The Botswana GAZETTE

WEDNESDAY 19 NOVEMBER 2025 SINCE 1984



Madibelatlhopho-IEC Standoff Continues 6.

DARK DAYS ARE BACK



The BPC has reinstated load shedding nationwide, citing lower-than-expected baseload generation at Morupule B Power Station and reduced solar energy output caused by persistent cloud cover 2.



"MAGOSI PROCURED DEFECTIVE AIR BOTSWANA PLANES"

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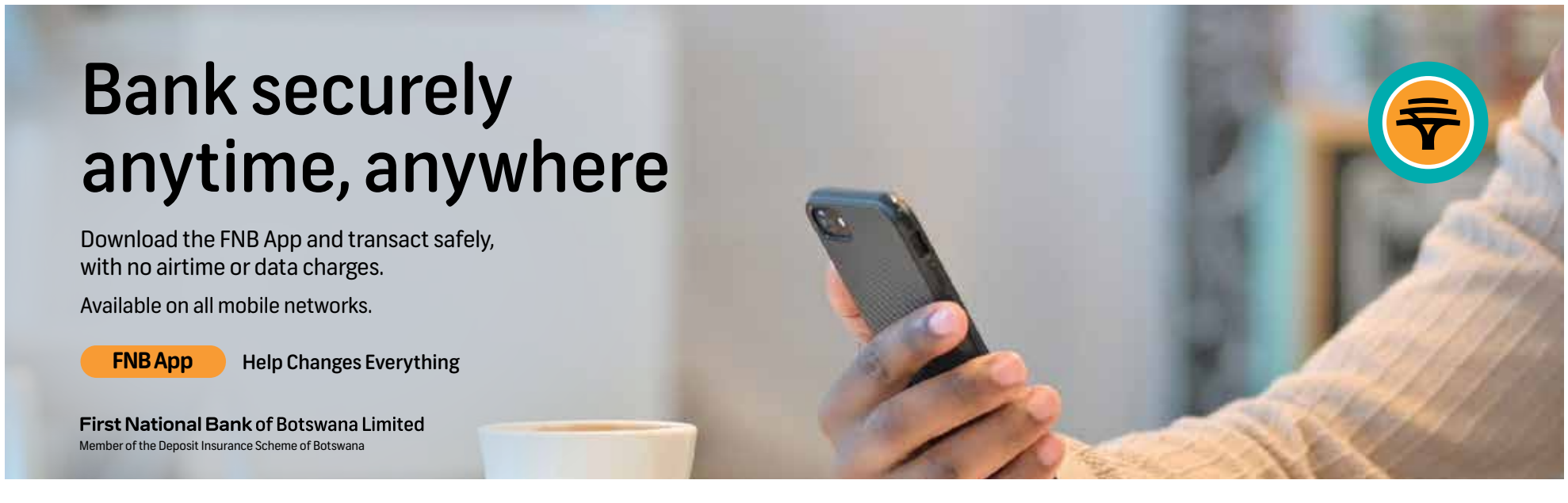

Dark Days Are Back

The BPC has reinstated load shedding nationwide, citing lower-than-expected baseload generation at the Morupule B Power Station and reduced solar energy output caused by persistent cloud cover

GAZETTE REPORTER


(Pic:Monirul Bhuiyan/PRESS PHOTO)

The Botswana Power Corporation (BPC) has brought back nationwide load shedding, blaming the move on declining baseload production at the Morupule B Power Station and weakened solar power generation due to ongoing cloud cover.

The corporation's Marketing and Communications Manager Kefilwe Kebafetotse confirmed that load management measures were scheduled to begin from 17 November 2025, primarily during evening hours, with daily power cuts limited to a maximum of two hours.

REDUCED ELECTRICITY GENERATION LEVELS

"BPC is currently experiencing reduced electricity generation levels arising from a forced curtailment of supply from the Morupule B Power Station," she said, describing the measures as essential to maintain grid stability and ensure the cost-effectiveness of alternative power sources deployed during this period.

Kebafetotse added, "The power supply constraints have been further compounded by a decrease in solar generation due to the current cloud cover in most areas, both locally and regionally."

CUSTOMERS URGED TO CONSERVE ENERGY

She encouraged customers to conserve electricity, particularly during peak hours from 6:00 AM to 10:00 AM and 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM, to support grid stability and manage costs effectively.

"We apologise for the inconvenience and thank our valued customers for their patience as we work diligently to restore stable power supply. We expect baseload capacity to improve by the end of November 2025," Kebafetotse said.

BPC has committed to transparent communication, promising regular updates on the load shedding schedule via social media, SMS alerts, and other communication channels.

With the festive season approaching and peak energy demand expected, BPC is urging households and businesses to adopt energy-saving measures, including minimizing non-essential electricity use and optimizing the use of high-consumption appliances.

REGIONAL POWER CONSTRAINTS IMPACT BOTSWANA

The current power interruptions in Botswana occur against a backdrop of regional electricity challenges. Reports from South African media indicate that Eskom, South Africa's state-owned power utility, is also implementing scheduled load reductions in parts of Gauteng this week, with outages during peak hours lasting up to five hours in some areas.

Eskom's supply constraints have a direct impact on Botswana, which imports electricity from South Africa. In affected Gauteng areas, morning load reductions are scheduled between 5:00 AM and 9:00 AM, affecting communities such as Rethabiseng, Kudube, Orange Farm, Hillsview East, and Tsakane.

> "We expect baseload capacity to improve by the end of November 2025"

Analysts say the synchronization of Botswana and South Africa's electricity challenges reflects broader strain on Southern Africa's electricity infrastructure, amid rising demand and limited generation capacity.

PSP, Magosi Killed Air Botswana Corruption Probe - Claim

"It cannot reasonably be coincidental that immediately following that briefing (of Peloetletse), the Applicant (Kgoadi) was instructed to cease all involvement in the Air Botswana investigation," Court heard

GAZETTE REPORTER

Fresh court papers filed with the Lobatse High Court allege that Permanent Secretary to the President (PSP) Emma Peloetletse played a decisive role in helping Directorate of Intelligence and Security (DIS) Director General Peter Fana Magosi shut down an internal investigation that had uncovered possible corruption linked to Air Botswana aircraft procurement.

The allegations form part of an urgent application by suspended Director of Legal Services, Pulane Kgoadi, who is seeking to interdict disciplinary proceedings against her. Kgoadi argues the charges she faces are a direct retaliation for participating in a multi-agency investigation that discovered potential wrongdoing involving Magosi himself at Air Botswana.

According to the court papers, the Air Botswana inquiry which was commissioned by then President Mokgweetsi Masisi had produced troubling early findings implicating the DIS boss.

ARRESTS FOLLOWED BRIEFING OF PELOETLETSE

Court papers reveal that in March 2024, shortly after the investigative team briefed Peloetletse on the preliminary findings, Kgoadi and four colleagues were abruptly arrested, detained, and subjected to invasive searches ordered directly by Magosi.

"At the time, Magosi had become aware that an investigative team comprising the Applicant and the same four co-applicants had uncovered and reported findings suggesting possible corruption on his part relating to the procurement of aircraft by Air Botswana," the papers state.

Kgoadi' lawyer Monthe Marumo & Co. argue the arrests were "actuated by improper and ulterior motives," claiming Magosi had by then learned the team had uncovered information suggesting corruption on his part in the national airline's procurement process.

"The said arrests and suspension were suspiciously proximate to the official briefing of the 6" Respondent, Ms. Emma Peloetletse (the Permanent Secretary to the

President), regarding those findings," the lawyers argue.

Following the briefing, Acting DIS Director General Ishmael Basupi allegedly issued an instruction removing the investigators from the Air Botswana case altogether despite the inquiry being authorised by Masisi.

The lawyers further state that: "It cannot reasonably be coincidental that immediately following that briefing, the Applicant was instructed to cease all involvement in the Air Botswana investigation."

PSP ACCUSED OF COMMISSIONING PROBE AGAINST SPIES

While Kgoadi was on suspension, Peloetletse reportedly appointed Tebogo Bagopi to investigate her and her colleagues. The lawyers argue that Bagopi's investigation which was authored under terms of reference reportedly drafted by Magosi himself became the basis for the disciplinary charges against Kgoadi.

They state that although the Air Botswana investigative team comprised around 30 officers from DIS, the police and the Botswana Defence Force, only five were targeted, arrested, suspended, and charged.

"This selective focus strongly suggests the investigation was not conducted in good faith but was instead designed to victimise individuals perceived as threats to the 5th Respondent [Magosi]," Kgoadi's lawyers argue.

Kgoadi is asking the High Court to declare the entire disciplinary process invalid, arguing that it is built on an unlawful investigation and sustained by glaring breaches of procedural fairness.



RESPONSE FROM MAGOSI AND PELOETLETSE

Magosi and Peloetletse's lawyers Collins Chilisa Consultants are opposing Kgoadi's application saying: "At the outset, it is noted that the 6th Respondent's (Peloetletse) response is necessarily circumscribed by the obligations arising from her oath of office."

"In keeping with that attestation, she has refrained from needlessly disclosing the identities of members of the Directorate of Intelligence and Security (DIS) or any matters implicating national security," the lawyers said.

First National Bank
Local & Foreign Currency Deposit and Lending Rates
November 2025

The following standard Savings, Lending and Investment rates will apply

Interest Rates

Type of Deposit Account	Nominal Rate per Annum (NACM)	Annual Effective Rate	Minimum Opening Balance (BWP)
Current	-	-	Nil
Call	0.00% - 0.46%	0.00% - 0.46%	1,000
Money Maximiser	0.00% - 3.35%	0.00% - 3.40%	100,000
Savings (Poloko)	0.00% - 3.40%	0.00% - 3.45%	100
FutureSave	0.00% - 0.40%	0.00% - 0.40%	100
Future Forward	0.00% - 2.50%	0.00% - 2.53%	50
Savings Pocket	0.00% - 1.60%	0.00% - 1.61%	-
Flexi Fixed (3 Months)	2.95% - 3.20%	2.99% - 3.25%	100
Flexi Fixed (6 Months)	4.05% - 4.35%	4.13% - 4.44%	100
Flexi Fixed (12 Months)	4.85% - 5.35%	4.96% - 5.48%	100
7 Day Notice	0.15% - 1.25%	0.15% - 1.26%	100
32 Day Notice Plus	1.25% - 2.00%	1.26% - 2.02%	1,000
1 Month Fixed Deposit	2.50% - 2.55%	2.53% - 2.58%	1,000
3 Months Fixed Deposit	3.20%	3.25%	1,000
6 Months Fixed Deposit	4.75% - 5.00%	4.85% - 5.12%	1,000
12 Months Fixed Deposit	5.55% - 6.25%	5.69% - 6.43%	1,000
24 Months Fixed Deposit	5.65% - 6.60%	5.80% - 6.80%	1,000
Over 36 Months Fixed Deposit	5.85% - 6.80%	6.01% -7.02%	1,000
Prime Lending Rate	7.01%		
MoPR	3.50%		

***For term deposits the minimum amount is BWP 1 million to qualify for a special rate

- Interest is calculated on the daily account closing balance and credited in to the account monthly (For all interest bearing products excluding fixed deposits)
- Fixed deposits interest is calculated based on the principal amount, agreed term and applicable interest rate. The accrued interest is credited at Maturity or termination
- Interest rates are linked to the Monetary Policy Rate (MoPR)

Lending Rates

Lending Rates	Nominal Interest Rate Per Annum (%)	Average Effective Interest Rate
MoPR	3.50%	3.50%
Prime Lending Rate	7.01%	7.01%
Mortgage Facility	Prime +12% to 17%	Prime +14% to 20.08%
Overdraft Facility (Revolving Credit Lines)	Prime +8.% to 10.%	Prime +9.33% to 11.64%
Credit Card	22% to 28%	24.36% to 31.89%
Lease Loans (VAF)	Prime +7.25% to 12%	Prime +8.47% to 14%
Unsecured Personal Loans (Excluding Overdraft, Mortgage and Credit Card)	Prime +17% to 22%	Prime +20.08% to 26.44%
Other Term Loans		

