

DAILY HIGHLIGHT

[FINANCE](#) | [BUSINESS](#) | [CIBN NEWS](#) | [HEALTH](#) | [SPORTS](#) | [GENERAL](#)

[BECOME A MEMBER](#)

[MENTORING](#)



TOP STORIES

Etisalat, lenders disagree over \$1.2bn loan repayment

FG, States, LGs Share N462bn for May as Allocation Improves

Common water treatments could damage genetic material

FG Declares June 26, 27 Public Holidays

[CIBN Events](#)

Finally, NNPC pays N450bn Federation Account debt

The Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation has finally offset its indebtedness of N450bn to the Federation Account. The Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Finance, Mahmoud Isa-Dutse, confirmed the development at a media briefing shortly after the Federation Accounts Allocation Committee meeting in Abuja on Thursday. The N450bn indebtedness has been a subject of controversy since 2010 following discoveries that the corporation failed to remit part of the revenue it generated for the country to the Federation Account. The corporation had failed to remit the money despite persistent pressure mounted by the then Chairman of FAAC and former Minister of State for Finance, Mr. Remi Babalola. While the NNPC had claimed that it was insolvent, and as such, did not have the resources to settle the debt, Babalola had maintained that the fund must be remitted. The wrangling led to the redeployment of the minister to the Ministry of Special Duties, a development that led to his resignation in 2011. However, after much pressure by state governors, the corporation agreed to a monthly repayment plan of N6.33bn from September 2011. Speaking after this month's FAAC meeting held at the headquarters of the Ministry of Finance in Abuja, Dutse said, "About the NNPC repayment. [Source:](#) Punch

Etisalat, lenders disagree over \$1.2bn loan repayment

The controversies surrounding Etisalat Nigeria's indebtedness to a consortium of 13 banks deepened on Thursday with the telecoms firm insisting that it had repaid about 42 per cent of the \$1.2bn loan, while some of the banks involved in the transaction maintained that it had "only paid \$58.9m. Sources privy to the series of meetings between Etisalat and the banks, said that the \$58.9m was just 10 per cent of the total sum owed the consortium by the telecommunications company. However, Etisalat Nigeria said in a statement by its Vice President, Regulatory and Corporate Affairs, Ibrahim Dikko, "Contrary to the widely reported misrepresentations about Etisalat Nigeria's debt obligation to the consortium of 13 banks, it has become pertinent to set the records straight. Prior to this time, Etisalat had in fact consistently and conscientiously met up with its payment obligations. As of today, we can categorically state that the outstanding loan sum to the consortium stands at \$227m and N113bn, a total of about \$574m if the naira portion is converted to US dollars. This means almost half of the original loan of \$1.2bn has been repaid. Etisalat continued to service the loan up until February 2017, [Source:](#) Punch

Crude Oil Bounces Back Above \$45 Per Barrel, Despite Glut

Crude oil Thursday edged up from multi-month low, but prices remained under pressure from a supply glut that has persisted despite the efforts led by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) to balance the market. Brent crude futures were up 60 cents Thursday at \$45.42 per barrel, after falling as low as \$44.53. They fell 2.6 per cent in the previous session to \$44.35, their lowest since November 2016. US crude futures were up 40 cents at \$42.93 a barrel, after also slipping. On Wednesday, they touched \$42.05 per barrel, their lowest intraday level since August 2016. Since peaking at \$55 per barrel in late February, crude has dropped around 20 per cent, erasing gains recorded at the end of 2016, in the wake of the initial OPEC-led production cut. OPEC and other producers agreed to reduce output by 1.8 million barrels per day (bpd) from January for six months, and last month extended the deal for a further nine months until March 2018. However, oversupply has persisted, particularly with output rising in Libya and Nigeria, which were exempt from the cuts due to unrest that had limited their output. [Source:](#) Thisday

