

Harry Matovu QC

YEAR OF CALL: 1988 YEAR OF SILK: 2010

"The consummate cross-examiner." "One of his key attributes is his ability to, with great wit and charm, metaphorically fix his hands around the throat of an opponent and slowly strangle them."

Chambers & Partners 2017

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Practice Overview

Harry Matovu is a noted advocate, "a consummate cross-examiner, who's great on his feet" and "tremendously tenacious and committed, he's an absolute team player" (Chambers & Partners 2018). He has a wide-ranging commercial practice and considerable experience of general commercial claims, including civil fraud, energy disputes, banking and finance, insurance and reinsurance law, public international law and public inquiries. He has been instructed in a number of very high-profile cases, including litigation arising out of an attempted coup against the Government of Equatorial Guinea, which was listed by The Lawyer magazine as one of the top 20 cases for 2006, 2007 and 2008; a successful judicial review challenge to one of the major spending cuts of the Government, which was listed by The Lawyer magazine as one of the top 20 cases for 2011; and a US\$1.7 billion dispute over oil exploration rights in Iraqi Kurdistan, which was listed by The Lawyer magazine as one of the top 20 cases for 2012 (Excalibur Ventures LLC v Texas Keystone Inc).

Harry Matovu has a substantial international arbitration practice, acting both as counsel and as an arbitrator (party appointments and appointments as tribunal chairman), and a significant practice relating to Africa. This has included acting and appearing before the Courts of Tanzania in a major international energy dispute, which is the largest and most high-profile piece of litigation heard by those courts. The dispute involves a claim for damages in excess of half a billion US dollars, and it has connections with the biggest corruption scandals to have hit Tanzania. He is also acting for the Federal Government of Nigeria in a high-profile claim in the English courts to enforce a US\$6.5 billion arbitration award against it (one of the largest arbitration awards ever made). He has also recently acted on a major tax appeal before the courts of an African state, and he has acted and advised in a number of energy, natural resources and infrastructure disputes in jurisdictions across sub-Saharan Africa. In addition, he has recently been appointed as arbitrator in various multi-million-dollar arbitrations concerning, respectively, the control of a leading energy conglomerate in Africa, a major telecoms dispute in Tanzania, sale of a significant energy interest in Gabon and large infrastructure projects in Zambia and Mozambique.

His banking and fraud work includes successfully acting in a billion-dollar Kazakh bank fraud claim up to the Court of Appeal; and in a substantial longevity swaps dispute between a Swiss investment fund and a leading global investment bank. He is "strong on cross-border jurisdictional issues" (The Legal 500 2016), and has expertise in AIFMD matters and passporting issues in relation to offshore funds, and also in investment funds and complex financial products.

Harry Matovu has appeared in all the civil courts in England and Wales from the Supreme Court downwards. He is also regularly instructed in major international and domestic commercial arbitrations, and he accepts appointments as an arbitrator under LCIA, ICC, UNCITRAL and ARIAS Rules, as well as ad hoc appointments. He has lectured

widely on international arbitration, and in particular disputes relating to Africa.

Energy and natural resources

Harry Matovu has detailed knowledge of the oil and gas exploration business; of liquefied natural gas (LNG) trading and shipping; and of the financing, acquisition, transfer (including farm-ins) and valuation of oil and gas assets and businesses using sophisticated valuation methodologies such as discounted cashflow using discount rates based on the weighted average cost of capital. In relation to the financing, acquisition and disposal of oil and gas assets, Harry has a detailed understanding of corporate finance, including in particular fundraising through private placements and funds, via merchant banks and investment banks, and on public exchanges such as AIM in London and the TSXV in Toronto.

Harry has also acted in disputes concerning complex oil services technology for offshore drilling rigs in the Gulf of Mexico, which required a detailed understanding of oil drilling and drilling rigs, including technical, marine and geological risks and hazards, and industry standards, practices and regulatory requirements (including BSEE requirements).

In relation to other natural resources disputes, Harry has recently acted or advised on disputes concerning gold mining in Tanzania and Kazakhstan, diamond mining in Southern Africa, coal mining in Indonesia and bauxite mining in Saudi Arabia. He has lectured on resource nationalism.

He was nominated for Silk (QC) of the Year (Projects and Energy) in the Legal 500 Awards 2014.

