IMPORTANT NOTICE!!!!

CAC COMMENCES STRIKING OFF NAMES OF COMPANIES FROM THE REGISTER OF COMPANIES

UPDATE FROM THE CORPORATE AFFAIRS COMMISSION THAT MAY HAVE AN IMPACT ON YOUR COMPANY AND/OR ITS RELATED COMPANIES OR BUSINESS PARTNERS

By a public notice dated 31 July 2023, the Corporate Affairs Commission ("CAC") published the names of the 94,581 companies whose names are to be struck off its Register of Companies ("the Register") (click <u>here</u> to see the list). The CAC is expected to publish the names of more companies for striking off after this initial list. The public notice was issued pursuant to Section 692 (3), (4) and (5) of the Companies and Allied Matters Act 2020 ("the CAMA" or "the Act"), which empowers the CAC, where it observes or has reasonable cause to believe that:

- i) a company is not carrying on business, or
- ii) has not been in operation for 10 years, or
- iii) has not complied with the provisions of the Act for a consecutive period of 10 years,

to publish a notice of its intention to strike off the company's name from its Register of Companies¹. If the company does not respond to the CAC within 90 days of the publication to confirm that it is still carrying on business or is in operation, the CAC is authorised to strike off the company's name from the Register.²

The implication of a striking off from the Register is that the company will no longer be able to transact business or trade with its assets. This is because it is unlawful for any company whose name has been struck off the Register to carry on business in Nigeria, as it will cease to exist from the date its name is struck off the Register.³

The CAC can only restore names of companies struck off the Register by an order of the Federal High Court.⁴ If it is not your intention to have your Company's name struck off the Register, we recommend that you take urgent steps to:

- 1. Prepare and submit your company's audited financial statements for any outstanding years and promptly have them filed at the CAC on or before 29 October 2023, when the 90 days period of grace will lapse.
- 2. Contact us if you have questions or concerns regarding the Company's compliance status.

Alsec Nominees Limited, has a wealth of experience as company secretaries, corporate governance and compliance expertise. We are able to assist you with this process. We can also help you to navigate the corporate regulatory compliance landscape in Nigeria and to ensure that your company maintains good standing with the corporate regulatory authorities.

If you require further information or assistance on the above, please contact us at alsec@alsecnominees.com and we would be delighted to provide the support and guidance you need to address your compliance-related matters effectively and expediently.

¹ S. 692 (3) CAMA
² S. 692 (4) CAMA
³ S. 42 CAMA
⁴ S. 692 (6) CAMA