BUSINESS NEWS

FG to mobilise N2.5bn investment for YouWin SMEs

The Federal Government on Thursday said it would mobilise the sum of N2.5bn annually as equity investment through qualified fund managers for Small and Medium Enterprises under the Youth With Innovation Entrepreneurship programme. The development was confirmed in a statement by the Ministry of Finance and signed by the Director of Information in the ministry, Mr. Salisu Dambatta. The YouWin programme is an initiative of the Finance ministry, which aims to support young entrepreneurs as they plan, start and grow their businesses. It seeks to promote entrepreneurship as a viable career option for young Nigerians, who in turn, will create jobs and wealth. The additional impact of the scheme will include social inclusion, job creation, youth empowerment and improved human capital, according to the government. The ministry said that the need to attract co-investment funding for the SMEs under the scheme was borne out of the conviction that it would help to stimulate and sustain the Economic Recovery and Growth Plan being implemented by the Federal Government. It said since SMEs were the engine of growth in an economy, adding that any fund attracted to the sector would promote industrialisation and job creation. [Source:](#) Punch

2017 budget: NASS under attack for slashing, Lagos-Ibadan road, others' votes

Prominent groups and economic experts have criticised the National Assembly for reducing the budgetary allocations for projects such as the Lagos-Ibadan Expressway and the Second Niger Bridge. The lawmakers reduced the budget for the Lagos-Ibadan Expressway from N31bn to N10bn, while the vote for the Second Niger Bridge was cut from N15bn to N10bn. But as against N115bn budgeted for the federal lawmakers in 2016, the National Assembly hiked its budget to N125bn in 2017. Condemning the lawmakers, civil rights organisations said the National Assembly, by slashing allocations for the projects and increasing its own votes, had shown that it was selfish. The News Agency of Nigeria had earlier on Thursday reported that the Minister of Power, Works and Housing, Mr. Babatunde Fashola (SAN), had raised the alarm over the insertion of projects outside the purview of his ministry into the 2017 Appropriation Act by the National Assembly. Fashola said it was unfair to the executive arm for the inclusion of such projects after public hearings on the budget and defence of the fiscal estimates by the ministries. What I have in my budget now is primary health care centres, boreholes, he said at an interactive session with journalists. That was the meeting we had with the Acting President and that was the reason why the budget was not signed on time. [Source:](#) Punch

FG, States, LGs Share N462bn for May as Allocation Improves

A total of N462.359 billion was shared by the three tiers of government for the month of May, an increase over the N415.7 billion distributed for April. A breakdown showed that Value Added Tax (VAT) accounted for N76.786 billion; statutory revenue, N317.562 billion, and exchange rates differential of N64.812 billion. The figures were unveiled by the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Dr. Mahmoud Isa-Dutse, at a briefing after the monthly meeting of the Federation Account Allocation Committee (FAAC) presided over by him. He disclosed that the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC), which had been defraying its N450 billion indebtedness to FAAC monthly at N6.7 billion had liquidated the debt. From the statutory allocation, the federal government got N147.682 billion; states, N74.906 billion; local governments, N57.750 billion while N20.505 billion went to the oil-producing areas as 13 per cent derivation. According to Mahmoud, the gross statutory revenue of N317.562 billion received for the month was more than the N274.110 billion received in the preceding month by N43.452 billion, adding that everything would be done to ensure salaries were paid to civil servants before the Sallah celebration. The slight drop in the average price of crude oil from \$55.38 to \$55.18 per barrel and a decrease in export volume by 1.023 million barrels, reduced oil revenue by about \$57.12 million. [Source:](#) Thisday

CIBN NEWS

ANNOUNCEMENT

FELLOWSHIP APPLICATION

The Board of Fellows and Practice Licence of the chartered Institute of Bankers of Nigeria has scheduled a meeting for **Tuesday, July 25, 2017** to consider Fellowship applications. This is a great opportunity for all Associates who possess professional experience of ten years and above, post ACIB to be elevated to the prestigious category of fellowship. You are therefore encouraged to click [here](#) to download the Fellowship Application Form. The completed form should be sent to the Group Head, Membership Services while the **deadline for submission is Friday, July 21, 2017**

Mr Nelson Olagundoye is available on 08028289271 or nelsonolagundoye@cibng.org for further information and clarification of your enquiries.



THE CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF BANKERS OF NIGERIA

(Incorporated in 1976 and Chartered by CIBN Act No.12 of 1990, now Act No. 5 of 2007)

This is to announce to all eligible student members & the general public that registration is in progress for the

OCTOBER, 2017 EXAMINATIONS

NIGERIA, THE GAMBIA & LIBERIA

All candidates MUST register for the examination and bring their online printed exam docket duly authenticated by any of the designated persons to the exam hall. Any candidate not duly registered for the examination will NOT be allowed to take examination.

