

THE 2016 PAN-AFRICAN RE/INSURANCE JOURNALISM AWARDS

Eden Bleu Hotel
Eden Island, Seychelles



The Pan-African Re/Insurance
**JOURNALISM
AWARDS**

In association with  CONTINENTAL
REINSURANCE

The 3 categories in the 2016 awards are:

- Pan-African Re/Insurance Journalist of the Year
- Best Re/Insurance Industry Analysis and Commentary
- Best Re/Insurance Industry Feature Article



Introduction



Welcome to the inaugural Pan-African Re/Insurance Journalism Awards ceremony. As Africa's largest private reinsurer outside of South Africa, Continental Reinsurance is committed to advancing the insurance sector in Africa. We believe our sector has a valuable role to play in Africa's economic growth and development.

The Pan-African Re/Insurance Journalism Awards are an extension of our continued commitment to the advancement of excellence in the industry. The awards have been set up to improve and develop insurance and reinsurance reporting in Africa and to encourage journalists to develop their knowledge and expertise, as well as recognise the outstanding work of media from across Africa.

We are very pleased at the large number of entries from journalists across Africa and hope that these awards will inspire journalists from every country on the African continent

Congratulations to all who participated and, in particular, this year's winners.

I hope you will enjoy your evening.

Dr Femi Oyetunji

Group Managing Director/CEO, Continental Reinsurance PLC

Celebrating the 2016 winners

The inaugural Pan-African Re/Insurance Journalism Awards received close to 100 entries from French and English speaking journalists from across Africa. Journalists were required to demonstrate how their articles raised awareness and understanding of the reinsurance sector in Africa and display integrity in their work.



Ms Nike Popoola

Punch Nigeria Limited, Nigeria

Awarded article:

"Battle of the wits: local, foreign firms jostle for Re/Insurance deals"

Motivation

I wanted to write a feature that could help boost Re/Insurance development across Africa. It is estimated that about 75% of Re/Insurance business in Africa is taken outside the continent. Local reinsurers have to compete with foreign counterparts that are far ahead of them in terms of capacity and experience. The feature emphasizes the necessity for strong, indigenous reinsurance firms and how they can make meaningful contributions to their country's GDP. In addition, it highlights the need for reinsurers to position themselves with governments to drive an agenda that would aid the sector's growth.

Biography

Nike Popoola is a chief correspondent with Nigeria's newspaper, The Punch. She won the prestigious Nigerian Media Merit Award as Insurance Reporter of the Year in 2010, 2011 and 2015. She also won the reputable Diamond Awards for Media Excellence as Insurance Reporter of the Year in 2010 and 2015.



Mr Evans Boah-Mensah

The Business & Financial Times, Ghana

Awarded article:

"Life insurance growing through micro and risk schemes"

Motivation

Unfortunately, insurance is a product that many people in Ghana are hesitant to buy. Currently, there are 43 insurance companies in both the life and non-life insurance sectors, which are all competing in a market where uptake is low. For numerous people, insurance claims and payouts have left many in pain, affecting confidence and trust in insurance companies. Nonetheless, knowing how beneficial insurance can be to people especially in times of distress, I have made insurance reporting one of my main focus areas. It is my hope that through insurance reporting, I can help to inform and address the challenges that face the industry in Ghana.

Biography

Mr Evans Boah-Mensah started his journalism career as a reporter in 2005 and has risen through the ranks, occupying the News Editor position in Ghana's biggest business-biased newspaper. Over the years, Evans has built up his reputation and credibility as one of Ghana's finest insurance reporters.



Mr Steve Mbogo

Commercial Risk Africa and the Financial Mail, Kenya

Awarded article:

"From small acorns grow mighty oaks"

Motivation

I have a keen interest in reporting on crop and livestock insurance targeting small scale farmers, and other micro insurance issues. My intention is to educate people on available and affordable solutions to reduce their risk exposure, hence my motivation for these stories. In March 2015, our monthly newspaper, MT. KENYA STAR, launched a 'Champions of Micro Insurance' initiative in partnership with five insurance companies. The four-day event featured trainings and road shows to educate the public on the importance of micro insurance. The event will be repeated this year.