*Scheme related lending is as per the scheme contract

Foreign Currency Deposit Rates

ZAR – South African Rand***	Nominal Interest Rates/Annum (%)	Annual Effective Rates	Minimum Opening Balance (ZAR)
Current (Global Account)	2.00%	2.00%	1,000
1 Month Fixed Deposit	1.00%	1.00%	1,000
2 Months Fixed Deposit	1.05%	1.05%	1,000
3 Months Fixed Deposit	1.25%	1.26%	1,000
6 Months Fixed Deposit	1.50%	1.51%	1,000
12 Months Fixed Deposit	2.00%	2.00%	1,000
24 Months Fixed Deposit	2.50%	2.50%	1,000

AUD – Australian Dollar	Nominal Interest Rates/Annum (%)	Annual Effective Rates	Minimum Opening Balance (AUD)
Current (Global Account)	-	-	100
1 Month Fixed Deposit	These rates are quoted on request		100
2 Months Fixed Deposit			100
3 Months Fixed Deposit			100
6 Months Fixed Deposit			100
12 Months Fixed Deposit			100
24 Months Fixed Deposit			100

USD – US Dollar***	Nominal Interest Rates/Annum (%)	Annual Effective Rates	Minimum Opening Balance (USD)
Current (Global Account)	-	-	100
1 Month Fixed Deposit	0.40%	0.40%	100
2 Months Fixed Deposit	0.47%	0.47%	100
3 Months Fixed Deposit	0.50%	0.50%	100
6 Months Fixed Deposit	0.55%	0.55%	100
12 Months Fixed Deposit	0.80%	0.80%	100
24 Months Fixed Deposit	1.30%	1.30%	100

EUR – Euro	Nominal Interest Rates/Annum (%)	Annual Effective Rates	Minimum Opening Balance (EUR)
Current (Global Account)	-	-	100
1 Month Fixed Deposit	These rates are quoted on request		100
2 Months Fixed Deposit			100
3 Months Fixed Deposit			100
6 Months Fixed Deposit			100
12 Months Fixed Deposit			100
24 Months Fixed Deposit			100
Over 36 Months Fixed Deposit			100

GBP – British Pound Sterling***	Nominal Interest Rates/Annum (%)	Annual Effective Rates	Minimum Opening Balance (GBP)
Current (Global Account)	-	-	100
1 Month Fixed Deposit	0.07%	0.07%	100
2 Months Fixed Deposit	0.09%	0.09%	100
3 Months Fixed Deposit	0.10%	0.10%	100
6 Months Fixed Deposit	0.15%	0.15%	100
12 Months Fixed Deposit	0.20%	0.20%	100
24 Months Fixed Deposit	0.20%	0.20%	100

***Note:

- Special rates offered for amounts of ZAR 1 000 000 and more
- Special rates offered for amounts of USD 100 000 and more
- Special rates offered for amounts of GBP 100 000 and more

For more information:

Visit FNB Branch **Visit fnbbotswana.co.bw**

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"Magosi Procured Defective Air Botswana Planes"

Despite the Board's apparent disregard for irregularities, investigations into Air Botswana revealed that Magosi was in talks with a UK company over the procurement of defective aircraft



(Pic:Monirul Bhuiyan/PRESS PHOTO)

GAZETTE REPORTER

Lawyers representing suspended Directorate of Intelligence and Security (DIS) Director of Legal Services, Pulane Kgoadi, have filed papers before the High Court, alleging that DIS Director General Peter Magosi may have been involved in procuring defective aircraft for Air Botswana.

The claims form a central part of a supplementary heads of argument submitted by Kgoadi's legal team, Monthe Marumo & Co, as part of her ongoing challenge to disciplinary proceedings against her.

SERIOUS IRREGULARITIES

Kgoadi's lawyers argue that the disciplinary process is tainted by serious irregularities. According to their submissions, during an investigation into maladministration at Air Botswana, evidence emerged indicating that Magosi had engaged in discussions with a United Kingdom-based company regarding the procurement of defective planes for the national carrier.

"The DG became a person of interest immediately after this information came to light," the lawyers state. They further contend that Kgoadi was subsequently arrested and detained by the DG himself, an action they claim was directly linked to the uncovering of possible corruption in the aircraft procurement process.

The legal team insists that the allegations against Magosi are too serious to be shielded under the Intelligence and Security Services Act (ISSA). They also challenge claims by Magosi that his actions are limited by the attestation of office, arguing that such assertions "carry no merit."

MAGOSI DENIES WRONGDOING

In response, Magosi firmly denied any wrongdoing, including allegations of impropriety involving the DIS. In his replying affidavit, he emphasized that he is bound by the terms of his office to safeguard sensitive information, particularly the identities of DIS members, and to avoid public discussion of national security matters.

"In responding to the Applicant's founding affidavit, I am constrained by the attestation of office that I took, which enjoins me, consistent with the ethos of my profession, not to needlessly disclose the identity of members of the DIS or discuss matters of national security in public documents," Magosi stated.

He added that a panel has been established to investigate the allegations against Kgoadi and is careful not to unduly influence the ongoing Board of Enquiry. "These matters are to be determined in the first instance by the Board of Enquiry, and thereafter, if necessary, by the courts through judicial review," he said, emphasizing that the disciplinary process was initiated in good faith.

> "The legal team insists that the allegations against Magosi are too serious to be shielded under the Intelligence and Security Services Act (ISSA)"

Kgoadi's challenge now awaits determination in the High Court, with her legal team arguing that she is being punished for uncovering misconduct at the highest levels of the DIS.



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Madibelatlhopho-IEC Standoff Continues

The UDC-aligned group has accused electoral body of ignoring court rulings and obstructing election monitoring



SESUPO RANTSIMAKO

UDC pressure group Madibelatlhopho has expressed continued frustration with the Independent Electoral Commission because the IEC remains unresponsive to the group's concerns and recommendations.

In an interview following the Kgalagadi South by-election over the weekend, the Chairman of Madibelatlhopho, Michael Keakopa said the IEC continues to hinder the group's election-monitoring efforts inspite of advice given during the previous administration.

"THE IEC STILL DOES NOT FULLY RECOGNISE US"

He added that this was particularly evident during the weekend poll in Kgalagadi South. "Even though we won a court case in 2023 affirming our rights, the IEC still does not fully recognise us," said Keakopa.

He claimed the group's polling agents were initially denied entry to polling stations and that it was only allowed only one agent per station after negotiations instead of the two as stipulated in the Constitution of Botswana.

"They still refuse to follow the Electoral Act, which is supposed to guide them," Keakopa said.

ELECTORAL REFORMS

In the build-up to the 2024 general elections, the IEC stated that it did not recognise Madibelatlhopho because it was not a person or group formally defined in the Constitution or the Electoral Act.

Keakopa urged the UDC to adopt the electoral reforms advanced by the UDC when the coalition was in the opposition in line with Madibelatlhopho's position.

"We know change cannot happen overnight, but the UDC has to pursue these reforms to ensure that elections run smoothly for the sake of Botswana's democracy," he said.

COMPLIANCE

"Do not do the UDC any favours. Just do it for the country and the rule of law. The IEC must do the right thing regardless of political affiliations."

Madibelatlhopho is a UDC-aligned pressure group that is mandated to monitor the electoral process.

Reached for comment on Madibelatlhopho's concerns, the Secretary of the IEC, Jefferson Siamisang, said the commission always ensures compliance with the Electoral Act.

ANYONE

Quizzed about whether he was aware of the UDC pressure group's complaints, Siamisang's response was bland.

"Anyone who wants to be part of the electoral process should follow the Electoral Act, regardless of who they are," he said. "As long as observing elections is the purpose, the Act should be followed."

Even so, he acknowledged one complaint that was raised during the Kgalagadi South by-election, saying it was made by individuals claiming to be polling agents and that it was resolved amicably.

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San Body Reports Maele to Mokgware



The Botswana Khwedom Council has asked the Ministry of Labour to intervene in an injury case that goes back to 2019 when a cow belonging to higher education minister Prince Maele trampled upon a San

GAZETTE REPORTER

The Botswana Khwedom Council (BKC) has formally reported the Minister of Tertiary Education, Research, Science and Technology, Prince Maele, to his counterpart at the Ministry of Labour, Pius Mokgware, over an unresolved injury case that dates back to 2019.

In a letter dated 31 October 2025 addressed to the Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Labour and Home Affairs, Jimmy Opelo, the organisation's public relations officer, Banyatsi Salutu, wrote of how a certain Puisano Hula, who is a San, allegedly sustained injuries caused by Maele's cow at the latter's cattle ranch.

LETLHAKANE LABOUR OFFICE

The case has been registered at the Letlhakane Labour Office but it is alleged that Maele has not attended scheduled mediation sessions.

"Consequently, the matter was referred to the Letlhakane Police Station, where Maele reportedly informed the Station Commander that the issue was 'already at court,'" the letter stated.

DISMISSIVE AND DISRESPECTFUL

It also noted that Hula has not received any form of compensation and that that situation "has caused continued hardship for him as a vulnerable community member".

The letter expressed disappointment over a 10 September 2025 phone conversation during which Maele allegedly refused to negotiate with local parties, insisting instead that the matter proceed directly to court.

In a previous letter addressed to Maele's ministry, BKC described the minister's tone during that conversation as dismissive and disrespectful.

HUMAN RIGHTS INSTRUMENTS

"This conduct reflects poorly on the standards expected from a person of your high office and undermines Botswana's commitments to upholding human rights, labour protections, and justice for indigenous people," the letter read.

BKC stressed that the continued lack of resolution of the matter represents not only personal injustice for Hula but also a broader violation of labour and human rights principles.

In its correspondence, BKC cited the Constitution of Botswana and international human rights instruments to which the country is a signatory, emphasising the rights to dignity, equality before the law, and access to justice regardless of social or economic standing.

POTENTIAL LEGAL ACTION

The organisation called on the Ministry of Labour to ensure that Maele is held accountable and that Hula receives the compensation and resolution that he is owed.

The BKC letter requested Maele to respond or face potential legal action. Attempts to reach Maele for comment were unsuccessful at the time of publication.

BPOMAS Management Committee (ManCo) Statement On Organizational Matters

OFFICIAL STATEMENT

Gaborone, 12 November 2025 – The Management Committee (ManCo) of the Botswana Public Officers Medical Aid Scheme (BPOMAS) wishes to inform its Members and Stakeholders that the ManCo has taken an administrative decision to place the Chief Executive Officer on garden leave pending the outcome of an internal process in line with Scheme policies.

This step has been taken to allow for a fair, transparent, and objective review of matters that have been brought to the attention of the ManCo.

The decision does not in any way presume wrongdoing and should be regarded purely as an administrative measure to protect the integrity of both the process and the institution.

During this period, interim leadership arrangements have been put in place to ensure the continued smooth operation of the Scheme and uninterrupted service delivery to members and stakeholders.

The ManCo reaffirms its commitment to good governance, accountability, and adherence to due process in the management of the Scheme's affairs. As this is an internal matter currently under review, BPOMAS will not be commenting further until the process has been concluded.

BPOMAS remains focused on fulfilling its mandate of providing quality, sustainable, and affordable healthcare coverage to its members.

For any official communication, members and stakeholders are advised to rely solely on statements issued directly by the BPOMAS ManCo through the Marketing, PR and Communications Office.

