



The Pan-African Re/Insurance

JOURNALISM AWARDS 2018

In association with



CONTINENTAL
REINSURANCE

THE 2018 PAN-AFRICAN RE/INSURANCE JOURNALISM AWARDS

9 April 2018
Strand Hotel
Swakopmund, Namibia

WELCOME



DR FEMI OYETUNJI
Group Managing Director/CEO
Continental Reinsurance PLC

The Re/Insurance industry plays a key role in Africa's economic growth and as a leading Pan-African reinsurance firm we are proud to be part of the development of this Continent.

The Continental Re Pan-African Re/Insurance Journalism Awards are an extension of our continued commitment to advance excellence in the sector.

Since 2015, we have been recognising and honoring journalists who have made outstanding contributions in reporting and writing about the Re/Insurance sector in African media, and this year we continue to champion journalistic excellence.

Our panel of judges this year was made up of 5 insurance and business media experts from Europe and Africa, who assessed and evaluated the entries submitted by a wide range of local and regional journalists from across the Continent. I was delighted to hear that not only have this year's writing submissions greatly improved in quality, but that entries came in from a wider range of countries, and with more diverse insurance topics being featured by journalists.

The judges have recommended that we include two new categories in next year's Awards – for broadcast and for pure online entries – to accommodate radio and TV reporting formats, as well as online articles and blogs written exclusively for online audiences. It is also important to stress that the awards are dual language, so we would like to encourage more Francophone journalists to enter next year.

Congratulations to the winners and runners-up for the 2018 Pan-African Re/Insurance Journalism Awards, and to all those who participated. We look forward to reading (and watching) your entries next year and at the same time encourage more journalists to enter the 2019 edition.

ABOUT THE AWARDS

In 2015, Continental Reinsurance Plc created the Pan-African Re/Insurance Journalism Awards to recognise and acknowledge the good work of journalists and the media on the African Continent. The awards are open to journalists from both English and French speaking countries, who are required to demonstrate how their articles have contributed to raising awareness and understanding of the re/insurance sector in Africa. For each edition of the Awards, an independent panel of judges evaluates the entries based on strict judging criteria to select finalists and winners, who are later announced during the awards ceremony. This coincides with Continental Re's annual CEO Summit, held in a different African country each year. 2018 is the third edition of the Journalism Awards, which have already contributed to increased quality of reporting on various insurance topics by local and regional business journalists.

THE 2018 EDITION

The 3rd edition of the Pan-African Re/Insurance Journalism Awards received a total of 61 entries. The entries were spread across 15 countries - Kenya, Uganda, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Nigeria, Ghana, Namibia, Mauritius and Zambia for Anglophones; Ivory Coast, Cameroon, Senegal, Chad, Democratic Republic of Congo and Togo for Francophones.

AWARD CATEGORY

The 3 categories in the 2018 awards are:

Pan African Re/Insurance Journalist of the Year

Best Re/Insurance Industry Analysis & Commentary

Best Re/Insurance Industry Feature Article

ABOUT THE AWARDS

JUDGING CRITERIA

Entries were evaluated by judges based on the following set criteria:

- How they have raised awareness and understanding of the re/insurance sector.
- How they displayed integrity in covering the sector.
- How journalists sourced new data or analysed existing data to make it relevant to regional, national and local audiences.
- How journalists effectively analysed a current news story or other noteworthy insurance issue.
- How journalists used, analysed and presented statistics to investigate an issue in the re/insurance sector.

2018 AWARDS PRIZES

The three winners of this year's awards will win a combination of financial and practical training prizes to include:

- A fully paid trip to attend the awards ceremony and the 5th Continental Re's CEO summit in Swakopmund, Namibia in April.
- A cash prize of USD 2000 for the overall winner and USD 1000 for the other two categories.
- Two-day training on insurance reporting during the awards event and mentorship by Commercial Risk Africa (CRA) Magazine. Journalists will be issued with certificates upon completion of the training. The overall winner will also win a fully-paid trip to attend CRA's training in London, UK including a one-week internship.
- All the finalists will receive certificates of being shortlisted in the 2018 awards.

We hope that our journalism Awards will continue to inspire business journalists (both French and English speaking) to cover extensive issues related to the insurance sector and drive improved quality of research, and journalistic reporting skills on industry topics.

DR. FEMI OYETUNJI

Commercial Risk Africa

Insurance & Risk Management News

IN PRINT

Commercial Risk Africa was launched in November 2012 to help support the growing Sub Saharan African risk management community.

