



FOR PUBLICATION ON MONDAY – 22nd MARCH 2010
Citigroup Inc. (NYSE: C)
18th MARCH 2010

CITIBANK NIGERIA ANNOUNCES SIX FINALISTS FOR 2010 CITI JOURNALISTIC EXCELLENCE AWARDS

- GODWIN NNANNA and ABDUL IMOYO emerge as final 2 selections

LAGOS – A judging panel constituted by Citibank Nigeria Limited has selected six finalists in the recently launched Citi Journalistic Excellence Awards competition. The awards competition which is being run for the first time in Nigeria began in 1982 and is run globally in various countries where Citi operates.

The Citi Journalistic Excellence Awards is an elite programme administered by the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism and sponsored by Citi. It brings talented business and financial journalists from all over the world to New York City where they meet and speak with leaders in the fields of finance, journalism and government during a 10-day intensive training course at the school.

Citi Nigeria received 19 strong entries from business reporters from BusinessDay Newspaper, Business in Africa Magazine, CNBC Africa Television, Guardian Newspaper, Next 234 Newspaper, and This Day Newspaper.

A distinguished panel was constituted to review all the entries and select the two best entries from Nigeria. To ensure a fair and unbiased review process, all entries were submitted to the panelists on plain sheets with the names of the reporters and their publications deleted. The panelists were only able to identify the entries by the number assigned to each entry.

The panelists were **Dr. Doyin Salami**, Dean of the Lagos Business School; **Mr. Tom Burgis**, West Africa Correspondent for the Financial Times London; **Prof. Ben E. Oghojafor**, Dean of the University of Lagos Faculty of Business Administration; and **Mrs. Nimi Akinkugbe**, immediate Former Head of Private Client Services at Stanbic/IBTC and frequent newspaper contributor on finance related issues.

After the first round of reviews, stories from, **Uwana Archibong** of Business Africa; **Abdul Imoyo**, BusinessDay; **Godwin Nnanna**, BusinessDay; **Uchechi Okoronkwo**, CNBC Africa; **Bukky Olajide**, Guardian; and **Michael Salako**, CNBC Africa, emerged as the top six entries.

According to Dr. Doyin Salami, “In the final roundtable review, the panel agreed on a certain set of judging criteria including relevance of the story; context; avoidance of technical jargon; quality and depth of research; appropriate use of sources and attribution; and impact of the story.” In the end the panel chose **Godwin Nnanna’s**, “*How Nigeria’s Oil Powers Cote D’Ivoire*,” and **Abdul Imoyo’s** “*The Profit Party is Over*” as the top two entries.

Both selections will be sent to the Columbia Graduate School of Journalism team who will select the final winning entry from Nigeria.

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About Citi Nigeria

Citibank Nigeria Limited is a subsidiary of Citigroup Inc (Citi). The bank started its operations in Nigeria in 1984 and focuses on Corporate and Investment Banking, with a broad range of services, including global transaction services, sales and trading, corporate finance and investment banking services being offered to corporate and commercial customers, financial institutions and public sector organizations. Citibank Nigeria operates 13 branches and has almost 300 employees across the country.

About Citi

Citi, the leading global financial services company, has approximately 200 million customer accounts and does business in more than 140 countries. Through its two operating units, Citicorp and Citi Holdings, Citi provides consumers, corporations, governments and institutions with a broad range of financial products and services, including consumer banking and credit, corporate and investment banking, securities brokerage, transaction services, wealth management. Additional information may be found at www.citigroup.com or www.citi.com.

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