

*Research conference funded by Aston University UK Global Challenges Research Fund*

## **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-Olubor (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)