Examination Registration
Commencement Date: June 1, 2017
Closing Date: Sept. 1, 2017

TIME TABLE (NIGERIA)

DATE	TUE. 10TH OCTOBER, 2017	WED. 11TH OCTOBER, 2017	THUR. 12TH OCTOBER, 2017
TIME	9.am - 12.pm 2.pm - 5.pm	9.am - 12.pm 2.pm - 5.pm	9.am - 12.pm 2.pm - 5.pm
CATEGORY	SUBJECTS / COURSES		
DIPLOMA LEVEL	Business Comm. Skills Basic Economics Information & Comm. Tech.	Acctg. & Bus. Finance Quantitative Techniques	Fundamentals of Marketing Elements of Banking Business Law
INTERMEDIATE PROFESSIONAL LEVEL	Financial Economics Mgt. of Fin. Institutions	Strategic Mgt. & Mgt. Acctg. Practice of Banking	Marketing of Financial Services Bank Lending & Credit Admin.
CHARTERED BANKER LEVEL	—	—	—
CHARTERED BANKER ELECTIVES	Treasury Management	Banking Regulation & Supervision	Fin. Planning & Control Prin & Practice of Risk Management Human Capital Management
MICROFINANCE CERTIFICATION PROGRAMME	Fundamentals of Micro Finance Banks	Managing Micro-Finance Banks	Fin. Analysis & Fin. Perf. Monitoring of MFIs Product Dev. & Marketing Risk Mgt. By Microfinance Banks Internal Control & Mgt. Info. Systems
TREASURY MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATION (TMC) FMDA	STAGE 1	Introduction to Assets & Liabilities Mgt	—
CERTIFIED RISK MANAGER (CRM) RISKAN	STAGE 1 STAGE 2 STAGE 3	Module I - III — —	— — —
OTHER CERTIFICATION PROGRAMMES	Investment Banking	Legal Issues in Hum. Cap. Mgt.	Property Law — Mortgage Finance

DETAILS OF OTHER CERTIFICATION PROGRAMMES

SUBJECTS	HUMAN CAPITAL MANAGEMENT	CORPORATE FINANCE & INVESTMENT BANKING	MORTGAGE FINANCE
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Human Capital Management Legal Issues in Human Capital Mgt. Strategic Management & Leadership Banking Law, Ethics & Corp. Gov. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Corporate Financial Management Investment Banking Practice of Banking Banking Law, Ethics & Corp. Gov. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mortgage Finance Property Law Bank Lending & Credit Admin. Banking Law, Ethics & Corp. Gov.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

- To register for the examination, please log on to www.cibng.org.
- Exam registration forms can also be downloaded from the Institute's website.
- Candidates who wish to sit for the examinations MUST have registered as Student Members and Membership registration numbers obtained will serve as the Examination Numbers.
- Candidates MUST have processed their membership (if required) before sitting for the examinations.
- Registration for October 2017 Examinations will close at 5.00 p.m. on Friday, 1st September, 2017. Registration after this date will attract a penalty fee of ₦10,000.
- All manual application forms must be received at the National Secretariat on or before the closing date. Any application received after the closing date will not be processed.
- Application for change of Examination Centre must be received on or before Monday, 4th September, 2017.
- Any interested candidates can register for the Microfinance Certification Examinations and any of the new Certification Programmes.

- All candidates must print out their examination docket from our online examination portal and confirm that:
 - The information captured therein is correct
 - The Examination Docket carry their passport photograph
- Candidate MUST ensure that his/her exam docket is duly authenticated by any of the persons specified below:
 - Human Capital Mgt. & Investment Banking: Human Capital Mgt. & Investment Banking
 - Corporate Finance & Investment Banking: Corporate Finance & Investment Banking
 - Mortgage Finance: Mortgage Finance
- Official Stamp and Number must be provided on the docket.

