

**Investment strategies in Africa:
Mitigating risk and maximizing opportunities
by entering the market through Egypt, South Africa and Morocco**

1. Background and objectives of the seminar

The purpose of this seminar is to promote and encourage investment by Japanese companies in Africa. Many Japanese companies often have reservations about the risks and uncertainties associated with doing business in Africa. This seminar will provide practical guidance on how a foreign investor can prudently manage its entry into Africa. Specific topics include: how to minimize risks by establishing regional headquarters in a country that is sufficiently developed and friendly to foreign investment (e.g., Egypt, South Africa or Morocco) and managing business operations on a regional basis. Mina Arai-Ito from Baker & McKenzie's Tokyo office has extensive experience representing Japanese clients in Africa and will be the main speaker identifying investment areas of particular importance to Japanese companies. In a panel discussion led by Ms. Arai-Ito, Baker & McKenzie's local lawyers based in Africa (Cairo, Johannesburg, and Casablanca) will also be present, providing a rare opportunity to hear about various business issues and other practical information from an on the ground perspective.

2. The objectives of the symposium are:

- Promote and encourage investment by Japanese companies in Africa
- Provide guidance on how to manage the risks unique to doing business in Africa by methods such as utilizing a regional hub in Egypt, South Africa or Morocco
- Provide an on the ground perspective and practical information on Egyptian, South African and Moroccan legislation

3. Key questions to be addressed will include:

- What are the risks and challenges that are unique to doing business in Africa?
- How can a foreign investor prudently manage those risks?
- What are the advantages of entering into the African market through Egypt, South Africa or Morocco?

4. Speakers

- Mohamed GHANNAM, Principal, Cairo office of Baker & McKenzie
- Morné van der MERWE, Head of the Johannesburg Corporate and M&A practice and

Mining practice

- Wildu du PLESSIS, head of the Johannesburg Banking & Finance practice and Capital Markets practice
- Kamal NASROLLAH, head of the Casablanca office
- Mina ARAI-ITO, Head of the Firm's Middle East & Africa Focus Group in Tokyo.

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