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Limited**

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RC153400

Oriental-Afren Partnership Commission Major Community Projects in Akwa Ibom

Uyo, Akwa Ibom, 9 April 2013: Oriental Energy Resources (“Oriental”) and Afren Nigeria (“Afren”) announce the formal commissioning of 2 major development projects in Akwa Ibom State by His Excellency Governor of Akwa Ibom Obong Godswill Obot Akpabio this week. The projects form part of the Oriental-Afren Partnership’s community development work in the region.

Commissioned Projects

University of Uyo Chemical and Petroleum Engineering

Department: Oriental and Afren have completed the renovation of and the provision of equipment for the Chemical & Petroleum Engineering Department’s laboratories and libraries at the University of Uyo. This has helped the School re-attain accreditation from the Nigerian University Commission (NUC) and Council for Regulation of Engineering in Nigeria (COREN) and forms part of a 5-year project to transform the Department into Nigeria’s number one Chemical and Petroleum Engineering Studies Center.

In 2009, the Management of the University established a collaboration between the University of Uyo and the Oriental-Afren Partnership. The collaboration led to the donation of textbooks and scientific journals to the Department of Chemical & Petroleum Engineering. Between 2011 and 2012, equipment worth approximately \$750,000 were purchased by the Oriental-Afren Partnership and shipped to the University of Uyo. The equipment was subsequently installed and tested by an expert from the University of Texas at Austin, USA. Technologists of the Department of Chemical & Petroleum Engineering have been trained on the operation and maintenance of the equipment. In the last few months, additional equipment has been donated by the Oriental-Afren Partnership to the University. This equipment will be commissioned in a ceremony scheduled for 10 April 2013.

Youth Technical Skills Acquisition Program: 60 youths have graduated from the Oriental-Afren Partnership sponsored program and attended a graduation ceremony hosted by the Executive Governor of Akwa Ibom. The students have completed training at various skills acquisition centers where they studied Welding and Fabrication, Aluminium Works Fabrication, Fashion Design, Hair Dressing, and Auto Mechanic Repairs and Maintenance. The students were each provided with a complete set of Starter-Packs of the equipment needed to practice their respective trades. The students also received a grant of N200,000 each to enable them to establish businesses of their own.

Oriental Energy Resources Executive Chairman Alhaji (Dr.) Muhammadu Indimi stated:

"Contributing value to our communities is central to our business model and the breadth of these projects demonstrates our commitment to our communities. We are particularly proud of the strength of the partnership we have with Afren and with the Akwa Ibom State Government. We look forward to continuing to work closely together to deliver real value for our local communities."

Afren Nigeria Chairman Egbert Imomoh said:

"The scope and scale of these projects in Akwa Ibom is testament to our commitment to contribute towards the development of capacity and skill in the areas where we operate. In our partnership with Oriental, we recognize that in order to achieve this we need to contribute at multiple levels, from re-training young people and giving them the skills necessary to enter formal employment, to building the infrastructure that we hope will deliver a new generation of petroleum engineers for Akwa Ibom and Nigeria."

Oriental Energy Resources Limited

Oriental Energy Resources Limited (www.oriental-er.com) is a privately held Nigerian oil and gas exploration and production company with its headquarters in Abuja, the Federal Capital of Nigeria. Oriental is the Operator of the Ebok Field, the Okwok Field, and OML115, an oil mining lease located in south-eastern offshore Nigeria.

Afren plc

Afren (www.afren.com) is an independent upstream oil and gas exploration and production company listed on the main market of the London Stock Exchange and constituent of the Financial Times Stock Exchange Index of the leading 250 UK listed companies. Afren has a

portfolio of 31 assets across 12 countries spanning the full cycle E&P chain. Afren is currently producing from its assets offshore Nigeria and Cote d'Ivoire and holds further interests in the Kurdistan region of Iraq, Ghana, Nigeria, Cote d'Ivoire, Congo Brazzaville, the JDZ of Nigeria-Sao Tome & Principe, Kenya, Ethiopia, Madagascar, Seychelles, Tanzania and South Africa.