

J-K GADZAMA LLP

NEWSLETTER VOL 10, NUMBER 8 (OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2015) ISSN NO: 1598_8289.



From left to right: The Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court Fatou Bensouda and Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama SAN Chairman Presidential committee on the domestication of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court in Nigeria in a te-te-a-te-te at the International Bar Conference in Vienna, Austria. October 2015.



Editorial

It gives us a great pleasure to welcome you to the last quarter of the year 2015. In marking the end of a successful year, we cannot but highlight on a few of the major events that have occurred so far, the emerging trends, as well as national and global events which have defined the Legal world for this period in time.

"In the last quarter of the year, there have been quite a few issues that have affected the legal views on jurisdiction, spanning from the required quorum needed to have a panel properly constituted to sit and hear matters before them as evidenced in the recent case brought before the Code of Conduct Tribunal; or the judgements recently passed in some of the Election Petition Tribunals spread across the country that have brought about varying issues of contention. This has seen some of the contestants seeking for a higher remedy in the Superior courts of record.

We cannot shut out the growing humanitarian crises creeping around as a result of the Internally Displaced Persons (IDP's), whose presence in the various makeshift camps scattered across the country and particularly the FCT will bring out about varying Human Rights infringements that have not yet been recorded, but will need to be addressed. These issues in a nutshell, bring to mind a lot of emerging legal and humanitarian issues that cannot be overlooked in this last quarter."

The Firm like for most corporate organisations across the globe has had a challenging and rewarding year. Challenging in the sense of building a stronger and a more reliant system for service delivery and improving its team as well as building network

between its Clientele and other fora associated with the Legal business. The recent challenging wider economic environment in Nigeria as well as across the World is making citizens explore and maximise all forms of socio-economic and educational opportunities. It is in this light that we have published a paper titled Cross Border Practice; free movement of Legal Practice within ECOWAS States. This was the paper delivered by the Firm's Head of Chambers Henry Michael Ihunde Esq at the Nigerian Bar Association Young Lawyers Conference in Benin city which held at Uyi Grand Conference Hall, Edo State, Nigeria on the 22nd to 24th July, 2015.

The 55th Annual National Conference of the Nigerian Bar Association which is arguably the Largest gathering of Lawyers on the Continent held her conference in Abuja, the Capital city of Nigeria. The entire Legal team of the Firm from all her branches were in attendance and attest to a robust week of intellectual and social rejuvenation.

In a related development, the firm sponsored a few of her Lawyers to the International Bar Association Conference in Vienna Austria, which held from 4th to 9th October, 2015.

In this Edition, just like we always publish, please find for your reading pleasure our Legal humour as well as News from the Firm.

We hope that you enjoy this edition of our Newsletter.

Thank you.

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CROSS BORDER PRACTICE: FREE MOVEMENT OF LEGAL PRACTICE WITHIN ECOWAS STATES.

A Paper delivered by Henry Michael Ihunde Esq, the Firm's Head of Chambers, at the Nigerian Bar Association Young Lawyers Conference which held in Benin city at Uyi Grand Conference Hall Edo State, Nigeria on the 22nd to 24th July 2015.

Introduction

Dating from as far back as the 18th Century, it is safe to say that the world has taken a gradual and natural journey through the process of growth and development. As is typical of every natural thing, the world has abided by the inherent principles of life and has, one day after another, worked its way through a time when the quest for economic and political glory continuously inspired the arbitrary defilement of the territorial integrity of nations by way of world, continental and civil wars; through a time when human rights knew no home and international trade was conducted with insecurity and the bid to dominate rather than co-operate, into today: an age where globalization is rapidly shrinking the world into one small community through the rising use of the internet, as well as safe and affordable means of international transportation. The reality and the value of our existence is now powered by the need of one people to help one another towards economic prosperity of all and the betterment of the human race. In our region, our contributions towards this march reflect in the magnificence of the achievements of the regional and sub-regional organizations and initiatives like the

Economic Community for West African States (ECOWAS) that are driven by the sole-objective of keeping the world as one.

