

## Ucheora Onwuamaegbu, LLB, BL

u.onwuamaegbu@arentfox.com / ucheora1@gmail.com

+1 202 2885247

Nationalities: Nigeria / UK

### Biography

**Ucheora Onwuamaegbu** is an International Attorney with Arent Fox LLP, Washington, D.C. For about ten years, he was Senior Counsel at the World Bank's International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes, (ICSID) and, prior to ICSID, was a lawyer with the United Nations Compensation Commission in Geneva, Switzerland, having previously been in private law practice in London and in Nigeria. A Barrister and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Nigeria and a Solicitor of the Supreme Court of England and Wales, Mr. Onwuamaegbu is licensed as Special Legal Consultant in the US District of Columbia and is a Senior Fellow at the Centre for International Governance Innovation, Canada, with a focus on ISDR policies of African Governments in International Investment Agreements. He sits as arbitrator in international disputes.

### Education/Qualifications

<i>University of Nigeria,</i>	Bachelor of Laws, (LL.B. Hons.), 1986
<i>Nigeria Law School</i>	Bar Finals, (BL Hons.) 1986-1987
<i>Council of Legal Education</i>	Barrister and Solicitor, Supreme Court of Nigeria, 1987
<i>College of Law, London</i>	Law Society Finals, 1993-1994
<i>Law Society of England and Wales</i>	Solicitor, Supreme Court of England and Wales, 1994
<i>District of Columbia Bar</i>	Licensed to practice as a Special Legal Consultant, 2015
<i>Kings College London</i>	PhD candidate (international investment law), from 2015

### Work History

Present	- International Attorney, Arent Fox LLP, Washington, D.C. - Adviser on post-Gulf war compensation environmental remediation, Kuwait - Adviser on oil production-related pollution compensation remediation; and on sovereign green bond, Nigeria - Senior Fellow, Centre for International Governance Innovation, Canada
2001-2010	The World Bank, International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID), Washington, D.C., USA
1994-2001	United Nations Compensation Commission, Geneva, Switzerland
1993-1994	Andrews Solicitors, London, England
1988-1993	T. Cryan & Co. Solicitors, London, England
1987-1988	Nigerian Telecommunications Company / A. Orakwusi & Co. (NYSC)

### Main Arbitration-Related Experience

- Co-arbitrator in dispute between an African state entity and an Asian state owned investor (ICC)
- Co-arbitrator in dispute between an African state entity and European investor (PCA)
- Sole arbitrator, commercial real estate dispute (DIAC)
- Arbitrator in contract dispute involving a national football federation (CAS)
- Discovery Master in investment arbitration involving a European State and a US corporation (ICSID)
- Arbitrator appointments in settled matters (ICC international telecoms contract dispute; CAS sports management contract dispute)
- Tribunal Secretary in numerous ICSID cases under treaties, laws and contracts
- Involved in the selection, and appointment, of arbitrators in numerous international disputes and in the determination of challenges to arbitrators (ICSID)

## Other Activities

- Member, Panel of Arbitrators of ICSID, CAS and various arbitration institutions around the world (including Iran, Nigeria, South Africa, UAE)
- Board Member, Lagos Court of Arbitration
- Member, Users' Council, Singapore International Arbitration Centre
- Editorial Board Member, Vale Columbia Centre Yearbook on International Investment Law and Policy
- Member, Peer Review Board, ICSID Review: Foreign Investment Law Journal
- Member, International Law Association, Committee on International Commercial Arbitration
- Member, Editorial Board, ICC Dispute Resolution Bulletin; Member, ICC Commission on Arbitration and ADR
- Coordinated the 2006 ICSID Rules Amendment Process
- Member, International Bar Association (IBA) Investment Treaty sub Committee, 2007–2010
- Co-Chair, American Bar Association (ABA) International Courts Committee, 2006 – 2008; Co-Vice Chair, 2004-2006