The publication is designed to help established and new risk managers with international and local companies identify the main risks, the best ways of managing them and ultimately transferring them to the risk transfer markets.

- 10 editions annually
- More than 12,000 subscribers worldwide – over 7,000 in Sub Saharan Africa
- Digital publication
- Print editions for key events



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ONLINE

Since 2010, Rubicon Media publications have been the best single source of market intelligence on the global corporate risk management market, written by some of the most experienced journalists in the industry and aimed at risk professionals in today's fast growing and emerging European and international market.



WWW.COMMERCIALRISKONLINE.COM

JUDGING PANEL

The **2018** panel comprised of 5 insurance and business media experts who independently evaluated all the entries from across Africa. On March 12th 2018, the judges held a round table meeting and selected finalists and winners for the three categories.



Nadia Mensah-Acogny
Journalist, Forbes Afrique (Chair)

Ms Nadia 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. She 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 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.



Afif Ben Yedder
Founder, IC Publications

Afif Ben Yedder was previously the Executive Director at Jeune Afrique. In 1974, he founded IC Publications, one of the world’s leading sources of analysis and debate on African political and economic issues, reaching over 2.6 million loyal readers in more than 100 countries.



Michael Wilson
Business & Finance Journalist

Michael 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.



Tony van Niekerk
Editor, Cover Publications

Tony van Niekerk is the owner / editor of COVER Publications, a B2B publisher specialising in financial services on the African continent for the past 30 years. Tony held positions as a senior executive in the insurance industry for 14 years before joining the media industry 12 years ago.

JUDGES' COMMENTS

“Compared with other editions, this year’s articles were of greater quality (including the 2 radio clips submitted). I also noticed that there were more contenders for the top scores than there were last year, which is encouraging progress. The articles received were spread across 15 countries, which is a wider range of countries than previous years, though we were missing a strong representation from French speakers. As a francophone journalist myself, I would like to encourage more French journalists to take part next year. The entries also cover a more exhaustive range of insurance topics – from products, policies, markets, challenges, legal aspects, socio-cultural aspects to innovations etc, and this better reflects the change the current insurance market is going through as it tries its best to be creative in finding solutions that are adapted to the African realities and environment.”

Nadia Mensah Acogny

“Overall, I’d like to say that the talent unearthed by this competition is immense and it’s very good to see that so many business journalists are working to pry open the issues that affect the insurance industry in Africa. However, far too many of the pieces are falling into the trap of assuming that once a piece is written, everyone will want to read it, simply because it’s in print. Every journalist who wants their story read is competing with online and social media which, by its very format, is briefer and - for better or worse - eye catching. Most of these very talented finalists need to understand that a printed story needs to have a strong intro, which is the ‘come on’ to a read, and then a clever reiteration of the thrust of the story through its subsequent paragraphs. It’s an art, but it’s something that all journalists need to learn and to apply, whether it’s a news report, or a feature. Always remind the reader why he or she should be reading what’s been written succinctly and often.”

Michael Wilson

“I am honored to have been included in the panel of judges for the Pan-African Re/insurance Journalism Awards. The submissions presented the judges with a number of high quality editorial pieces and analytical features to choose from, making it tough to decide on winners, while at the same time illustrating that the continent is producing talented business journalists. However, the number of submissions that are substandard emphasizes the need for initiatives such as this one, that will encourage self-development amongst journalists and ensure media owners invest in the future of journalism.”

Tony van Niekerk

“This year’s entries are of a better quality, which is encouraging. Some articles are excellent and very informative. They come from all over the continent and not mainly from South Africa or Nigeria. However, the choice could be more inclusive as French speaking Africa is still poorly represented.”

Afif Ben Yedder

“The judging process was quite meticulous and painstakingly fair. There was a mixed bag of entries from across sub-Saharan Africa and I found the quality of the articles to be quite impressive. Personally, some topics were very insightful, and some others were written with a great deal of attention to detail and would leave readers with a better understanding of the re-insurance industry.”

Kenneth Igbomor

FINALISTS

A total of 10 finalists were shortlisted by the judges; 3 for Pan-African Journalist of the Year, 3 for Best Re/Insurance Industry Feature Article and 4 for Best Re/Insurance Industry Analysis and Commentary.