This discourse will aim at considering the plausibility and the implications of extending the open borders in this sub-region to legal practice and legal practitioners. It expects to critically analyze what opportunities exist for multi-jurisdictional or cross border practice in this era of globalization within the ECOWAS member states. It will encompass a look at its successes in other regions of the world with the hope of concluding with a reasoned opinion or recommendations that will promote a more efficient legal system within the sub-region.

The Cross Border Practice conotes the multi-jurisdictional practice of law referring to the delivery of legal services in jurisdictions other than where a lawyer is formerly admitted to practice. In a report prepared by the American Bar Association on the Commission of Multi-jurisdictional Practice, this subject matter was given a definition just as simple which goes thus: “the legal work of a lawyer in a jurisdiction in which the lawyer is not admitted to practice law“.

THE PLAUSIBILITY OF CROSS BORDER PRACTICE WITHIN ECOWAS STATES

It is without doubt that one of the most celebrated and indeed most important benefits of ECOWAS has been the lifting of prior existing barriers leading to the free and unfettered movement of goods and persons across the sub region. The whole substance of the ECOWAS treaty shows that the Union laws enacted that inspired and have sustained this development has in no small measure bolstered the socio-economic relationship of the benefitting nations. Article 3 which discusses the aims and objectives of the Union confirms this. Paragraph 1 states:

“The aims of the Community are to promote co-operation and integration, leading to the establishment of an economic union in West Africa in order to raise the living standards of its people, and to maintain and enhance economic stability, foster relations among member states and contribute to the progress and development of the African Continent.”

Paragraph 2(d) further states that in order to achieve the aims set out in the paragraph above, and in accordance with the relevant provisions of this Treaty, the Community shall, by, stages, ensure:

“the establishment of a common market through;

I) the liberalization of trade by the abolition, among Member States, of custom duties levied on imports and exports, and the abolition, among Member States, of non-tariff barriers in order to establish a free trade area at the Community level;

ii) the adoption of a common external tariff and a common trade policy vis-à-vis third countries;

iii) the removal, between Member States, of obstacles to the free movement of persons, goods, services and capital, and to the right of residence and establishment;”

This begs the question: if goods can move freely, then why can't services, particularly legal services enjoy the same free movement. Would it not be in the same spirit of economic integration for member nations to benefit from each other's intellectual wealth? Considering, for instance, that about 3 billion barrels of “sweet crude oil” was discovered in Ghana's Jubilee Oilfield in 2007, and bearing in mind that a country like Nigeria boasts of some of the best oil and gas lawyers in the continent and arguably in the world, imagine the kind of benefits that the legal expertise of some of the Nigerian based specialists in this area can bring to oil and gas practice in Ghana. One major concern here however would be how a development of this nature would fare especially from the stand point of competition between the foreign lawyers and local counsel, as the latter may see this as nothing short of a regional policy that does nothing but flood their jurisdiction with practitioners from other jurisdictions. Will such a competition foster efficiency or would it reduce the relevance of home based lawyers. If the latter is the case, how will it affect the economy of the host country?

Moving on from the issue of competition, it will be suicidal to this discourse if the realities of some of the enormous differences that exist in

the cultures, language, court rules and procedures between member-states are overlooked. A critical illustration would be the case of a man facing criminal charges and is torn between retaining the services of a practitioner who has substantial experience in the legal system of the host country and that of a foreign attorney. One is inclined to believe that his preference would lean towards the former than the latter because despite the skills and expertise that the foreign lawyer possesses, one would naturally be of the opinion that a home-trained and home-based attorney is more conversant with how the society works, is more efficient when it comes to communicating in the language of the courts (which in this case would be French), is more knowledgeable and more acquainted with the procedure of the courts. Phiona Mutoni, one of the senior lawyers in a front line law firm in Rwanda shared this same view. As Seka put it:

“multi-jurisdictional practice creates considerable hurdles to lawyers who have had no chance to practice internationally on account of the fact that the work does not just mean cross but also cross cultural and sometimes cross language adaptability...”

Another crucial issue for determination before cross border practice can ever be realized and effectively managed is the procedure for penalizing legal practitioners guilty of professional misconduct while practicing outside the jurisdiction that hitherto has the power to discipline them. Who will be responsible for meting out punishment at this point: the Disciplinary Committee with the original power to do so or that of the host

country? How can this be done without the insecurities of either the foreign body being accused of a reluctant approach towards the punishment of legal practitioners for misconduct committed outside jurisdiction or the host country being accused of victimizing the foreign practitioners?

