

Lesley Morphet

Partner

Johannesburg

Biography

Lesley Morphet heads the Johannesburg antitrust and competition practice. As a leading competition lawyer in South Africa, she advises on all aspects of competition law, including merger notifications, leniency applications, exemption applications, managing dawn raids and compliance. Drawing on her extensive experience in this field, clients can rest assured they are in capable hands when it comes to cartel and other prohibited practice investigations.

Having been involved in many multi-jurisdictional mergers in Africa, she has considerable knowledge of the competition laws of many African countries.

Her extensive experience spans across a range of sectors, including mining, forestry, manufacturing, power and electricity, media, liquid fuels, aviation, banking, and information technology.

Lesley has been recommended in *Chambers Global*, *IFLR1000*, *Legal 500*, and *The International Who's Who* for competition law and antitrust.

She has been the South African contributing editor to the *Australian Journal of Competition and Consumer Law (AJCCL)* since 2013.

Representative experience



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Languages

English

Practices

Antitrust and Competition

Industries

Aerospace, Defense, and
Government Services

Automotive and Mobility

Consumer

Financial Institutions

Energy and Natural Resources

TMT

Acting for Italtile in its acquisition of control of Ceramic Industries; obtaining Competition Tribunal clearance pursuant to prohibition by the Competition Commission.

Advising Bayer AG on its acquisition of Monsanto Company, a complex cross-border transaction and attending to merger notifications in several African jurisdictions.

Attended to the South African intermediate merger notification relating to the global acquisition by FIH Mobile Limited of the feature phone business of Microsoft.

Attended to competition issues, including merger filings, for LeapFrog Investment's acquisition of a majority interest in Kenya-based Africa Chemist and Beauty Care Inc.

Attended to the merger notification of Acino International AG's acquisition of the entire issued share capital of Litha Healthcare Group Pty Limited.

Obtained merger clearance for the South African leg of a global transaction in terms of which Accor acquired control over FRHI Holdings Limited.

Attended to the merger notification of Assa Abloy's acquisition of Inhep Digital Security through the acquisition of EGH Elementum (Pty) Ltd.

Assisted JCDcaux in obtaining merger clearance in a number of African jurisdictions in relation to its acquisition of Continental Outdoor Media.

Awards and rankings

- Competition/Anti-trust (South Africa), *Chambers Global*, 2010-2019
- Recognised, *The Best Lawyers of South Africa for Competition/Anti-trust*, 2008-2019
- Women in Antitrust, *Global Competition Review*,

Life Sciences and Health Care
Insurance

Areas of focus

Abuse of Dominance and Restrictive Practices
Agency Investigations
Antitrust and Competition Litigation
Cartel Investigations
Competition Compliance
Dawn Raids
Merger Control
Leniency Applications

Education and admissions

Education

BA LLB, University of Cape Town

Memberships

American Bar Association (ABA)
Executive Committee Member of the Law Society of the Northern Provinces Competition Law Sub-Committee
Provinces Competition Law Sub-Committee

2016

- "Highly regarded", *IFLR1000: Competition*, 2010-2019
- Competition, *Legal 500*, 2013-2019
- *Who's Who Legal: Competition*, 2013-2018

Latest thinking and events

- Press Releases
 - Hogan Lovells relaunches in Johannesburg, South Africa
- Hogan Lovells Publications
 - A Turning Point for Tech – Global survey on digital regulation
- Hogan Lovells Publications
 - Antitrust, Competition, and Economic Regulation Quarterly Newsletter - Spring 2019
- Hogan Lovells Publications
 - Antitrust, competition, and economic regulation quarterly newsletter - Winter 2019
- Hogan Lovells Publications
 - Competition Amendment Act
- Hogan Lovells Publications
 - Antitrust, Competition, and Economic Regulation Quarterly Newsletter - Summer 2018

Bar admissions and qualifications

Attorney

Court admissions

South Africa

Accolades

Lesley Morphet is an experienced competition practitioner with a long-standing reputation. She has experience representing major domestic and international clients on merger control in sectors including manufacturing and pharmaceuticals.

Chambers Global

Sources describe competition department head Lesley Morphet as 'dedicated and accessible' as well as 'eager to assist and knowledgeable'. She offers ample experience handling high-value, cross-border M&A filings.

Chambers Global

Lesley Morphet continues to draw high client praise. One source says: 'Her advice is always sound. She has a good working knowledge of our company and we've always found her very reliable, both in terms of the advice she gives, and also in her

ability to turn things around quickly
and be available when needed.'

Chambers Global
