

AI INVESTMENT AWARDS CEREMONY PRESS NOTICE

STATUS: FOR RELEASE

Africa Investor Investment Awards - Winners Announced!

27 October, 2008, Durban, South Africa. The winners of the 2008 Africa investor (Ai) Investment Awards were announced last night at a gala dinner of the 18th Conference of Africa's Ministers of Trade and Industry held in Durban South Africa.

Giving the keynote address, H.E. Mandisa Mphahla, Minister of Industry, South Africa reinforced the need for the private sector to drive Africa towards industrialisation. "This is a new Africa that has taken firm steps to give concrete meaning to the goal of political and economic integration in Africa, in pursuit of the objective of African unity that is based on the understanding that as Africans we share a common destiny."

The Ai Investment Awards are the longest running and most established international investment awards in Africa. The Awards have gained international acclaim for their pioneering and unique pan-African investment focus, underpinned by the outstanding quality of their entries, winners and supporters. The Awards are dedicated to recognising and rewarding the achievements of the private sector across a wide range of sectors and disciplines, and attract market leaders from across the continent. Previous winners have included: Standard Bank, Nedbank, Shell, Microsoft, the Molbrahim Foundation, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), Nigerian Stock Exchange, and Zenith Bank, amongst others.

This year's winners include Arnold Ekpe, CEO of Ecobank, who won the award for African Business Leader of the year. Ecobank also scooped an award for Bank of the Year. Commenting on winning the Awards, Richard Uku, Head of Corporate Communications at Ecobank, representing Arnold Ekpe said: "We like to say we do not have a strategy for Africa-Africa is our strategy. The award for Bank of the Year is truly an inspiration and I know I speak for the 10,000 professionals at Ecobank in saying so."

Vincent Maphai, Chairman of BHP Billiton, received the award for Sustainable Investment in Africa, and emphasised the need for investing in SME enterprises in the company's value chain.

Also speaking H.E. Mrs Elizabeth Tankeu, Commissioner for Trade and Industry at the African Union Commission said "Africa must take its rightful position in global development. I commend Africa investor for this initiative to profile African business success stories through these prestigious Ai investment awards and also for bringing African business leaders to the held alongside the 18th AU Conference of African Ministers of Industry (CAMI) to provide input to the African Union's Industrialisation Implementation Strategy."

The ceremony was attended by over 350 delegates, comprising over 30 African Ministers of Industry, African CEOs, senior executives from international companies and representatives of international organisations. Dignitaries present included H.E Mr Charles Ugwu, Minister of Commerce and Industry, Nigeria; H.E. Dr Mary M Nagu, Minister of Industry, Tanzania; Mr M. Mansour Cama, UNIDO, Goodwill Ambassador for the Private Sector, Mr Brian Molefe, CEO, Public Investment Corporation, H.E. Mrs Elizabeth Tankeu, AU Commissioner for Trade and Industry; H.E. Mr. Ham Mulira, Minister of IT, Uganda; Mr. Akmel Akpa (UNIDO), and Prof. Wiseman Nkuhlu, President, International Organisation of Employers, amongst others.

Commenting on their participation, Russell, Curtis, CEO, Durban Investment Promotion Agency (DIPA) said, "It has been our pleasure as South Africa, and especially the City of Durban to welcome UNIDO and Africa investor working in partnership with the DTI as hosts of the AfrIPANet, the CAMI and this CEO Forum with its Investment Awards. Public-private partnership events and awards like these are not easy to arrange and execute, but are very necessary as they further expose the Public Sector to Business, and vice versa. It's only through frank discussion and flexing events that we come closer together to further growth and development in our cities, and across our continent. Overall, it was pleasing for Durban to have all the dignitaries and delegates in our coastal port City, and for us to be placed as 'First Runner-Up' in the Investment Promotion Category. The event and awards were a success for all us Africans, and a lesson that we can all do even more if we expand or improve the partnerships between government and business as equal stakeholders in the future of our continent."

The winner of the African Business Woman of the Year category was Dr. Mrs Cecilia Ibru, CEO, Oceanic Bank, Institutional Investor of the Year Award was taken by the Public Investment Corporation, who were closely followed by the Netherlands Development Finance Company (FMO) and the African Development Bank (AfDB). The Best Initiative in Support of MDGs was won by the MTN Nigeria Foundation; whilst the

Ministry of Finance Kenyan Credit Reference Bureau Regulations took gold in the Smart Regulation Category. First place for the International Business Leader of the Year was awarded to Dr Saad Al Barrak from Zain (formerly Celtel). For the full shortlist please see below.

