



ORARO & COMPANY
ADVOCATES

An Affiliate Member of AB & DAVID AFRICA

ARBITRATION

A Legacy African Firm with a Fresh Take on Business



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About Us

Oraro & Company Advocates is a full-service, market-leading African law firm established in 1977 with a strong focus on dispute resolution and corporate & commercial law. With a dedicated team of 45 lawyers and a total staff pool of over 80, the firm has been consistently ranked by leading legal directories such as Chambers Global, IFLR1000, and Legal 500 as a top-tier firm in Kenya.

We provide specialist legal services both locally and regionally in Arbitration, Asset Tracing & Recoveries, Banking & Finance, Capital Markets, Conveyancing & Real Estate, Corporate & Commercial, Dispute Resolution, Employment & Labour, FinTech, Energy, Infrastructure, Projects & PPP, Private Client, Restructuring & Insolvency and Tax. Over the years, we have represented both local and foreign clients, governments, regulators, and not-for-profit organisations from target industry sectors, including retail, construction, education, energy, financial services, manufacturing & industries, and the public sector.

We provide both local and cross-jurisdictional legal services, either directly or through the extensive relationships that we have established with leading firms across the globe, such as Tanzania's [MWEBESA LAW GROUP](#). Oraro & Company Advocates is a full Affiliate Member of [AB & David Africa \(ABDA\)](#), a Pan-African business law network committed to ensuring that businesses and projects succeed in Africa by helping clients minimise the risks associated with doing business in the continent. This enables us to offer cross-jurisdictional legal advice in a seamless manner while maintaining the highest professional standards.

Oraro & Company Advocates prides itself in its deeply rooted client relationships by providing quality legal services through its partner-led approach, drawing from local knowledge and global perspectives.

"Oraro & Company's team are very responsive. They understand the client and take time to understand the matter at hand, all in an accurate and timely manner."

Chambers Global, 2025.



Our Arbitration Practice

Our Arbitration Practice is recognised for its excellence in this area. The firm has always been at the forefront of both domestic and international arbitration in Kenya, providing recourse from the onset of a dispute through the enforcement of an award.

We have represented clients in local and international arbitration tribunals, including the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID), the London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA), and the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), in the energy, financial services, and construction sectors.

Our practice area encompasses the full spectrum of contentious matters. Our key competencies include:

- Banking disputes
- Contractual disputes
- Maritime
- Energy
- Landlord
- Construction
- Employment & labour
- Insurance claims
- Shareholders disputes
- Property disputes

“Oraro & Company Advocates go above and beyond for their clients. They are always available to provide prompt, accurate and commercially useful legal advice. They are also very honest about the probability of success of suits and have a very high success rate in litigation practice in Kenya.”

Legal 500, 2024.

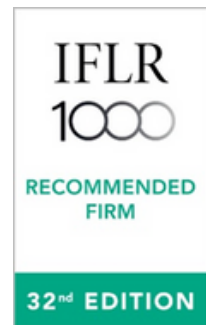
Our Recent Market Recognition



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Our Experience

BANKING DISPUTES

- **Long-Running Arbitration for an East African monetary authority:** Representing the authority in a long-running arbitration involving a contractual dispute with a sub-contractor over the manufacture, supply, and installation of furniture for its headquarters.
- **High-Stakes Arbitration for Pan-African Bank:** Successfully represented a Pan-African Bank in a high-stakes arbitration involving a USD 25 million claim brought by a Zambian borrower. The borrower alleged unauthorised disbursement of funds by the bank. The case was administered by the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) with proceedings held in London.

CONTRACT DISPUTES

- **Equipment Lease Dispute:** Representing a food processing company before the Arbitral Tribunal in a USD 1.36 million claim brought by an equipment leasing company concerning assets leased under two contracts. We also facilitated negotiations between the parties that ultimately resulted in the recording of a consent award.

MARITIME

- **Leading Counsel for Kenya Ports Authority (KPA):** Advised and represented KPA in a claim for damages related to goods imported in 2007 that were allegedly never cleared at the port. The High Court initially awarded damages to the owner of the goods, but on appeal, the Court of Appeal set aside the judgement, citing that the High Court lacked jurisdiction under Section 62 of the Kenya Ports Authority Act (KPA Act). The case was referred to arbitration and is now before the Supreme Court, which will rule on the constitutionality of Section 62 of the KPA Act. The outcome is significant as it could impact similar provisions in other Kenyan legislations.



