

Ms. Yaye DIABATE
French Qualified Lawyer

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WORK EXPERIENCE

2018 Associate (Avocate à la Cour) – Shearman & Sterling, International Arbitration, Abu Dhabi, UAE – January 2018 to present

Work includes the representation of:

- Two international contractors as Respondents in an ICC arbitration in London initiated by a Middle Eastern state-owned company. The dispute concerns the development of a world-class medical facility in the Middle East. The law of the Claimant’s state applies. Over \$3.7 billion is at stake.
- An international contractor consortium in an ICC arbitration against a Middle Eastern State. The dispute arose from a contract for the construction of a major infrastructure project in the Middle East. The law of the Respondent’s State applies. Close to \$1 billion is at stake.
- An international joint venture as Claimant in an ICC arbitration against a Middle Eastern State-owned company. The dispute arises from a contract for the design & build of a major infrastructure project in the Middle East. Approximately \$600 million is at stake. The law of the Respondent’s State applies.

2017 Trainee Lawyer – Shearman & Sterling, International Arbitration, Abu Dhabi, UAE – January 2017 to December 2017

- Drafted pleadings on variations claims,
- Drafted internal memoranda (topics included variations claims, claims for extension of time and additional costs, global delay claim, lawfulness of termination, omission of works),
- Drafted letters to the arbitral tribunal,
- Attended meetings with clients, witnesses and experts,
- Prepared and attended hearings,
- Prepared witness statements,
- Document review,
- Legal research on civil law and common law.

2016 Trainee Lawyer – K&L Gates, Litigation and Arbitration, Paris, FRANCE – July to December 2016

- Worked on an ICC arbitration seated in Paris, arising out of the operation of an oil refinery in North Africa:
 - Drafted memoranda on French law on international arbitration for a Dubai law firm (topics included the group of companies doctrine, standard of proof for corruption allegations, documents protected by lawyer-client privilege and adverse inference),
 - Translated legal documents (French/English).
- Worked on commercial and labour litigations:
 - Drafted submissions,
 - Correspondence with clients.

- Worked on disputes between lawyers:
 - Drafted emergency proceedings submissions in a multi-millions dispute between lawyers,
 - Drafted internal memoranda on two disputes submitted to the Paris bar association arbitration.

2015 Contract Employee at the Court – Tribunal de Grande Instance de Bobigny, FRANCE – October to December 2015

Processed criminal files closed without further action.

2014 Legal Intern – BMH Avocats, Paris, FRANCE – June to August 2014

- Worked on an ICC arbitration seated in Paris, arising out of a FIDIC contract for the construction of a resort in East Africa:
 - Drafted pleadings and internal memoranda,
 - Correspondence with clients,
 - Legal research.
- Worked on legal issues arising out of wind turbine generator plants:
 - Legal research,
 - Translations of legal documents (French/English).
- Drafted an article for the Journal of International Arbitration (<https://www.kluwerlawonline.com/abstract.php?area=Journals&id=JOIA2014038>).

2013 Legal Intern – Deloitte, Tax and Legal Department, Dakar, SENEGAL – July 2013

Legal research relating to legal and tax implications of investments made in the mining and oil sector in Senegal and Mauritania, drafted tax returns, assisted in the liquidation of a mining company, drafted employment contracts for expats, translated legal documents (French/English).

2012 Legal Intern – UNESCO Headquarters, Permanent Delegation of Senegal to UNESCO, Paris, FRANCE – July 2012

Drafted diplomatic notes, managed Minister-Counsellor’s mail and schedule, attended conferences and wrote minutes, translated legal documents (English/French), organised an event in the honour of the Minister-Counsellor.

EDUCATION

Nov. 2017	<u>Paris Bar Qualification</u>
Dec. 2015	Paris Bar Exam¹
2014/2015	LL.M. Comparative and International Dispute Resolution with Merit, Queen

¹ In France, after passing the Bar Exam, law students enter Bar School, where they are trained for 18 months (6 months of classes, followed by two 6-month internships in two different firms).

Mary University, UK (Directors: Loukas MISTELIS and Stavros BREKOULAKIS)

→ Modules: International Construction Contracts and Arbitration, Energy Contracts and Arbitration, International Trade and Investment Dispute Settlement, Islamic Law and Finance, participation to the Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot (Vienna).

2013/2014 Master 2² Arbitration and International Business Law, University of Versailles, FRANCE (Directors: Thomas CLAY and Sandrine CLAVEL)

→ Modules: Arbitration Law, International Business Law, International Investment Law, International Company Law, Mediation, participation to the Willem C. Vis East International Commercial Arbitration Moot (Hong Kong) and to the International Commercial Arbitration French Moot (Montpellier).

2012/2013 Master 1 International Law, University of Paris 1 – Panthéon-Sorbonne, FRANCE (Director: Hervé ASCENSIO)
First semester in Laval University (QC, CANADA)

→ Modules: Introduction to Arbitration, International Investment Law, International Private Law, WTO Law, Securities Law, International Criminal Law.

2009/2012 LL.B. International Law, University Paris 1 – Panthéon-Sorbonne, FRANCE

→ Modules: International Public Law, International Trade Law, European Law, International Relations, Corporate Law, Tax Law, Contract Law, International Employment Law.

LANGUAGES

French: Mother tongue

English: Fluent

German: Intermediate Level

MEMBERSHIPS

- Member of the association “Africa Arbitration”
- Member of the non-profit organization “Africa International Legal Awareness” (AILA)
- Former member of the association “OSER l’Afrique”

² In France, the equivalent of the English LL.M. is the combination of two individual years: the Master 1 and Master 2. French students who wish to study an LL.M. abroad usually do so after completing a Master 2.