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Articles

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CONTENTS

Editorial.....	v
Innovation Benefits of Software Patents in Kenya <i>Josphat Ayamunda and Ian K. Tum</i>	1
Corporate Restructuring: Towards More Informal and Flexible Models <i>Fancy C. Too</i>	23
Backlash Against ISDS – A Case for a Sustainable Development Approach to Investment Arbitration for Developing Countries <i>Nilfat Ali</i>	49
Regulation of Interest in International Contracts Under the UN Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods <i>Vincent K. Mutai</i>	77
Legal Challenges to the Formation and Formalities of Online Contracts in Kenya <i>Bernard Kibet Sang</i>	97
Recognition of Qualifications in Law Earned in an East African Community Partner State: Kenya’s Practice <i>Wilfred N. Konosi and Fred M. Ratemo</i>	125
Western Deontology Versus Eastern Consequentialism: Does Rwanda Need Democracy as Sine Quo Non to Achieving Economic Development? <i>Akinyi J. Eurallyah</i>	149
Investment Regulation in the East African Community: Community and Domestic Legal Regimes <i>Emmanuel Sebijjo Ssemmanda and Edmond Ashivaka Shikoli</i>	173

EDITORIAL

There has been a disturbing dearth of research on diverse African phenomena by African scholars. In the area of legal research, whereas there have been efforts for research in the area of public law, there has been a worrying shortage of research and publication in the area of commercial law. This trend has to change. This year, through the Centre for Commercial and Corporate Law, in the Department of Commercial Law at Kabarak University, I have the pleasure to present to you the inaugural volume of our African Journal of Commercial Law. This is the 2019/2020 edition. The regularity with which this journal shall be published is designed to provide a platform for collecting the backlog redressing the dearth in commercial law research on the African continent by African scholars and other scholars with a keen interest on African perspective in this branch of learning.

This journal shall be run as a peer-reviewed biennial publication of scholarly work being articles, commentaries, case and book reviews. The publication covers diverse topics in the area of Commercial Law, Policy and Practice of relevance to the African Continent. It is our hope that this publication shall be a welcome relief to legal practitioners, judicial officers, researchers, policy makers and students looking for material in this area. Further, we also hope that this journal shall act as a catalyst for the research endeavours of academics and other industry players in the area of commercial law seeking an avenue through which to disseminate their research outputs on the subject.

This current edition presents a rich menu of articles covering a variety of subjects which include protection of software by way of patents; corporate restructuring through informal work outs; the inadequacy of the current Investor-State Dispute Settlement mechanisms; regulation of interest under the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods; challenges relating to the formation of online contracts in Kenya; regulation of legal education within the EAC; economic development and democratic rights; and mechanisms for dispute resolution for investment within the EAC.

I wish to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to all those who made this publication a success. The various article authors, the peer reviewers, the administrative team at the school and the university management are hereby acknowledged for their contribution to making this work a reality.

From my desk as the Editor-in- Chief, I particularly recognise and mention Mr. Omolo Joseph Agutu, the journal's Coordinating Editor, without whose singular focus on this project, the idea of rolling out this journal would have been a pipe-dream.

To all our readers, I say, welcome, and, enjoy the reading.

Elisha Z. Ongoya
Editor-in-Chief