

JASON HAREL

PROFILE



BLC ROBERT

ALN



2nd Floor, The AXIS, 26 Cybercity
Ebene 72201, Mauritius
T (+230) 403 2400, F (+230) 403 2401
E chambers@blc.mu, W www.blc.mu



JASON HAREL

CO-FOUNDING PARTNER | CHAIRMAN

A: 2nd Floor, The AXIS, 26 Cybercity, Ebene, Mauritius

T : (+230) 403 2400 F : (+230) 403 2401

E: jason.harel@blc.mu

BACKGROUND

Jason Harel is the Chairman and Co-Founding Partner of BLC Robert & Associates, a premier independent business law firm in Mauritius. The firm is consistently ranked as a Tier One entity by prominent legal directories such as *Legal500*, *Chambers and Partners*, and *IFLR1000*. BLC Robert & Associates is also a member of ALN, a leading network of corporate law firms across fifteen key African jurisdictions, including the continent's gateway economies.

Jason leads the Corporate and Commercial Department at BLC Robert & Associates and is widely recognized as a leading practitioner in his field. His extensive expertise spans a broad range of corporate advisory and transactional matters, including taxation, mergers and acquisitions, projects, real estate (with a focus on hospitality), non-contentious insolvency, and corporate restructuring. Additionally, he frequently advises clients on strategic investments in Africa.

Beyond his work at the firm, Jason serves as the non-executive chairman of Paradise Cove Boutique Hotel and Zilwa Resort Ltd, as well as a founding partner and non-executive director of Axis Holdings Ltd, a leading management company in Mauritius and Seychelles.

Jason is a qualified Chartered Accountant and Barrister at Law.

CLIENT'S FEEDBACK

- *"A lateral thinker – innovative."* – *IFLR1000*
- *"He shows leadership, and clear and innovative thinking. Will go the extra mile."* – *IFLR1000*
- *"Jason is outstanding in corporate law including acquisitions, sale of shares and investments"*- *Legal 500*
- *"Jason Harel is a brilliant business minded lawyer that is well connected and a team player"*- *Legal 500*.
- *"Jason is always clear in his advice, very responsive and understands what the client needs and what is required to deliver"*-*Global Chambers*.

ACCOLADES

- Ranked as a **'leading lawyer'** by Chambers Global & IFLR 1000 since 2011.
- Included in Legal 500, M&A Powerlist Africa

MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

- Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales
- Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn
- Mauritius Bar Association

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

1998 – 1999	Inns of Court School of Law
1998	Qualified as Chartered Accountant
1991 – 1994	University of Wales, Aberystwyth – LL.B Hons.

CAREER SUMMARY

2005 - Date	Partner – BLC Robert & Associates
2000 - 2005	Denton Wilde Sapte LLP
1999 - 2000	Pupil to Philip Baker QC, Gray's Inn Tax Chambers
1994 - 1998	Kingston Smith, Chartered Accountants (Corporate recovery and forensic accounting)

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Corporate & Commercial
- Mergers & Acquisitions
- General Banking and Project Finance
- Taxation
- Trade Finance
- Insolvency
- Arbitration

RECENT MATTERS

- Advising on a joint venture between a leading South African company specialising in laboratory and clinical trials and a Mauritian company specializing in the breeding and export of non-human primates adapted for pharmacology and toxicology research.
- Advising Vivo Energy plc in respect of its acquisition of Engen International Holdings (Mauritius) Limited by Vivo Energy's subsidiary, Vivo Energy Investments B.V.

- Advising on the sale of a leading integrated gas company in Nigeria.
- Advised Dentressangle Initiatives on the acquisition of shares in Sun Resorts Limited, a chain of hotels in Mauritius and listed on the Stock Exchange of Mauritius.
- Advised a wholly-owned subsidiary of MCB Group Limited (who owns the biggest bank in Mauritius) on the acquisition of the entire shareholding of Club Med S.A.S, representing 84.43% of the shares in COVIFRA, a company listed on the Stock Exchange of Mauritius.
- Advisor to One&Only Le Saint Geran on rental pool agreements following the construction of private residences for guests.
- He recently successfully appeared before the Privy Council for Shoprite in respect of an appeal against a VAT assessment on management fees not invoiced nor paid.
- Acting for the main contractor of a MUR 1.8 billion residential project on the proposed takeover of that project out of its liquidation.
- Advising Apavou Hotels in connection with a share purchase and subscription agreement and a joint venture agreement between Apavou Hotels and Sun Resorts Limited.
- Acting for an international financial institution in respect of its activities in Mauritius by way of auction bids.
- Acted as legal advisor to AEGIDE DOMITYS and 2Futures on the EUR 58.5 million structuring and capital raise for the construction of 155 services senior apartments in Mauritius.

OTHER ASSIGNMENTS

- Advised Deutsche Bank (Global Transaction Banking division) in respect of the sale of its Corporate Services business to Vistra Group.
- Advised and acted for one of the largest corporations in Japan in relation to a MUR 25 Million dispute with the special administrator of Iframac.
- Advised a number of fund managers and promoters in respect of setting up collective investment schemes in Mauritius.
- Advised the successful bidder in relation to privatisation of a sugar estate in Uganda;
- Advised a project company in relation to a single point mooring/pipeline project in Ghana.
- Advised an international corporation in relation to the purchase of a Mauritian company which owned breweries in India.
- Advised a Mauritian corporation in relation to its bid for a Mauritius listed company;
- Advised a Mauritian corporation in relation to the disposal of its subsidiary in Malawi and acquisition of a minority stake in a Seychelles corporation by way of a share exchange agreement.

- Advised an English corporation in relation to its joint venture with a Mauritius corporation to develop an integrated resort scheme.
- Advised an aircraft manufacturer in relation to its offset agreement with the Government of Mauritius and the setting up of the offset fund.
- Advised a Mauritius listed corporation on the implementation of the code of corporate governance of Mauritius.
- Advised an international bank in relation to the setting up of a real estate fund in Mauritius for investments in India.
- Advised New Cingular Inc. in relation to the sale of its holding in Idea telecom in India.
- Advised the sponsor of an integrated resort in Botswana in relation to the appointment of a hotel operator which included the review and negotiation of the terms of the hotel management agreement and technical services agreement.
- Advised an international bank in relation to the project financing of a hotel project in Seychelles.
- Advised the sponsor of hotel project in Nigeria in relation to the negotiation of the management agreement, shareholders agreement and lending documents.
- Advised the administrator of a British company on the sale of its subsidiary which owned a mine in Zimbabwe.
- Advised an international bank on the work-out of an East African (including Mauritius) oil company.
- Advised an international bank on the sale of its Nigerian subsidiary to the minority shareholders.
- Advised a major oil company in relation to the receivership and subsequently the liquidation of the Zambian National Oil Company.
- Advised an international oil company in relation to the work-out of its secured debtor in Nigeria.
- Advised a Kenyan company in relation to a restructuring/workout of its existing debt by way of a property receivables backed project financing.
- Advised an English company and a Mauritian entity in relation to their establishment, certain related debt and equity investment arrangements and their finance businesses.