Assessing the Benefits of Secured Transactions Law Reform in Nigeria and West Africa: Adopting the UNIDROIT Cape Town Convention, the MAC Protocol and Luxembourg Rail Protocol

Date: Tuesday 10 March 2020
Location: Oriental Hotel, 3 Lekki Road, Victoria Island, Lagos, Nigeria

PROGRAMME

08.00 – 08.45: Registration and tea/coffee session

08.45 – 09.00: Opening Keynote Speech
Mr Jonathan Fortnam (Dean of Aston Law School, Aston University UK)

SESSION 1: 09.00 – 10.40

09.00 – 09.20 Financial inclusion, food security and warehouse receipt systems – Dr Iyare Otabor-Olabor (Lecturer in Commercial Law, Aston University, UK)

09.20 – 09.40 The World Bank Doing Business 2020 report and access to finance in West African countries – Mr Ubong Awah (Senior Financial Sector Specialist, World Bank Group)

09.40 – 10.00 The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, financial inclusion agenda and the nature of security interest over movable property – Professor Imran O. Smith, SAN (Professor of Private and Property Law, University of Lagos, Nigeria; Professorial Research Associate, School of Oriental and African Studies SOAS UK)

10.00 – 10.20 Dispute resolution mechanisms in secured transactions – Dr Orkun Akseli (Associate Professor, Durham University UK)
10.20 – 10.40 Q&A and interactive discussion for Session 1

10.40 – 11.00: Tea/coffee break

SESSION 2: 11.00 – 12.20

11.00 – 11.20 Consumer credit rights in secured transactions - Professor Felicia Monye (Department of Commercial and Corporate Law; Former Dean, Faculty of Law, University of Nigeria) and Mr Benjamin Onoriode Mukoro (Department of Commercial and Corporate Law; Faculty of Law, University of Nigeria)

11.20 – 11.40 Challenges faced by businesses to access finance within the current legal and regulatory framework - Ambassador Ayoola Olukanni (Director General of the Nigerian Association of Chambers of Commerce, Industry, Mines and Agriculture NACCIMA)

11.40 – 12.00 Block chain and (immovable) property collateral in Africa - Emeritus Professor Robert Homme (Anglia Ruskin University UK)

12.00 – 12.20 Q&A and interactive discussion for Session 2

LUNCH: 12.20 – 13.30

SESSION 3: 13.30 – 15.30

13.30 – 14.00 Introduction to the Cape Town Convention, Mining, Agriculture & Construction (MAC) Protocol and security interests in mobile equipment - Professor Ignacio Tirado (Secretary-General, UNIDROIT)

14.00 – 14.30 Private sector financing of rolling stock (including railway) equipment in West Africa: Introduction to the Luxembourg Rail Protocol and the economic benefits of a modern railway transportation system - Mr Soteri Gatera (Chief Industrialisation and Infrastructure at the UN Economic Commission for Africa UNECA)
14.30 – 15.00  Enforcement of security interests in railway equipment and the unique identification system of rolling stock equipment - Mr Howard Rosen CBE (Chairman, Rail Working Group, UNIDROIT)

15.00 – 15.30  Q&A and interactive discussion for session 3

15.30 – 15.45: Concluding remarks and end of conference

Snacks (tea, coffee, cakes, pies, juice)