**Olajide Yesufu; Partner | Tax and Regulatory Advisory | Tax Expert**

With over 29 years work experience, 16 of which was spent in the Telecommunications Sector, Olajide’s expertise spans Tax Planning, Tax Strategy and Risk Management, Tax Audit Defence and Compliance management, Tax Accounting Reporting and Tax Due Diligence.

He voluntarily exited MTN Nigeria Communications Plc as the Senior Manager and Head of the Tax department to join an ethical solution oriented firm, ***AideOne Consulting Limited*** which he co-founded.

Olajide holds a Higher National Diploma in Accountancy & Finance from Yaba College of Technology, Lagos and is an alumnus of the PricewaterhouseCoopers Tax Academy. A Fellow of both the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria (FCA) and the Chartered Institute of Taxation in Nigeria (FCTI), he also holds a Professional Certification in Transfer Pricing from the International Institute of Tax & Finance (IITF), South Africa.  
  
Prior to joining MTN Nigeria, Olajide was the Senior Inspector of Taxes at the Tax Audit & Investigation department of the Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS) where he also served as the Acting Deputy Commissioner of Stamp Duties during his stint with the FIRS amongst other strategic roles.   
  
Olajide joined MTN Nigeria in May 2004, as Senior Tax Accountant as the pioneer member of the Tax team and later became the Tax Manager same year. In March 2014, Olajide took on a job rotation assignment as Group Tax Manager with the MTN Group, Johannesburg South Africa where he gained considerable exposure on Transfer Pricing disputes and potential disputes between MTN Group and relevant tax authorities as a means of mitigating some of the biggest tax exposures faced in all 22 operating countries across the MTN footprint in Africa and middle east.

Some of his landmark achievements as the head of the MTN Nigeria Tax function include the following;

* Olajide facilitated the Donation Deductibility status certificate for MTN Foundation Limited by Guarantee for the Donations made by MTN in 2013. He also supervised the Pioneer Tax Status and Tax Holiday period to the fullest maximum benefit of the shareholders.
* He simplified the accounting and reporting of the tax numbers in the business plan, forecast and management reports, particularly, the deferred Tax and Effective Tax Rate analysis. He also Coordinated the Stakeholder management and divisional compliance dashboards for the Finance function for 2018 - 2021.
* Olajide Participated in Company Liquidation process for Visafone Communications Ltd a subsidiary of MTNN. He also anchored the Transfer pricing documentation for related party engagements in readiness for TP Audit scheduled for Q3 2021
* He coordinated and supervised the State Board of internal Revenue Tax Audit and conflict resolution process for 36 States of the Federation with a majority resolved at reconciliation stage with a few resolved at the Tax Appeal Tribunal stage.
* Olajide coordinated the FIRS Tax Audit of MTNN for 2010 to 2015 to an effective resolution of an alleged N286bn liability leading to a Tax Appeal Tribunal resolution (2018 - 2020 – Principal Witness in MTNN Vs FIRS deductibility of NCC Fine, VAT on Asset Swop and Shared VAT Principle from start to judgement).
* He led the tax function in defence of the Investigation by the Office of the Attorney General of the Federation (OAGF) - Principal witness at the Federal High Court Ikoyi Lagos on Form A and Form M transaction taxes (VAT, WHT, Import Duty). He subsequent drove the engagement with the Federal Inland (FIRS) and Nigerian Custom Services (NCS) on Investigation Exercise by the Office of the Attorney General of the Federation (OAGF), to a very advanced resolution stage as at February 2021 presentation to the Board.
* Represented MTNN at the Nigerian House of Representatives’ (HOR) Tax Compliance Check and Alleged $30B Revenue Leakage and supervised the Stamp Duty implementation compliance Health Check in 2020/2021
* Olajide Championed the COVID-19 intervention and funding support for the Federal Government through early Tax payment. MTNN’s support to the Government in the fight of COVID-19 also qualified as deductible donations for tax purpose. He was the company-wide implementation project lead for the Finance Act 2019 and 2020 for the MTNN and its subsidiaries and specifically led the implementation of the new VAT rate of 7.5% and other statutory changes.
* Olajide possesses a proven work experience of leading a strategic Tax function for over 16 years at MTNN and 12years regulatory background from a Senior Tax Inspector role at the Federal Inland Revenue Service.
* Awards to Olajide’s credit include; Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria’s Prize for the Best student performance in Management Principles and Practice Subject (1991). **J.O. Owoseni’s Award (ICAN)**. Best Corporate Tax Payer in the Telecommunication category Award 2005/2006 (MTNN) - **Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS)**; Lagos State Governor’s special Award for (MTNN) in 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010 for Outstanding tax compliance and consistency in the stream of tax payment nominated by **Lagos Internal Revenue Service (LIRS)**; CITN Merit award for MTNN (Private Sector Category) in 2011– nominated **by Chartered Institute of Taxation of Nigeria (CITN)** for invaluable contributions to the development of the Nigerian Tax System.
* Olajide brings with him a comprehensive 29 years’ experience in the world of Taxation in Nigeria and beyond with keen interest to support small and medium scale businesses and entrepreneurs desirous of building sustainable regulatory compliance processes around a sound business structure that can deliver measurable value to stakeholders.