For media enquiries, please contact:
Marketing, PR and Communications
Email: comms@bpomas.co.bw
Phone: 370 2900

Issued by:
Chairperson,
BPOMAS Management Committee

Date: 12 November 2025
- Ends-

bpomas

TENDER NOTICE



A TENDER FOR THE SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF FUEL TO BOTSWANA OIL LIMITED

Botswana Oil Limited (BOL), a company registered under the Companies Act in 2013 and wholly owned by the Botswana Government serves as the transformation agent in the Oil & Gas industry. The Company is mandated to ensure the security and efficiency of supply of petroleum products for Botswana, manage state owned strategic fuel reserve facilities, strategic stocks as well as bulk storage and distribution. Botswana Oil Limited is also responsible for facilitating the participation of citizen companies in the petroleum sector.

Suitably qualified and experienced tenderers are invited to submit applications for the below mentioned tender:

TENDER NUMBER	TENDER DESCRIPTION	PROCUREMENT METHOD	PPRA CODES
BOL/RFP/2025-26/05	A Tender for the Supply and Delivery of Fuel to Botswana Oil Limited	Open International Bidding Method	Tenderers Domiciled in Botswana shall be registered with the Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA) in the following category; Code 214 - Petroleum Products Sub Code 01- Fuel

For Foreign companies to be considered for the award of the contract , they must be in possession of documentation defining their constitution or legal status, place of registration and principal place of Business.

Tender documents will be sent electronically to prospective bidders from **0800hrs** to **1700hrs** on weekdays with effect from **Wednesday**, 19th November 2025 upon receipt of proof of payment of a non-refundable fee of **BWP1000.00**.

Please note that Youth-owned companies are required to advance a non-refundable fee of **BWP500.00** to receive the bid documents. (Please provide a certified copy(ies) of Identity Documents for the company shareholder(s) as proof.)

Bidders are required to make payment to the account details below and share proof of payment to *supply.fuel@botswanaoil.co.bw* for the tender documents to be availed.

Bank: ABSA Bank Botswana
Account Number: 1017833
Branch Number: 290267
Branch Name: ABSA House
REF: (Your Company Name and subject of the tender)

Queries or clarifications relating to the issuance of these documents may be addressed in writing not later than 7 days before the tender closing date. Tel No.+267 3981700, Email address *supply.fuel@botswanaoil.co.bw*

Bidders are strongly advised to submit their bids well in advance of the submission deadline and not wait for the last moment in order to avail of any assistance that may be required from the Procurement Office, especially in case of technical issues that may crop up especially when bidding for the first time.

The closing date and time for receipt of sealed tender offers is Friday, 12th of December 2025 at 10:00hours CAT (GMT+2). The tender will be opened on Friday, 12th of December 2025 at 10:15 Hours

- Late tender offers will not be accepted.
- The bid Submission Method is: One Envelope Submission Method in which a tender's financial and technical offer is submitted together. The opening of the tender is carried out on the same bid openings.

The Public Procurement Regulatory Authority Standardised Conditions of Tender for Supplies shall apply to this procurement, for which all the applicable Tender Data is contained in the tender document.

{Notwithstanding anything in the foregoing, the procuring entity or Government of Botswana is not bound to accept the lowest or any tender offer.}

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Pic Credit; Ghanzi District Council

SESUPO RANTSIMAKO

After revealing to Parliament that specially elected councillors have so far gobbled more than P50 million from the taxpayer, the Minister of Local Government and Rural Development Ketlhalefile Motshegwa said their future role and relevance will also be assessed as part of the ongoing review of the Local Government Act of 2012.

Motshegwa was responding to a question from Bobirwa Member of Parliament, Taolo Lucas who asked whether the ministry was open to reviewing the system of special elections or nominations for councillors, and whether their remuneration is justified under the current economic circumstances.

"The ministry, in reviewing the Act, will carefully consider the relevance of specially elected or nominated councillors constituting councils. Currently, stakeholders are being engaged on the review, and once completed, it will be brought to Parliament for further consideration and adoption," Minister Motshegwa stated.

> Opposition parties, including the UDC, have historically opposed the system, arguing that it serves as a tool for the ruling party to reward campaign teams

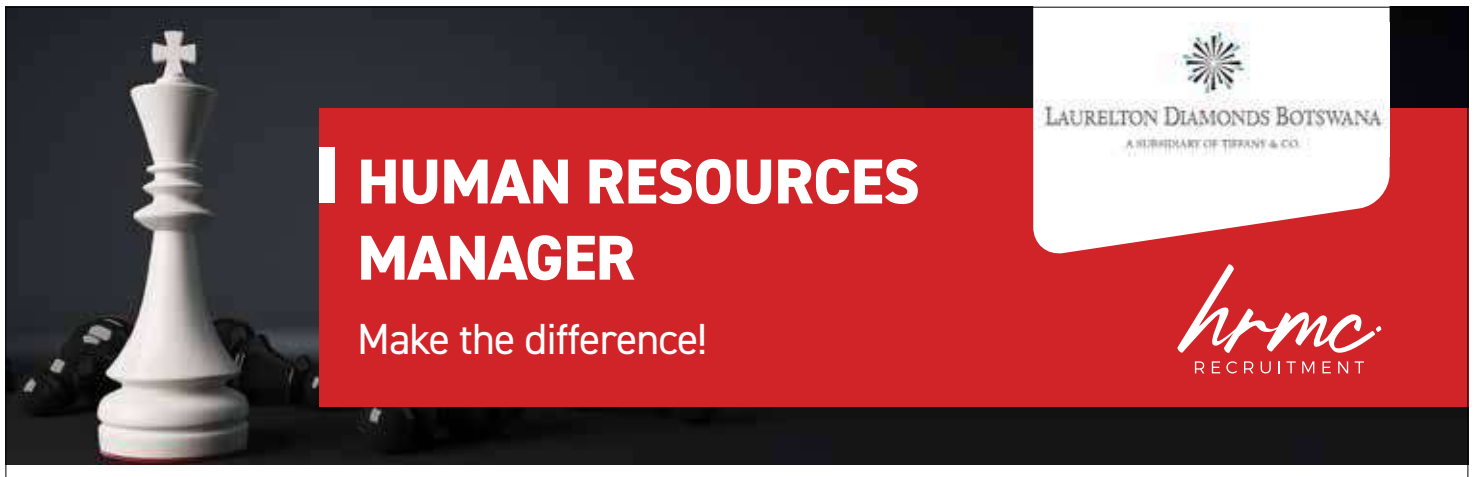
NUMBERS AND COSTS UNDER SCRUTINY

According to the minister, there are currently 153 specially elected councillors serving across 61 constituencies and 31 district councils. Their total annual remuneration amounts to P50,418,966.05. The ongoing review will assess whether the continuation of this system is justified and how it aligns with principles of effective local governance.

Opposition parties, including the UDC, have historically opposed the system, arguing that it serves as a tool for the ruling party to reward campaign teams. After the UDC assumed power following the 2024 general elections, the number of specially elected councillors reportedly increased from 119 to 153, attracting public and political scrutiny.

GOVT DEFENDS NOMINATED COUNCILLOR SYSTEM

In defending the increase, Minister Motshegwa explained that the rise in specially elected councillors resulted primarily from constituency demarcation and delimitation, rather than political favoritism. The ministry emphasized that the review will carefully weigh these factors before making recommendations.



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WHEN YOU NEED PROFESSIONALS

Adopt 'Struggle Mindset'- Rammidi to BDP

The BDP Secretary General, Rammidi, has urged party members to move beyond the comfort of incumbency and adopt a "struggle mentality"



Pic Credit; BDP - Tsholetsa Domkrag

SESUPO RANTSIMAKO

Botswana Democratic Party (BDP) Secretary General, Kentse Rammidi, has called on party members to shed what he described as a long-held dependence on incumbency benefits and adopt a "struggle mentality" as the party regroups following its recent electoral loss in Kgalagadi.

Addressing members in the aftermath of the by-election defeat, Rammidi said the party must confront the reality that the political environment has shifted and that the BDP can no longer rely on the privileges historically associated with governing.

"We must move beyond the comfort of incumbency," he said. "The BDP needs to think, organise and work with the discipline and urgency of a party fighting for ground, not one that assumes it will be handed to us," he said in an interview with this publication.

OUTNUMBERED

"We were outnumbered and swallowed by the UDC's resources, but we should not complain because we used to have the same arsenal when in power and we enjoyed it. We have to learn to adjust to the new environment," he said.

Rammidi added "When we were in power, we were also shining because of the resources we had. We warned about this because we knew that one day we would be the opposition. Democrats should adapt and not be discouraged by the UDC's resources."

> "Yet we must remember that we did the same when we were in government, so we cannot claim any moral high ground"

WE ENJOYED INCUMBENCY BENEFITS

He also warned against singling out President Duma Boko for allegedly using state resources during the campaign, noting that such privileges are standard for any sitting president. "Many are criticising the president for deploying state machinery, including helicopters, for campaign purposes. Yet we must remember that we did the same when we were in government, so we cannot claim any moral high ground," he said, further urging the BDP "to regroup, reflect, and prepare better for future electoral contests".

UDC WINS

In the recent Kgalagadi South parliamentary by-election, the UDC emerged victorious with 6,766 votes, while the BDP trailed in second place with 3,926 votes, and the Botswana Congress Party (BCP) came third with 946 votes.

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Health Crisis Is An Impeachable Offence - Gobotswang

The parliamentary opposition has asserted that Botswana's worsening health crisis has exposed the UDC government's inability to protect the nation's health and well-being



BONGANI MALUNGA

The health crisis that currently grips Botswana warrants impeachment of President Duma Boko because it has exposed his government's inability to protect the nation's health and well-being, the MP for Tswapong South, Dr Kesitegile Gobotswang (BCP), has said.

Contributing to the debate on the State of the Nation Address (SONA) in Parliament on Monday this week, Dr Gobotswang asserted that the government's failure to adequately respond to the crisis constitutes grave dereliction of duty.

NO OFFENCE IS GREATER

He noted that the crisis is marked by prolonged shortages of essential medical supplies, inadequate staffing and a deteriorating public health infrastructure. "The health crisis is an impeachable offence," Dr Gobotswang said.

"If our constitution was as assertive as it ought to be, Parliament would have summoned the President to answer for the problems in the health sector. There is no offence greater than failing to protect the many lives that have been lost due to shortages of critical medication."

Both the official opposition in the Botswana Congress Party and the parliamentary opposition in general believes that the government has failed to address the ongoing health crisis.

> "There is no offence greater than failing to protect the many lives that have been lost due to shortages of critical medication"

CONTRAST

They hold that despite repeated warnings and rising public concerns, the government's efforts at solving the crisis have fallen short in key areas like resource allocation, public communication, and long-term planning.

In his official response to the State of the SONA a week ago, the Leader of the Opposition (LOO), Dumelang Saleshando, emphasised that Botswana's health crisis continues to worsen due to the government's failure to foster a culture of accountability.

He spoke of how Botswana had once been internationally lauded for its effective HIV/AIDS interventions in contrast to the current administration's failure to ensure consistent access to life-saving antiretroviral drugs (ARVs).

WRONG PRIORITIES

"Basic humanness and the human development paradigm dictate that during difficult times, the government must prioritise and protect the health budget, (but) the UDC government prioritised increasing allowances and (the number of specially-elected councillors," said Saleshando.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Health has announced continual supplies of essential medicines to various facilities around the country.

It has assured the public that as supply gradually improves, full recovery is within reach.

Chombo Rejects Office Sharing

Youth minister Lesego Chombo was this week adamant that inspite of paying for unused office space, keeping separate quarters conduces to enhanced service delivery

BONGANI MALUNGA

The Minister of Youth and Gender Affairs, Lesego Chombo, has rejected a proposal for her ministry to share office space with the Ministry of Sport and Arts as a cost-saving measure.

The proposal - which is aimed at reducing monthly government rental expenses of P1.2 million - was raised in Parliament this week.

Chombo actually disclosed that her ministry currently holds 20 unoccupied offices for which the government pays a monthly rental of P92 127.50.

OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY

It was in light of this revelation that opposition MPs proposed sharing office space by the two ministries.

> Chombo argued that consolidating offices would undermine the operational effectiveness of both ministries, adding that dedicated office space conduces to enhanced service delivery

In the previous administration, the two ministries were under a single umbrella, operating as the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture.



However, Chombo argued that consolidating offices would undermine the operational effectiveness of both ministries, adding that dedicated office space conduces to enhanced service delivery.

"THAT'S NOT WISE"

"Both the Ministry of Youth and Gender Affairs and the Ministry of Sport and Arts were, infact, under-resourced," said Minister Chombo.

"To imply that it would be reasonable for these ministries that have such critical mandates to continue being under-resourced, trying to share the same office space and not growing as they ought to be, (I think) that's not wise.

LATEST AMOUNT

"The 20 unoccupied spaces are the latest amount, not the amount that has been unoccupied throughout the year.

20 UNOCCUPIED OFFICES

"You will note in my answer that I said that the transition began in April 2025, and at various given points there were people who migrated to the ports ministry.

"This 20 (figure) is the highest number of unoccupied offices since April. Before that it was much less because we were still accommodating some from the other ministry.

"We are still accommodating some of the Ministry of Sport and Arts officials and officers.

"They will continue to move because they found other occupants in their previous office space as we are continuing with the restructuring of our structural and functional structures," Chombo clarified.

Namibia Ponders Joining De Beers Bid

Namibia is actively weighing the viability and socio-economic benefits of joining Angola and Botswana to present a more formidable tripartite consortium for control of De Beers

BONGANI MALUNGA

Namibia is reportedly exploring a partnership with Angola and Botswana to form a regional consortium aimed at acquiring a controlling stake in mining giant, De Beers.

While denying native media reports that a tripartite deal has been agreed in principle, Namibia's Ministry of Industries, Mines and Energy has confirmed that high level consultations are taking place before the government makes a final decision.

WEIGHING OPTIONS

In a statement released last Friday, the ministry's executive director, Moses Pakote, said the government is weighing external changes in the diamond market, the viability of making such a decision and the socio-economic benefits it might yield for its citizens.

"Once all relevant stakeholders are aligned and formal decisions have been made, accurate information will be communicated through the appropriate official channels," he stated.

"In this context, the government remains committed to a balanced approach that considers the implications, opportunities and risks before any major decision is taken."

NAMIBIA'S 50-50 VENTURE

Much like Botswana's joint venture with De Beers, Namibia and the mining giant have a 50-50 venture called Namdeb Holdings which operates both land and marine-based diamond mining in the country.



Ministry of Industries, Mines and Energy executive director Moses Pakote

Despite submitting rival bids for a controlling stake in De Beers, Angola and Botswana have reaffirmed their shared goal of acquiring a majority interest in the mining conglomerate.

"PERFECTLY ALIGNED"

The two nations have since presented a unified front, with their mining ministers emphasising that they are "perfectly aligned" in their pursuits.

Industry experts widely anticipate that Angola and Botswana will collaborate to formulate a joint bid for De Beers.

Govt Ties Mining Companies To Local Manufacturing Commitment

The government has tied mining companies to a MoU for value chain development aimed at boosting local manufacturing, jobs and citizen participation in mining

BONGANI MALUNGA

The Botswana Government has taken a decisive step to bind mining companies to a Value Chain Development Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) as part of an initiative to bolster local manufacturing and industrial capacity.

This development was revealed by the Ministry of Minerals and Energy during a Value Chain Development workshop in Gaborone this week where it was presented as aimed at fostering cooperation among mining houses in creating home-grown economic opportunities.

NATIONAL IMPERATIVE

Addressing industry stakeholders at the workshop, the Minister of Minerals and Energy, Bogolo Kenewendo, emphasised that value chain development is not just an economic undertaking but a national imperative.

"Deepening value chains increases local manufacturing capacity, reduces import dependency, generates sustainable employment and ensures citizens are active participants in high-value sectors," she said.

> "The Minister of Minerals and Energy, Bogolo Kenewendo, emphasised that value chain development is not just an economic undertaking but a national imperative

CONCRETE OUTCOMES

The workshop served as a platform for mining operators to explore opportunities for localising manufacturing, repair and rebuild capabilities.



The Botswana Government has taken a decisive step to bind mining companies to a Value Chain Development Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) as part of an initiative to bolster local manufacturing and industrial capacity.

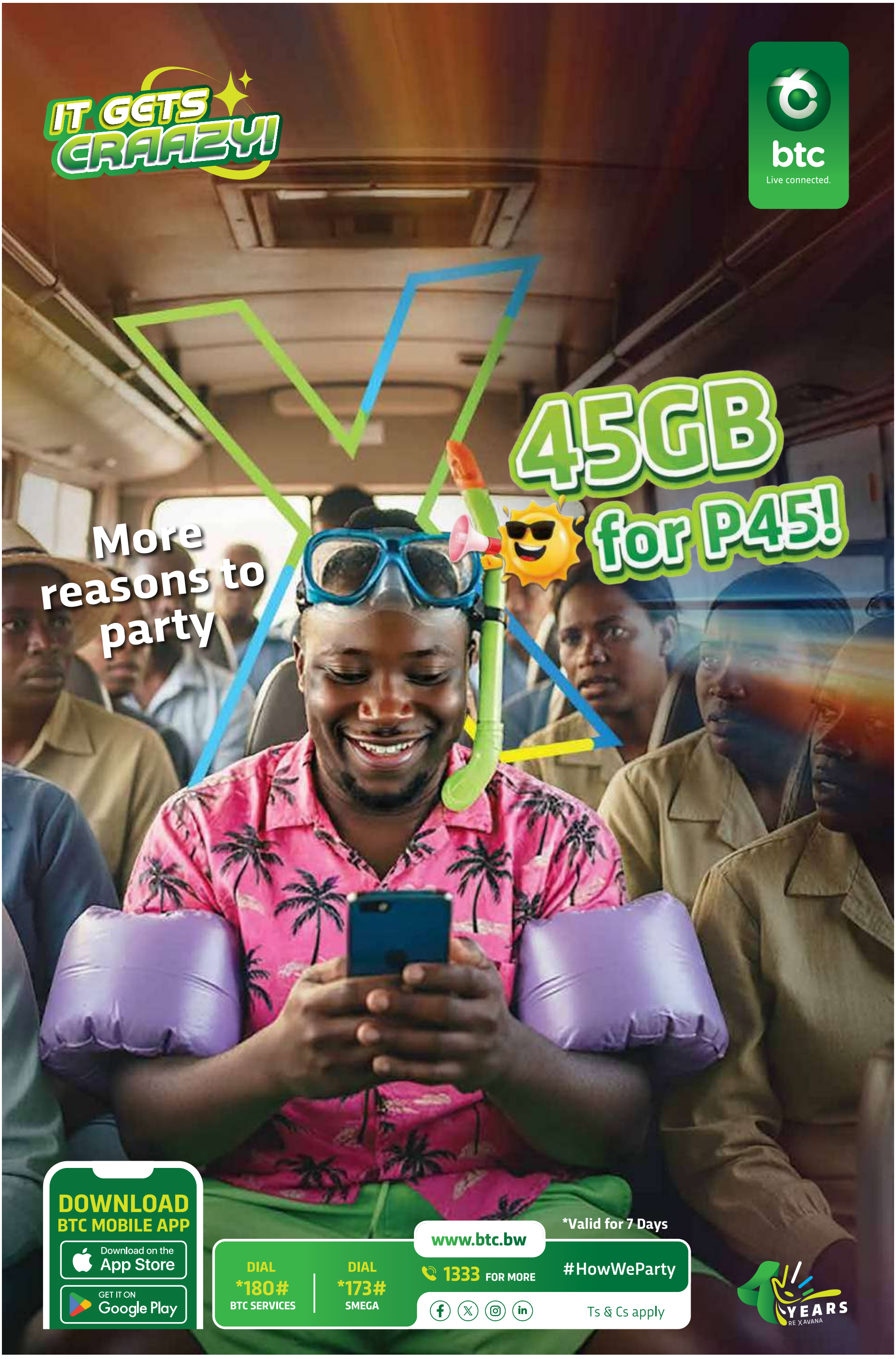
Minister Kenewendo noted that the government expects concrete outcomes, including a clear prioritisation of value chain opportunities and identification of barriers and practical strategies to overcome them.

SEVEN COMPANIES

Central to these efforts was the signing of the MoU, which will guide collaborative implementation and secure industry-wide commitment to these development goals.

Seven major industry players, Kopano Copper Mine, Debswana Diamond Company, Botswana Chamber of Mines, Morupule Coal Mine, Botswana Railways, Tshukudu Metals, and Botswana Ash, signed the agreement to bolster the mining value chain.

The companies committed to identifying opportunities and providing support to scale up production for local businesses involved in mining-related activities.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TENDER NOTICE



INVITATION FOR PREQUALIFICATION

Botswana Oil Limited (BOL), a company registered under the Companies Act in 2011 and wholly-owned by the Botswana Government serves as the transformation agent in the Oil & Gas industry. The Company is mandated to ensure the security and efficiency of supply of petroleum products for Botswana, manage state owned strategic fuel reserve facilities, strategic stocks as well as bulk storage and distribution. Botswana Oil Limited is also responsible for facilitating the participation of citizen companies in the petroleum sector.

Suitably qualified and experienced service providers/developers are invited to submit applications for the below mentioned tender:

TENDER NUMBER	TENDER DESCRIPTION	PROCUREMENT METHOD	TENDER CLOSING DATE
BOL/RFP/2025/26/13	Prequalification for the Provision, Implementation and Support of an E-Procurement System to Botswana Oil Limited.	Open International Bidding	**Wednesday, 26 November 2025** at 1000Hrs CAT (Central African Time)

This prequalification is the first stage of a two-stage procurement process. Only shortlisted firms will be invited to participate in the subsequent Request for Proposals (RFP).

2. Scope Of Services

The Scope of this tender includes but not limited to:
- Provision, implementation and support of a comprehensive e-procurement solution.
- Provision of integration with existing ERP and financial systems.
- Ensure compliance with Botswana's Public Procurement Regulatory Framework.
- Delivery of user training and change management support.
- Provision of hosting (cloud or on-premise) in compliance to cybersecurity and data protection requirements.
- Post-implementation support and system maintenance.

3. Eligibility Criteria

Applicants must meet the following minimum criteria:
- Be legally registered and tax-compliant in their country of registration.
- Companies that are domiciled in the Republic of Botswana must be registered with the Public Procurement Regulatory Authority in the following registration code:

Code: 120, ICT Technical Support Services
Sub code(s): 01,System Development Services & Maintenance Services

- Have at least five (5) years of experience in the development and implementation of e-procurement systems.
- Demonstrate successful implementation of at least three (3) similar projects (eProcurement systems) in large public or private sector organizations governed by international procurement laws and procedures such as those of the European Union (EU), World Bank, Public Procurement Act of 2021 (Botswana) or equivalent.
- Possess adequate financial capacity and technical resources to execute the project.
- Provide evidence of qualified personnel with relevant certifications.
- Hold relevant industry certifications (e.g., ISO 27001, ISO 9001).

4.SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS	5. PREQUALIFICATION PROCESS	6. SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS
Interested firms must submit the following in their proposals : - Company profile demonstrating their Experience, Staffing and Company operations - Company Documentation (certificate of incorporation, tax compliance, Company Ownership, agreements etc). - System Profile demonstrating its functionality, Technical Capability, Compliance with International Procurement Standards, User Experience and Accessibility, Training and Support and Costing Structure. - Audited financial statements for the past three (3) years. - Details of similar projects undertaken, including client references. - Technical capability statement and team composition. - Certifications and awards (if any). - Declaration of non-conflict of interest and litigation history.	Evaluation will be based on Legal and Compliance of the bidders, Relevant Experience, Technical Capability, Financial Strength, Staff Profiles and System Compliance with International Procurement Standards. Only shortlisted firms will be invited to submit detailed proposals in the RFP stage. BOL reserves the right to verify all information submitted and to reject incomplete or non-compliant applications.	All applications must be submitted electronically through the email address eprocurement@botswanaoil.co.bw with the email subject "**BOL/RFQL/2025-26/01 - Prequalification for the Provision, Implementation and Support of an E-Procurement System to Botswana Oil Limited**", on or before the submission deadline.

