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Lerato Molefe is the Founding Principal of Naaya Consulting, a corporate legal strategy firm based in Johannesburg. Prior to establishing Naaya, she practised commercial law at the leading law firms of Shearman & Sterling LLP in New York and Paris, and Bowman Gilfillan in Johannesburg, as well as worked at international organisations such as the World Bank in Washington, DC and Africare in Senegal. She currently focusses on M&A, capital markets and general transactional law, providing strategic legal advisory services on local and cross-border commercial and corporate matters. In addition, she consults and offers workshops on strategy, business development and entrepreneurship, governance (including compliance, legal risk management, directorships and operational governance in terms of the relevant legislation and codes) and fundraising.

Lerato Molefe attended university at Smith College in Massachusetts where she earned two bachelors degrees in economics and political science. She then completed post-graduate studies at Harvard Law School where she earned her *juris doctorate*, and simultaneously the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy where she earned a masters degree in law and diplomacy specialising in international business relations. She is able to speak, read and write in English, Setswana, Sesotho, French, Italian, Portuguese, and Spanish.

Over the span of her career, Lerato Molefe has cultivated a strong reputation for excellence, efficiency and commercial acumen in the services that she provides. She is an attorney in good standing and is admitted to the New York bar. She is also a member of several professional associations including the Association of Black Securities and Investment Professionals (ABSIP), the Professional Women's Forum (PWF), South African Young Women Entrepreneurs ("SAY/WE"), the French-South African Chamber of Commerce (FSACCI) and the Italian-South African Chamber of Trade and Industries. She sits on the board of directors of Pembani Remgro Investment Management Company Joint Venture Proprietary Limited, Three Cities Investments Mozambique SA, and Khomelela Studios Proprietary Limited.

(October 2013)