Africa Roundtable on Insolvency Reform 2016

INSOL International is delighted to announce the date of the next Africa Round Table (ART) on insolvency reform to be held 6-7 October 2016 at Labadi Beach Hotel, Accra, Ghana. The theme for this year’s event is “The Freedom to Fail: Insolvency for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises”.

In many jurisdictions, micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) comprise over 90% of businesses and greatly contribute to job creation, innovation, entrepreneurship and GDP. These entities are typically not categorized as ‘companies’ under local legislation, often leaving the individual entrepreneur responsible for all the debts of the business. Weak bankruptcy frameworks can lead to a spiral of unlimited liability for business debts in perpetuity as well as increasing enforcement costs for creditors. This year’s ART will explore the importance of addressing MSME insolvency, in a manner that still upholds creditor rights and promotes access to finance. It will explore flexible tools for dealing with MSME financial distress in comparative legal regimes, and will provide practical training on certain skills required to effectively address MSME insolvency.

The ART was established at a meeting organized by INSOL International in 2010 to:
- Provide a platform for a high level dialogue with both private practitioners and public policy makers on insolvency reform in Africa.
- Set up a forum for a coordinated approach by international bodies, countries and experts by sharing experience and knowledge.
- Elevate insolvency reform on the African policy agenda.

The first meeting was convened on September 30, 2010 in Abuja, Nigeria. Since then, annual ARTs have been held in Cape Town, South Africa (2011 and 2015); Nairobi, Kenya (2012), Lusaka, Zambia (2013) and Kampala, Uganda (2014). Delegates have been drawn from government, the judiciary and the private sector from over 16 African Anglophone and Francophone countries. A growing number of international experts have also been present, including international organizations such as UNCITRAL. The themes of the ARTs have been varied, ranging from the importance of insolvency regimes in strengthening creditor rights to the impact of insolvency regimes on economic growth and job creation. The focus however remains on developing professional ties with the goal of improving insolvency and restructuring regimes across the African continent.

The next INSOL Africa Round Table will be held 6-7 October 2015 in Accra, Ghana. The first day, Thursday 6th October will be by invitation only, with places strictly limited to enable real discussion between policy makers, judges, regulators, practitioners and lenders on insolvency reform across Africa. The second day will be opened up to all those interested in and affected by insolvency reform in Africa. This is to enable a greater forum for all stakeholders to engage in discussion and to learn from international best practice. There will be a small fee for the second day to cover refreshments and other costs.

To register your interest please contact
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