



PRESS RELEASE

Experienced Journalists, Industry Experts to adjudicate submissions for 2019 Pan African Re/Insurance Journalism Awards

Michael Wilson to Chair 2019 Judging Panel

Lagos, Tuesday, 6th November 2018: Leading Pan African Reinsurance firm, Continental Reinsurance Plc has announced the panel of judges for the 2019 Pan African Re/Insurance Journalism Awards.

The independent judging panel will be chaired by **Michael Wilson**, a seasoned freelance Business and Finance journalist. Wilson joined Sky TV at its inception in 1989 and for over 20 years he was a main anchor for Sky's coverage of major business events. Since leaving Sky, he has broadcast for the BBC, ITV, Fox News, Al-Jazeera and Arise Networks, a global television service aimed at Africa.

Other judges include: **Nadia Mensah-Acogny**, a Forbes Afrique journalist who was the chair of the 2018 Awards 2018 Pan African Re/Insurance Journalism Awards and **Kenneth Igbomor**, Market News Editor, CNBC West Africa. The 2019 edition will see entry of new judges namely **Gareth Stokes**, a professional freelance Finance journalist, who won the Pan African Journalist of the Year award in 2017 Pan African Re/Insurance Journalism Awards and Special Award in 2018, **Dr. Jared Obuya**, an experienced journalist who has worked with several Kenyan and international news organizations and currently a Communications Lecturer at Moi University and **Shiamdass Appannah**, an African insurance market expert. Shiamdass is the Founding Partner and Director/Consultant, former CEO and former Chairman of Reinsurance Solutions Group companies in Mauritius, Kenya, Cote D'Ivoire and London, UK.

"This year, we bring together a highly experienced panel of judges to adjudicate the submissions. We hope that their expertise will inspire more journalists to improve their writing in matters insurance in Africa to ensure accurate reporting of insurance topics," said Dr Femi Oyetunji, Group Managing Director, Continental Reinsurance Plc.

The Awards are currently open for submissions to both English and French-speaking print, broadcast and online journalists covering the re/insurance sector in Africa. Deadline for submissions of entries is November 30th 2018 and interested journalists are required to enter one article per category. The 2019 Award categories are - Pan-African Re/Insurance Journalist of the Year, Best Re/Insurance Print Article, Best Re/Insurance Broadcast (TV/Radio) Article and the new award, Best Re/Insurance Online Article.

The judging criteria will focus on how the entries have raised awareness and understanding of Re/ Insurance Sector and displayed integrity in covering the sector. They will also be judged according to how participating journalists have sourced new data or analysed existing data to make it relevant to regional, national and local audiences; effectively analysed a current news story or other noteworthy insurance issues as well as used, analysed and presented statistics to investigate a particular issue in Re/ Insurance Sector.



The journalism awards were initiated in 2015 by Continental Reinsurance to recognise and acknowledge the good work of media on the continent. Journalists are required to demonstrate how their articles raised awareness and understanding of the re/insurance sector in Africa.

The 2019 Judging Panel

Michael Wilson, Business & Finance Journalist

Mr. Wilson joined Sky TV at its inception in 1989 and for over 20 years he was a main anchor for Sky's coverage of major business events. Since leaving Sky, he has broadcast for the BBC, ITV, Fox News, Al-Jazeera and Arise Networks, a global television service aimed at Africa.

Nadia Mensah-Acogny, Journalist, Forbes Afrique

Ms Mensah-Acogny is a journalist and columnist at Forbes Afrique, where she is the author of the annual '*100 Most Influential Women in Africa*' report. She has over 30 years of experience as a communications expert and is the co-founder of Acosphere, a business consultancy. Ms Mensah-Acogny is also a member of the Board of Trustees of the Africa Centre in London and a member of the Council of Women In Africa WIA. Ms. Nadia was the Chair of the PanAfrican Re/Insurance Journalism Awards 2018 judging panel.

Kenneth Igbomor, Market News Editor (West Africa), CNBC Africa

Kenneth Igbomor is a seasoned financial journalist and business news television producer and is currently the Market news editor for CNBC Africa, where he heads the West Africa editorial team. He is also a development economist previously working as a financial planner in the insurance industry in Nigeria. He remains an 'unrepentant optimist' about development outcomes in Africa.

Gareth Stokes, Founder, Stokes Media Group

Gareth is a professional freelance journalist and writer who specialises in the financial services industry. Based in South Africa, his work has been published in magazines and newspapers including Daily Mail & The Guardian, Financial Mail, FA News, FIA Insight and others. He is the author of a basic guide to stock market investing and the co-author of '*Short Term Insurance in South Africa 2016*'. Gareth currently writes on risk management and insurance topics and contributes as a reporter to Commercial Risk Africa. An outstanding financial/ insurance writer, Gareth won the Pan African Journalist of the Year award in 2017 Pan African Re/Insurance Journalism Awards and Special Award in 2018.

Dr. Jared Obuya, Communications Lecturer, Moi University

Dr Jared Obuya is an experienced journalist, having worked with several Kenyan media houses (Standard Group and Nation Media Group) as well as international news organizations including BBC - in various editorial capacities. He has also been a correspondent and member of the Paris-based press freedom organization, Reporters Without Borders and Secretary General of the Kenya Union of Journalists (KUJ). He has been on the panel of judges of the Annual Journalism Excellence Awards administered by the Media Council of Kenya, and the East African Media Awards administered by the East African Community (EAC). Currently, Dr. Obuya is a lecturer at the Department of Communication Studies, School of Information Sciences, Moi University.

Shiamdass Appanah, Insurance Industry Expert

Shiamdass has over 40 years' experience in the Africa's insurance industry. He's skilled in Reinsurance Programme structuring, designing risk finance vehicles, and Captive Insurance. He's the Founding



Partner and Director/Consultant, former CEO and former Chairman of Reinsurance Solutions Group companies in Mauritius, Kenya, Cote D'Ivoire and London, UK. Previously, he held positions of CEO and Director of Guardrisk Insurance, a major Cell-Captive Insurance provider, and Regional Director in Nairobi of African Reinsurance Corporation. He is a Chartered Insurance Broker and has an MBA from Cass Business School.

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Notes to editors:

About Continental Reinsurance:

Continental Reinsurance is a composite reinsurer, writing business in more than 50 countries across the African continent. Established in 1985, and listed on the Nigerian Stock Exchange (NSE) in 2007, Continental Reinsurance provides support to over 200 insurance companies in Africa with its main offices in Nigeria, Cameroon, Kenya, Côte d'Ivoire, Tunisia and Botswana. It also has a specialist subsidiary – Continental Property and Engineering Risk Services (CPERS) – registered in South Africa.

[Link](#) to Awards web page.

Press Contact

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