



## **Philippe J. M. LEDESMA - Age 61**

**Independent Director**

**Date of first appointment:** December 2017

**Qualifications:** Masters' Degree in Business and Company Law (DESS) and Postgraduate Degree in Business Law (France)

**Skills and experience:** Philippe has more than 35 years practice as a tax and business law adviser for governments, international financial institutions, banks and private groups in various countries. He has a dual experience both as an in-house lawyer and as a lawyer within large consultancy groups and specialises in mergers and acquisitions, restructuring and privatisation process, drafting of new legal frameworks, negotiation and drafting of commercial agreements as well as in tax planning, particularly through offshore vehicles registered in Mauritius. Previously, he has been a Counsellor for the French Foreign Trade and has advised a French world leader of the hotel industry as well as a French group of investors for the setting up of a five star hotel and real estate program in Mauritius. He has also been the leading counsel of the Malagasy authorities in respect of the privatisation process of a state owned company having a quasi-monopoly for marketing locally produced cotton. Furthermore, he was highly involved in a legal feasibility study in respect of an airline company to be created between the French West Indies and Metropolitan France and has also advised the Banque des Etats d'Afrique Centrale (BEAC) for the setting up of a regional stock exchange common to the six member States of the Central African Economic and Monetary Community (CEMAC) within a consortium led by the Stock Exchange of Mauritius.

**Board Committee memberships:** Risk Monitoring Committee; Nomination and Remuneration Committee, Audit Committee, Conduct Review Committee