

Africa investor Investment and Business Leader Awards showcase African investment success stories during World Bank Annual Meetings in Washington

Johannesburg, Washington DC, 10 October 2013: Africa investor (Ai), a leading international investment and communications group, today announced the winners of the Africa investor (Ai) Investment and Business Leader Awards 2013, which took place at an invitation-only ceremony at the Ritz Carlton, during the World Bank Annual Meetings in Washington, DC.

These prestigious international Africa investment Awards are the longest-standing international awards on Africa to reward exceptional business practices, economic achievements and investments across Africa. They recognise the institutions and individuals improving the continent's investment climate.

Award winners included a number of high-profile personalities who were recognised for their achievements. Strive Masiyiwa, Founder and Chairman, Econet, was honoured for his Leadership in Sustainable Investment in Africa; the Award for Africa's Innovation Leader of the Year went to Michael Miebach, President for Middle East & Africa, MasterCard, and Africa's Leading Woman in Business was presented to Evelyn Oputu, Managing Director of the Bank of Industry.

African Business Leader of the Year was awarded to James Mwangi, CEO of Equity Bank; Jay Ireland, President and CEO, GE Africa, was recognised as International Business Leader of the Year, and Up and Coming Future Leader of the Year was awarded to John Oliphant, Chief Principal Officer, Government Employee's Pension Fund of South Africa. Finance Minister of the Year was awarded to Hon. Xavier Luc Duval, Minister of Finance, Mauritius, while Emmanuel Tumusiime Mutebile, Governor of the Bank of Uganda, was recognised as the Ai Central Bank Governor of the Year.

Commenting on the Awards, Hubert Danso, Chief Executive Officer and Vice Chairman of Africa investor, said; "The continent's investment profile has seen a historic turnaround in the last 12 months and the pursuits of the shortlisted candidates and winners of these Ai Investment and Leadership Awards have been instrumental in improving practices that resulted in this increased confidence in Africa as a competitive international investment destination. Africa investor is therefore delighted to be able honour these leaders and encourage new entrants."

Institutions recognised included African Export-Import Bank for the Best Initiative In Support of SMEs and the Millennium Development Goals. Investment Climate Initiative of the Year was awarded to the African Development Bank, while Bank of the Year was given to Standard Bank. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Southern African Power Pool Standardized Baseline was presented with the Carbon Finance Initiative of the Year.

Venture Capital/Private Equity Deal of the Year was given to Phatisa, while GE Africa was voted as Employer and Human Capital Investor of the Year. Investment Promotion Agency of the Year went to Centro de Promocao de Investimentos, Mozambique (the investment promotion agency

of Mozambique). Government Employees' Pension Fund (GEPF) of South Africa was awarded Institutional Investor of the Year.

And in two new categories, International Sovereign Wealth Fund Initiative of the Year was awarded to China Africa Development Fund, while Nigeria Sovereign Investment Authority walked away with the African Sovereign Wealth Fund Initiative of the Year.

Africa investor (Ai) Investment and Business Leader Awards 2013 - Winners

Best Initiative In Support of SME's And Development Goals

African Export-Import Bank

Investment Climate Initiative of the Year

The African Development Bank

Bank of the Year

Standard Bank

Carbon Finance Initiative of the Year

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Southern African Power Pool Standardized Baseline

Venture Capital/Private Equity Deal of the Year

Phatisa

Employer and Human Capital Investor of the Year

GE Africa

Institutional Investor of the Year

Government Employees' Pension Fund (GEPF)

Investment Promotion Agency of the Year

Centro de Promocao de Investimentos, Mozambique

Leadership in Sustainable Investment in Africa

Strive Masiyiwa, Founder and Chairman, Econet

Africa's Innovation Leader of the Year

Michael Miebach, President for Middle East & Africa, MasterCard

Africas Leading Woman in Business

Evelyn Oputu, Managing Director, Bank of Industry

African Business Leader of the Year

James Mwangi, CEO, Equity Bank

International Business Leader of the Year

Jay Ireland, President and CEO, GE Africa

Up and Coming Future Leader of the Year

John Oliphant, Chief Principal Officer, GEPF

Finance Minister of the Year

Hon. Xavier Luc Duval, Minister of Finance, Mauritius

Central Bank Governor of the Year

Emmanuel Tumusiime Mutebile, Governor, Bank of Uganda

International Sovereign Wealth Fund Initiative of the Year

China Africa Development Fund

African Sovereign Wealth Fund Initiative of the Year

Nigeria Sovereign Investment Authority

Note to Editors

For more information on the Africa investor Investment and Business Leader Awards, contact Catherine Wright on +27 11 783 2431 or cwright@africainvestor.com.

About the Africa investor (Ai) Investment and Business Leader Awards

The prestigious annual Africa investor (Ai) Investment and Business Leader Awards are the longest-standing international investment awards on Africa to reward exceptional business practices, economic achievements and investments across Africa. They recognise not only investing institutions but transformational business and government leaders improving the continent's investment climate.

About Africa investor - www.africainvestor.com

Africa investor is a specialist investment and 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 Africa investor 40 Investors' Index, hosts the Ai Index Series Summit & Awards and the Africa investor Infrastructure Projects Summit & Awards, amongst other events.



For further information please contact:
Catherine Wright | Senior Editor/Research Manager
cwright@africainvestor.com

93 Protea Road, Chislehurst, Sandton, South africa
Tel: +27 11 783 2431 | Fax: +27 11 783 2430
www.africainvestor.com | www.africainvestor.tv | www.airenewswire.com