## Select Publications

### Book Chapters

- *Africa and the Changing Landscape of Investor State Arbitration*, ICCA Congress Series No. 19, Wolters Kluwer, 2017
- *Limiting the Participation of Developed States: Impacts on Investor State Arbitration*, Second Thoughts: Investor-State Arbitration between Developed Democracies, CIGI 2016
- *Directness of Claims by Foreign Companies in Remote Locations*, War Reparations and the UN Compensation Commission, Oxford University Press, 2014
- *FDI, the Global Crisis and Sustainable Recovery*, Transnational Corporations, vol.20, UNCTAD, April 2011
- *International Dispute Settlement Mechanisms*, Arbitration under International Investment Agreements: A guide to key issues, Oxford University Press, 2010
- *Using Treaties to Determine Rules of Procedure in Investor-State Arbitration*, The future of investment arbitration, Oxford University Press, 2009, also published in ICSID Review – Foreign Investment law Journal, 2008

### Articles

- *Resolution of Oil and Gas Disputes at ICSID*, International Oil and Gas Conference, London, 2004, [http://www.worldbank.org/icsid/news/news\\_21-1.pdf](http://www.worldbank.org/icsid/news/news_21-1.pdf)
- *The Role of ADR in Investor State Dispute Settlement: the ICSID Experience*, AAA/ICC/ICSID Joint colloquium, New York, November 2005, [http://www.worldbank.org/icsid/news/news\\_22-2.pdf](http://www.worldbank.org/icsid/news/news_22-2.pdf)
- *Why Investment Disputes are on the Rise*, This Day, January 18, 2007
- *Limiting the Participation of Developed States: Impacts on Investor State Arbitration*, CIGI Investor State Arbitration Series, Paper No. 12, August 2016
- *The dispute resolution trends in treaties affecting African/Asian investors and African/Asian States*, TDM Special edition on Africa (TDM 4, 2016)
- *Arbitration/Fora/Ad hoc*, *Encyclopedia of International Economic Law* in Thomas Cottier and Krista Nadakavukaren Schefer (eds), Elgar Encyclopedia of International Economic Law (Edward Elgar Publishing 2017)

## Select Conference Papers and Presentations

- *ICSID Arbitration and African States*, All Africa Conference on Law, Justice and Development, Abuja, Nigeria, February 5, 2003
- *Evolution of ICSID Case law*, University Institute of European Studies, (International Trade Law Course), Turin, Italy, April 28, 2003
- *ICSID Arbitration and Middle East and North African States*, Workshop on Public International Law and Investment Protection Arbitration, Doha, Qatar, October 2003
- *UNCTAD (9 module) Course on (ICSID) Dispute Settlement*, Bangkok, Thailand, July 18-21, 2005; Jakarta, Indonesia, May 29-31, 2006; East Kalimantan, Indonesia, April 23 - 25, 2007 (for ASEAN representatives); Jakarta, Indonesia, April 27 - 30, 2007 (for D8 country representatives)
- *Interpretation of treaties under the Vienna Convention: Institutional Perspective*, First Annual Conference on the Interpretation of Treaties under the Vienna Convention, Lincoln's Inn, London, January 2006
- *The Role of ICSID in Investment Arbitration: Current Challenges*, University of Pennsylvania Law School - International Arbitration Conference, April 2006
- Faculty Member and Moderator, *Institute of Transnational Arbitration Workshop on International Arbitration*, Dallas, June 15-16, 2006
- *Legal Protection of Foreign Investors in the Nigerian Mining Sector*, International Mining Conference, Abuja, Nigeria, February 1 - 2, 2007
- *A look Inside the Umbrella Clause Debate*, Investment Treaty Arbitration: A Debate and Discussion, Conference organized by Juris Conferences LLC, Washington, D.C., May 17, 2007
- *ICSID Arbitration - Some Recent Developments*, UNCTAD Conference on Investment Arbitration Lima, Peru May 22, 2007
- *Procedural Steps in Investment Arbitration*, UNCTAD workshop for Government Officials, Lima, Peru, May 23, 2007
- *Foreign Investment Agreements and Investor-State Dispute Settlement Seminar*, International Law Institute, Washington, D.C., June 19, 2007
- Faculty Member, *Regional training Session on International Investment Agreements and Investment Disputes for Member Countries of the Organization of the Islamic Conference*, October 2007, Amman, Jordan
- *ICSID Rules and the Central American Free Trade Agreement*, Address at International Bar Association Conference, Singapore, October 2007
- *ICSID and APEC Economies*, Washington D.C., November 2008
- *Conciliation of Investment disputes*, International Investment Conference, Bogota, Colombia, October 2008
- *Is there a need for guidelines for Counsel Participation in International Arbitration?*, State Bar of Texas Annual Institute, March 2009
- Faculty member, *International Seminar on Recent Trends of Investment Treaty Arbitration*, Seoul, South Korea, May 2009
- *ICSID Jurisdiction and Performance Review - The Need for a Convention Re-Tool?*, Kuramo Conference, Lagos, November 2010
- *Role of Follow-up Programs in Investment arbitration*, WTO Conference, Geneva, May 2011
- *Revision of Arbitration Rules and Procedural Issues arising in Investor-State Disputes; and Appeal system in investment arbitration: lessons from the WTO*. Conference on Contemporary Issues in Investment Arbitration: Challenges and Opportunities for Asia's Growth & Development, Hong Kong, November 2011