Several of the energy and natural resources disputes in which Harry has been instructed have been the subject of confidential arbitrations. Significant court cases include:

Excalibur Ventures LLC v Texas Keystone Inc [2013] EWHC 2767 (Comm), [2011] EWHC 1624 (Comm) – A very substantial and high-profile action concerning oil exploration in Iraqi Kurdistan, which culminated in a 5-month trial in the Commercial Court. The action concerned a claim for US\$1.6 billion in relation to a stake in various oil exploration blocks, and it resulted in an outright victory for his clients on all points. It was listed by The Lawyer magazine as one of the top 20 cases for 2012.

The case involved a dispute about rights and obligations under a joint bidding agreement to acquire a production sharing contract. It required a detailed understanding of the following:

- oil exploration business, including risk analysis (commercial, political, technical, security and exploration risks)
- oil pricing and exploration/production processes and costs
- joint bidding agreements and joint ventures
- contract negotiations and political and economic considerations for host governments
- all the processes leading up to and beyond the grant of exploration licences or production sharing contracts by host governments
- farm-in agreements to oil exploration and production licences/contracts
- the valuation of oil exploration blocks, including valuation methodologies and their detailed application, in particular the discounted cashflow methodology
- corporate finance, including in particular processes and issues for oil companies in fundraising through private equity, via merchant banks and investment banks, and on public exchanges such as AIM in London and the TSXV in Toronto.

VIP Engineering & Marketing Ltd v Standard Chartered Bank and Others – Harry is also currently engaged in a long-running and very substantial international energy dispute before the Courts of Tanzania. It arises out of a power project in that country, and is the largest and most high-profile dispute that has come to trial before those Courts. The case, which concerns a claim in excess of half a billion US dollars, requires a detailed understanding

of:

- power projects and infrastructure development projects, including power purchase agreements and EPC contracts
- development finance and project finance
- joint venture agreements
- contract negotiations and political and economic considerations (including tariff agreements) for host governments and state agencies
- jurisdictional issues in relation to a number of international parties and suites of contracts and securities governed by different applicable laws
- valuation methodologies for power projects, and the detailed application of those methodologies, in particular the discounted cashflow methodology

In addition, the case requires an understanding of the procedural law of Tanzania. In this connection, Harry has been granted special rights of audience by the Chief Justice of Tanzania to appear before the High Court and Court of Appeal of Tanzania. He has argued and led the case on behalf of his client at trial in the High Court, and in ongoing proceedings in the Court of Appeal of Tanzania on an important revision application.

Teekay Corporation v Diamond Pacific International Corporation – Harry was also instructed in a major LNG shipping dispute, in which the principal issue was the valuation of a LNG shipping tanker business. The case was settled just before trial in 2014 after the preparation of substantial expert shipping and valuation evidence, and opening submissions. The dispute required a detailed understanding of:

- the LNG industry worldwide, including production and demand trends in the natural gas markets worldwide over the next 40 years
- the LNG shipping industry and trends in shipping capacity, demand and market concentrations over the next 40 years
- the valuation of LNG shipping businesses, including valuation methodologies and their detailed application, in particular the discounted cashflow methodology

African Barrick Gold PLC v Commissioner-General (Tanzanian Revenue Authority) – Harry is currently engaged in a very substantial dispute in Tanzania involving a demand for withholding tax of US\$41.25 million against a major UK holding company with gold-mining subsidiaries in Tanzania. The matter has attracted huge political and public interest, and it is currently on appeal before the Court of Appeal of Tanzania.

Arbitration

International commercial arbitration is a significant part of Harry Matovu's practice, and he accepts appointments as an arbitrator and as counsel. Harry is a member of the ICC and the LCIA.

Harry is very familiar with all aspects of the English Arbitration Act 1996, the Bermuda International Arbitration and Conciliation Act and various arbitration codes, including the ICC, LCIA, UNCITRAL and ARIAS Rules and the UNCITRAL Model Law. In addition to acting as counsel in major international and domestic arbitrations, he is instructed in court applications and appeals involving all aspects of arbitration law, including:

- challenges to arbitral appointments
- applications for anti-arbitration and anti-suit injunctions
- freezing injunctions and ancillary relief in support of arbitrations
- challenges to and appeals against arbitral awards
- court proceedings to enforce arbitration awards

Arbitrations in which Harry has been involved as counsel include several multi-million-dollar disputes in Bermuda and England arising out of the US personal accident reinsurance spiral, which raised issues of fraud, non-

disclosure, misrepresentation and coverage; a long-running dispute concerning a major legal expenses insurance business, which led to a favourable award that was upheld on appeal to the English Commercial Court; the successful defence of a major reinsurance claim by a foreign state insurance company against Lloyd's reinsurers, which raised complex issues of public and private international law; and the successful defence of a US\$300 million political risk insurance claim concerning mining interests in Indonesia (see above under Mining Resources).

