

WELLINGTON MAGAYA

LLB (Hons) | MBA | LLM (Construction Law & Arbitration) | MCI Arb
Partner, Coghlan Welsh & Guest | Past-President, Law Society of Zimbabwe

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1139 Bannockburn Ave, Mt. Pleasant Heights, Harare, Zimbabwe

STATEMENT OF CANDIDACY — COURT OF ARBITRATION FOR SPORT

I respectfully submit my candidacy for renewal of appointment to the Court of Arbitration for Sport. My engagement with sport dispute resolution, combined with 17+ years of specialist commercial, employment and construction law practice, positions me to continue contributing effectively to CAS proceedings. As an MCI Arb-qualified arbitrator and active member of the Zimbabwean and Southern African legal community, I bring regional expertise and a demonstrated commitment to the integrity of sport.

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Senior commercial lawyer and arbitrator with 17 years of post-qualification experience spanning dispute resolution, employment law, commercial contracts, construction and infrastructure finance. Currently serving as President of the Law Society of Zimbabwe and Partner at one of the country's leading full-service commercial firms. Specialist postgraduate training in construction law and arbitration (LLM, Robert Gordon University) and business management (MBA, University of Zimbabwe). Experienced in domestic arbitration, international arbitral proceedings, and sport-specific disputes including CAS-registered matters.

SPORT DISPUTE RESOLUTION EXPERIENCE

- Served on the Disciplinary Panel of the Zimbabwe Premier Soccer League, adjudicating disciplinary and regulatory matters at the highest level of domestic football.
- Represented the Premier Soccer League in a dispute filed at CAS against the Zimbabwe Football Association; matter resolved by settlement, demonstrating capacity to manage international sport arbitration proceedings.
- Successfully mediated a complex shareholder dispute involving a major Zimbabwe football club, achieving durable resolution for competing ownership interests.
- Advised and resolved a contractual dispute between the Zimbabwe Football Association and the Head Coach of the Zimbabwe Senior National Soccer Team, navigating the intersection of employment law and sport governance.
- Resolved contractual and employment disputes for the entire coaching staff of Zimbabwe's leading club, addressing terms of reference, remuneration structures and shareholder involvement in club management.

DISPUTE RESOLUTION & ARBITRATION EXPERIENCE

- Chair, Discipline and Ethics Committee, Law Society of Zimbabwe — presided over all disciplinary and professional conduct proceedings against legal practitioners.
- Responsible for nominating panellists to the Judicial Service Commission's tribunal for disciplinary matters involving members of the judiciary and Constitutional Commissions.
- Appointed sole arbitrator under the auspices of the Commercial Arbitration Centre (CAC), Zimbabwe.
- Appeared as sole counsel before domestic arbitral tribunals in Zimbabwe across multiple substantive matters.
- Assisted a client in LCIA-administered proceedings in London, working alongside UK colleagues in an international contractual dispute.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

President | Law Society of Zimbabwe

February 2021 – 2023

National bar association and statutory regulator of the legal profession in Zimbabwe.

- Led the Council of the Law Society, the governing body of the legal profession.
- Chaired the Discipline and Ethics Committee, overseeing all professional conduct proceedings.

- Responsible for the financial governance and strategic direction of the Law Society.
- Supervised the executive management team and external stakeholder relationships.

Partner | Coghlan, Welsh & Guest

July 2015 – Present

Zimbabwe's premier full-service commercial law firm.

- Leads the firm's dispute resolution, employment, construction and infrastructure finance practice areas.
- Advises domestic and regional clients on high-value commercial contracts, regulatory matters and dispute strategy.
- Represents clients before the High Court, labour tribunals, domestic arbitral forums and international arbitral institutions.

Associate | Coghlan, Welsh & Guest

November 2008 – June 2015

Zimbabwe's premier full-service commercial law firm.

- Built core expertise in commercial litigation, employment law, legal drafting and dispute resolution.
- Managed a broad portfolio of contentious and non-contentious matters under senior partner supervision.

EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

LLM, Construction Law and Arbitration

2022

Specialist graduate study in contentious and non-contentious construction law, dispute resolution and arbitration practice. Dissertation focused on infrastructure finance and development.

Master of Business Administration (MBA)

2015

Advanced study in business management, commercial strategy and financial management.

Bachelor of Laws with Honours (LLB Hons)

2008

Foundational legal training in commercial law, procedure, legal analysis and advocacy.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS

- Member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (MCIArb), United Kingdom
- Panellist, Commercial Arbitration Centre (CAC), Zimbabwe
- President, Law Society of Zimbabwe
- Member, International Bar Association
- Member, SADC Lawyers Association

AREAS OF LEGAL EXPERTISE

- International and domestic arbitration
- Sport law and sport governance
- Commercial law and contracts
- Employment and labour law
- Construction and infrastructure law
- Finance and corporate advisory

LANGUAGES

English (professional proficiency) | Shona (native proficiency)

REFERENCES

Fraser Edkins | Senior Partner, Coghlan, Welsh & Guest | fae@cwg.co.zw

Edward Mapara | Secretary, Law Society of Zimbabwe | secretary@lsz.co.zw