment. And the Firm has access to the Internet and is a subscriber of major online research libraries e.g Lexis Nexis, west law and other major law research bases. In addition, the firm also has access to legal publications & law reports such as East Africa Law Reports, Kenya Law Reports, East Africa Court of Appeal Reports and Law Africa Publications.



## OUR SERVICES

### Banking, Securities and Finance

Our securitisation practice is a key part of the firm's wider structured banking security and finance services. We advise and offer legal services for financial institutions on loan securitisation by proposing, drafting and preparing various finance security documents like charges, commercial benefit agreements, corporate and personal guarantees, project financing, trade financing, asset financing, crowd funding, digital/mobile financing and chattel mortgages.

We also advise on sourcing of funds, negotiations and drafting of finance contracts, joint venture agreements and structuring of projects. We deal with all forms of financing including debt financing, equity financing and real estate investment trust (REITS).

### Civil and Commercial Litigation

The Firm has extensive trial practice experience at all levels of the Kenyan Court system ranging from Administrative Tribunals to the Court of Appeal on an extremely wide range of Civil and Criminal cases, Defamation Proceedings, Labour Matters, Contractual Claims, Immigration Cases, Judicial Review and Injunction Proceedings.



## OUR SERVICES

### Business Establishment, Compliance and Restructure

VAA offers legal services to SMEs and Multinationals. We advise on set-up options, corporate and tax structures of local companies, subsidiaries, branch offices/foreign companies, foundations, trusts, business names, partnership agreements, share subscription agreements, trust documents safeguarding beneficial owners' interest.

We also offer advice to start-up businesses on matters relating to licensing requirements and all requisite contracts required to launch business operations such as leasing of office space, employment contracts and human resource manuals, supply contracts and sale agreements inter alia.

We offer dedicated company secretarial support to our clients including restructuring of companies, compliance and advise on corporate governance and good corporate practices.

We also advise and represent businesses and owners in corporate restructuring, increase and divesting of investments, resolution of shareholder disputes, striking out and liquidation of companies.





# OUR SERVICES

## Conveyancing, Real Estate and Leasing

We advise on the sale, purchase and refinancing of properties. The Firm acts for Vendors, Purchasers and Lenders in the acquisition and disposal of residential, commercial, industrial and agricultural property.

The Firm also advises on the preparation of sale agreements, leases, transfers, charges, caveats and all other instruments related to property transactions; and also undertake the registration thereof countrywide.

We take pride in our ability to bring deep technical skills and a fast turnaround time to create and foster strong client relationships.

## Corporate and Commercial Law

Our Corporate and Commercial Department is one of the core Departments. We advise our local and international clients on complex transactions.

The depth of our experience means that we service our clients from business formation through the stages of the company life-cycle and the transactions that they engage in.

## Debt Collection, Security Enforcement and Realisation

The Firm is regularly engaged in debt collection proceedings and repossessions and closely liaises with auctioneers, Valuers, process servers, private investigators and other court officers and bailiffs who provide assistance in debt recovery.



# OUR SERVICES

## Dispute Resolution

We have a wealth of experience in settling disputes touching on commercial transactions, partnerships and shareholders'/directors disputes, labour disputes, land and environmental disputes, infringement of intellectual property, debt recovery, banking law and banking securities. Regardless of the legal problem, our mission is to vigorously represent our client's interests.

## Employment Law & Labour Relations

The Firm advises on various aspects of Employment Law, including industrial disputes, pension arrangements, collective bargaining agreements and other employment related matters and regularly attend the various Labour Department Offices for various conciliation meetings.

## Family Law and Succession

The Firm acts for clients in matters concerning the preparation of wills, setting up of trusts, applications for grants of letters of administration and probate, and it also handles matrimonial matters i.e. divorce and separation and maintenance proceedings, children matter's and other related proceedings at the Children's Court.



## OUR SERVICES

### Insurance, Personal Injuries & Third Party Recoveries

We handle all insurance related matters including interpretation of insurance contracts, representation of insured's interests with Insurance Regulatory Authority, WIBA related matters, road traffic accidents, work-related accidents and personal injuries matters to ensure our clients' interests are fully represented.

We also pursue third party recovery matters from the negligent third parties with a success rate of 95% on assigned matters due for recover. We also have experience in pursuing and negotiating 'knock for knock' recoveries in line with set guidelines by the industry participants.

### Intellectual Property

The Firm advises on Intellectual Property matters, we help our clients in the registration of trademarks, trade names, service marks, industrial designs, utility models, patents and copyright.