7. Clarifications

Requests for clarification must be submitted in writing to the above email address no later than Monday, 17 November 2025. Responses to requests for clarifications will be shared with all interested parties.

8. Disclaimer

Botswana Oil Limited reserves the right to accept or reject any application, and to annul the prequalification process at any time without incurring any liability.

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The South African Business Forum (SABF) held its annual gala dinner last Thursday at Travelodge in Gaborone, bringing together business leaders, diplomats, and government officials to reflect on the past year's economic and social developments.

SABF Reflects on Regional Cooperation

The South African Business Forum's annual gala examined the year's economic pressures, diplomatic transitions, and ongoing efforts to support communities and cross-border trade

LEATILE ZACHARIAH

The South African Business Forum (SABF) held its annual gala dinner last Thursday at Travelodge in Gaborone, bringing together business leaders, diplomats, and government officials to reflect on the past year's economic and social developments.

DIPLOMATIC TRANSITION

South Africa's High Commissioner to Botswana, Thaninga Shope-Soumah, opened the evening as she nears the end of her four-year tenure. She thanked the Forum for its support of diplomatic and community-focused initiatives, noting that the organisation had consistently responded to calls for assistance. Shope-Soumah encouraged continued cooperation with the incoming High Commissioner, emphasising the importance of partnerships that contribute to household-level wellbeing across borders.

REFLECTION ON ECONOMIC STRAINS

SABF Chairman Banna DiPierre used his keynote address to acknowledge the strain of the regional economic slowdown, including the impact of reduced diamond sales on both countries. With humour woven through his remarks, he highlighted the fatigue felt across the business community while underscoring the need for resilience. DiPierre noted that despite the challenges, membership had grown to 25 companies in 2024, reflecting confidence in the Forum's role.

ADDRESSING PRACTICAL BUSINESS PAIN POINTS

DiPierre said progress on long-standing visa and permit delays—issues that have affected trade efficiency—had improved through engagement with the South African High Commission. He suggested that fewer businesspeople would face prolonged immigration queues, a concern that has frequently frustrated cross-border operators.

COMMUNITY PROJECTS TAKING SHAPE

A significant development this year was the SABF's P300,000 solar and Wi-Fi installation in Motopi village near Maun. The project aims to expand energy access and digital connectivity in rural areas, issues that community leaders have long flagged as barriers to economic participation and education. The Forum said the investment aligns with its broader ESG priorities.

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FAREWELL TO DIPLOMATS

The gala also marked the departure of both the High Commissioner and Deputy High Commissioner, who were recognised for strengthening diplomatic and business relations during their tenure. Speakers described the pair as steadying influences in a period marked by regional economic uncertainty.

COLLECTIVE EFFORT HIGHLIGHTED

Delivering the vote of thanks, SABF Operations Lead Daniel Hink acknowledged the collaboration behind the year's achievements. He noted that the Motopi Adopt-a-Village initiative, set for implementation later this month, reflects the Forum's ongoing commitment to social impact.

INVITATION TO TENDER



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Tender Notice - Provision of Dental Health Risk Management Services

Reference Number: BPOMAS/08-2025

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SUBMISSION & CLOSING DATE: The tender shall be submitted on email on or before **8th December 2025 @10:00hrs.**

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bpomas

Gaborone to Host Aviation Pitso

Salakae says hosting AviaDev 2026 will strengthen air links and boost tourism, though the country continues to build capacity in regulation, infrastructure, and connectivity.



GAZETTE REPORTER

Botswana is positioning itself as a key player in regional aviation and tourism as it prepares to host the AviaDev 2026 conference in Gaborone next June. Minister of Transport and Infrastructure, Noah Salakae, said the meeting offers a platform for strengthening air connectivity across Sub-Saharan Africa.

Aviation as Growth CatalystLaunching

the event, Salakae said aviation is central to Botswana's development agenda. "Air connectivity can, therefore, assist in unlocking the full potential of these assets. Enhanced air routes open doors to new markets, partnerships, and possibilities," he said.

He noted that the conference will bring together airlines, airport operators, tourism organisations, and government officials from across the continent. Botswana, he said, will use the opportunity to highlight progress in aviation regulation, infrastructure, and innovation.

ECONOMIC EXPECTATIONS

Salakae added that hosting the conference is expected to support hospitality, transport, and technical services. "It will inspire dialogue, collaboration, and trust among industry players," he said.

AviaDev founder and CEO Jon Howell said Botswana's hosting reflects its growing role in Africa's aviation community. "They are building relationships that lead to real routes, real investment, and real impact," he said.

CONNECTIVITY IMPACT

Howell added that improved air routes create tourism and trade opportunities and can benefit local communities through aviation-related activity.

Survey Reveals Businesses Growing Confidence

Firms surveyed by the Bank of Botswana report improved conditions in the third quarter, though concerns over fiscal constraints and exchange rate pressures temper confidence for 2026

GAZETTE REPORTER

Firms were generally more optimistic about business conditions in the third quarter of 2025 compared to the previous quarter, according to the Bank of Botswana's Quarterly Business Expectations Survey – September 2025. The survey attributes the improvement to sentiment gains across several major sectors.

SECTOR VIEWS DIVERGE

"Optimism was particularly notable in the Retail, Accommodation, Transport, and Communications; Mining and Quarrying; Manufacturing; and Finance, Professional and Administrative Activities sectors," the report notes. In contrast, firms in Agriculture and Construction & Real Estate reported broadly neutral conditions.

Despite the improved third-quarter outlook, firms were "less optimistic about business conditions in the 12 months to September 2026." Many cited constrained government spending linked to a weak fiscal position and an unfavourable exchange rate environment following recent parameter adjustments.

COST PRESSURES AND RATES

The survey shows firms expect both lending interest rates and borrowing

“Firms were less optimistic about business conditions in the 12 months to September 2026.”

volumes to rise in the year to September 2026. At the same time, overall cost pressures were anticipated to increase slightly in the third quarter of 2025 due to higher input costs. Even so, inflation expectations remained anchored within the 3–6 percent objective range for both 2025 and 2026.

OUTPUT GROWTH EXPECTED TO IMPROVE

Firms expect output to expand slightly by 0.7 percent in 2025, following a 3 percent contraction in 2024. The view is more optimistic than the Ministry of Finance's projection of a 0.4 percent contraction for the same year. Respondents in Retail, Accommodation, Transport and Communications; Manufacturing; Mining and Quarrying; and Finance-related sectors believed third-quarter conditions would support economic activity, while Agriculture and Real Estate remained neutral.

FOURTH-QUARTER EXPECTATIONS SPLIT

Looking to the fourth quarter, firms in Manufacturing, Agriculture, and Mining and Quarrying anticipated favourable conditions. However, those in Finance, Construction and Real Estate, and Retail, Accommodation, Transport and Communications expected weaker conditions, citing persistent cost and demand pressures.



Karowe Mine UGP Spending Rises

Lucara Diamond Corp reported US$22.7 million in Q3 expenditure on the Karowe Underground Project as it reassesses the project's design and timeline

GAZETTE REPORTER

Lucara Diamond Corp spent $22.7 million on its Underground Project (UGP) at the 100 percent owned Karowe Mine in Botswana during Q3 2025, the company's results for the period show. The UGP is intended to access the highest value portion of the Karowe orebody, with initial underground production predominantly from the EM/PK(S) unit.

Production Milestones Reached

The company reported reaching the bottom of the production shaft in late July 2025 and achieving 2,067 lost-time injury free days. "The Company is currently reviewing the mining method for the UGP, along with the project's cost estimates and schedule," the results read. Lucara said ore extraction reviews are ongoing to understand geomechanics and model potential caving scenarios, which will inform updated technical reports and a revised life-of-mine plan.

In the quarter, a total of 97,651 carats were recovered, with 95,302 carats from direct ore feed from open pit and stockpiles at a grade of 12.8 carats per hundred tonnes. An additional 2,349 carats came from processing historical tailings. The recovery of 224 "Specials" (rough diamonds larger than 10.8 carats) accounted for 9.1 percent of total carats recovered, compared with 11.28 percent in Q3 2024.

High-Value Diamonds Recovered

In August 2025, Lucara recovered a 1,015-carat non-gem diamond and a 37.42-carat near-gem pink Type IIa diamond, marking the ninth diamond over 1,000 carats from Karowe and the third in 2025. Total carats sold in the quarter amounted to 101,422, generating $51.2 million in revenue.

William Lamb, Lucara President and CEO, noted operational stability and progress on the UGP. "Our ongoing recovery of large, high-value diamonds, including most recently the ninth stone exceeding 1,000 carats, reinforces Karowe's reputation as one of the world's most consistent sources of exceptional quality gems," Lamb said.

Costs and Schedule Remain Under Review

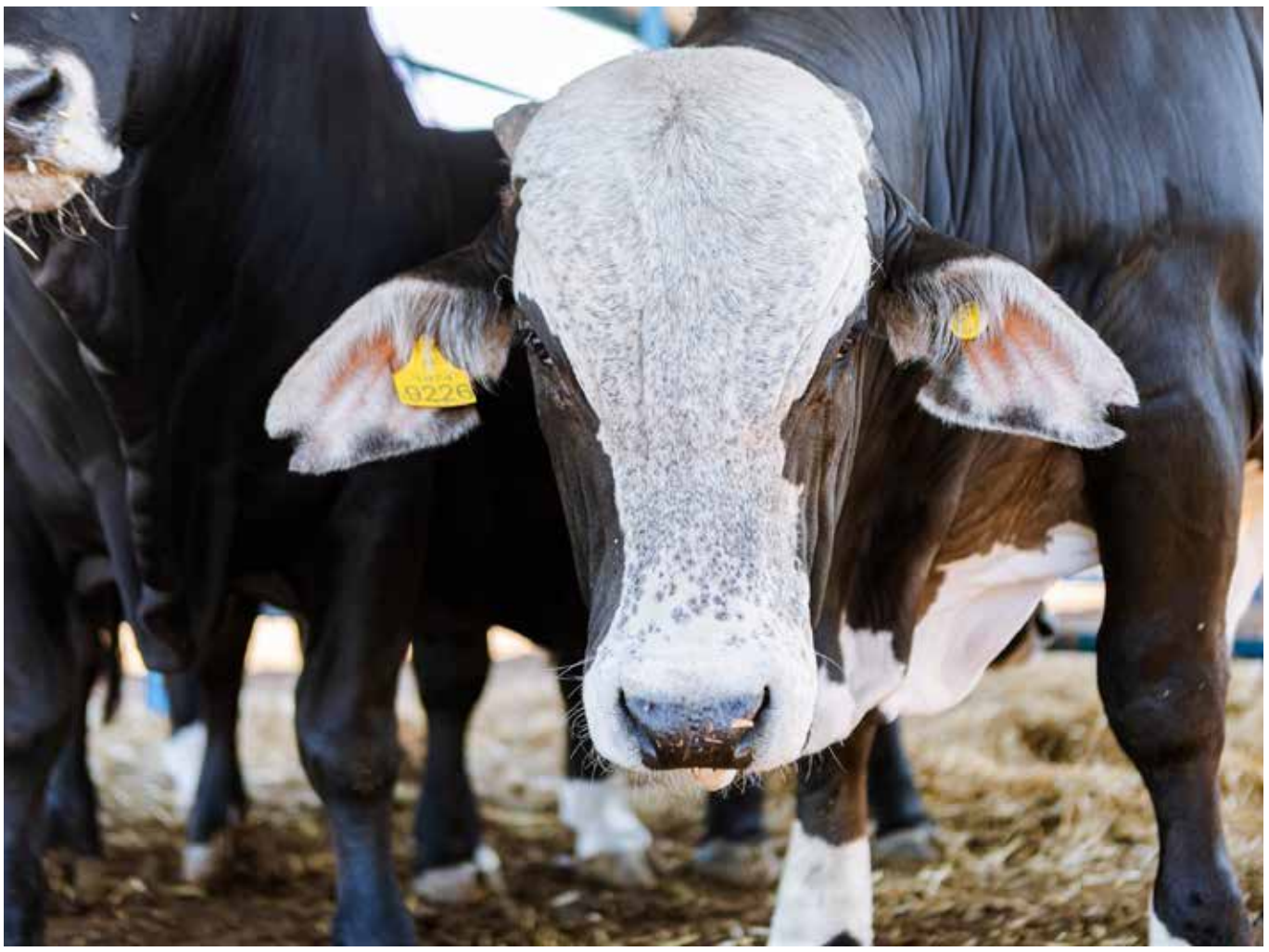
The company emphasized that the project's cost estimates and schedule are still under review as development continues, particularly in lateral underground workings.