EXAMINATION FEES

EXAM LEVEL	1 SUBJECT	2 SUBJECTS	3 SUBJECTS	4 SUBJECTS	5 SUBJECTS
DIPLOMA	₦6,000	₦11,000	₦15,000	₦20,000	₦24,000
INTERMEDIATE PROFESSIONAL	₦15,000	₦22,000	₦30,000	₦37,000	₦45,000
CHARTERED BANKER	₦20,000	₦30,000	₦40,000	₦50,000	₦60,000

EXAM LEVEL	REGISTRATION FEE	FEES PER SUBJECT
MICROFINANCE CERTIFICATION PROGRAMME	₦2,500.00	₦2,500.00
	₦5,000.00	₦10,000.00

Candidates writing the Level 1 Microfinance Certification Programme will be expected to pay ₦1,000 for Study Material as part of the Examination registration process.

The New Regulations and Syllabus for the Banking Professional Examinations is available at www.cibng.org or visit CIBN Bookshop, National Secretariat Annex, Abuja, Zonal Offices in Owerri, Onitsha, Gombe & bookshops nationwide for ₦500 copy.

EXAMINATIONS CENTRES

ABA, ABERKUTA, ABUJA, AKURE, ASABA, AWKA, BARCOK UNIVERSITY ILISAN, BAUCHI, BENIN-CITY, CALABAR, ENUGU, GOMBE, IBADAN, ILO-ILO, JALINGO, JOS, KADUNA, KANO, LAGOS, MAKURDI, MINNA, ONITSHA, OSOGBO, OWERRI, PORT HARCOURT, SOKOTO, UYO, YOLA, THE GAMBIA & LIBERIA

The certification programmes provide a route to the Flagship of the Institute's (ICIB) qualification and as such any subject written and passed in the Flagship will appear on the certification programme to be taken as passed. Any of the following subjects which appears in the Flagship as well as in the Certification Programme, once written and passed, the Fees will count for both:

- Human Capital Management • Strategic Management & Leadership • Corporate Financial Management • Practice of Banking • Bank Lending & Credit Admin • Banking Law, Ethics & Corp. Gov.

NB For full information on the new Certification Programmes, please visit our website www.cibng.org

Payment Options: POS (at the National Secretariat, Lagos, National Secretariat Annex Abuja & Eastern Zonal Office Owerri), Bank Drafts, Bank Cheques in favour of The Chartered Institute of Bankers of Nigeria, Lagos or Cash Payment into any of the CIBN accounts with evidence of payment forwarded to the Institute.

On-line payments: InterSwitch (ATM Card-Master card/Verve) E-wallet (on-pressnet pay outlet) Visit any bank branch. Make payment & obtain a confirmation code. Log on to www.cibng.org, click on Member Login and proceed. For more information please visit www.cibng.org (contact help menu)

FOR FURTHER ENQUIRIES, PLEASE CONTACT

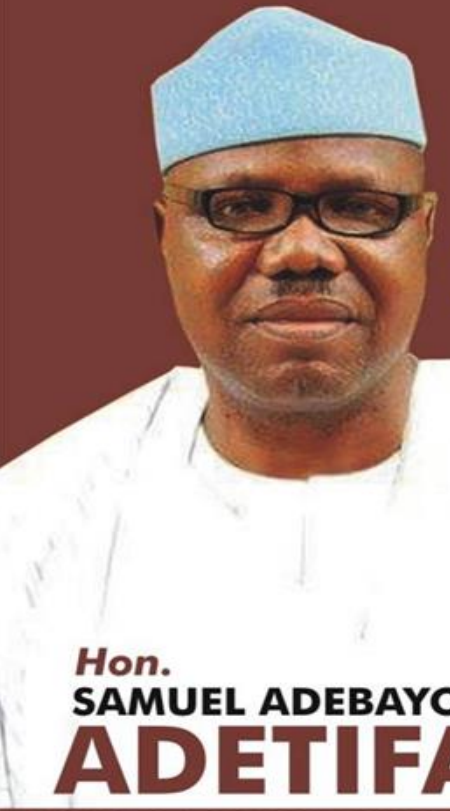
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Website: <http://www.cibng.org> E-mail: exams@cibng.org CARE Centre: 0700DIALCIBN (07003422426)

Call to
Glory

in total submission to the will of God,
and gratitude for a life well spent, the Entire
ADETIFA FAMILY of ILUDUN, EKITI STATE

invites you to the **Burial Ceremony** of our
beloved Son, Brother, Cousin, Husband,
Uncle, Father & Grandfather.