Harry's court cases arising out of arbitration disputes have a similarly broad spread. They include

Process & Industrial Developments Ltd. v Federal Republic of Nigeria – application for permission to enforce a US\$6.5 billion arbitral award against the Government of Nigeria (Judgment pending)

Excalibur Ventures LLC v Texas Keystone Inc [2011] EWHC 1624 (Comm), [2012] 1 All E.R. (Comm) 933 (successful application to the English Commercial Court for a rare anti-arbitration injunction to restrain a foreign arbitration)

IRB Brasil Resseguros SA v CX Reinsurance Co Ltd [2010] EWHC 974 (Comm), [2010] Lloyd's Rep. IR 560 (successfully upholding a major insurance arbitration award on appeal to the English Commercial Court)

Caisse Nationale de Prévoyance v Croft (2009) (a successful application to the English Commercial Court for the removal of an arbitrator on grounds of apparent bias)

Harry has been nominated and appointed as arbitrator (including Presiding Arbitrator) in several major international commercial arbitrations under ICC, LCIA and AFSA (Arbitration Foundation of Southern Africa) Rules. The nominations and appointments in the last 12 months have concerned disputes involving parties in a wide number of jurisdictions, including Nigeria, Tanzania, Kenya, Mauritius, Gabon, Mozambique, Panama and the British Virgin Islands.

Harry lectures on arbitration law generally, including arbitration in Africa and the OHADA arbitration regime. Recent papers and presentations include:

- **Issues of Bias in the Arbitration Process**, Paper delivered at Arbitration London, the London International Arbitration Conference for West Africa, 4-6 September 2013
- **The OHADA Arbitration Regime – An Assessment**, Paper delivered at the ICAMA Arbitration Round Table, Abuja 26-27 May 2014
- **Valuing Claims**, Presentation delivered at the CDR Winter Arbitration Symposium, London 19 February 2015
- **Tribunal Bias in African Arbitrations**, Paper delivered at the 1st ICC Africa Regional Arbitration Conference, Lagos 19-21 June 2016; published in *European International Arbitration Review*, Vol. 5:1, 31-51.

Civil fraud

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- challenges to arbitral appointments
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Insurance and reinsurance

Harry Matovu has a substantial insurance/reinsurance practice, in which he has acted in numerous cases for and against insurers and insureds, reinsurers and brokers across almost all classes of business in the London Market. His cases have included major litigation and arbitrations in England and Bermuda, including the Lloyd's Litigation in the 1990s; various international disputes arising out of the US personal accident spiral; and international disputes involving energy insurance, construction all risks business, professional indemnity insurance, bankers' blanket bond business, credit insurance, aviation insurance, reinsurance of US casualty business and reinsurance of life business.

Reported insurance/reinsurance cases include

Berriman v Rose Thomson Young (Underwriting) Ltd.[1996] LRLR 426 (Lloyd's Litigation arising out of the LMX Spiral);

Charterhouse Development (France) Ltd v Sharp [1998] Lloyds Rep IR 266 (bankers' blanket bond and professional indemnity insurance claim);

FIGRE Ltd v Mander [1999] Lloyds Rep IR 193 (late payment of premium);

Bank of Scotland v Euclidian (No.1) Ltd [2007] EWHC 1732 (Comm) (claim arising out of failure of a major ATE insurance scheme);

Temple Legal Protection Ltd v QBE Insurance (Europe) Limited [2008] EWHC 843 (Comm), [2009] EWCA Civ 453 (dispute in relation to a binding authority for an ATE insurance scheme); and

IRB Brasil Resseguros SA v CX Reinsurance Co Ltd [2010] LI. Rep. IR 560 (coverage dispute in relation to reinsurance of US casualty business).