> The Company is currently reviewing the mining method for the UGP, along with the project's cost estimates and schedule



Local Cattle Financing Expanded

As CEDA in partnership with Ministry of Agric launches financing initiative aimed at supporting farmers and boosting the national cattle herd, though the programme's long-term impact on productivity and sustainability remains to be seen



Agriculture remains central to Botswana's economy, Acting Minister of Lands and Agriculture Dr. Edwin Dikoloti said at the recent launch of CEDA's Cattle Expansion Product Offering, known as the "A Di Tsale Financing Product Suite," in Gaborone.

GAZETTE REPORTER

Agriculture remains central to Botswana's economy, Acting Minister of Lands and Agriculture Dr. Edwin Dikoloti said at the recent launch of CEDA's Cattle Expansion Product Offering, known as the "A Di Tsale Financing Product Suite," in Gaborone.

BOOSTING THE BEEF VALUE CHAIN

Dr. Dikoloti highlighted the need for Botswana to embrace innovation, sustainability, and inclusivity in agriculture. "Agriculture has been a stone that the builders rejected, which has become the chief cornerstone…Psalmist 118 verse 22 argues that we cannot build an economy without Agriculture, without the cornerstone, lest we risk structural failure or economic downfall," he said.

COMPLEMENTARY INITIATIVES

The Ministry of Lands and Agriculture earlier introduced the "A Di Tsale" programme in September, aimed at improving the beef value chain through farmer bull testing, estrus synchronisation, pregnancy diagnosis, improved husbandry, and quality assurance. Dr. Dikoloti said the CEDA financing suite is designed to complement these efforts by providing access to capital, technology, and infrastructure.

NATIONAL HERD TARGETS

The government has set a target to rebuild the national herd to 5 million cattle and increase agriculture's contribution to at least 6 percent of GDP. Dr. Dikoloti said the combination of Ministry programmes and CEDA financing creates a pipeline from extension support to commercial production, supporting initiatives such as artificial insemination, embryo transfer, fodder production, dairy expansion, and communal agricultural parks.

TRANSFORMING AGRICULTURE

"The global realities before us from rapid population growth to the mounting challenges of climate change demand that we rethink how we farm and produce food. We must do so in ways that are sustainable, efficient, and protective of the ecosystems that sustain us all," he said.

Botswana's Inflation Ticks Up

The country's inflation rose slightly in October, with Statistics Botswana reporting increases across most regions and groups, while housing-related costs moved in the opposite direction



GAZETTE REPORTER

Botswana's annual inflation rate rose to 3.9 percent in October 2025, up from 3.7 percent in September, according to the latest Consumer Price Index (CPI) report from Statistics Botswana.

REGIONAL CHANGES

Inflation increased marginally across all settlement types. Cities & Towns rose from 3.3 to 3.6 percent, Rural Villages from 4.0 to 4.2 percent, and Urban Villages from 3.9 to 4.0 percent.

Statistics Botswana stated that "the primary contributors to the annual inflation rate were the following groups; Transport at 1.6 percentage points, Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages and Miscellaneous Goods & Services, which accounted for 0.8 of a percentage point each." The Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels group contributed –0.5 percentage points, moving in the opposite direction.

INDEX MOVEMENTS

The national CPI increased 0.3 percent, from 138.9 in September to 139.3 in October. Cities & Towns and Rural Villages reported 0.4 percent growth, while Urban Villages rose 0.3 percent.

> "The Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco group index rose by 2.0 percent."

Most group indices recorded changes of less than 1.0 percent, except the Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco group, which rose 2.0 percent. Statistics Botswana noted: "The Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco group index rose by 2.0 percent, from 149.9 in September to 152.9 in October 2025."

TRADEABLES BREAKDOWN

The All-Tradeables index rose 0.5 percent to 148.7. Domestic Tradeables increased 0.9 percent, Imported Tradeables 0.3 percent, and Non-Tradeables 0.1 percent.

All-Tradeables inflation stood at 6.0 percent, up from 5.8 percent in September. Domestic and Imported Tradeables inflation both measured 6.0 percent, while Non-Tradeables inflation rose from 0.6 to 0.7 percent.

BOTEPCO, BUO Formalise Partnership

Botswana Teaching Professionals Council and Botswana Open University sign an MOU to support teacher development and professional standards



The Botswana Teaching Professionals Council (BOTEPCO) and Botswana Open University (BUO) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on 17 November 2025 at BOTEPCO headquarters in Gaborone. The agreement outlines a framework for collaboration on teacher professional development, registration, and Continuous Professional Development (CPD).

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT EMPHASISED

BOTEPCO Director of Legal Services and Board Secretary, Mpho Leteane, highlighted the role of stakeholder engagement in supporting teacher development. She noted that involving institutions such as BUO helps ensure teachers and other stakeholders are informed and can contribute to professional standards and training initiatives.

FRAMEWORK FOR CPD AND LICENSING

BOTEPCO Manager of Research, Boipuso Mosalakgotla, detailed the organisation's plans to integrate the Code of Ethics, teacher professional standards, and competencies into BUO's curriculum. He also stressed the importance of linking BOTEPCO and BUO systems to verify teacher qualifications efficiently and support the rollout of accredited CPD programmes.

> "The agreement outlines a framework for collaboration on teacher professional development, registration, and Continuous Professional Development"

BUO PERSPECTIVE

BUO Vice Chancellor, Professor Kgomotso Moahi, outlined the university's role in supporting teacher development through open and distance learning. He referenced BUO's recent participation in the Regional Teachers Initiative for Africa (RTIA), a multi-country project led by the South African Institute for Distance Education (SAIDE). The project focuses on using professional learning communities and technology to enhance mathematics teaching standards.

MOU IMPLEMENTATION

The MOU establishes a pathway for teachers to access CPD and professional registration remotely through BOTEPCO's OGL (Open and Guided Learning) model, which allows teachers to complete professional requirements without leaving their environment. A committee has been created to coordinate the agreement, oversee its implementation, and monitor progress.

TENDER NOTICE

BOTEPCO

Botswana Teaching Professionals Council (BOTEPCO) invites 100% citizen-owned companies (Wholly Citizen Owned and Controlled) registered with PPRA to submit proposals for the below mentioned tenders.

PROVISION OF LICENSES FOR MICROSOFT 365 BUSINESS PREMIUM OFFICE, MICROSOFT VISIO AND MICROSOFT PROJECT FOR BOTSWANA TEACHING PROFESSIONALS COUNCIL FOR 3 YEARS.

NO	TENDER REFERENCE	DESCRIPTION	PPRA CODE	PROCUREMENT METHOD	RESERVATION	TENDER CLOSING DATE TIME
1	**BOTEPCO/004/2025-2026**	PROVISION OF LICENSES FOR MICROSOFT 365 BUSINESS PREMIUM OFFICE, MICROSOFT VISIO AND MICROSOFT PROJECT FOR BOTSWANA TEACHING PROFESSIONALS COUNCIL FOR 3 YEARS.	**Code: 120** ICT Technical Support Services **Sub Code:** 01 Systems Development Services and maintenance services	Open Domestic Bidding Method	100% Citizen Owned Companies	**28th November 2025** @1000Hours

Tender documents will be available for collection during working hours – **08:00-13:00hrs** and **14:00-17:00hrs** on weekdays at Procurement Office with effect from **17th November 2025** and can be obtained via email upon submission of proof of payment to procurement@botepco.org.bw. A Non-refundable and non-transferable tender document fee of Five Hundred Pula **(BWP 500.00)** Youth companies will pay Two Hundred and Fifty Pula **(BWP 250.00)** upon submission of Identity Document (Omang). Bidders are required to make payments to BOTEPCO's bank account details shown below.

Bidders are required to make payments to BOTEPCO's bank account details as per below.

Account Name: Botswana Teaching Professionals Council
Bank Name: First National Bank
Account Number: 63050158443
Branch Name: Business Support
Branch Code: 283767

Bidders are advised to use **Company name and Tender reference number** as reference number.

For youth owned companies, **identity document (Omang)** will be required upon collection of the tender document.

All clarifications and queries in relation to this tender notice must be in writing and must be addressed to: Procurement Unit, **Email**: procurement@botepco.org.bw not later than **21st November 2025**.

Postal Adress P O Box 407 AAD, Poso House, Gaborone
Location Plot 63726, Fairgrounds, Gaborone
Telephone +267 3933472
Botswana Teaching Professionals Council



BICA, BIBF Formalise New Partnership

A new partnership between BICA and BIBF aims to strengthen ethics, compliance skills, and industry readiness across Botswana's financial sector



Botswana's Institute of Banking and Finance (BIBF) and the Botswana Institute of Chartered Accountants (BICA) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) aimed at strengthening professional development and regulatory compliance within the country's financial sector. The agreement was formalised on 14 November 2025 at the BIBF Dikgatlhong Board Room in Gaborone.

CERTIFICATION FOCUS

Central to the partnership is the introduction of two internationally recognised programmes: the Certified Anti-Money Laundering Officer (CAML) and the Certified Data Protection Officer (CDPO). The certifications are expected to address persistent skills gaps in compliance, risk management, and data protection—areas where many professionals and organisations face growing regulatory pressure.

TRAINING AND KNOWLEDGE SHARING

The MoU also outlines plans for joint workshops, benchmarking initiatives, stakeholder engagements, and public awareness campaigns. Both institutions emphasised that coordinated training will help members adapt to evolving standards and strengthen the broader financial ecosystem.

LEADERSHIP PERSPECTIVES

BIBF Managing Director Molaodi Menyatso said the partnership will support efforts to maintain ethical and technical standards across the sector. BICA Chief Executive Officer Oaitse Gabadirwe described the initiative as a long-term step toward aligning local professional practices with global expectations.

ONGOING DEVELOPMENT

BIBF Academics Director Bakani Thothe noted that joint course development has already begun and highlighted the importance of strengthening ethics, anti-money-laundering understanding, and data-protection skills for improved regulatory compliance.

IIAB Conference Opens in Botswana

Internal auditors from Botswana and the region met in Gaborone to examine future-focused risk management, accountability, and the evolving expectations placed on governance professionals



The 14th Annual Institute of Internal Auditors Botswana (IIAB) Conference opened on 12 November at Phakalane Golf Estate and Convention Centre, bringing together governance and audit professionals for three days of discussions on risk, foresight, and institutional accountability. The 2025 conference was held under the theme "Mitigating Tomorrow's Risk: The Shift from Hindsight to Foresight."

REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ATTENDANCE

Delegates from government, industry, and professional bodies across the region and abroad participated at the event. Organisers said collaboration and knowledge sharing remain central to strengthening the internal audit profession and its contribution to organisations facing rising operational and technological risks.