Generally speaking, it is more convenient to be persuaded by the opinion that cross border practice is a policy too frightful, complicated, controversial and more likely to strain the system rather than save it. However, before such a conclusion is drawn, it will be right to look at its challenges and successes in other communities of the world.

CROSS BORDER PRACTICE IN OTHER REGIONS OF THE WORLD

In the European Union, it was observed over 30 years ago that it is almost impossible to isolate the legal profession from the embrace of globalization. The march towards creating a common market in the continent eventually engulfed the legal profession in 1977 when through Directive 77/249 adopted by the European Council; legal practitioners received a platform to exercise the freedom to provide legal services across member-states. This was the first attempt of the European Union at building a cross border legal practice. It has ever since flourished despite the challenges it has encountered as is evident through the series of directives that have been passed over the years to improve cross border legal practice in the region. Despite the reluctance of member states to implement these directives, it is safe to say

that the elimination of the barriers limiting legal practice in that continent, though gradual, has been progressive. The United Kingdom, for instance, has embraced and enforced multi-jurisdictional practice through the Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA) European Cross-Border Practice Rules 2011.

However, some of the challenges and limitations that cross-border practice has encountered in Europe are self-inflicted. As Liu explained in her book, one of the major challenges that EU directives have faced is the issue of implementation in member states. By virtue of its nature as a directive, rules relating to cross border practice are not automatically enforceable in member states as they need to be inculcated into the laws of member-states by their respective legislative arms; a privilege that dissenting members have used to their advantage by imposing certain requirements on foreign lawyers that discourage them from practicing in these countries. Interestingly, through Directive 98/5 (OJ 1998 L77/36) and other efforts being made by the Union such as the Qualified Lawyers Transfer Scheme (QLTS) which allows lawyers trained in other jurisdictions to apply a fast track route with no training contract required and be able to engage in transactions guided by English Law, it can be said authoritatively that the vision in the Treaty of Rome, which inspired the creation of the European Union overrides the technical moves of few dissenting member states.

In America, there is a somewhat progressive movement towards the establishment of cross-border practice in the continent. The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA),

plunged its signatories towards this light. The agreement reached in 1998 by its 3 signatories saw lawyers from either of the countries permitted to set up law offices in other member countries, give advice on their home laws as well as represent clients in international commercial dealings. In the United States, the movement for cross-border practice is on the rise. The United States and indeed most countries of the world have come to realize that in the period of this technological rapture called globalization, it is almost impossible to be economically isolated from the rest of the world. Terry noted in his book that the fate of any international business largely depends on the availability and efficiency of crucial support services such as accounting and legal services. Thus, there is now the need for multi-jurisdictional lawyers all over the world particularly in rising economies such as those in West Africa.

The most interesting part of this development is probably what is happening in East Africa, as the sub region is experiencing what can be referred to as one of the most radical and enthusiastic movements towards crystallizing cross-border practice on its side of the map. As at November last year, a Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) towards allowing cross border legal practice in East Africa had already been drafted.

CONCLUSION

The brutal reality is that cross border practice is taking over the globe, whether West Africa embraces it or not and it'll be detrimental to the

economy of the region and the relationship of the member states to be left out. The concerns that have been voiced against its implementation bear issues that can be addressed.

The first step towards its actualization would be an acceptance by the organization that it is a decision worth taking. It is worthy of note at this point that the progress in East Africa as it concerns free movement of services is in respect of the trade agreement reached under the auspices of the World Trade Organization, the outcome of which formed the adoption of the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS), a treaty inspired by “its counterpart in merchandise trade” , General Agreements on Tariffs and Trade. Article 2(1) of GATS states: “With respect to any measure covered by this Agreement, each Member shall accord immediately and unconditionally to services and service suppliers of any other Member treatment no less favourable than that it accords to like services and service suppliers of any other country.”

