

# THE 2017 PAN-AFRICAN RE/INSURANCE JOURNALISM AWARDS

Radisson Blu Hotel  
Dakar, Senegal



The Pan-African Re/Insurance  
**JOURNALISM  
AWARDS 2017**

In association with



Thursday, 6th April  
from 7.30pm

### **Programme**

- Guests' arrival
- Welcome address by Dr Femi Oyetunji, Group Managing Director/CEO, Continental Reinsurance PLC
- Guest speaker address by Mr Afif Ben Yedder, Founder, IC Publications
- Official awards video
- Presentation of awards
- Dinner and entertainment

# Welcome



After last year's successful inaugural edition of the Pan-African Re/Insurance Journalism Awards, we are delighted to once again honour journalists who have made outstanding contributions on the topic of re/insurance in the African media.

At Continental Reinsurance, we strongly believe that these awards inspire media to cover issues related to re/insurance and improve the overall quality of the reporting. This year, we were pleased to notice a remarkable improvement in the number and quality of contributions from francophone Africa. As a result the jury selected francophone finalists for the first time. It proves we are on the right track.

As one of Africa's leading industry players, Continental Reinsurance will continue to build capacity of journalists so that they can contribute to the development of the re/insurance industry in Africa. We have no doubt the Pan-African Re/Insurance Journalism Awards will continue to live up to its mission.

To all our guests, and especially the finalists, we hope you have a wonderful evening.

**Dr Femi Oyetunji**

Group Managing Director/CEO, Continental Reinsurance PLC

## The 3 categories in the 2017 awards are:

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



**"Africa needs more factual reporting and initiatives like these awards are a great way to help promote journalism."**

Nadia Mensah-Acogny,  
Journalist, Forbes Afrique

# The 2017 shortlist

We received submissions from journalists across Africa for the second edition of the Pan-African Re/Insurance Journalism Awards. 21 journalists were shortlisted after the first round, while seven finalists were selected in the second round. The judges identified the three winners of this year's edition during a final round table discussion.

## **Abiud Ochieng Awiti (finalist)**

Anne Kiruku

## **Anton Pretorius (finalist)**

## **David Thiombiano (finalist)**

Ebere Nwoji

Fidelity Mhlanga

## **Gareth Stokes (finalist)**

Hélène Doubidji

## **Isaac Khisa (finalist)**

Isaac Mwangi

Issouf Kamagate

Jean Pierre Malou

## **Josiane Kouagheu (finalist)**

Matel Bocoum

Mawuli Zogbenou

Nick Norbrook

Ray Mwareya

Sara Bar Rhout

## **Steve Mbogo (finalist)**

Sunday Ojeme

Zaka Kaliq Olalekan

# Celebrating the 2017 finalists

The Pan-African Re/Insurance Journalism Awards are open to both French and English submission 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. The jury selected the following finalists:



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## **Mr Abiud Ochieng Awiti**

*The Daily Nation and Business Daily, Kenya*

### **Article:**

"Why insurers face a bumpy road ahead"

The article focuses on the challenges the insurance industry in Kenya has been exposed to following a court decision, which nullified a law regulating the amount of money insurers should pay in case of public service vehicle accident claims.

### **Biography**

Abiud Ochieng Awiti is a journalist with the Nation Media Group since 2009. He has won the Good Governance Reporting Award at last year's Journalism Excellence Awards, organised by the Media Council of Kenya.

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## **Mr Anton Pretorius**

*RISKAFRICA, South Africa*

### **Article:**

"The sky ambulance"

The article focuses on Zipline, a US-based robotics company that has successfully launched a drone blood delivery initiative in Rwanda. The innovation might revolutionise both the healthcare and transport industries of Africa – and will also have implications for the insurance sector.

### **Biography**

Anton Pretorius is a feature writer for RISKAFRICA Magazine, one of South Africa's leading financial services, insurance and B2B publications. He is also the editor of the Land Rover AFRICA magazine.