Pan African Journalist of the Year

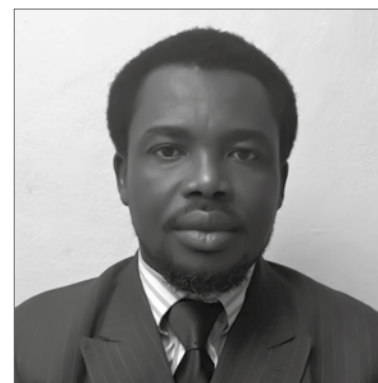
1. Odimegwu Onwumere, Africa Prime News, Nigeria
2. Jonathan Adengo, Monitor Publications, Uganda
3. Isaac Khisa, Independent Publications, Uganda

Best Re/ Insurance Industry Feature Article

1. Otiato Guguyu, Standard Group, Kenya
2. Adesola Afolabi, Daily Times, Nigeria
3. Isaac Khisa, Independent Publications, Uganda

Best Re/ Insurance Industry Analysis & Commentary

1. Adenike Popoola, The Punch, Nigeria
2. Isaac Khisa, Independent Publications, Uganda
3. Steve Mbogo, Nation Media Group, Kenya
4. Eronie Kamukama, Monitor Publications, Uganda



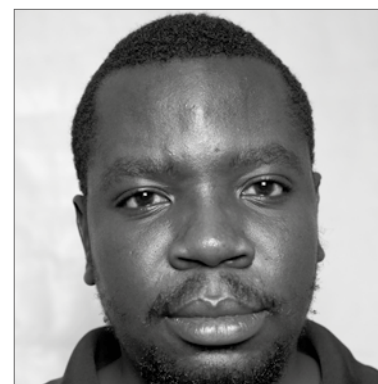
Odimegwu Onwumere
Africa Prime News, Nigeria



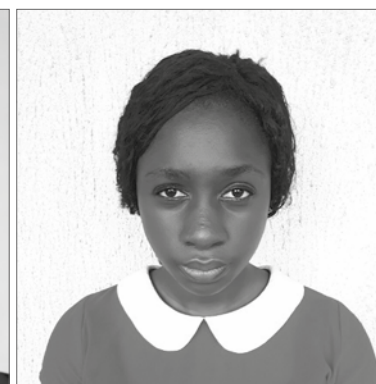
Jonathan Adengo
Monitor Publications, Uganda



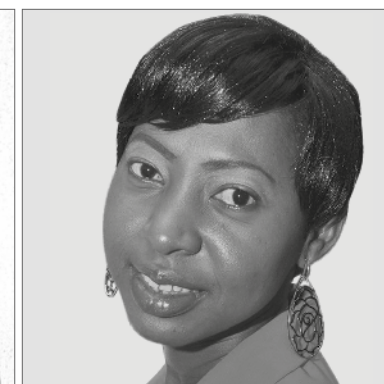
Isaac Khisa
Independent Publications, Uganda



Otiato Guguyu
Standard Group, Kenya



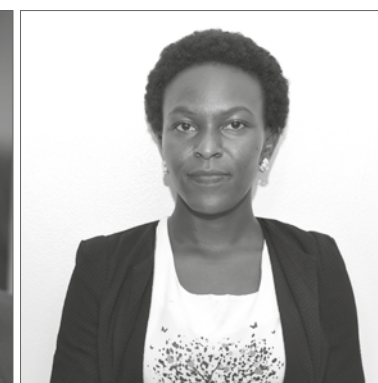
Adesola Afolabi
Daily Times, Nigeria



Adenike Popoola
The Punch, Nigeria



Steve Mbogo
Nation Media Group, Kenya



Eronie Kamukama
Monitor Publications, Uganda

WINNER

PAN AFRICAN RE/ INSURANCE JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR



Odimegwu Onwumere
Africa Prime News, Nigeria

Article: Africa emerging new frontier in the reinsurance markets

Over the years, the West was seen as a place for mature reinsurance business with expensive and classy competition. Foreign insurers chided Africa due to economic instability but are now swarming for businesses on the continent because the sector is becoming alluring and dynamic, due to unswerving GDP growth. The story explains that with opportunities in the young population, widening middle class, development in telecoms and exodus of people in Africa, the foreign reinsurers are spilling over for businesses especially in Sub-Sahara Africa (SSA) with confidence in consumers with throwaway incomes and hefty infrastructure schemes being built.

Biography

Odimegwu Onwumere has over two decades of experience in the media and has won multiple awards. A respected poet and writer, he has served as Nigeria Editor of Newstime Africa (London, 2010); Africa Review of Business and Technology, London (Contributor – 2015-2017); Contributing Editor to Nigeria Oak newspapers; Publisher for Lifestyle & Wellbeing stories on This Day Newspapers since 2015; The Nigerian Voice, Nigeria, (Columnist / Special Reporter of about a decade). His work has appeared in all the print media in Nigeria and likely, on all Nigerian owned online media. He has written over five books, some of which can be found on Amazon.