When such ad idem is reached, then there will be need for steps to be taken towards the harmonization of the existing legal systems across member-states as well as the harmonization of the training of future lawyers. This will eliminate most of the possible strains that allowing cross border practice may create and save subsequently trained lawyers from the complications that their predecessors suffered for being trained in different jurisdictions. This is due to the fact that a harmonization of the legal system will put an end to the existence of individual jurisdictions and welcome one sub-

regional jurisdiction. As it stands, there is a West African Examination Council (WAEC) in existence to regulate qualification and competence of students to pursue higher education; there is also an ECOWAS Parliament and ECOWAS Court of Justice to enact laws that regulate the relationship of member states and to interpret these laws to ensure effective implementation respectively. This gives good reason to believe that if it is considered a necessity, there can also be a West African Council of Legal Education to regulate and harmonize the training of lawyers in the sub region.

Also, it is high time the lamentations of Nigerian born foreign trained lawyers regarding existing regulations guiding eligibility to practice law in Nigeria was heard. It is worthy of note that even the United Kingdom that has an older and arguably more efficient system than what is obtainable in Nigeria has policies more friendly towards foreign qualified lawyers as evident in programs like QLTS discussed earlier. Learned Silk Layi Babatunde, in an article titled: “Legal Education: Building on the challenges of today for a better tomorrow” recounted how there was once a time that foreign trained law graduates with above average classifications were exempted from the Bar Part 1 Program (a curriculum designed to acquaint foreign trained lawyers with the Nigerian legal system).

To the best of knowledge, there is no statistical evidence to show that such an exemption had a backlash effect on the quality of legal practice in the country. Thus, it is safe to say that the

abolition of that exemption and the consequential discouragement of foreign trained lawyers from returning home to practice and make their own contributions to the development of their fatherland is most unfortunate. The Nigerian legal market is “one which is growing steadily and becoming increasingly sophisticated but in need of some adjustments in terms of its existing regulations.”

Furthermore, just as is obtainable in Europe, effective policies can be put in place to ensure that a legal practitioner who engages in legal transaction in a jurisdiction that is not his/her original jurisdiction can be said to have automatically undertaken to be bound by the ethical provisions regulating legal practice in that jurisdiction.

The benefits of such integration will be manifestly beneficial to the sub region particularly in the war against cross border crimes. A criminal in Lagos or Abeokuta, for instance, will no longer work with the notion Cotonou or Porto-Novo is a quick escape when the hands of the law draw closer.

At this point, it is safe to say that the gains of a synchronized legal system in West Africa comes bearing benefits that outweigh the side-effects. Therefore it will be in the interest of a better economy for the member-states and a better life for their citizens if the borders in ECOWAS encourage free movement of legal practitioners. It may not be plausible as of this moment, but if the appropriate are put in place, it is by all means a feasible destination.

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FROM THE FIRM

Recent Additions to the Firm's work force

The 2014/2015 Batch C National Youth Service Corps have completed their mandatory one year service to the Nation at the Firm. Indeed, the set had proved themselves an invaluable team of young Lawyers. We wish them all the best in their pursuit of a Legal Career.

The 2015 International Bar Conference which held in Vienna Austria was a huge success just like the National Bar Association Conference which held in Abuja. Counsel from the Firm attended both Conferences.

Off a truth, like the age long proverb that says an apple does not fall further away from the apple tree, Madu Joe Gadzama the son of the Principal Partner has been called to the Nigerian Bar. The Firm is proud of his achievement and congratulates him on his success and welcomes him to the Bar. The firm wishes him great success as he builds a career from the Law.

Otolo Eloho Faith (Miss) currently manages the J-K Gadzama LLP library. Faith graduated from Delta State University where she obtained a B.Sc in Library and Information Science. She also holds an M.Sc in Library, Archival and Information Science from the University of Ibadan. Her special interest as a librarian is in electronic/virtual libraries with keen interest in developing and maintaining standardized special libraries in order to achieve the set goals of the organization.

Paul Ebiloma is the Graphic Designer of the Firm's Printing Press. Paul is a graduate of the Mingo Computer Institute, Abuja.

The firm wishes all of them a pleasant and productive career.

DO YOU KNOW?