Our Experience

ENERGY

- **Co-Counsel for Canadian Energy Company:** Represented a Canadian-based energy company in ICSID proceedings against the Government of Kenya concerning the unlawful revocation of a geothermal license valued at USD 312.7 million.
- **Successful Representation of Japanese Electrical Equipment Company:** Represented a Japanese electrical equipment company in a construction dispute filed by a leading engineering and construction firm in East and Central Africa. The case sought interim measures to prevent the company from appointing a third-party contractor to replace the claimant in the construction of a geothermal power plant in Olkaria, Kenya. The interim measures were successfully opposed.
- **Representation of English Investment and Energy Company:** Represented an English investment company and an energy company in an arbitration at the ICC, where the claimants were awarded USD 12.8 million for breach of contract. Subsequently, we assisted in having the arbitral award recognised as a judgement by the High Court of Kenya to initiate enforcement proceedings against the Kenyan-registered respondent.

LEASING

- **Lease Termination Claim:** Representing a landlord in a claim exceeding USD 1 million related to the termination of a lease agreement and associated license agreements.

EMPLOYMENT & LABOUR

- **Legal Expert Witness for LCIA Arbitration:** Acting as a legal expert witness in an international arbitration before the LCIA, providing expertise on specific Kenyan employment and labour relations laws applicable to the dispute.



Our Experience

ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION

- **Construction Arbitration for Beverage Company:** Representing a manufacturer of beer, spirits, and non-alcoholic beverages in a USD 24.4 million construction arbitration claim by a construction firm. The claim involves non-certified variations to the Joint Building Council Contract (“JBC Contract”), including executed but uncertified amounts, omitted works, and idle plant and machinery. The matter is valued at USD 24.4 million.
- **Enforcement of International Arbitral Award:** Advising and representing an international civil engineering company to enforce a USD 13 million ICC arbitral award in Kenya, with the arbitration seated in London.
- **Domestic Arbitration for South Sudanese Construction Company:** Acting for a privately owned limited liability company operating in South Sudan, Kenya, and Ethiopia. The case involves a domestic arbitration claim by a contractor against an employer for payment of development costs for a university campus complex, amounting to hundreds of millions of shillings.
- **Defense in Construction Dispute:** Representing a leading international construction company in an arbitration where the contractor is sued for approximately USD 4.75 million for alleged breach of a construction agreement, including claims of negligent construction and poor workmanship. Additionally, representing a leading local building contractor in a USD 6.4 million arbitration claim for breach of building contracts under the East African Institute of Architects.

SHAREHOLDER DISPUTES

- **Advisory for an American Private Equity Fund:** Advised the equity fund on legal options and remedies against former directors and shareholders of a leading East African civil engineering and construction company to recover an arbitral award of USD 23.2 million from the LCIA.
- **Advisory for US-based Law Firm:** Currently advising a US-based law firm in a post-acquisition dispute involving former shareholders of a Kenyan security company. The matter is before a tribunal appointed by the LCIA.



Our Experience

INSURANCE CLAIM

- **Copyright Infringement Claim:** Acting for Jubilee Insurance in a copyright infringement claim filed by J. W. Seagon & Co. Insurance Brokers (Kenya) Ltd against Liaison Group (I.B) Limited, Satib Insurance Brokers (Pty) Limited, and Jubilee Insurance. The claim seeks general damages and the destruction of infringing insurance policies.
- **Arbitration Win for Jubilee Insurance:** Successfully represented Jubilee Insurance Company of Kenya Limited in an arbitration against the Kenyan Judiciary over a contractual dispute involving a group medical insurance policy. The arbitral award of USD 1.2 million in favour of Jubilee Insurance is significant as it involves the Judiciary, represented by the Attorney General, recognising and enforcing an arbitral award against itself.
- **Representation of Kenindia Assurance Company:** Representing Kenindia Assurance Company Limited in a claim by Jack & Jill Supermarket Limited, seeking KES 152,610,565 for damages to business premises covered under Fire & Perils, Fire & Consequential Loss, and Cash in Transit Insurance policies.
- **Insurance Claim for Impaired Assets:** Acting for an insurance company in a potential claim of approximately USD 12 million against three insolvent companies, involving investments in notes and commercial paper.

PROPERTY DISPUTES

- **Property Transfer Dispute:** Representing a company before an arbitral tribunal in a USD 1.2 million claim, where our client challenges the transfer of property due to lack of spousal consent. Our client has appealed the award to the High Court under Section 35 of the Arbitration Act.

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