



Ninette Dodoo

Partner

Antitrust, competition and trade, Global investigations



Seasoned practitioner [and] recognised for her extensive experience in competition law. She frequently helps major multinational clients to obtain merger clearances and respond to investigations. "Ninette is a class act," confirms one source, while another "certainly sees her as a clear market leader."

———— Chambers Asia Pacific 2019

Primary practice

Antitrust, competition and trade, Global investigations

About Ninette Dodoo

Ninette is co-head of Freshfields' competition practice in China.

Ninette's practice covers antitrust-related work and foreign investment review in China, Hong Kong and the Asia-Pacific region. Ninette advises clients on merger control, antitrust investigations (covering a range of anticompetitive practices and abusive conduct), and foreign investment review. Ninette spent over 10 years in Brussels advising on EU and multijurisdictional matters before relocating to China in 2009.

Ninette has acted on some of China's and Asia-Pacific's most complex and significant merger control matters (including remedies negotiations) and antitrust investigations across a range of industry sectors. Clients include multinational companies, state-owned enterprises and sovereign wealth funds active across a range of sectors, including healthcare & life sciences, technology, consumer goods, shipping and mining.

Ninette combines international experience with on-the-ground local knowledge to deliver effective solutions for clients in global transactions, and to devise operational antitrust risk strategies.

Ninette is ranked in Band 1 in leading legal directories. She is a frequent speaker at international conferences on antitrust and foreign investment matters, and has authored a number of publications.

Recent work

- Advising Maersk Line on its €3.7bn acquisition of rival container shipping line Hamburg Sud, resulting in novel behavioural remedies in China.
- Advising Volkswagen AG in relation to its \$2.6bn co-investment with Ford Motor Co. in autonomous vehicle technology company Argo AI.
- Advising Volkswagen (China) Investment Co., Ltd. on its major investments in Anhui Jianghuai Automobile Group, China's largest M&A deal in the electric vehicle sector to date

and an important project under China's 'mixed ownership' reform of Chinese state-owned enterprises.

- Advising Cinven, KKR and Providence on their consortium investment relating to a €3bn voluntary public bid for the entire share capital of MÁSMÓVIL IBERCOM.
- Advising LG Corp. and LG Electronics on their €1.1bn acquisition of leading automotive lighting and headlight systems provider ZKW Group (at the time LG's largest acquisition to date).
- Advising AB InBev on its £78.4bn acquisition of SABMiller. Ninette also co-led the team advising AB InBev on the sale of SABMiller's minority interest in CR Snow for \$1.6bn, resulting in one of the first 'fix-it-first' remedies in China; and advised InBev on its acquisition of Anheuser-Busch, the first remedy decision under China's Anti-monopoly law.
- Advising Brazilian pulp and paper company Suzano Papel e Celulose on its \$11bn acquisition of rival Brazilian pulp manufacturer Fibria Celulose, combining the world's two largest suppliers of a type of hardwood pulp.
- Advising Novartis on its complex interconditional strategic transactions with GSK including the establishment of a consumer healthcare joint venture.
- Advising Boehringer Ingelheim on its acquisition of Sanofi's animal health business, part of a wider €22.8bn asset swap between the two companies.
- Advising Continental on its \$1.9bn acquisition of Ohio-based rubber and plastics company Veyance Technologies from the Carlyle Group.
- Advising Hapag-Lloyd on its merger with the container liner shipping activities of Chile's Compañía Sud Americana de Vapores, creating a company with pro-forma annual sales of \$12bn in 2014, and on its acquisition of United Arab Shipping Company.
- Advising on a landmark settlement with China's National Development and Reform Commission for a major container shipping line – the largest investigation to date in China.

Qualifications

Education

- University of Exeter, UK (LLB)
- Free University of Brussels, licence spéciale (LLM)

Professional qualifications

- Admitted to the Brussels Bar
- Admitted to the Bar of England and Wales (non-practising)

Contact Ninette

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