1. *The legal term for a voluntary written statement made under oath?*
2. *The name of the classification of crime which is less serious than a felony?*
3. *The basic general difference between libel and slander?*

3. Libel is written or printed or broadcast, slander is only spoken

2. Misdemeanor

1. Affidavit

ANSWERS

PHOTO SPEAK

2014/2015 Batch C National Youth Service Corp



Top row from left to right Ibrahim Ahmed Dandija, Dike Nene Yvonne Ogechi (Miss), P.D. Pius Esq, Ohaegbule Ebubu Christopher Esq, Afolayan Marufat Wuraola (Miss), Adefusi-Owate Olubade Esq. First row from left to right Henry Michael-Ihunde Esq Partner/Head of Chambers J-K Gadzama LLP, Onyema Chisom Vivian (Miss), Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama SAN Principal Partner J-K Gadzama LLP, Mba Ezinne Cecilia (Miss), and Tunde Onamusi Esq Partner/Head of Litigation J-K Gadzama LLP.



From left to right Ohaegbule Ebubu Christopher, Esq, Dike Nene Yvonne Ogechi (Miss), Ibrahim Ahmed Dandija, Esq, Onyema Chisom Vivian (Miss), P.D. Pius Esq.m Mba Ezinne Cecilia (Miss), Adefusi-Owate Olubade, Esq, Afolayan Marufat Wuraola (Miss).



Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama (SAN), leader of the Nigerian delegate giving an address during a visit to the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), Headquarter which held in October 2015 in Vienna, Austria.



From left to right Aniedi Akpabio of Ibom Power Company Ltd, Chief Joe - Kyari Gadzama SAN, Senator Bob Effiong and Senator Daisy Danjuma listening attentively during a session at the International Bar Association (IBA) Conference which held in October 2015 in Vienna, Austria.

PHOTO SPEAK



Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama SAN, asking the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court a question And Chief Mike Ozekhome SAN queuing behind to ask his question during a session at the International Bar Association (IBA) Conference which held in October 2015 in Vienna, Austria.



From left to right: Igwe Boniface Onwuka Esq Partner/Head of Chambers J-K Gadzama LLP Lagos Office and Rotimi Ogunlade Esq also of the Lagos Office at the International Bar Association (IBA) Conference which held in October 2015 in Vienna, Austria.



From left to right: Miss Onyedim Chimdindu Ugochi of the Abuja Office, His Excellency the Governor of Plateau State Mr. Simon Baku Lalong and Onyekwere Darlington Esq also of the Abuja Office at the International Bar Association (IBA) Conference which held in October 2015 in Vienna, Austria



From left to right: Rotimi Ogunlade Esq of the Lagos Office, Miss Onyedim Chimdindu Ugochi of the Abuja Office, Tunde Onamusi Esq Head of Litigation J-K Gadzama LLP and Onyekwere Darlington Esq of the Abuja Office at the International Bar Conference which held in October 2015 in Vienna, Austria.

PHOTO SPEAK



In a group picture, from the extreme right and second to the last standing, Miss Stephanie Ere Tobi General Manager Janada International Centre for Arbitration and Mediation (JICAM) at the Arbitration Centenary Conference Held at the Victoria Falls Convention Centre in Livingstone, Zambia on 15th July - 17th July 2015.



From left to right: Prince Alex Esq, Lady Hon. Justice Irene Mambillima Chief Justice of Zambia, Miss Stephanie Ere Tobi General Manager Janada International Centre for Arbitration and Mediation (JICAM) at the Arbitration Centenary Conference which Held at the Victoria Falls Convention Centre in Livingstone, Zambia on 15th July - 17th July 2015.



Madu Joe Gadzama Esq, on his Call to the Nigerian Bar on Wednesday, 21 October, 2015



Madu Joe Gadzama Esq, in a congratulatory handshake with Chief T.J.O Okpoko the Chairman Body of Benchers on his Call to the Nigerian Bar on Wednesday, 21 October, 2015



LEGAL HUMOUR

CAN I TAKE HIS PLACE?

An attorney telephoned the governor just after midnight, insisting that he talk to him regarding a matter of utmost urgency.

An aide eventually agreed to wake up the governor.

"So, what is it?" grumbled the governor.

