

Press Release regarding completion of Forte Oil PLC Transaction: Ignite Investments and Commodities Limited concludes acquisition of 74.02% equity stake in Forte Oil Plc's downstream operations from Mr. Femi Otedola, CON

(Lagos, Nigeria, 20 June 2019) – Forte Oil PLC (“FO Plc” or the “Company”), one of Nigeria’s leading downstream oil and gas companies, listed on The Nigerian Stock Exchange, has announced the completion of the acquisition of 74.02% shareholding from Mr. Femi Otedola, CON in its downstream operations by Ignite Investments and Commodities Limited led by Prudent Energy Services Limited (“Ignite”)

This completion is consequent upon Ignite receiving all the necessary approvals from the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), the Nigerian Stock Exchange (NSE) and fulfilling all relevant terms and conditions attached to the Share Purchase Agreement. As a result of this and further to the announcement on December 28, 2018, Ignite will take over controlling stake in Forte Oil PLC the downstream company.

Commenting on the transaction, Forte Oil PLC’s outgoing Group Chief Executive Officer, Akin Akinfemiwa, said: “this concludes a very painstaking process and we believe that this transaction would optimize the existing capabilities inherent in the business and its people who are the key drivers of the business, and propel the Company towards an assured future.”

The Chairman of Ignite and Chief Executive of Prudent Energy Services Limited, Mr. Abdulwasiu Sowami stated that “this investment is of strategic importance to support our quest of continuously adding value to the Nigerian oil and gas industry. The next phase of Forte Oil’s growth will focus on increasing volumes, diversifying business operations, widening distribution networks and extracting potential synergies with partners. We look forward to working as part of the Forte Oil family to achieve this growth”

Parties to the sale indicated that the Forte brand will remain in place and that the Transition of the Board of directors has begun and new directors have been appointed subject to ratification by the shareholders at the next general meeting of the Company.

Standard Chartered Bank, Corporate Finance & Advisory and Olaniwun Ajayi LP served as Financial and Legal advisors respectively to Mr. Femi Otedola, CON, while PricewaterhouseCoopers and Stanbic IBTC Capital Limited served as Joint Financial Advisors and Sefton Fross served as legal advisor to Ignite Investments and Commodities Limited.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Olagbende', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Akinleye Olagbende
General Counsel and Company Secretary