



Ziningi Hlophe
Corporate, Commercial and M&A

WEBBER WENTZEL

in alliance with > **Linklaters**

What is your expertise/specialist knowledge?

I specialise in corporate and commercial law reorganisations and cross-border transactions across Sub-Saharan Africa, with a specific focus on M&A, in country and cross-border private equity transactions and providing corporate law and corporate governance advice.

Some of my recent deals include advising:

- > *CDC Group Plc on their investment in Divercity Urban Property Fund (Pty) Ltd valued at USD 36 million; and*
- > *Echotel (Pty) Ltd, a portfolio company of Ethos Mid-Market Fund, of certain subsidiaries of Gondwana International Networks Proprietary Limited in Kenya, Ghana, Mauritius, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia.*

A brief example of a deal you worked on that stands out for you:

I know its cliché to say this but almost all the deals I have worked on have stood out for me in some shape or form. However, if I had to mention two recent transactions, I would say Echotel's acquisition of Gondwana International Networks stands out

as it allowed me to collaborate with various professionals and stakeholders across the continent and work on a truly pan-African transaction. In addition, I am proud to have advised Anglo American plc on its recent demerger of Anglo's South African thermal coal assets and listing of Thungela Resources Limited on the JSE.

AN INTERESTING PERSONAL FACT ABOUT YOU:

I dream of taking a year off and glamping throughout our continent. When I am not working, you can find me spending time with those I love most, jogging or watching a documentary on world history.

Your advice to women in the corporate world

Find your voice and use it wisely. When I entered the corporate world, the whole experience was overwhelming and scary. In my fear, I accepted a lot of things that I should have stood up for and lost my voice. However, once I found my voice again and learnt to speak up and the wisdom of when to do so, I began to enjoy my legal career a lot more. And who knows, you may find that your unique voice is just what your organisation needs to make it better.