The Africa investor Investment Awards Headline Sponsor was the DIPA and Category Sponsors were: Oceanic Bank Plc and Ithala Development Corporation. The Ai Investment Awards are also supported by NEPAD, the African Business Roundtable, UNIDO and the NEPAD Business Group.

Dr Ken Kwaku, Director of Africa investor said "The awards were an unprecedented success and demonstrate how business in Africa is making a positive impact on development across the continent, whilst at the same time delivering competitive returns for investors."

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Ai Investment Awards

The Africa Investor Investment Awards reward exceptional business practices, economic achievements and investments across the investment spectrum in Africa including Best Bank, Sustainable Investing in Africa, Smart Regulation, Best Initiative in Support of the Millennium Development Goals, Businesswoman of the Year, African and International Business Leaders. In addition to business success, the awards emphasise responsibility towards society and good corporate citizenship. For more information visit: <http://www.africa-investor.com/aiawards/awardwelcome.html>

Africa investor (Ai) is a specialist investment communications firm advising governments, international organisations and businesses on communication strategies for capital market and foreign direct investments in Africa. Africa investor publishes *Africa investor*, the leading international newsstand magazine for Africa's investment decision makers; maintains the Ai 40 Investors' Index, hosts the prestigious annual Africa investor Awards, the index Series Awards, and the annual Ai Projects Summit for infrastructure investors and developers. For more information visit www.africa-investor.com

The Winners, 1st Runners up and 2nd Runners up

Company

Ranking

Best Initiative in Support of MDG's

MTN Nigeria Foundation

Winner

Diageo Africa

1st Runner up (joint)

Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa

1st Runner up (joint)

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

2nd Runner up

Smart Regulation

Ministry of Finance Kenyan Credit Reference Bureau Regulations

Winner

Port of Alexandria

1st Runner up (joint)

Investment Climate Facility for Africa

1st Runner up (joint)

The Central Bank of Mauritius

2nd Runner up

Bank of the Year

Ecobank Transnational Inc. (ETI)

Winner

Oceanic Bank International Plc

1st Runner up

Standard Bank

2nd Runner up

Venture Capital Deal of the Year

Actis/Old Mutual Private Equity

Winner

Emerging Capital Markets

1st Runner up

Kingdom Zephyr Africa Management 2nd Runner up

Financial Consultancy of the Year

PricewaterhouseCoopers Winner
Dyer & Blair 1st Runner up
KPMG 2nd Runner up

Institutional Investor of the Year

Public Investment Corporation Winner
Netherlands Development Finance Company (FMO) 1st Runner up
African Development Bank (ADB) 2nd Runner up

Investment Promotion Agency of the Year

Malawi Investment Promotions Agency (MIPA) Winner
Durban Investment Promotion Agency (DIPA) 1st Runner up (joint)
The Board of Investment (BOI) Mauritius 1st Runner up (joint)
The Nigerian Investment Promotion Commission (NIPC) 2nd Runner up

Sustainable Investment in Africa

BHP Billiton SA Winner
Nestlé S.A. 1st Runner up
Olam International Ltd 2nd Runner up

Best Initiative in Support of SME Development

GroFin Managers Winner
Coca-Cola Africa 1st Runner up
Anglo Zimele 2nd Runner up

Employer of the Year

Microsoft SA Winner
Shell SA 1st Runner up
East African Breweries 2nd Runner up

Business Woman of the Year

Chief Dr. (Mrs.)Cecilia Ibru Winner
Ms Philisiwe Buthelezi 1st Runner up
Dr Mamphela Ramphela 2nd Runner up

African Business Leader

Mr Arnold Ekpe Winner
Mr Brian Molefe 1st Runner up
Mr Patrice Motsepe 2nd Runner up

International Business Leader

Dr Saad Al Barrak
Mr Neville Isdell
Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Alsaud

Winner
1st Runner up
2nd Runner up

Young Investment Professional of the Year

Dr Achakeng Leke
Mr Tsega Gebreyes
Ms Ivonne Ike

Winner
1st Runner up
2nd Runner up

Carbon Finance Initiative of the Year

Mumias Sugar Company Ltd
Onyx Alexandria
Déguessi Groupe

Winner
1st Runner up
2nd Runner up

Privatisation Deal of the Year

Safaricom
Zain Zambia
Ghana Telecom

Winner
1st Runner up
2nd Runner up