PROFESSIONAL CHALLENGES

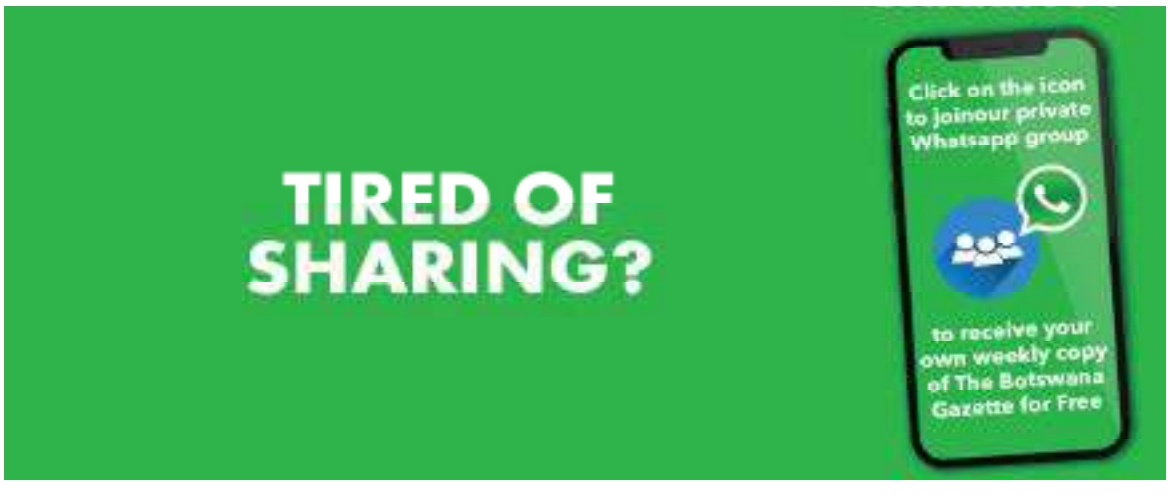
IIAB President Gontle Khupe noted that Botswana has an estimated 2,000 practising internal auditors, but only 500 are members in good standing with the institute. She described the gap as a challenge affecting professional cohesion and an opportunity to encourage growth, especially among young practitioners entering the field.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

The Assistant Minister for State President and Gaborone Bonnington North MP, Maipelo Mophuting, delivered the keynote address, outlining the role of internal audit in strengthening governance frameworks. She referenced national initiatives aimed at improving transparency and institutional integrity, while Khupe highlighted the forensic audits designed to reinforce accountability.

CONFERENCE FOCUS

Throughout the conference, delegates examined risk intelligence, emerging technologies, and governance models aligned with national development goals, including Vision 2036.



Stanbic Festival Set for 2026

Stanbic Bank Botswana prepares for the second edition of its Music N Lifestyle Festival, aiming to expand its role in empowering local talent, collaborate with small businesses and boost local creative industries

Stanbic Bank Botswana's Music N Lifestyle Festival will return on 25 April 2026 following what organisers describe as a strong debut in April 2025. The event is expected to bring together music, culture and fashion, continuing to position itself as a major date on Botswana's social calendar.

BUILDING ON INAUGURAL MOMENTUM

The first edition drew thousands of attendees with a mix of performances, food courts, fashion pop-ups and art installations. According to the bank, the festival offered opportunities for local creatives and small businesses to reach new audiences. The 2026 artist line-up has not yet been announced, but organisers indicate it will feature both international and local acts.



Otsile Marole, Stanbic Bank Botswana's Acting Head of Brand & Marketing

SUPPORTING LOCAL CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

Otsile Marole, Stanbic Bank Botswana's Acting Head of Brand & Marketing, said the decision to host the festival again reflects sustained audience interest. She noted that the festival also serves as a platform for showcasing Botswana's creative sector and engaging small enterprises that depend on large-scale events for visibility.

"We saw just how much appetite there is for quality entertainment that also shines a spotlight on Botswana's creative talent and local businesses," Marole said.

LOOKING TOWARD 2026

The bank says the upcoming festival will maintain its blend of entertainment and lifestyle experiences while expanding collaboration with local partners. Further details, including the final programme and featured artists, will be shared closer to the event.

"Fraud Steals More Than Money"

As International Fraud Awareness Week 2025 is marked, Bank Gaborone's Forensic Audit Specialist highlights the growing complexity of scams in Botswana, the erosion of public trust, and the urgent need for collective vigilance to protect individuals, families, and institutions from financial deception

MALEBOGO HIRSCHFELD, FORENSIC AUDIT SPECIALIST, BANK GABORONE

Fraud doesn't just steal money - it steals trust. It undermines the confidence that individuals, families, and businesses place in financial systems and institutions. As the world observes International Fraud Awareness Week 2025, we are reminded that protecting our finances and the integrity of our economy, is a shared responsibility.

This global commemoration, held every November, serves as a valuable reminder that fraud prevention is not merely a corporate or law-enforcement duty, but a collective social effort. Across Botswana, we continue to witness the rising sophistication of scams, from phishing emails and mobile-money fraud to fake investment opportunities and impersonation of legitimate institutions.

At Bank Gaborone, our commitment extends beyond providing secure banking platforms. We are equally devoted to empowering clients and communities with knowledge; because awareness remains the strongest defence against deception. Fraudsters adapt quickly, but an informed public can stay one step ahead.

THE CHANGING NATURE OF FRAUD

Fraud is not only a financial crime, it is a breach of trust that destabilises households and erodes public confidence. The Botswana Police Service (BPS) has issued a stern warning to the public, especially pensioners, to remain vigilant against online scams that have cost victims more than P6 million in the past ten months.

According to BPS spokesperson Assistant Commissioner Near Bagali, the rise in fraudulent activity, including fake phone calls, social-media impersonation, and email scams, this is deeply concerning. Many of these scams target elderly citizens and retirees, who are often approached by fraudsters posing as bank officials, mobile network representatives, or retail employees.

With the growing use of artificial intelligence tools and increased economic pressures, more Batswana are encountering sophisticated scam attempts than ever before. These criminals take advantage of trust, urgency, and the convenience of technology, often appearing legitimate and credible until it's too late.



Malebogo Hirschfeld, Forensic Audit Specialist, Bank Gaborone

> "Fraud doesn't just steal money, it steals trust"

At Bank Gaborone, we have observed similar patterns, with fraudsters replicating the bank's branding, tone, and official communication to trick unsuspecting clients into revealing personal information or transferring funds. These incidents remind us that fraud can happen to anyone, regardless of age, background, or profession.

COMMON SCAMS AFFECTING BATSWANA

- Fake job offers or business opportunities requiring "processing" or "registration" fees.
- Mobile-money and social-media scams using the names or images of trusted individuals or companies.
- Phishing emails and messages that collect passwords, card details, or ID information.
- Investment and pyramid schemes offering "guaranteed" or unrealistic returns.
- Romance and relationship scams that exploit emotional connection and trust.

These scams are engineered to manipulate emotion and create a sense of urgency; two human instincts that criminals exploit with precision.

HOW TO STAY PROTECTED

Pause before you pay. Take time to verify the sender or source. Fraudsters rely on pressure and panic.

Never share personal or banking credentials.Legitimate banks will never ask for your PIN, password, or one-time code.

Avoid clicking on suspicious links or attachments. Access your bank directly through official apps or websites.

Monitor your accounts regularly and report unfamiliar transactions immediately.

Keep your contact details up to date so you can receive timely alerts about potential threats.

One deliberate pause can prevent a devastating loss. Vigilance is our most powerful form of protection.

A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

At Bank Gaborone, we continue to strengthen our digital security, improve transaction monitoring, and educate clients about fraud prevention. But technology alone is not enough, it takes awareness and cooperation.

Fraud prevention is, above all, a team effort. When individuals, institutions, and communities share information, report suspicious activity, and look out for one another, we make it harder for criminals to succeed.

A CALL TO ACTION

As we commemorate International Fraud Awareness Week 2025, I encourage all Batswana to remain alert, informed, and proactive. Discuss fraud prevention at home, at work, and in your communities. Report suspicious calls, messages, or offers immediately, especially when they target vulnerable individuals such as pensioners.

If you suspect fraudulent activity, call our contact centre at 3158681 or visit any of our twelve branches for more information.

Fraud doesn't just steal money, it steals trust. But through awareness, education, and partnership, we can protect what matters most and build a more secure financial future for all.

Standard Bank Launches Egypt Office

Standard Bank Group has opened a representative office in Egypt, positioning itself to support clients seeking trade, investment, and expansion opportunities across Africa's fast-growing markets



Standard Bank Group, Africa's largest financial institution by assets, has announced the official launch of its Representative Office in Egypt during an event held at the Pyramids of Giza in Cairo.

The Group's Representative Office will strengthen trade and investment flows between Egypt, Sub-Saharan Africa, and the Middle East, recognising Egypt's role as a vital gateway in Africa's north-south trade corridor.

INVESTMENT AND LOGISTICS HUB

Sim Tshabalala, Chief Executive of Standard Bank Group, said: "This expansion reflects Standard Bank's belief in Egypt's growing role as an investment and logistics hub, aligned with the country's Vision 2030 and Africa's broader development agenda. Our new Representative Office will act as a vital conduit to connect Egyptian corporates, investors, and multinationals with opportunities across Standard Bank's footprint spanning 21 countries in Africa."

Through its Egypt office, Standard Bank aims to deepen its purpose of driving Africa's growth by supporting Egyptian businesses expanding across the continent and enabling global multinationals to invest in Egypt's dynamic economy.

FOSTERING STRONGER FINANCIAL COOPERATION

Speaking at the launch event, Luvuyo Masinda, Chief Executive of Corporate and Investment Banking (CIB) at Standard Bank Group, said: "Through our presence in Egypt, we aim to foster stronger financial cooperation, provide on-the-ground market intelligence, and support clients seeking to expand their operations between Egypt and Sub-Saharan Africa, as well as the Group's international offices in Dubai, Beijing, New York and London. This is a pivotal milestone in accelerating regional integration and unlocking continental growth through sustainable investment and expanded trade."

LOCAL INSIGHT AND PAN-AFRICAN EXPERTISE

Dr Rassem Zok, Chief Executive MENA and Chief Representative Officer Egypt Office, adds that: "With over 163 years of connecting Africa to global markets, Standard Bank brings a unique combination of local insight and pan-African expertise, empowering clients in Egypt to seize new opportunities while navigating the evolving regional landscape. Standard Bank continues to play a key role in facilitating trade and investment across Africa's fastest-growing economies, other select emerging markets as well as pools of capital in developed markets, and our balanced portfolio of businesses provides significant opportunities for growth.

> "This is a pivotal milestone in accelerating regional integration and unlocking continental growth through sustainable investment and expanded trade

Standard Bank's Egypt office complements its Middle East and North Africa (MENA) strategy, which began in the UAE in 1997, and since spearheaded by a 20-year Dubai International Finance Centre (DIFC) presence and operation. This reinforces the Group's position as a leading enabler in the Gulf-sub-Sahara Africa trade and investment corridor.

Spend Smart, Save Smarter

A banker explains how planning, mindful spending and practical choices during the festive season can prevent the financial strain many face in January

MACMILLAN TEKU, HEAD OF PRODUCTS & SEGMENTS –RETAIL, ACCESS BANK BOTSWANA

November marks the beginning of what many call the "festive spending season." Salaries land a little earlier, bonuses are expected, and the air is filled with plans for travel, family gatherings, and shopping. It's a time worth celebrating but it's also the time when most people lose sight of what comes next. Because while December may feel short, January always feels long.

THE PATTERN THAT REPEATS

Every year, we see the same pattern. December is full of cheer and activity, but once the holidays pass, reality sets in. School fees, rent, transport, insurance renewals, and day-to-day expenses return whether we've prepared for them or not. These are not surprise costs; they are recurring obligations. The challenge is not the season itself, but how we choose to manage our finances during it.