"Judge Chukwu Sani Ayo has just died" said the attorney, "and I want to take his place."

The governor replied: "Well, it's OK with me if it's OK with the undertaker."

I just managed to settle an account! A young lawyer who had taken over his father's practice rushed home elated one night.

"Dad, listen," he shouted, "I've finally settled that Baba Ali suit."

"Settled it!" cried his astonished father. "Why, you idiot!

We have been living off of that money for five years!"

FREE HAIRCUTS

A barber gave a haircut to a priest one day. The priest tried to pay for the haircut, but the barber refused, saying, "you do God's work.

" The next morning the barber found a dozen bibles at the door to his shop.

A policeman came to the barber for a haircut, and again the barber refused to pay, saying, "you protect the public." The next morning the barber found a dozen doughnuts at the door to his shop.

A lawyer came to the barber for a haircut, and again the barber refused payment, saying, "you serve the justice system." The next morning the barber found a dozen lawyers waiting for a free haircut.

ARE YOU TALKING TO ME?

At the height of a political corruption trial, the prosecuting attorney attacked a witness.

"Isn't it true," he bellowed, "that you accepted five thousand dollars to compromise this case?"

The witness stared out the window, as though he hadn't heard the question.

"Isn't it true that you accepted five million Naira to compromise this case?" the lawyer repeated.

The witness still did not respond.

Finally, the judge leaned over and said, "Sir, please answer the question."

"Oh," the startled witness said, "I thought he was talking to you."

Upcoming EVENTS and CONFERENCES

1. International Bar Association Annual Conference Vienna, Austria 4 - 9th October, 2015.
2. Legal Week – Corporate Counsel Forum Africa 2015, The Wanderes Club, Johannesburg, South Africa, 15 October 2015.
3. CIArb Nigeria Branch Annual Conference, Induction & Gala Night, Abuja, 3rd – 4th November, 2015.
4. 17th International Conference on Law and Society (ICLS), Cape Town, South Africa, 5 – 6 November, 2015.
5. 8th Annual Lecture of J-K Gadzama LLP.
6. Madu Joe Gadzama Esq's Call to the Nigerian Bar Reception, J-K Gadzama Court, Plot 1805, Damaturu Crescent by Kabo Way, Off Ahmadu Bello Way, Garki II, Abuja, Nigeria.
7. Private Equity Transactions Symposium, Mandarin Oriental, London, England, 12th November, 2015.
8. International Bar Association (IBA) – Africa Regional Forum Conference- “Building on the foundations for a successful future: Economic development and the Rule of Law in Africa, Livingstone, Zambia, 18 – 20 November, 2015.
9. Her Worship Fatima Ibrahim Bukar's Cocktail/Send Off Party, J-K Gadzama Court, Plot 1805, Damaturu Crescent by Kabo Way, Off Ahmadu Bello Way, Garki II Abuja, Nigeria. 3rd December, 2015.
10. J-K Gadzama LLP's end of the Year Party and Christmas Carol, at J-K Gadzama Court, Plot 1805, Damaturu Crescent by Kabo Way, Off Ahmadu Bello Way, Garki II, Abuja. 20th December, 2015.
11. Official Commissioning of the Janada International Centre for Arbitration & Mediation (JICAM). (Date to be announced)
12. Official Commissioning of the Corporate Headquarters “J-K Gadzama Court”. (Date to be announced)
13. Silver Jubilee Celebration of J-K Gadzama LLP. (Date to be announced)



COUNSEL

PARTNERS IN CHAMBERS:

1. **CHIEF JOE-KYARI GADZAMA** OFR, MFR, SAN, FCI Arb (UK).
MANAGING PARTNER
2. **IGWE BONIFACE ONWUKA ESQ.**
PARTNER/HEAD OF CHAMBERS, LAGOS OFFICE
3. **HENRY MICHAEL-IHUNDE ESQ.**
PARTNER/HEAD OF CHAMBERS
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5. **TUNDE ONAMUSI, ESQ**
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8. **AYUBA A.S ABANG ESQ**
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11. **GADZAMA KEFFAS ESQ.**
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15. **AFOLAYAN MARUFAT WURAOLA (MISS)**
16. **DIKE NENE YVONNE OGECHI, ACI Arb (MISS)**
17. **ADEFUSI –OWATE OLUBADE, ESQ.**
18. **OHAEBULE EBUBE CHRISTOPHER, ESQ.**
19. **IBRAHIM AHMED DANDIJA, ESQ.**
20. **OGBODO VIVIAN CHIZOBA (MISS)**

