

Press Release

African Banker Awards short list announced

An impressive short list of nominees for the first ever **African Banker Awards**, to be held at the Grand Hyatt, Washington DC, USA, on the 18th of October 2007, has been announced.

Africa's top bankers, finance ministers and central bank governors will vie for awards in 15 categories, ranging from best Finance Minister to Best Micro Lending Institution.

The **African Banker Awards** will coincide with the annual IMF/World Bank meeting, also in Washington.

Africa's most important financial experts, including Nigerian Central Bank Governor, Prof Chukwuma Soludo CFR, the President of the African Development Bank, Mr. Donald Kaberuka, Jean Louis Ekra, President AfriExim Bank, and the Deputy Prime Minister of Mauritius, Hon Rama Krishna Sithanen are expected to attend. Also in attendance will be many other African finance ministers, central bank governors, chief executives of commercial banks and other African and US business heads.

An independent panel of judges will choose the winners of 11 out of the 15 categories. The panel and the editorial board of the African Banker magazine will select winners in four special categories: African Finance Minister, Central Bank Governor, Banking Regulator and an award for overall contribution to African banking, the Lifetime Achievement Award,

The judges are Nkosana Moyo, Managing Partner of Actis Capital; Benita Diop, and Executive Director of Femmes Africa Solidarite; Dr (Mrs) Virginia Anohu, Vice Chairman/CEO of MGSL; Omari Issa, CEO of Investment Climate Facility and Mrs Koosum Kalyan, G8 Business Action for Africa.

Short list:

The nominees of the **African Banker Awards** to be held in Washington DC on the 18th of October 2007 are:

Nominated for **Bank of the Year Award**:

- Access Bank, Nigeria
- Bank Windhoek, Namibia
- Ecobank, Togo
- Intercontinental Bank, Nigeria
- Zenith Bank, Nigeria
- UBA, Nigeria
- State Bank of Mauritius, Mauritius

Nominated for **Banker of the Year award**:

- Mr Arnold Ekpe, Ecobank, Togo
- Jacobs Moyo, Ajekigbe, First Bank, Nigeria
- Dr Erastus Bankole Olapido Akingbola, Intercontinental Bank, Nigeria
- Dr (Mrs) Cecilia Ibru, Oceanic Bank, Nigeria
- Mr Tony Elumelu, UBA, Nigeria

Nominated for **Investment Bank in Africa Award**:

- Citi, South Africa
- JP Morgan, South Africa
- Standard Bank, South Africa

Nominated for **Development Bank in Africa Award**:

- Bank of Industry, Nigeria
- Swazi Bank, Swaziland

Nominated For **Most Innovative Bank Award**:

- Access Bank, Nigeria
- First Inland Bank, Nigeria
- Guaranty Trust Bank, Nigeria

- Swazi Bank, Swaziland

The nominations for **Socially Responsible Bank of the Year Award:**

- Fidelity Bank, Nigeria
- Intercontinental Bank, Nigeria
- Nedbank group, South Africa
- PHB Bank, Nigeria
- Zenith Bank, Nigeria

Nominated for **Gender Sensitivity Award:**

- Access Bank, Nigeria
- Swazi Bank, Swaziland

Nominated for **Microfinance Bank Award:**

- Societe Generale Marocaine de Banques, Morocco
- SwaziBank, Swaziland
- Banque Tunisienne de Solidarite, Tunisia

The nominations for **Best Issuing House Award:**

- IBTC Chartered , Nigeria
- JP Morgan, South Africa

Nominations for **Deal of the Year Award:**

- AAIB, Egypt
- Guaranty Trust Bank, Nigeria
- International Finance Corporation (IFC), South Africa
- Intercontinental Bank, Nigeria
- Standard Bank, South Africa
- Citi, South Africa
- JP Morgan, South Africa

Nominated for **Emerging Global Bank in Africa** Award:

- JP Morgan
- United Bank of Africa

Co-host, Christian Udechukwu of Business in Africa Events said “This is a celebration of African excellence on an international scale.” Afif Ben Yedder, publisher of *African Banker* magazine, which is part of the London based IC Publications, added: “With these awards, we aim to pay tribute to African bankers and to strengthen as well as encourage global best practice in the financial sector.”

The awards are supported by the African Development Bank. Sponsors include Bank of Industry, Standard Bank, Afrinvest, African Export-Import Bank, Travelex, Financial Dynamics and Virgin Nigeria Airways.

The African Banker Awards are organised by IC Publications and BusinessinAfrica Events.

About IC Publications

IC Publications are the publishers of *African Business*, *New African*, *The Middle East* magazines. Recently they have launched two new quarterlies, the *African Banker* and *New African Edition Internationale* in French. The magazines attract over 500,000 readers every month, and are sold in newsstands in over 100 countries.

About BusinessinAfrica Events

BusinessinAfrica Events is a leading UK based business communication company specializing in Live Events, Public Relations, Media Relations and Reputation Management for corporate clients and governments with a focus on Africa. We interface Africa and the world. Our reputation management

advisory team serve our clients to navigate the corporate risks in emerging economies and enable them to maximise business opportunities.

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