

Abu Dhabi



## Core strengths

Simmons & Simmons is one of the largest international law firms in the world, with over 2000 staff in 20 offices situated in key business and financial centres across the Middle East, Europe and Asia.

We have demonstrated our commitment to the Middle East for more than 30 years. Our office in Abu Dhabi, which opened in 1994, is one of three in the region. Our presence also includes established offices in Dubai and Qatar. Our Middle East practice comprises a team of more than 50 specialist lawyers, 14 of whom are Arabic speakers.

With leading international experience coupled with an in-depth knowledge of the region garnered over many years, plus support as needed from our integrated wider network, our Abu Dhabi team is able to respond quickly to our clients' needs with commercially driven, market leading advice.

## Our services

### Corporate and major projects

- projects and major development advice
- mergers and acquisitions
- joint ventures
- corporate restructurings including demergers
- stock exchange listings
- public equity fundraisings
- private equity
- business start-ups

### Energy

- production sharing and concession agreements
- joint operation agreements
- shareholder agreements
- EPC contracts
- connection, sales, supply terminal operating and O&M agreements
- rig chartering
- project finance
- debt restructuring
- pipeline supply agreements

### Commercial

- outsourcing and facilities management
- manufacturing, licensing, development and exploitation agreements
- distributorship, agency and franchise agreements

- supply and manufacturing agreements

### Finance

- general banking
- Islamic funds and products
- secured and unsecured lending
- asset finance and leasing
- trade and export credit finance
- acquisition finance
- structured finance
- investment and venture capital funds
- financial services and regulation
- asset management

### Real estate and construction

- real estate development, investment and management
- hotels and leisure
- funding and finance including securitisation
- terms of construction documentation
- performance bonds and guarantee arrangements
- PFI, PPP, BOOT and partnering contracts

### Dispute resolution

- international arbitration
- ADR and mediation
- co-ordinating national and international litigation

### Telecoms, media and technology

- telecommunications
- IT and e-commerce
- pharmaceuticals and biotech

### Intellectual property

- general IP
- brands and trademarks

### Aerospace and defence

- satellite systems
- defence contracts and procurement
- offsets and countertrade

### Public law and regulatory

- privatisation of state entities
- laws and regulations in both Arabic and English

### Employment

- general employment law
- transfers and termination
- employee benefits, pensions, share option and incentive schemes

## Expertise in practice

### Aabar Energy PJSC

- advising in relation to the US\$877.5m sale of Singapore based Pearl Energy, an upstream oil company with assets in South East Asia, which included the early redemption of Aabar's convertible Sukuk

### Abu Dhabi Water and Electricity Authority (ADWEA)

- advising on the US\$2.5bn Sohar Aluminium and Power Project in Oman

### Aldar Properties

- advising on the Al Raha Beach mega project spread over 500 ha and valued at US\$15 bn

### General Industry Corporation

- advising GIC on its privatisation programme and the potential IPOs of its factories

### Lead Arrangers, Gulf International Bank BSC and Bank Muscat SAOG

- advising the arrangers in connection with a complex dual borrower five jurisdiction cross-border acquisition financing of a multi-jurisdictional oilfield drilling business

### GCC Government

- advising a government client on the deregulation of a major sector in a Middle Eastern country, including drafting the English and Arabic versions of a new law

### National Bank of Abu Dhabi (NBAD)

- advising the National Bank of Abu Dhabi and HSBC Bank Middle East structuring and documentation banks on the US\$450m operating lease and financing of five Boeing 777-300ER aircraft for Etihad Airways

### Reem Island

- advising the developers of the new city on Al Reem island in connection with construction, infrastructure and real estate matters

### Reliance Industries Limited

- advising on the US\$2bn construction phases for KGDWN- 98/3, a 15 trillion cubic foot offshore gas field in the Indian ocean

### Sorouh Real Estate PJSC

- advising on large scale developments such as the US\$25bn Shams Abu Dhabi, Al Ghadeer, Lulu Island and Atlas Gardens, Morocco and in respect of the Al Mashtal Hotel, Abu Dhabi

### TAQA

- advising TAQA on its \$1bn (10yrs) \$1.5bn (30yrs) and €750m (7 yrs) bond issue. The bonds were arranged by Goldman Sachs and listed on the London Stock Exchange. The bonds represent the largest ever capital markets offering, and also the biggest ever eurobond and long-dollar issues, by a Middle Eastern company

### TDIC

- advising in relation to the multi billion dollar development of Saadiyat Island Abu Dhabi

### UAE Stocks and Commodities Authority

- drafting regulations in relation to commercial bonds and Islamic Sukuk.

## Key contacts

Key contact biographies can be viewed at [simmons-simmons.com](http://simmons-simmons.com)

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