Hon. SAMUEL ADEBAYO ADETIFA

Aged
59
Years

1958 — 2017

BURIAL ARRANGEMENTS:


Wednesday: 12th July, 2017
Service of Songs and Commendation Service
47/49, Fatokun Street, Off Ekoro Road,
Abule-Egba, Lagos
5:00PM

Friday: 14th July, 2017
Lying in state @ his residence
Bayo Adetifa Estate, Eda-Oniyo Road,
Iludun, Ekiti State

Christian Wake-Keep @ his residence
Bayo Adetifa Estate, Eda-Oniyo Road,
Iludun, Ekiti State
6:00PM

Saturday: 15th July, 2017
Funeral Service
@ St. David Anglican Church,
Iludun, Ekiti State
11:00Am

Internet and Entertainment of Guest
@ his residence Bayo Adetifa Estate,
Eda-Oniyo Road, Iludun, Ekiti State



May his Gentle Soul Rest in Peace



Release of April, 2017 Examination Results

Following the approval by the President/Chairman of Council, **Prof. Segun Ajibola, FCIB**, the results of the **April 2017 Examinations of the Institute (ACIB & MCIB)** have been released

To this end, candidates can now access their results by visiting the Institute's website, www.cibng.org and follow the steps below:

1. Logon to CIBN Portal with Membership Number and Password.
2. Click on Check Results.
3. Select the Year and Diet of Examination.
4. Click on View Result.

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The Chartered Institute of Bankers of Nigeria is the umbrella professional body for bankers in Nigeria

Calling the Attention of Members



The Chartered Institute of Bankers of Nigeria hereby informs its professional members: **MCIB, ACIB, HCIB** and **FCIB** that the Institute is updating its database. In this regard, Members should kindly forward the following details to cibn@cibng.org:

- ✓ Your Name in Capital Letters(Surname First)
- ✓ Membership Number
- ✓ Mobile Number(s)
- ✓ Email Address
- ✓ Company Name
- ✓ Current/Last Position

You can also send the information by text or Whatsapp to **08028289271/08028444550** or visit http://www.cibng.org/cb_memberup.asp to complete the update form and submit.

Thank you
Seye Awojobi, FCIB
Registrar/CE

Governing Council Approves New Group Life Insurance for Members

As a means of ensuring that the Group Life Insurance Policy covers all the professional members of the Institute, the Governing Council at its meeting of December 3, 2015, approved a review of the policy which was introduced in 2012.

To this end, all professional members who are up to date in the payment of their annual subscriptions will be covered under the new policy which has a sum assured of **N1,000,000 (One Million Naira)**. The new policy is expected to take off from January 2016.

With the new policy, most members can enjoy financial peace of mind, safe and secure in the knowledge that the immediate needs of their loved ones are taken care of in case of any eventuality.

For enquiries/comments, please contact Funmbi Akinluyi at: olufunmbiakinluyi@cibng.org/ 0816 873 0986 or Peter Ejeomo at: peterejeomo@cibng.org/ 0802 844 4550

HEALTH NEWS

Common water treatments could damage genetic material

Scientists are warning that a water treatment widely used in developing countries could be damaging the Deoxy Ribonucleic Acid (DNA)/genetic material of those drinking it. Despite poor evidence of their effectiveness as a water disinfectant, colloidal silver and silver nanoparticles are increasingly being promoted for treating potentially contaminated drinking water in low income countries. A study led by the University of East Anglia has concluded that there is a risk these treatments could in fact cause genotoxicity, which is damage to DNA, and affect reproduction and future generations. Prof Paul Hunter from UEA's Norwich Medical School, said the study brings together existing research to highlight the potential risks. "Colloidal silver as a water treatment is sold across Africa and in countries like Haiti, despite the fact it doesn't treat water very