Banking and finance

Harry Matovu has extensive experience of litigation and advisory work in relation to finance, having acted for several of the leading lenders and providers of business finance. His work has covered corporate finance and other City matters, including acting for a leading investment bank in relation to a DTI Inquiry following a major UK corporate collapse; and advising on split capital investment trusts. He has acted for both purchasers and sellers in disputes arising out of share purchase agreements, including warranty and 'earn-out' claims. He has recently led a successful multi-million pound action for damages against sellers and insurers in a share purchase dispute, which confirmed important principles for the assessment of damages in such cases (*Ageas (UK) Ltd. v Kwik-Fit (GB) Ltd.* [2014] EWHC 2178 (QB)). His practice also includes advice and advocacy in relation to credit insurance issues and disputes.

Harry Matovu has recently advised and acted successfully for defendants to a billion-dollar fraud claim brought by a major Kazakh retail bank (*Alliance Bank JSC v Aquanta Corporation* [2012] EWCA Civ 1588, [2013] 1 All E.R. (Comm) 819 (Court of Appeal); [2011] EWHC 3281 (Comm); [2012] 1 Lloyd's Rep. 181 (Burton J)). He has also acted on behalf of a Swiss claimant investment fund in the successful resolution of a substantial dispute against a leading global investment bank arising out of a longevity swap agreement.

Harry Matovu has a detailed knowledge of complex financial instruments and cross-border jurisdictional issues, and he lectures and advises on hedge funds, private equity funds and the Alternative Investment Fund Managers Directive (AIFMD). He has recently advised on passporting issues in relation to offshore funds under the AIFMD, and he has successfully acted for the manager of an offshore fund in relation to a claim arising out of a UK property investment scheme.

Public international law

Harry Matovu has been involved in major cases raising substantial issues of public international law. In particular, he appeared as Junior Counsel for the President of Equatorial Guinea (led by Sir Sydney Kentridge QC) in a high-profile conspiracy claim arising out of an attempted coup d'etat alleged to involve English conspirators, which proceeded through the High Court and Court of Appeal to the House of Lords. The appeal raised issues about the justiciability in the English courts of a claim in conspiracy against the alleged perpetrators of the attempted coup. Given the importance of the issues raised, the appeal was heard by a panel of nine Law Lords. However, the action was settled before Judgment in the House of Lords. This was listed by *The Lawyer* magazine as one of the top 20 cases for 2006, 2007 and 2008 – *Mbasogo v Logo Ltd* (2008) House of Lords; [2006] EWCA Civ 1370 (Court of Appeal); [2006] UKPC 7 (Privy Council); [2005] EWHC 2034 (Davis J).

Harry has also acted on behalf of a foreign state insurance company in arbitral proceedings concerning a reinsurance dispute which raised issues of state immunity and the justiciability of allegations about state policy and the management of the company. The reinsurers settled the claim and the arbitration shortly after an application to strike out their case.

Harry has also recently advised a major international organisation in relation to a complex and high-profile State Treaty dispute.

Aviation

Harry Matovu has experience in aviation matters, including aviation insurance, political risk and US sanctions law, and other matters such as advising on issues arising out of extreme weather conditions and the application of force majeure provisions. He is also experienced and regularly involved in jurisdictional disputes.

Public Law

Harry Matovu has considerable experience of administrative law and the workings of Government, having served as Deputy Counsel to the long-running BSE Inquiry (1998-2000). He was also instructed as Leading Counsel by Kent County Council in a high-profile and successful judicial review of the Government's decision to stop the current scheme for funding building projects for secondary schools in England. This was listed as one of the top 20 cases for 2011 by *The Lawyer* magazine – *Kent County Council v Secretary of State for Education* [2011] EWHC 217 (Admin).

Reported cases

- *Ageas (UK) Ltd v Kwik-Fit (GB) Ltd and AIG Europe Ltd* [2014] EWHC 2178 (QB) – Leading Counsel for successful Claimant in multi-million pound claim for damages for breaches of warranty in a share sale agreement. The case raised important issues as to the date and basis of assessment of damages in such cases.
- *Excalibur Ventures LLC v Texas Keystone Inc* [2013] EWHC 2767 (Comm) - Second Leading Counsel for Defendants in ongoing billion-dollar dispute concerning substantial oil concessions in Iraqi Kurdistan, listed by *The Lawyer* magazine as one of the 20 leading cases of 2012. Included successful application for an injunction to restrain foreign arbitration proceedings [2011] EWHC 1624 (Comm).
- *Alliance Bank JSC v Aquanta Corporation* [2012] EWCA Civ 1588 [2013] 1 All E.R. (Comm) 819 (Court of Appeal); [2011] EWHC 3281 (Comm); [2012] 1 Lloyd's Rep. 181 (Burton J) - Leading Counsel for principal co-defendants in a billion-dollar fraud claim by a major Kazakh bank against its former chairman, directors and shareholders, in which massive worldwide freezing orders were obtained. The Defendants successfully challenged the jurisdiction of the English Court, both at first instance and on appeal. The case raised important issues regarding jurisdiction and subrogation.

