

## **d.light welcomes Ibukun Awosika as its new Board Chair**

November 20, 2019, Lagos, Nigeria — d.light, a leading innovator in the distribution of solar energy, is delighted to announce the appointment of [Ibukun Awosika](#) as its new board chair. An award-winning entrepreneur and current chair of First Bank of Nigeria Limited, Ms. Awosika brings a high-level of Africa expertise to d.light as the social impact company prepares to expand on the continent.

“Ibukun possesses a rare combination of international experience, expertise with African markets and background with not-for-profit boards that makes her the ideal board chair to support d.light as we prepare to dramatically scale our work,” said d.light co-founder and CEO Ned Tozun. “Ibukun is appreciated internationally for her business acumen, and we are also deeply admiring of her work as an advocate for women’s rights and social change. At d.light, the opportunity to improve lives factors into everything we do. A social visionary like Ibukun is a perfect fit to chair our board.”

“I’ve been following d.light’s work for several years and I am very pleased to be joining as board chair at this critical moment of accelerated growth in Africa,” Ms. Awosika said. “Through the development of quality solar products, supported by smart distribution systems and trustworthy payment schemes, d.light is having a positive impact on the lives of hundreds of thousands of people living in sub-Saharan Africa. d.light is absolutely the type of company we want to see grow in Africa as it provides solid employment to tens of thousands of people and has helped spur a transition to green energy in places where, until recently, kerosene lamps were the only option.”

Wayne Keast, d.light board member and Managing Partner of Inspired Evolution Investment Management also welcomed the announcement. “The addition of Ms. Awosika to d.light’s board comes as the company is set to reach a milestone of impacting 100 million lives in over 70 developing countries around the globe by providing access to affordable solar-powered solutions. d.light has not only made a name for itself as a leading social impact organization but is growing profitable and attracting interest from later-stage commercial investors and now

with Ms. Awosika on board the company is well-positioned to continue its expansion across Africa.”

“As female buying power continues to increase in many African countries, Ibukun’s experience as a co-founder and past chair of Women in Business, Management and Public Service (WIMBIZ), and as the first Nigerian recipient of the prestigious International Women’s Entrepreneurial Challenge Award (nominated by the US Department of State) in 2008, as well as her most recent appointment as the President of the International Women’s Entrepreneurial Challenge (IWEC) Foundation makes her particularly suited to provide d.light with a valuable gender-lens to support decision-making at the very heart of our organization,” Tozun added.

d.light committed to the establishment of an independent board chair earlier this year, following the [latest round of funding](#) that saw Shell New Energies coming on as a major investor.

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### **About d.light**

Founded in 2006 at Stanford, d.light is a global leader in solar energy, dedicated to providing the most reliable, affordable and accessible solar lighting and power systems for people living in the developing world. d.light provides distributed solar energy to households and small businesses in 70 countries, impacting the lives of nearly 100 million people. For further information [visit our website](#).

For further information or to request an interview contact: [media@dlight.com](mailto:media@dlight.com)