Biography

Mr Steve Mbogo is a Kenyan journalist and publisher, writing for local and foreign publications including Commercial Risk Africa and the Financial Mail. He is the publisher of a monthly newspaper, MT. KENYA STAR, which covers counties within Mt. Kenya region. Steve has 15 years' experience in journalism, spent working at various media houses including Nation Media Group's Business Daily and The EastAfrican.

Celebrating the 2016 finalists

Close to 100 entries from journalists across Africa have been received during this inaugural journalism awards. 23 finalists were shortlisted from which the judges selected the three winners.

Anne Kiruku
Bernard Yaw Ashiadey
Cesar Ebrokie
Dinfin Mulupi
Dominic Uys
Ebere Nowji

Evans Boah-Mensah (winner)

Fidelity Mhlanga
Gareth Stokes
Guy Assance Yapy
Isaac Khisa
James Muyanwa
Frances Bailey
Kamagate Issouf
Kate Douglas
Mamadou Lamine Diatta
Mawuli Zogbenu

Nike Popoola (winner)

Odimegwu Onwumere
Oliver Ribouis
Paul Nyakazeya

Steve Mbogo (winner)

Sven Hugo

"The quality of most entries was excellent. Journalists in Africa can be among the best in the world."

Afif Ben Yeder

The judging panel

An independent panel of six jury members assessed and evaluated the entries from across Africa. Mr Afif Ben Yedder chaired the panel of media experts.



Mr Afif Ben Yedder grew up in Tunisia before graduating from HEC in Paris in 1963. He was Jeune Afrique's Executive Director in Paris until 1971 when he moved to London to launch Africa Magazine, a sister publication in English. In 1974, he founded IC Publications, an international publishing company, which produces a number of leading Pan-African magazines covering current affairs, business, banking and women's issues.



Professor Jonathan Grun is former Editor of the Press Association, London. He currently holds the Professional Chair of Journalism at the University of Sheffield. Professor Grun is the secretary of the Editors' Code of Practice Committee. He has twice been president of the Society of Editors and was presented with a special award recognising his contribution to journalism at the 2014 Press Awards.



Mr Michael Wilson is one of British television's best-respected business and economics editors. Mr Wilson joined Sky Television at its inception in 1989 and over twenty years, he anchored nearly all of Sky's coverage of major business events. Since he left Sky TV in 2009, he has broadcast for BBC, ITV, Fox News, Al Jazeera TV and Arise Networks, a global television service aimed at Africa.

"By covering the reinsurance industry, journalists are participating in the development of the sector, the growth of the African continent and its expansion across Africa."

Léone Ouedraogo



Mr William Wallis, the Financial Times African Affairs specialist, has travelled and worked in more than 40 countries in Africa and the Middle East. Before joining the Financial Times, he worked for the BBC and Reuters as a correspondent based in Africa. In the past, he contributed regularly to The Economist and The Economist Intelligence Unit. He has lectured at the Royal Institute of International Affairs and has made television documentaries for the BBC and Channel 4.



Ms Léone Ouedraogo presents BBC Afrique's flagship TV show BBC Infos, as well as the weekend business programme BBC Eco. Originally from Burkina Faso, Ms Ouedraogo grew up in Belgium where she studied journalism and started her media career at the Belga Press Agency. Before joining BBC Afrique in London in 2014, Léone worked for Vox Africa TV, the first pan-African TV channel.



Ms Julia Graham is the technical director of Airmic, the UK association of risk and insurance professionals. She has been a risk and insurance professional for over 40 years, most recently as Director of Risk Management and Insurance for the global law firm DLA Piper and prior to that head of risk and insurance at insurance company RSA.

Michael Wilson

Thursday, 21st April from 6.30pm

Programme

- Guests arrival to music and cocktails
- Welcome address
*Dr Femi Oyetunji, Group Managing Director/CEO,
Continental Reinsurance PLC*
- Guest speaker address
Mr Larrey Chetty, Media Commission of Seychelles
- Official video introduction
- Presentation of awards
- Brief remarks from overall winner
- Dinner and entertainment
- Seychelles investment opportunities
Mr Rupert Simeon, CEO of Seychelles Investment Board
- Closure