- *Giving effect to awards, Harnessing Arbitral Awards to further the aims of Foreign Direct Investment; Seminar on "What does the future hold for international investment law?"* McGill University, Montreal, Canada, 5 November 2012
- *Construction Cases in Investor-State Arbitration, ICC/FIDIC Conference on "International construction contracts and the resolution of disputes",* Johannesburg, June 2014
- *The dispute resolution trends in some recent treaties affecting African/Asian investors and African/Asian States, Third annual conference of the Atlanta International Arbitration Society (Atlas): "Enhancing Business Opportunities in Africa: The Role, Reality and Future of Africa-Related Arbitration",* Atlanta, November 2014
- *Investor-State Arbitration- How does it work? Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, Nigeria Branch, Conference: Arbitration to the Rescue! – How Alternative Dispute Resolution Can Grow Our Economy, Lagos, November, 2014*
- *Annulment Committee Standards of Review, British Institute for International and Comparative Law (BICL) Investment Treaty Forum, The ICSID Convention at fifty (Panel on Refining ICSID's Procedures),* London 18 September 2015
- *The impact on Investor State Arbitration of limiting the participation of Developed States, Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI) conference on Investor State Arbitration between Developed Democracies: A Policy under Challenge, Ottawa, 25 September 2015*
- *ICSID at 50: the next 50 years: What are the Alternatives to Arbitration, conference by Shearman & Sterling, BIICL's Investment Treaty Forum and King's College London, 29 October 2015*
- *Investor State Arbitration - Balancing Investor Protection and Party Autonomy in Arbitration – lessons for Africa from TPP, TTIP, CETA and beyond; Conference of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, Nigeria on Legal protection of Foreign Direct Investment in Africa: Who really needs protection; the Investor or the State? Abuja, 3 November 2015*
- *Legal Issues from the Implementation of KERP, Conference on Environmental Effects of Armed Conflict - International Legal Dialogue – Middle East North Africa, Amman, Jordan, 13 December 2015*
- *A Developing Country perspective on the Changing landscape of Investor State Arbitration, Panel on Investment Arbitration in Africa and Beyond: What Does the Future Hold? ICCA Congress, Mauritius, 9 May 2016*
- *SOAS Arbitration in Africa Conference Series: Rethinking the Role of Courts and Judges in supporting Arbitration in Africa. Moderator of Panel on perspective of foreign counsel: Lagos, June 2016*
- *The impact on Investor State Arbitration of limiting the participation of Developed States, Commonwealth Law Conference, Melbourne, March 2017*
- *Speaker on Panel on Legitimacy of the International Arbitration Process, Institute for Transnational Arbitration workshop, Dallas, June 2017*
- *Conducting International Arbitration in Africa, Meeting of the International Arbitration Club of New York, 18 December 2017*

---

**Select Guest Lecturer Activities**

---

Columbia University Law School, New York; University of Arizona Tucson, Penn State Dickinson School of Law; Georgetown University Law School; George Washington University Law School; International Law Institute, Washington, D.C.; American University Law School, Washington, D.C.; McGill University Law School, Montreal, Canada; Carleton University in Ottawa, Canada; University of Kuwait Law School; Kuwait International Law School, Boalt Law School, UC Berkeley; Xiamen Law School, China.

---

**Languages**

---

Proficient in English, Igbo, French; basic Arabic and Spanish