



**IHS TOWERS CEO ISSAM DARWISH WINS
AABLA WEST AFRICA BUSINESS LEADER OF THE YEAR AWARD**

21 October 2016; Lagos, Nigeria: IHS Holding Limited (“IHS” or the “Company”) Executive Vice Chairman and Group CEO Issam Darwish has won the All Africa Business Leaders Awards’ (AABLA) 2016 West Africa Business Leader Award during the annual ceremony held in partnership with CNBC Africa at the Eko Hotel in Lagos last night.

The award was won in relation to Issam’s founding and leadership of IHS Towers, the largest mobile telecommunications infrastructure provider in Africa, Europe and the Middle East, which continues to rapidly grow and roll out bespoke new integrated alternative energy solutions to power its towers. Both Issam and IHS believe that the telecoms sector is a critical enabler of Africa’s economic growth through providing the most reliable and effective mobile networks to local entrepreneurs, small and medium sized businesses and multinationals across Africa. Over 95% of IHS’s employees are African and IHS employs close to 40,000 people directly and indirectly through its exclusive subcontractors.

The Company also remains committed to supporting the local communities in which it operates and its Corporate Social Responsibility programme – focused on people, education and empowerment, business ethics, and energy and the environment – underpins numerous elements of its day-to-day business activities. Current initiatives include donating generators to local hospitals and orphanages most in need, rebuilding various school campuses throughout the continent and supporting local entrepreneur development programmes. IHS believes that increased access to education and mobile data is the key to social and economic development.

Wole Famurewa, AABLA Head Judge: West Africa, said:

"Issam Darwish has created and is leading a truly pan-African company playing an important role in the increasing penetration of mobile technology across the continent. Issam has rapidly scaled the company which continues to enable economic growth and social development throughout Africa."

Issam Darwish, Executive Vice Chairman and Group CEO of IHS, said:

"I am delighted to accept the award, to be given the opportunity to celebrate Africa’s success and for the IHS team to be recognized for its hard work and dedication to delivering the best value for mobile operators in Africa."



At the core of IHS, is one over-riding ambition: to be a critical enabler to Africa’s economic growth through providing the most reliable and effective mobile networks throughout the continent. This ambition encapsulates the Company’s mission and this uniting force has allowed us to continue to expand and pursue the roll out of innovative green energy technology throughout all the markets in which we operate while enabling our local communities to develop.”

The AABLA, now in their sixth year, recognise Africa’s bold leaders and change-makers of business in East, West and Southern Africa. The AABLA West Africa are supported by Bakgatla Ba Kgafela, Lancaster University and Transnational Education Africa, Bosch, IDC, GT Bank, Jaguar Land Rover, Lagos Business School, Lagos State, Eko Hotels & Suites, Q21, Independent Newspapers and Forbes Africa.

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About IHS Holding Limited

IHS is the largest mobile telecommunications infrastructure provider in Africa, Europe and the Middle East. Founded in 2001, IHS provides services across the full tower value chain – colocation on owned towers, deployment and managed services. Today IHS owns over 23,300 towers in Nigeria, Cameroon, Côte d’Ivoire, Zambia and Rwanda.

For more information, visit: www.ihstowers.com

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