JURIS CONSULT

1. **HON. JUSTICE ALFA MODIBBO BELGORE**, J.S.C (RTD), GCON
(FORMER CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE FEDERATION).
2. **HON. JUSTICE GEORGE A. OGUNTADE**, J.S.C (RTD) CON.

NOTICE OF RELOCATION

This is to inform all our esteemed Clients and the General Public that the Law Firm of J-K GADZAMA LLP has moved to its Corporate Headquarters and permanent business premises at J-K GADZAMA COURT, at the address as appeared hereunder.



**J-K GADZAMA COURT
CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS
PLOT 1805, DAMATURU CRESCENT BY KABO WAY
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JANADA INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR ARBITRATION & MEDIATION (JICAM)

Our Location

Plot 1805, Damaturu Crescent by
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Adjacent to Garki International Market/Mall
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Telephone: +234 (0) 810 880 5918
E-mail: enquiries@jicam.com
Website: www.jicam.com

Vision

Creating an avenue for independent, confidential and more efficient means of resolving disputes using Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) processes.

Mission Statement

To provide a neutral venue for the resolution of both domestic and international disputes; and encourage the settlement of disputes from corporate, domestic, international trade, investment and other transactions.

Facilities

Hearing Rooms
Retiring Rooms
Coffee Lounge/Dinning
Library/Resource Room
Meeting rooms
Conference/Seminar Hall
Internet
Security
Car Park



Services

Video Conferencing
Transcribing
Recording of proceeding
Interpretation
Secretarial/Administrative Services



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Who are we?

The Vox Populi Foundation for Leadership was founded in the year 2010 and was incorporated in the year 2012 by its founder Chief J-K Gadzama OFR, MFR, SAN, FCI Arb. (UK) (Of the Lincolns Inn, Barrister/Life Bencher/CEDR Accredited Mediator). The Foundation is a Non-Profit making institution formed to deepen the understanding of democracy by carrying out structured programmes that promote positive leadership qualities and ideals in the society. This is because we believe that a society can only evolve when the people have the opportunity to contribute to the process of governance and have a voice in the creation of policies and laws that affect them as a people.

How do we do this?!

We sincerely believe the best way to achieve this goal is to pursue initiatives that look at proffering solutions to the issues that interfere with governance. We look at utilizing the immense manpower of youths and able bodied people who are hungry to bring about a change in their society through direct engagement with society in a volunteer signup process, which is one of the mechanisms we intend to employ to secure citizens participation. This process of inclusion we believe will foster and build a common front that will enable people to improve on their understanding of what leadership connotes in their everyday lives and reinforce their commitment towards creating a better society.

Governance

Created with gifts by its founder, the foundation is an independent, non-profit, non-governmental organization, with its own Board. The trustees of the foundation set policies and delegate authority to the Director General and senior staff for the foundation's operations. Zonal volunteer Heads in the 6 geo political zones explore opportunities to pursue the foundation's goals and formulate strategies for action.

Location

The Foundation is headquartered in Abuja. It conducts its activities through an increasing pool of volunteers from across the country.



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Our Vision

to promote, protect and safeguard the tenets and ideals of democracy leadership & good governance in our society.

What is Our Goal?!

to encourage citizens to participate in governance & support a platform that will inspire proactive leadership that will drive the free flow of democratic ideals and social justice.

Sign-up to Join and receive our e-mail Newsletter and Special Notifications
Your information will be kept confidential and used solely for our communications

Required Information

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Email Address: _____@_____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Phone: _____

Upon completing the information sheet, you can detach and send to our address above or you can email us on

info@voxpathulifoundation.org
for further enquiries, call us on
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follow us on <http://facebook.com/voxpathulifoundation>
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tweet us @vpfoundcast

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www.gadzama.com

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