



Zukiswa Sithole

Head: Group Risk

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SUMMARY PROFILE

Zukiswa Sithole is an admitted attorney, whose experience spans over 14 years, having practiced with one of the top five law firms, Bowman Gilfillan Inc., and later joining the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA). In joining the DBSA, Zukiswa initially worked in both the International and South African Finance Legal portfolios and subsequently focused on and headed up the South African markets legal portfolio. Zukiswa is currently Head of Group Risk.

With a specific focus on project finance, Zukiswa has amassed skills in negotiation, drafting and closing of deals within the energy, transport and logistics sectors as well as the municipal finance sphere. Having obtained a Masters in Finance and Investments degree, specializing in Mergers and Acquisitions and Private Equity, from the London School of Business and Finance, as well as two final selections into the GC power list for top 100 African in-house lawyers,.

Zukiswa is a passionate, driven and dynamic lawyer who comes with valuable insight into both the legal and commercial finance fraternities.

CAREER

- Zukiswa joined Bowman Gilfillan Inc., now Bowmans in 2005 as a candidate attorney. In 2007, Zukiswa was appointed as an associate in the Project Finance Department at Bowman Gilfillan. She was promoted to the position of Senior Associate in 2009.
- Shortly after that, Zukiswa joined the DBSA as a Senior Legal Advisor for the International and South African Investment Banking legal portfolios. In 2011, Zukiswa assumed responsibility as the Head of Legal responsible for both the International and South African Legal portfolios.
- In 2014, she was placed in charge of the South African Investment Banking Legal portfolio, a position she has occupied until September 2018. Zukiswa currently assumes the role of Head of Group Risk at the DBSA. As part of this role, Zukiswa is an Investment Committee voting member.
- In working at the DBSA, Zukiswa has played an instrumental role in closing many deals within the transport/logistics, energy, water and municipal sector. Some of the deals that she has been involved in include:
 - Lead Legal Advisor for DBSA in the Round I Renewable Energy Mainstream Projects (Droogfontein and De Aar Solar PV projects as well as Jeffreys Bay Wind project) with a cumulative deal value of circa ZAR 5.4 billion;
 - Lead Legal Advisor for the DBSA in the Round I Renewable Energy Projects Scatec Solar PV with a deal value of circa ZAR 2.2 billion;

- Lead Advisor for the DBSA in the Round I Renewable Energy Abengoa CSP Tower and Parabolic projects with a cumulative deal value of circa ZAR 8.0 billion;
- Provided final legal sign off on the Round I renewable Energy agreements for the projects assigned to other legal advisors. These projects included the (i) AE-AMD Solar PV projects with a cumulative deal value of circa ZAR 1.0 billion and (ii) the Lesedi and Letsatsi Solar PV Projects with a cumulative deal value of circa ZAR 4.4 billion and (iii) Round III Renewable Energy Abengoa !Xina Project;
- Lead Legal Advisor for DBSA on Round II Renewable Energy Jasper Solar PV as well as the Westcoast Wind Projects;
- Lead legal Advisor for DBSA on Round III Renewable Energy Ilanga CSP and Main stream (Noupoort, Louriesfontein and Khobab) Projects;
- Lead Legal Advisor for DBSA on the Tshwane Rapid Transit project in relation to the funding of the A Re Yeng Bus transit system with a deal value of ZAR 815 million;
- Lead Legal Advisor for DBSA on some of the municipal infrastructure finance transactions to City of Tshwane, City of Johannesburg, Ekurhuleni Municipality and various other M1 and M2 municipalities.
- Lead Legal Advisor for DBSA on Sunrise Energy project in relation to proposed funding for the construction and operation of an end-to-end open access, LPG terminal in Saldanha. DBSA however did not see the deal to financial close.
- Lead Legal Advisor for DBSA on Ithezi Ithezi power project in relation to funding for the construction and operation of a 120 MW hydropower facility in Zambia, with a total deal value of USD 240 million.
- Lead Legal Advisor for the DBSA on the SNPC Oil Infrastructure project in relation to the funding of the expansion of the oil infrastructure by acquiring additional oil rigs in Congo Brazzaville, with a deal value of USD 100 million;
- Lead Legal Advisor for DBSA on O3B satellite project in relation to the funding of O3B Networks Limited for the development and operation of a constellation of 12 medium earth orbit satellites which would service telecommunications operators and internet service providers in emerging markets with a deal value of USD 1155 billion;
- Lead Legal Advisor for DBSA on the Neotel Telecommunications project in relation to funding for the development and roll out of telecommunication network infrastructure with a deal value of ZAR 5.1 billion;
- Lead Legal Advisor for DBSA on the Cell C project in relation to funding for the roll out of telecommunications network with a deal value of circa ZAR19 billion.

EDUCATION

- General Management Programme (Harvard Business School) (in progress)
- MSc. Finance and Investments (London School of Business and Finance)
- LLB (University of Stellenbosch)

- Year of admission as an attorney: 2008

MEMBERSHIPS

- Law Society of the Northern Provinces

MARKET RECOGNITION

- Interview with GC Magazine on the Legal Discipline and its role in the Emerging African Industry - 2014
- Finalist -Top 100 In-House Counsel- General Counsel (legal 500) -2015
- Finalist- Top 100 Legal Team – General Counsel Magazine (Legal 500)- 2016

BOARD MEMBERSHIPS

- Board of Trustees- DBSA Provident Fund