- *Kent County Council v Secretary of State for Education* [2011] EWHC 217 (Admin) - Leading Counsel for claimant local authority in a high-profile and successful judicial review of the Government's decision to stop the current scheme for funding building projects for secondary schools in England, listed by *The Lawyer* magazine as one of the 20 leading cases of 2011.
- *PK Airfinance US Inc. v Chartis Insurance UK Ltd* (2009-2010) - Junior Counsel for the claimant finance house in multi-million dollar aviation insurance case concerning the removal of 2 Boeing 747 aircraft to Iran. The dispute raised important issues concerning the law on total loss, the liability of finance parties for non-disclosure by the aircraft owner/lessor and the construction and application of the insurance market's AVN67B Endorsement. The case settled shortly before trial.
- *Mbasogo v Logo Ltd (2008) House of Lords*; [2006] EWCA Civ 1370 (Court of Appeal); [2006] UKPC 7 (Privy Council); [2005] EWHC 2034 (Davis J). First Junior for the Claimants (led by Sir Sydney Kentridge QC). This was a ground-breaking and high-profile conspiracy claim arising out of an attempted coup d'etat against the Government of Equatorial Guinea, which proceeded to an appeal before a panel of nine Law Lords. The case involved important and novel issues of international law and the law of conspiracy. It was settled prior to Judgment in the House of Lords. It was listed by *The Lawyer* magazine as one of the top cases of 2006, 2007 and 2008.
- *IRB Brasil Resseguros SA v CX Reinsurance Co Ltd* [2010] LI. Rep. IR 560 - Counsel for successful Claimant in dispute concerning application of double-proviso settlements clause in casualty excess of loss reinsurance contracts involving claims arising out of settlement of major US class actions.
- *Nirah Holdings Ltd v British Agricultural Services Ltd* [2009] EWHC 2282 (Comm) - Counsel for successful Claimant in Commercial Court dispute concerning purchase of land for £375 million major UK visitor attraction and science research park.
- *Temple Legal Protection Ltd v QBE Insurance (Europe) Limited* [2008] EWHC 843 (Comm), [2009] EWCA Civ 453 - Junior counsel in an arbitration and appeal to the Commercial Court and Court of Appeal in a dispute concerning the rights and obligations of insurers and their agents in relation to the run-off of a binding authority agreement.
- *Masri v Consolidated Contractors International Company SAL* [2008] EWCH 2492 (Comm) - Application on behalf of judgment creditor for the appointment of a receiver over worldwide assets of a judgment debtor. A significant development of the jurisdiction of the Court in this area.
- *Bank of Scotland v Euclidian (No.1) Ltd* [2007] EWHC 1732 (Comm) - Junior counsel in a major and long-running Commercial Court dispute concerning the operation of a failed multi-million pound after-the-event litigation insurance scheme. Settled in the Court of Appeal.
- *Yugraneft v Abramovich and Others* (2008) - Multi-million dollar conspiracy claim in the Commercial Court concerning major Russian oil company.
- *Government of Iran v Barakat Gallery Ltd* (2008 - 2010) - High Court dispute concerning claim of a foreign sovereign state to ownership and return of rare antiquities of importance to national cultural heritage.
- *Lion Apparel Ltd v Firebuy Ltd* (2008) - First Junior for the Claimants in a multi-million pound High Court dispute relating to a major Government public procurement project.
- *MMR/MR Vaccine Litigation* (2001-2006) - Junior counsel for a well-known pharmaceutical company in long-running and high-profile litigation brought by parents of children with autistic spectrum and other disorders against manufacturers of the MMR vaccine, which was alleged to have caused the disorders. The case against the manufacturers collapsed following service of a substantial volume of medical and scientific expert evidence from 60 experts across many disciplines.
- *BSE Inquiry* (1998-2000) - Deputy Counsel to the public inquiry chaired by Lord Phillips of Worth Matravers to establish and review the history of the emergence and identification of BSE and new variant CJD in the United Kingdom, and of the action taken in response to it up to 20 March 1996; and to reach conclusions on the adequacy of that response, taking into account the state of knowledge at the time. This wide-ranging inquiry involved (amongst other things) detailed investigation of the actions over 10 years of Government at the highest levels and covered several major Whitehall Departments; detailed investigation and analysis of the relevant scientific, medical and veterinary theories and knowledge, and of the organisation of scientific, medical and veterinary research in the UK; and detailed investigation of industry processes, action and controls within the farming, food, retail and waste industries.