**Mr David Thiombiano**

*Business Africa and Initiative Africa, Burkina Faso*

**Article:**

"Reinventing African insurance"

The TV report covers the 40th anniversary of the Federation of National Insurance Companies (FANAF). While part of the report is focused on FANAF's history, the journalist also addresses the challenges insurance faces in today's Africa.

**Biography**

David Thiombiano is a journalist with an interest in economics. In the past, he has worked for Burkina TV, RTB, where he presented Newsweek and hosted debates. David was also the local press correspondent for several French television channels.

**Mr Gareth Stokes**

*Commercial Risk Africa, South Africa*

**Article:**

"Botswana in search of growth"

Botswana has enjoyed staggering growth in recent years. However, this does not mean it has all been plain sailing. There are numerous challenges to insurers and insurance brokers in that market; not least of which the impact of the low commodity cycle and cyber-crime.

**Biography**

Gareth Stokes is a freelance journalist and writer who specialises in the financial services industry. His work has been published in publications including Mail & Guardian, Financial Mail, FA News, and FIA Insight. He currently writes on risk management and insurance topics and contributes as a reporter to Commercial Risk Africa.

# Celebrating the 2017 finalists



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## Mr Isaac Khisa

*Independent Publications, Uganda*

### Article:

"Insurance industry tops Shs 700bn"

Although still in its infancy, the insurance industry in Uganda is slowly growing as premiums continue to surge. To deepen insurance penetration, companies are identifying new opportunities, particularly in the area of micro-insurance.

### Biography

Isaac Khisa is Business Editor at the Independent Publications Ltd since October 2016. He started his career as a freelancer, after which he became a staff writer at The East African. Isaac has won various journalism accolades during his career.

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## Ms Josiane Kouagheu

*Agripreneur d'Afrique, Cameroon*

### Article:

"In Cameroon, agriculture does not attract insurers"

The article investigates why Cameroon, a country where more than 50% of its population works as farmers, does not offer agricultural insurance. It also explores a possible solution – the development of Index Insurance.

### Biography

As a freelancer reporter, Josiane Kouagheu works for different media sources including Le Monde Africa (France), Reuters, Agribusiness TV, and Turkish news agency Anadolu. Josiane has received several awards throughout her career and the African Union selected her as one of 10 Young Heroes of Africa in 2015.



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**Mr Steve Mbogo**

*Commercial Risk Africa, Kenya*

**Article:**

"Low-priced insurance: a game changer in small-scale farming"

Small-scale commercial farming, the biggest source of new employment in Kenya, is threatened by climate change. The emergence of micro-insurance products is motivating more farmers to venture into the business.

**Biography**

Steve Mbogo writes 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. At last year's pan-African Re/Insurance Journalism Awards Steve's article won in the Best Feature Article category.

# 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, Founder, IC Publications**

Mr Ben Yedder was previously 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.

**"The overall quality of English entries was good, but the French submissions in particular showed great improvement vis-à-vis last year."**

Afif Ben Yedder, Founder,  
IC Publications

**"These awards reflect the importance of media in the promotion of insurance and risk management across Africa."**

Julia Graham, Technical Director,  
Airmic



## **Ms Julia Graham, Technical Director, Airmic**

Ms Graham has been a risk and insurance professional for over 40 years, most recently as Director of Risk Management and Insurance for DLA Piper, a global law firm.



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**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.



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**William Wallis, African Affairs specialist,  
Financial Times**

Mr Wallis joined the Financial Times in 1998 as West African correspondent based in Lagos, Nigeria. Prior to this, he had worked for the BBC and Reuters as an Africa-based correspondent. He has travelled and worked in more than 40 countries in Africa and the Middle East.



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**Inga Thordar, Editor & Programming Director,  
CNN**

Based at CNN International's Europe/Africa and Middle East hub in London, Ms Thordar oversees CNN's digital news output. She manages the content flow of digital units, including CNN International's mobile app. Prior to joining CNN, she spent 15 years at the BBC.



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**Michael Wilson, Business & Finance Journalist  
(freelancer)**

Mr Wilson joined Sky TV at its inception in 1989 and for over 20 years he anchored nearly all of 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.

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