Hair dye, chemical relaxers can elevate risk of developing breast cancer

Common salon hair treatments can drastically increase the risk of breast cancer, a study suggests. Researchers at Rutgers University found there was an alarming increase in risk of developing the disease when certain women used dark hair dye and chemical relaxers. Black women who dyed their hair had a 51 percent increase in risk and white women who used relaxers had a 74 percent increase in risk. Previous research has suggested there was a link between harsh hair treatments and breast cancer, but most studies don't include black women. Now experts are using these findings to further investigate the danger of using chemical products on the body. The study

Some parents aid sexual abuse in children'

An official of Stop Sexual Abuse Now, a non-governmental organisation, Nkem Ijeh, has said that the attitude of some parents is responsible for the prevalence of sexual abuse in the country. According to her, some parents coerce their children into silence because of socio-economic reasons. She said this recently during the ninth edition of the annual Career Guidance and Counselling seminar organised by the Goge Africa Foundation. More than 3,000 pupils from public and private schools in Lagos State attended the programme themed, Youths against Violence. She said, "Some parents even threaten their children not to speak out after being harassed all because the person who committed the crime is the bread winner of the family. [Source:](#) Punch

effectively. The World Health Organization (WHO) advises against its use as a primary water treatment. If it isn't doing any good, we wanted to investigate if in fact it could be causing harm. The research looked at previous studies where the effects of silver, silver nitrate and silver nanoparticles have been measured 'in vivo' — on living animals. They found that, although results varied, more studies than they expected showed some evidence of genotoxicity. [Source: Guardian](#)

was conducted by researchers at the Rutgers School of Public Health and Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey. Experts asked more than 4,000 black and white women in the New Jersey and New York area their habits of dying, relaxing or using deep conditioning creams. Researchers then examined the study participants' medical history to see if these products elevated the risk of breast cancer. Black women who used dark hair dye had an overall 51 percent greater risk of the cancer. They also had a 72 percent increased risk of developing estrogen receptor positive breast cancer. [Source: Guardian](#)

SPORT NEWS

Joshua can rule heavyweight for years – Chisora

ANTHONY JOSHUA can rule the heavyweight division for an age, according to one of the hardest fighters in boxing Dereck Chisora, Del Boy, who has shared a ring twice with Tyson Fury and once with Wladimir Klitschko, believes AJ has what it takes to dominate the division. The 33-year-old backs the British world champion to follow in the footsteps of Klitschko after he took his belts following an unforgettable victory at Wembley. Chisora said, (Talking about AJ vs Klitschko) You get knocked down, you get back up and you carry on. It was a great fight, a great show. If he does it the right way, he will hold onto it (his belts). Most fighters don't want to fight people, so we will see what happens. Chisora – who still speaks to Fury – is confident the Gypsy King will return. And he is

Sanchez blanks Arsenal talk as Chile, Germany set for semis

Alexis Sanchez refused to be drawn on his Arsenal future after becoming Chile's all-time top-scorer in Thursday's 1-1 draw with Germany at the Confederations Cup. The Gunners' star, voted man of the match, became Chile's all-time top-scorer with his 38th international goal after capitalising on an early mistake in the German defence. Sanchez has yet to sign a new deal with Arsenal and pointedly ignored a question about his future as he accepted the man-of-the-match award. I'm very happy to be Chile's top-scorer now, our dream is to win this tournament and we feel we have a chance, said Sanchez. Despite falling behind, inexperienced Germany fought back as Lars Stindl netted his second goal of the

CAF Warns Egyptian Clubs to Stay off Qatar Crisis

The Confederation of African Football (CAF) has issued a thinly-veiled warning to Egyptian clubs to stay out of the political crisis in the Gulf. Long-simmering tensions between Qatar and its neighbours boiled over earlier this month when Saudi Arabia and many other Arab states cut all ties with Qatar over the oil and gas-rich kingdom's alleged support for terrorism. Qatar, the 2022 World Cup host nation, has rejected the accusations. The political earthquake in the Gulf has also affected beIN Sports – the Qatari sports network which has the sole rights in the Middle East to broadcast tournaments such as the Africa Cup of Nations and the World Cup. BeIn Sports, which also has exclusive rights to the African Champions League and Confederation Cup, has been blocked in many Gulf countries over the crisis. Earlier this month, the