- *FIGRE Ltd v Mander* [1999] Lloyds Rep IR 193 - Junior counsel in a reinsurance dispute concerning late tender of premium.
- *Charterhouse Development (France) Ltd v Sharp* [1998] Lloyds Rep IR 266 - Junior counsel for Defendant brokers in an insurance dispute concerning coverage issues and brokers' negligence in relation to bankers' blanket bond and professional indemnity insurance for a private equity house.
- *Berriman v Rose Thomson Young (Underwriting) Ltd.* [1996] LRLR 426 – Junior Counsel for Defendant Lloyd's Managing Agent in major claim by Lloyd's Names arising out of the LMX Spiral.

Qualifications & Further Information

King's Scholarship, Eton College (1976)

Brackenbury Open Scholarship in Classics, Balliol College, Oxford (1981)

BA (Hons) Literae Humaniores, Oxford (1985)

Dip.Law, University of Westminster (1986)

Called to the Bar by the Inner Temple (1988)

Pupillage at Brick Court Chambers (1988-1989)

Queen's Counsel (2010)

Master of the Bench, Inner Temple (2012)

International Bar Association

Member, London Court of International Arbitration

Commercial Bar Association

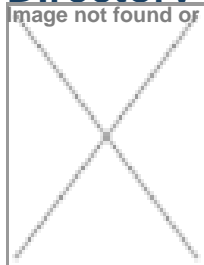
London Common Law and Commercial Bar Association

Bar Council Professional Standards Committee 2005 – 2006

Bar Council Professional Conduct and Complaints Committee 1996 – 1998

Trustee, The Personal Support Unit (independent charity providing advice and support to litigants in person and members of the public attending court) 2008 – 2014.

Directory Quotes



- "A very bright individual who grasps voluminous documents very quickly. He is an incredibly good advocate. He is very responsive and very good with clients." (Chambers & Partners 2019)

