

Supporting your strategy.

Linklaters

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Our global Islamic finance capabilities



An award-winning practice.

Linklaters is a leading global law firm with a strong Islamic finance practice. We offer innovative, market-leading advice to corporates, financial institutions, export credit agencies, investment banks and governments on Shari'a-compliant banking facilities, sukuk, derivatives, structured products and project financing. A key strength of our practice is the ability to offer teams which combine technical expertise in conventional finance transactions and a keen understanding of Islamic finance. Our award-winning practice is headed by Neil D. Miller, a leading Islamic finance practitioner based in the UAE.

“Top-notch Islamic finance lawyer Neil Miller is praised for his solution-oriented approach and high degree of involvement in transactions. He advises on some of the market’s biggest Shari’a-compliant deals, including sukuk issuances, asset finance and investment funds.”

Chambers Global 2015, Banking and Finance: UAE

“They gave us really good advice – it’s good to work with someone who really understands Islamic banking.”

Chambers Global 2015, Islamic Finance: Middle East



Tier 1: Islamic Finance – UAE

Legal 500 2015

Winner of 13 awards, including Deal of the Year

Islamic Finance News 2014

Excelling at challenging and significant transactions.

First-of-a-kind transactions

We work on the cutting-edge of the Islamic finance field and have advised on some of the most significant and innovative transactions, of which many have been first of its kind. These have included advising on the first ever:

Sukuk issued by the UK Government

International Shari’a-compliant Tier 1 perpetual sukuk and Basel III in the Middle East

Pari passu ranked secured sukuk and bank facility

Renminbi-denominated sukuk

Greenfield ‘project’ sukuk

Restructuring/liability management of sukuk

High yield sukuk

Lower tier two sukuk

Sukuk under DIFC law

Mandatory convertible sukuk

Exchangeable sukuk in Asia

The capabilities and presence to support your needs.

Market leading presence

Our global network of Islamic finance specialists work seamlessly to offer clients an integrated service on a global scale. We also maintain close relationships with local law firms and with Islamic financial institutions around the world, which ensures that we are best placed to meet the varied needs of our clients for Islamic finance work.

Americas



New York, São Paulo, Washington, D.C.

Europe and CIS



Amsterdam, Antwerp, Berlin, Brussels, Düsseldorf, Frankfurt, Lisbon, London, Luxembourg, Madrid, Milan, Moscow, Munich, Paris, Rome, Stockholm, Warsaw

Middle East and Africa



Abu Dhabi, Cape Town^{***}, Dubai, Johannesburg^{***}

Asia-Pacific



Bangkok, Beijing, Brisbane*, Delhi^Δ, Hanoi*, Ho Chi Minh City*, Hong Kong, Jakarta**, Melbourne*, Mumbai^Δ, Perth*, Port Moresby*, Seoul, Shanghai, Singapore, Sydney*, Tokyo, Ulaanbaatar*

* Office of integrated alliance partner Allens

** Widyawan & Partners has an association with Linklaters LLP and Allens

*** Office of collaborative alliance partner Webber Wentzel

^Δ Office of best friend firm TT&A

Preeminent experience

Linklaters is recognised as a leader in Shari'a-compliant financing transactions. Issuers and arrangers alike call on the expertise and experience of our team. The team adds value to transactions with our ability to combine an in-depth understanding of Shari'a-compliant financing with our expertise in conventional financing. We help clients measure the risks associated with Islamic finance structures. We focus on developing coherent Shari'a-compliant solutions on the most complex and important transactions. Over the course of acting on previous and current transactions, we have developed close relationships with the Shari'a scholars most commonly advising on Islamic finance transactions.

Highlights of our team's experience include advising:

UK Government sukuk

Her Majesty's Treasury of the United Kingdom Government on the first sovereign sukuk issued by a non-Muslim world government, subsequently becoming the first ever European sovereign sukuk

US\$10bn Dubai Group restructuring

Emirates NBD Bank PJSC, Al Hilal Bank PJSC, Commercial Bank of Qatar QSC, Union National Bank PJSC and Noor Islamic Bank PJSC on the US\$10bn restructuring of the Dubai Group

US\$70m Islamic ijara lease facility by Bahrain Islamic Bank

Bahrain Mumtalakat Holding Company and Gulf Air Company G.S.C. on a US\$70m ijara lease facility arranged by Bahrain Islamic Bank

Islamic Development Bank Middle East PPP

The Islamic Development Bank on the first Middle East PPP transaction involving the extension, renovation and operation of Queen Alia International Airport

US\$14bn multi-sourced Jubail Refinery financing

The finance parties on the multi-sourced financing (sukuk, ECA, commercial, SIDF and PIF) for the Jubail Refinery and Petrochemical Project in Saudi Arabia and the joint lead managers and joint bookrunners on the first greenfield project bond sukuk issuance (total estimated project costs over US\$14bn)

US\$200m GEMS MEA sukuk

Abu Dhabi Islamic Bank PJSC, Credit Suisse Securities (Europe) Limited, Morgan Stanley & Co. International plc and Mashreqbank PSC on the US\$200m Subordinated Perpetual Certificates issued by GEMS MEA sukuk Limited

US\$1bn ADIB Tier 1 Capital Certificates

The co-lead managers on the issue of US\$1bn Additional Tier 1 Capital Certificates by ADIB Capital Invest 1 Ltd. The issuance was the first international Shari'a-compliant Tier 1 perpetual sukuk transaction and Basel III deal in the Middle East

US\$357m Exchangeable Trust Certificates

The joint lead managers and trustee on the US\$357.8m Exchangeable Trust Certificates due 2013 issued by Pulai Capital Limited exchangeable into ordinary shares of Parkson Retail Group Limited with recourse to Khazanah Nasional Berhad

Barclays Bank retail portfolio sale

Barclays Bank on the sale of its UAE retail portfolio to Abu Dhabi Islamic Bank

Double Wa'ad structure swaps

An international bank operating out of the UAE on profit rate swaps and commodity swaps based on the double Wa'ad structure

Emirates Islamic Airbus lease financings

Emirates on the Islamic lease financings of six Airbus A330-200 and A340-500 aircraft; one of which successfully combined Islamic financing with export credit support

Key contacts.

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