WINNER

BEST RE/ INSURANCE INDUSTRY FEATURE ARTICLE



Otiato Guguyu
Standard Group, Kenya

Article: Business of protecting wealth from drought

Kenya's Northern regions are usually very dry areas yet the mainstay for the residents here is livestock rearing, which they practice as pastoralists. Whenever there is a dry season, depending on the duration and intensity, the impact is huge, the losses incalculable. Last year, Kenya experienced one of its worst drought in years after rain failed necessitating importation of maize for basic consumption all around the country. For the Northern parts of the country, the impact was worse, decimating herds of goats, cows and camels and threatening starvation. While the Kenyans commendably came together in 2011 during a similar drought to help their compatriots, the reoccurrence of the tragedy was a clear sign that token interventions were not working. The story is about an insurance policy that was introduced in the dry regions of Kenya, following the 2011 drought and how it is cushioning pastoralists from losses. Started by the Government, this initiative has attracted several players in the insurance industry including Takaful Insurance, a Sharia compliant firm as well as APA, Amaco, CIC, Heritage, Jubilee, Kenya Orient and UAP.

Biography

Otiato Guguyu is a 29-year-old Kenyan journalist based in Nairobi. He has worked at Nation Media Group's Daily Nation and Business Daily newspapers and the Standard Group where he is currently working as a business and data journalist. His work includes writing compelling business stories and features specializing in data and analysis of the Kenyan regional and global economic performance. He is a dedicated Business journalist with experience reporting across a wide range of topics cutting across banking, financial markets, technology, entrepreneurship and corporate governance. He is also a poet and fiction writer, an observant thinker whose greatest strength is in noticing details most people miss and trying to fix them together to tell a story. He has also cultivated a background in civil society, which have offered wide ranging experience and interaction with the people whom policy and politics affect directly. He has worked for Kituo cha Sheria, Indigenous Fisher Peoples' network and the Institute of Economic Affairs.

WINNER

BEST RE/ INSURANCE INDUSTRY ANALYSIS & COMMENTARY



Adenike Popoola
The Punch, Nigeria

Article: Foreigners taking over Nigerian insurance industry

Before the last mandatory recapitalisation in the sector in 2007, most of the insurance companies were indigenous underwriters, had less capital, suffered negative perception and operated on a low-scale. Life, non-life and composite firms were asked to shore up their capital from the initial base of N150m, N200m and N350m to N2bn, N3bn, and N5bn, respectively. Reinsurance firms were asked to recapitalise from N350m to N10bn. But at the end of the exercise, the underwriting firms that successfully scaled the recapitalisation hurdle were able to raise their capital to several billions of naira and were transformed into mega firms. Their new status began to attract foreigners into the sector, who started by buying small equities in the companies and graduated to taking over the insurance firms.

A decade after recapitalisation, foreign investors have either taken total control or bought substantial stakes of most of the vibrant insurance companies, leaving the moribund underwriting firms that needed investors to revive them. Asides from seeing the Nigerian market as an emerging one with a lot of potential, the huge population, which can generate huge premiums for the operators, has been identified as a major point of attraction to the foreign investors. The article looks at how this trend is transforming the insurance industry now and its expectations in the near future.

Biography

Nike Popoola is a chief correspondent with Nigeria's most widely read newspaper, The Punch. She has won many national and international journalism awards. She was adjudged the Insurance Reporter of the Year in 2010, 2011 and 2015 by the Nigerian Media Merit Awards. She also won the Insurance Reporter of the Year in 2010, 2015 and 2017 at the Diamond Awards for Media Excellence. Popoola emerged as the overall winner at the maiden edition of the Pan-African Re/ Insurance Journalism Awards in 2016. She has a BSc. in Economics from University of Ilorin and a Master's Degree in Mass Communication from the prestigious University of Lagos.

SPECIAL AWARD WINNER



Gareth Stokes
Commercial Risk Africa, South Africa

Gareth Stokes, a seasoned financial journalist working with Commercial Risk Africa (CRA) in South Africa won a special award in recognition of his exemplary contribution to Re/ Insurance journalism and was recommended to become a judge in future editions. Gareth emerged the Pan African Journalist of the Year in 2017 awards.

Biography

Gareth Stokes 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 Mail & 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.

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