

# Patrikios Pavlou & Associates LLC

Patrikios Pavlou & Associates LLC is a multi-award winning international law firm based in Cyprus with a 47-year experience in the legal profession. The firm has an esteemed network of associates worldwide with particularly strong links in Europe, Russia, Middle East, and Asia. It is also a member of various professional international bodies and is recognized as a top tier firm from numerous legal directories globally. Furthermore, the firm has received several international awards and recognitions, in respect to its distinctive and professional client services.

Today, the firm continues the significant expansion it has enjoyed since 1963 and has a team of 30 advocates and legal consultants assisted by a team of 25 paralegal and administrative staff. Recognizing the commitment and professionalism in their legal practice, the firm has promoted four limited-partners to full-partners during the last quarter of 2009.

#### Areas of expertise in the Banking & Finance department include:

- Assistance in listing and floatation of securities
- Development financing and security structures for borrowers and lenders
- Acquisition finance
- Corporate finance
- Project finance
- Equity investment
- Financing and management buy-outs
- Risk management
- Capital efficiency
- Banking Law
- Recovery of loans
- Hire purchase agreements
- Letters of Credit and Bank Guarantees

Despite the negative economic environment due to the financial crisis over the last year, the firm has been receiving increasing banking & finance work and this has led to the rapid and continuous expansion of the Banking & Finance department. The department is mainly involved in challenging and complex corporate finance transactions in Cyprus and abroad, it handles project and asset finance matters and has extensive experience in securitization issues. Expert professional legal advice is offered to major national and international banks, industrial organizations, multinationals, financial institutions and other companies in the financial services sector.

The extensive expertise of the main partners in banking and finance, in combination with their experience in major international cases, makes the department one of the most competitive in its area. Mr. Stavros Pavlou, Senior & Managing Partner, being both an economist (BSc Economics of Industry & Trade, LSE, UK) as well as a Barrister at Law (Gray's Inn, UK) and Mrs. Lia Iordanou Theodoulou, Corporate Finance Partner, a Barrister at Law (Gray's Inn, UK), lead a team of seven lawyers for the provision of effective and professional legal advice and guidance to clients. Mrs. Stella Louca Pavlou, Banking Partner, leads the recovery



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section of the firm's banking practice and regularly handles inquiries from various local and international banks on complicated recovery cases. One of the significant projects that the banking & finance department carried out over the last year is advising a Cyprus public company with respect to the restructuring and listing of its shares on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange (HKSE). The listing in question is the first ever to be implemented in the HKSE by any Cyprus company. The project involved preparation and submission of the appropriate applications, drafting of specialized Articles of Association and supporting documentation in accordance with HKSE requirements, issuing legal opinions to the HKSE and the Underwriters and extensive involvement in coordination and implementation of the project (amount involved USD 600 million).

Mr. Stavros Pavlou, Senior & Managing Partner is a very experienced litigator in the commercial field including banking and financial law and specializes in cross-border transactions and securities. He is a highly regarded legal consultant in this field. He acts for various major Russian, European and international banks, as well as other companies and high-end individuals in the financial services sector. The firm handles international work from various jurisdictions and mainly from Russia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, U.K., Austria, Germany and France. Mr. Pavlou also provides high quality legal advice and assistance in the listings of major companies on local and international stock exchanges such as the Cyprus Stock Exchange (CSE), London Stock Exchange (LSE), LSE Alternative Investment Market (LSE AIM), Hong Kong Stock Exchange (HKSE) and others. Furthermore, Mr. Pavlou possesses extensive expertise in advising and assisting clients in the implementation of effective tax planning structures designed to minimize tax liabilities, improve efficiency of the clients' international cross-border activities and meet their financial and business objectives.