- "Unbelievably hard-working and very astute." "He's totally unflappable, brings calm to the most tense situations, and is able to distil the most complex legal issues into bite-sized chunks of reality." (Chambers & Partners UK & Global 2019)
- "Delightful and fantastic with clients." "A very effective advocate and a superb speaker." (Chambers & Partners 2019)
- "Very considered and commercial and brilliant to work with." (The Legal 500 2018-19)
- "The consummate cross-examiner; superb on his feet." (The Legal 500 2018-19)
- "Very bright, user friendly and a pleasure to deal with." (The Legal 500 2018-19)
- "A quintessential lawyer who is knowledgeable on diverse subject matter." (The Legal 500 2018-19)
- "Tremendously tenacious and committed, he's an absolute team player." "He's a consummate cross-examiner, who's great on his feet." (Chambers & Partners 2018)
- "Very astute." (Chambers & Partners 2018)
- "A charming and unflappable advocate. He has developed a real expertise in complex jurisdictional battles." (Chambers & Partners 2018)
- "An excellent and sensible leader" who is "the consummate cross-examiner." (Chambers & Partners 2018)
- "A gifted advocate with a superb voice and a great ear for a memorable soundbite." (The Legal 500 2017)
- "An extremely capable and creative silk, who has an unrivalled way of arguing cases." (The Legal 500 2017)
- "Consistently first-rate." (The Legal 500 2017)
- "He is a total joy to work with, and his cross-examination is absolutely amazing. He can charm answers out of witnesses and decisions out of arbitrators." (Chambers & Partners 2017)
- "He is a really classy performer." "A punchy advocate who is good at fraud and asset-tracing cases." (Chambers & Partners 2017)
- "One of his key attributes is his ability to, with great wit and charm, metaphorically fix his hands around the throat of an opponent and slowly strangle them. He's quite beguiling, and also has a very, very detailed grasp of the facts and a thorough understanding of the law. Everything he does is done with charm, grace and style." (Chambers & Partners 2017)
- "He is a charming and unflappable advocate. He has developed a real expertise in complex jurisdictional battles." (Chambers & Partners 2017)
- "Strong on cross-border jurisdictional issues." (The Legal 500 2016)
- "Confident acting for and against insurers, reinsurers and brokers." (The Legal 500 2016)
- "Very authoritative, calm and persuasive. He has a keen strategic eye." "A really tremendous operator. His superb cross-examination skills provide the client with confidence." (Chambers & Partners 2016)
- "Harry Matovu QC is a terrific cross-examiner" (Who's Who Legal UK Bar 2016)
- "Super-intelligent and a true gentleman who has the most charming manner. His written submissions include some of the best turns of phrase one could hope to see." (Chambers & Partners 2016)
- Much praised for his advocacy skill, and an expert in fraud, energy and insurance and reinsurance cases. He is also noted for his skill in handling jurisdictional disputes. (Chambers & Partners 2016)
- Experienced and accomplished counsel who handles a broad range of matters in the commercial sphere. He is particularly adept at handling matters arising in the context of the insurance, banking and finance and energy sectors. (Chambers & Partners 2016)
- Has a very broad commercial practice and is well regarded for his work on energy, civil fraud, and insurance matters. On the energy front he is known for his technical expertise and ability to question expert witnesses. (Chambers & Partners 2016)
- "He is very personable and brilliant with clients and expert witnesses. He really gets a lot out of them as he is very strong on the technical side." (Chambers & Partners 2016)
- A well-regarded commercial practitioner with a sizeable fraud practice. He appears in major fraud trials, and also regularly advises both claimants and defendants in relation to potential claims. (Chambers & Partners 2016)
- "Harry Matovu QC is hailed as "extremely clever and very effective" and has "deep experience" in the oil and gas sector." (Who's Who Legal UK Bar 2015)
- "He has developed real expertise in complex jurisdictional battles." "He has an incredibly good bedside manner, very intellectual and is very thoughtful about the work that he does." (Chambers & Partners 2015)

- “Comes strongly recommended by instructing solicitors, who consistently highlight his charm and his ability in cross-examination. He maintains a diverse commercial practice which encompasses civil fraud, natural resources disputes, jurisdictional challenges and arbitration.” (Chambers & Partners 2015)
- "Absolutely charming to work with and very good with clients. He produces really first-rate written work and is a very good cross-examiner. He works hard, is sensible and doesn't pursue duff arguments." "Some advocates bamboozle, bully or fight; he charms them all, and mauls witnesses with a smile." (Chambers & Partners 2015)
- “Has a broad commercial practice and experience of heavyweight civil fraud disputes. He frequently handles disputes involving offshore jurisdictions and international clients.” (Chambers & Partners 2015)
- "A charming and unflappable advocate. He has developed real expertise in complex jurisdictional battles." "He has an incredibly good bedside manner, very intellectual and is very thoughtful about the work that he does." (Chambers & Partners 2015)
- “A robust litigator with an extensive insurance and reinsurance practice. He often leverages his expertise in energy, arbitrations and jurisdictional disputes to service large insurance clients.” (Chambers & Partners 2015)
- "Handles general commercial litigation and arbitration, and is noted for his expertise in oil and gas disputes, insurance and reinsurance and civil fraud." (Chambers & Partners 2014)
- "He's absolutely charming and has such a good brain. He always delivers in a timely way and you feel that he's part of your team. An extremely able man." (Chambers & Partners 2014)
- "A highly regarded silk with a solid domestic and international insurance and reinsurance practice. He acts in a myriad of disputes, including those concerning the aviation and energy industries." (Chambers & Partners 2014)
- "A consummate team player, who is astute at exploiting weaknesses in the opposition." (The Legal 500 2014)
- "Extremely bright." (The Legal 500 2014)
- "Clients love" Harry Matovu QC as "he is exceptionally easy to deal with and can skilfully tell a judge that he's wrong without making that judge feel bruised." He wins "the confidence of the court and clients effortlessly," and is a fine advocate with the "ability to maintain calm in a fierce battle." (Chambers & Partners 2013)