eyeing a third fight against the former heavyweight world champion, after their previous two bouts resulted in Fury wins. Chisora added, I am still waiting to do another third one, anyway so we are going to do that. There will be a third one, we will go to war again. Meanwhile, Joseph Parker could view Tony Bellew as an “attractive” option to set the scene for an Anthony Joshua fight next summer, says the WBO champion’s promoter, according to Sky-sports. The New Zealander is expected to make an announcement in the next few weeks about facing Hughie Fury in a mandatory title defence, [Source](#): Punch

tournament to equalise for the world champions just before the break. The result leaves South American champions Chile top of Group B on goal difference from the Germans. With both teams on four points, three ahead of Australia and Cameroon who drew 1-1 earlier, they are in pole position to reach next week’s semi-finals. Germany play Cameroon on Sunday in Sochi while Chile face the Socceroo’s in Moscow. Despite leaving all his World Cup-winning stars at home, Germany’s head coach Joachim Loew was delighted how his young team fared. [Source](#): Guardian

Egyptian Football Association along with the North African country’s two biggest clubs – Al Ahly and Zamalek – announced that beIN Sports journalists would be barred from covering their games and press conferences. On the eve of Tuesday’s Champions League match against Wydad Casablanca, [Source](#): Thisday

GENERAL NEWS

FG Declares June 26, 27 Public Holidays

The federal government has declared, June 26 and 27, as public holidays to mark Eid-el Fitr celebration. The Minister of Interior, Lt Gen. Abdulrahman Bello Dambazau (rtd), who made the declaration on behalf of the government, enjoined all Muslim faithful and Nigerians in general to use the occasion of the celebration for sober reflection and pray for peace, unity and progress of the nation in its march to nationhood. Dambazau urged all Nigerians to shun hate speeches and divisive tendencies and join hands with the government of President Muhammadu Buhari to build a peaceful, strong and united Nigeria which guarantees fundamental freedoms, including the right of residence in any part of the country, as enshrined in the constitution. The minister who reaffirmed the determination of the administration

Nigeria Will Remain One United Country, Says Sultan

Onyebuchi Ezigbo, Senator Iroegbu in Abuja and Mohammed Aminu in Sokoto. Efforts to douse the rising tension in the country have received a huge boost with the Sultan of Sokoto, Alhaji Muhammad Sa’ad Abubakar, saying Nigeria will not only overcome the prevailing hate-filled agitations but will also remain one united country. A coalition of northern youth groups had recently given the Igbos living in the northern parts of the country up to October 1, 2017 to quit or face the consequences of failing to obey the notice. The action, which was predicated on the agitations by some Igbo youths in the South-east for an independent state of Biafra, had attracted retaliatory quit notices from other sections of the country with several sectional groups issuing hate

Julius Berger eyes oil, power deals in Nigeria

Julius Berger Nigeria Plc, the largest construction company in Nigeria by market value, plans to acquire oil assets and expand into the power industry as it seeks to diversify its business and stay competitive after the country’s worst economic slump in decades. Bloomberg quoted the company’s managing director, Wolfgang Goetsch, as saying in an interview in Abuja. The company, which derives two-thirds of its earnings from government contracts, is also considering bidding for business in other countries in the region, such as Ghana, Benin and Ivory Coast, where it has conducted market studies. Goetsch said, “Within Nigeria, we aim to diversify our business beyond our core competence of civil engineering, considering power and oil and gas, or to diversify outside the country, but only in our core

to protect all lives and property of Nigerians, added that the will of the administration should not be tested as to its capability to deploy security agencies to deal with any individual or group that may threaten the corporate existence of the nation, as well as the peaceful co-existence of the people. He further promised the government's resolve to be just and fair to all. [Source:](#) Punch

statements that had put the nation on the edge. With palpable tension in the air, Acting President Yemi Osinbajo waded in, holding high level consultations with traditional rulers, religious leaders, the 36 state governors, public opinion leaders and media owners and editors, telling them about the dire implications of the hate speeches that were polluting the polity. [Source:](#) Thisday

business. We believe with strategic partners that we are more attractive to clients who want to have a whole industrial or power plant. Julius Berger, operating in the country since 1965, saw its earnings slide as Nigeria fell into its worst economic slump in a quarter century amid lower oil prices and a shortage of foreign exchange. [Source:](#) Punch

CIBN DAILY HIGHLIGHTS, 2017.


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