

## Representative Legal Matters

Samir Safar-Aly

### Financial Regulatory

- Advising a number of global financial institutions and asset managers on:
  - marketing guidance for various financial products and services across the Middle East and other Emerging Markets;
  - various compliance related issues, including change of control, client classification, regulatory filings, product documentation, and conduct of business;
  - license establishment requirements, including license upgrades, in the UAE, DIFC, ADGM and Saudi Arabia; and
  - exchange trading and listing rules across the GCC.
- Advising a number of governments and regulatory authorities on legal and regulatory reform, including:
  - the National Treasury of Kenya on its full-scale legal reform to enable Islamic Finance (covering central bank to microfinance regulations), and on the drafting of the Nairobi International Financial Centre (NIFC) bill;
  - the Government of Indonesia on its 10-year Islamic finance masterplan;
  - advising a GCC-based central bank on fits forthcoming Payment Services Regulations;
  - the UAE Securities and Commodities Authority (SCA) on its regulations;
  - Ministry of Finance in Uzbekistan on securities law reform; and
  - several UAE and Saudi Arabia-based authorities.

### FinTech & AI

- Advising as lead regulatory counsel on one of the largest global virtual assets projects;
- Advising on the establishment of a Virtual Assets Exchange in the UAE
- Advising several crypto and DLT projects on redomiciling to the UAE and the relevant regulatory framework;
- Advising on setting up FinTechs across Virtual Asset issuance, payment services, open banking, robo-advisory, NFTs, DAOs, and Web3 projects, as well as the cross-border marketing of such products.



## **Sanctions**

- Advising a major state-owned petrochemicals company in China on sanctions and export-control compliance;
- Advising several Japanese trading houses, financial institutions and insurance companies on sanctions-related issues across a number of sectors, including steel, automotive, shipping and energy, including the provision of training and development of compliance-related processes, including on the JCPOA;
- Advising a European-based company focused on the development of food processing machinery on sanctions-related compliance issues;
- Advising a European-based beverage company on sanctions and export-control related compliance requirements; and
- Advising a number of clients across a range of sectors on sanctions-related compliance under local laws across the GCC.

## **Financial Crime**

- Advising a number of financial institutions, asset managers and multi-national corporations on anti-money laundering (AML) and counter-terrorism financing (CTF) obligations under DIFC, ADGM, Federal UAE, Saudi Arabia, UK and European laws; and
- Advising a number of clients across various industries, sectors and regions on anti-bribery and corruption legislation, including under the UK Bribery Act, the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, and local laws within the GCC.

## **Investigations**

- Advising and representing clients on a number of financial services regulatory investigations covering a wide a range of issues, across the GCC; and
- Conducting internal investigations relevant to anti-bribery and corruption, as well as AML, legislation.