# OUR SERVICES

## Oil & Gas

This is a new frontier in Kenya. In the advent of discovery of commercially viable crude oil in Turkana, our principals have vast experience in oil and gas and are well equipped to advise and represent oil companies, drilling and service companies, suppliers of oilfield equipment and technology, owners of all types of infrastructure (including National, Host Communities and County Governments), facilities and equipment for the development and extraction of hydrocarbons.

We also advise our clients on upstream, midstream and downstream related activities on matters relating contractual, operational, regulatory & compliance, obtaining Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) from host communities inter alia to ensure that the project is uninterrupted.

## Renewable Energy

VAA has experience in providing legal advisory services to independent power producers (IPPs), project developers, investors, financial institutions and other key players in the renewable energy industry. We offer an array of services including drafting and reviewing of various commercial contracts drafting and reviewing project acquisition and structuring documents, environmental permits, legal and regulatory compliance and land rights acquisitions.

We also have experience and advise clients in negotiating Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) with government and financing agreements with third party investors. Our range of expertise spans off-grid and grid-connected solar, geothermal, wind and small hydro projects.



## MEET THE TEAM



### Veronica L. Mwangoma

Managing Partner - Head of Conveyancing, Corporate & Commercial Services.

Veronica is an Advocate of the High Court of Kenya with over 7 years post admission experience in private practice and the Firm's Managing Partner. She is also the Partner heading the firm's Conveyancing & Commercial Services.

Veronica is a highly experienced advocate, with vast knowledge and skills and is actively involved in the firm's property, commercial, family, oil, gas and mining transactions. Her tasks include but are not limited to transfer of proprietary interest, registration of encumbrances and inhibitions, property transactions advisory, commercial transactions advisory, family law and succession advisory as well as oil and gas legal consultancy. The firm's takes pride in her ability to handle complex legal matters that fall under her docket.

She holds a Bachelor of Laws Degree (LL.B) from Kampala International University, a Post Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice from the Kenya School of Law and a Master of Laws Degree (LL.M) in Oil and Gas Law from Strathmore University with specific interest in negotiation of oil and gas contracts as well as oil and gas policies and regulations.





## MEET THE TEAM



### Martin M. Muhoro

Partner - Head of Litigation, Financial & Corporate Services(Insurance, Banking, Extractives, Mergers & Acquisitions)

Martin Muhoro is an Advocate of the High Court of Kenya. He holds a Bachelor of Laws (LL.B) degree from Catholic University of Eastern Africa and a Post Graduate Diploma in Legal practice from the Kenya School of Law and a Master of Laws Degree (LL.M) in Oil and Gas from Strathmore University with specific interest in renewable energy, upstream operations and oil and gas insurance for upstream, midstream and downstream activities. He is also pursuing ACII (Advanced Chartered Insurance Institute) which are insurance professional papers and is at an advanced stage with his studies

Martin is a highly experienced advocate, with vast knowledge and skills and is actively involved in the firm's corporate, financial sector, running down matters and insurance recoveries, debt collection, contract negotiations, oil, gas and mining transactions. His tasks include but are not limited to corporate transactions, mergers & acquisitions, financial and insurance matters, alternative dispute resolution, advisory as well as oil and gas legal consultancy. The firm takes pride in his ability to handle complex legal matters that fall under his docket.

He is a member of the Law Society of Kenya and has vast knowledge in insurance matters having had an industrious career in the financial services sector spanning 15 years and has worked for top tier insurance firms in Kenya.



# MEET THE TEAM

A row of marble busts of historical figures, likely legal scholars, displayed in a dark, wood-paneled room. The busts are arranged in a line, receding into the background. The room has tall bookshelves filled with books, and the lighting is dramatic, highlighting the busts against the dark background.

## Associates

The Firm has a young, vibrant and dedicated team of Associates comprising of Advocates, Legal Interns, Pupils and a clerk who are committed to ensuring that client expectations are met. The Associates are guided by the principle of collective responsibility ensuring efficient and timely performance of work.

The Firm also has in place modern clerical, secretarial and accounting systems and embrace all aspects of computer and other communication technology to maintain a fast and efficient means of storing and retrieving data.



## OUR PARTNERS

We value our clientele.

This has led us to forming strategic partnerships with our clients and we consider them part and parcel of VAA as our partners for their continued support and faithfully walking with us.

*"Their journey has been ours, and our journey has been theirs."*





# VM&A Advocates LLP

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*“Your reliable legal partner”*

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