DO THINGS DIFFERENTLY

This November presents an opportunity to do things differently. Before the festivities begin, take stock of your income, commitments, and priorities. Decide what you will spend on food, travel, entertainment, and gifts, and most importantly, what you will save. Planning ahead ensures that you control your money instead of your emotions controlling you.

CELEBRATION WITHOUT EXCESS

Enjoy the holidays, but do so responsibly. You don't need to spend recklessly to make the season memorable. Host a bring-and-share instead of an expensive dinner, exchange gifts through Secret Santa, or spend quality time together without the high price tag. True celebration is about connection not unnecessary consumption.

THE POWER OF A PAUSE

Remember too that not every sale is a saving. Retailers know how to stir emotion during this season, turning wants into perceived needs. Before making a purchase, pause and ask yourself, Do I need this, or am I buying into the mood of the moment? That simple question can prevent unnecessary debt and protect your peace of mind.

A CONFIDENT START TO 2026

The best way to start 2026 is not with worry, but with confidence. Save first, spend wisely, and plan ahead. Let your December joy carry over into a stress-free January. Financial wellness is not seasonal but it's rather a lifelong habit that starts with the decisions you make today.



Macmillan Teku, Head of Products & Segments –Retail, Access Bank Botswana

Children's Trust Donates to SOS

The Children's Trust has extended support worth more than P52,000 to SOS Children's Villages, focusing on essential supplies and educational assistance for vulnerable young people

The Children's Trust has handed over donations and sponsorships worth more than P52,000 to SOS Children's Villages as part of its continued support for child-focused programmes in 2025. The contribution includes fridges, school shoes, socks, toiletries, and funding for study skills and exam-preparedness activities for students in completing classes. The Trust also sponsored a Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Camp for 37 vulnerable young people in July, **valued at P10,000.**

LONG-TERM PARTNERSHIP

Speaking on behalf of the Trust, Deputy Chair Petronella Mathumo said the organisation's relationship with SOS dates back several years and is shaped by increasing national concerns around vulnerable and marginalised children. "We identified SOS Children's Villages as needing support at a time when donor funding was a challenge but as a country, we were also experiencing a rise in cases of vulnerable and marginalised children," she said.

She said fundraising initiatives, including an annual luncheon supported by corporate entities and diplomatic missions, enable the Trust to address urgent needs within child welfare organisations.

IDENTIFIED NEEDS

Mathumo noted that after this year's luncheon, held on 17 May, the Trust conducted facility visits and a needs assessment at SOS. The assessment identified areas requiring improvement, such as furniture, school supplies, and personal hygiene items. SOS also outlined key empowerment activities on its annual calendar, helping both parties determine priority areas for support.

> "We identified SOS Children's Villages as needing support at a time when donor funding was a challenge"

FOCUS AREAS

The Children's Trust was established to respond to challenges facing children in Botswana, including poverty, malnutrition, limited educational support, and barriers to accessing quality healthcare. Its approach focuses on partnerships, advocacy, and targeted interventions aimed at improving long-term outcomes for young people.





FNB Hosts Wellness Outreach

A community wellness event in Letlhakane offered free health services to residents who say access to such care remains a challenge



Hundreds of Letlhakane residents attended the FNB Letlhakane–Zowa Wellness Day on 18 November, where First National Bank Botswana partnered with health professionals to provide free medical check-ups, screenings, and wellness education.

FOCUS ON PREVENTION

Held under the theme "Delivering Health Through Hope & Care," the outreach centred on diabetes awareness and prevention. Attendees received services that included diabetes and hypertension testing, prostate screening, HIV and STI testing, physiotherapy, nutritional counselling, and opportunities to donate blood. For many participants, the event offered access to routine health checks they said are often difficult to obtain locally.

COMMUNITY NEEDS AT THE FOREFRONT

Residents expressed appreciation for the initiative, noting that the programme addressed gaps in preventive care and brought essential health information closer to households. Several attendees said the screenings allowed them to understand health risks they may not have otherwise identified.

BANK SAYS HEALTH SUPPORTS EMPOWERMENT

According to FNB Botswana's Director of Marketing and Communications, Peo Porogo, the Wellness Day forms part of the bank's broader community engagement efforts. She said the initiative is intended to complement public health services by encouraging early detection and healthier lifestyles.

ENGAGEMENT BEYOND BANKING

Porogo added that the bank aims to support communities in ways that recognise their broader wellbeing needs, noting that the programme provided an opportunity for direct interaction with residents seeking reliable health information.



> Countries establish embassies where trade, geopolitics, diaspora needs, multilateral institutions, or political alliances justify the investment.

Mission Possible

A strategic road map for Botswana's Diplomatic Future

Botswana's Diplomatic Missions (Embassies & High Commissions)

Mission	Mission
South Africa – Pretoria (HC)	Germany – Berlin (Embassy)
Namibia – Windhoek (HC)	Sweden – Stockholm (Embassy)
Zimbabwe – Harare (Embassy)	China – Beijing (Embassy)
Zambia – Lusaka (HC)	Japan – Tokyo (Embassy)
Mozambique – Maputo (HC)	India – New Delhi (HC)
Kenya – Nairobi (HC)	Australia – Canberra (HC)
Ethiopia – Addis Ababa (Embassy)	Kuwait – Kuwait City (Embassy)
Nigeria – Abuja (HC)	Brazil – Brasília (Embassy)
United States – Washington DC (Embassy)	Cuba – Havana (Embassy)
United Kingdom – London (HC)	Belgium/EU – Brussels (Embassy)

There are moments in national life when a single sentence in a State of the Nation Address sets everyone whispering. This year, it was the unexpected appearance of two distant Central Asian republics with which Botswana has no historical ties, no trade flows, no diplomatic treaties, and not even a shared airline route. Their sudden debut in the SONA left many citizens blinking in disbelief. Some wondered whether this was a typo, others suspected it was a borrowed paragraph from someone else's speech, and many concluded that it was just another example of government speaking to imaginary partners in imaginary corridors. But there is another explanation, Diplomacy is often smoke and mirrors sometimes in the service of real strategy, and sometimes to create the illusion of one. Botswana is not alone in this. Mid-sized nations from Chile to Rwanda routinely use diplomatic signalling as a tool of statecraft: rewriting geopolitical maps through speeches before any embassy doors are built; announcing partnerships before they exist; and inserting country names into national statements to create the impression that a new foreign policy frontier is opening. The surprise mention of Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan must be understood in this context, part symbolism, part aspiration, part confusion and part opportunity.

What follows is not a dismissal of diplomatic ambition but an attempt to anchor it in the hard arithmetic of Botswana's actual diplomatic footprint: its embassies, trade partners, strategic alliances, and the stark realities of where Botswana derives economic value. This item provides a consolidated overview of Botswana's diplomatic footprint, including: (1) a full list of Botswana's embassies and high commissions, (2) Botswana's major trade and business partners, (3) the criteria used globally to determine where embassies should be located, and (4) a detailed evaluation table scoring each Botswana mission against those criteria.

Criterion	Weight	Criterion	Weight
1. Trade Importance	20%	6. Tourism Market	5%
2. Geopolitical / Strategic Value	20%	7. Connectivity	5%
3. Diaspora & Consular Need	10%	8. Cost & Feasibility	5%
4. Multilateral Access	15%	9. Reciprocity	5%
5. Political Alliances	10%	10. Historical / Cultural Links	5%

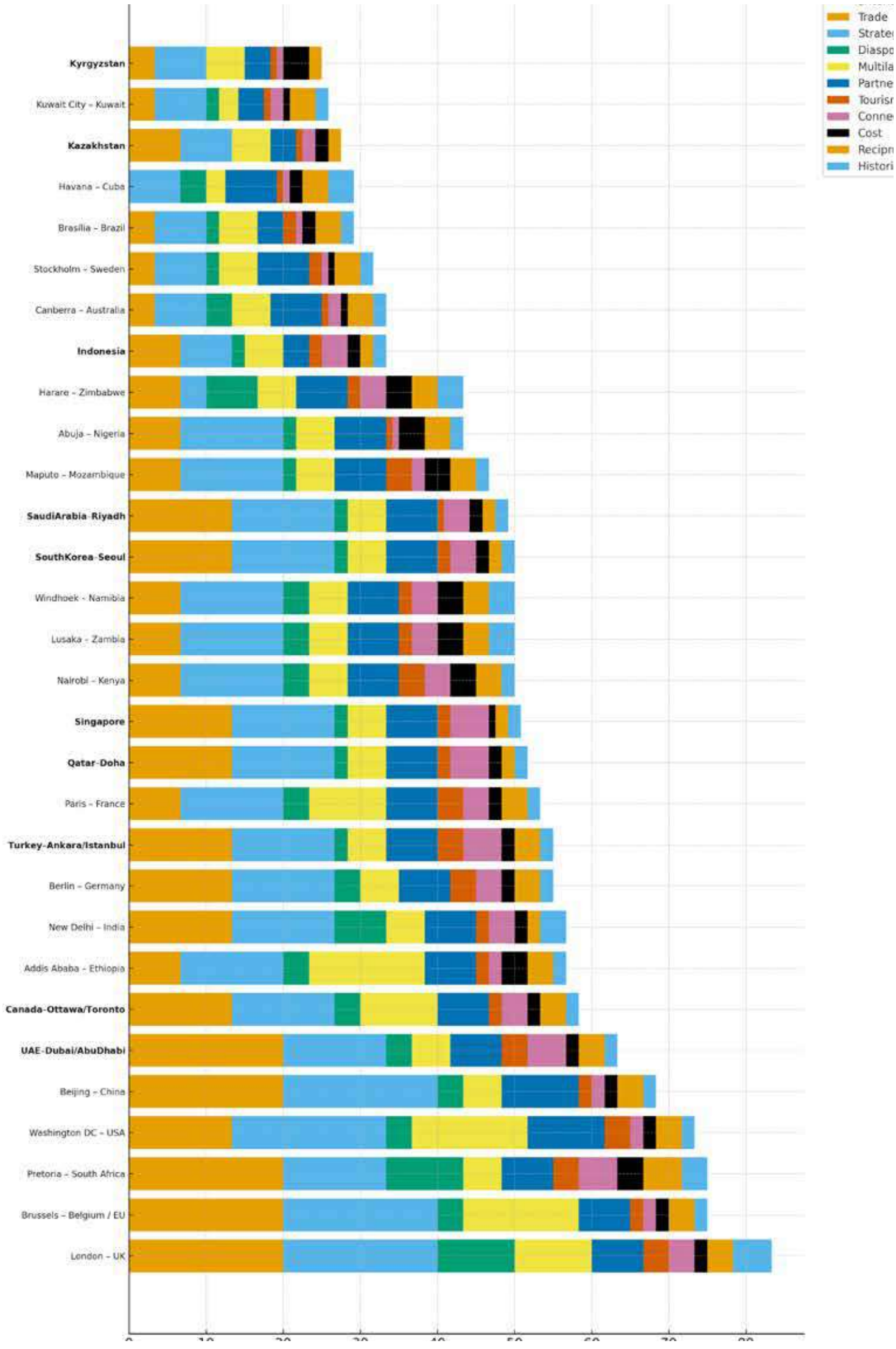
DIPLOMATIC ALIGNMENT MODELLING

Botswana's trade structure and business interests highly concentrated. Exports are dominated by diamonds, while imports come mostly from South Africa due to SACU integration. Key markets include Top export markets: Belgium (diamonds), UAE (diamonds), India (polishing industry), South Africa, Namibia, China. While top import markets: South Africa (~70%), China (~10%), India, UAE, EU. Also vital are FDI partners: South Africa, UK, EU, China, US, Canada, Australia and origins for tourism and education partners: UK, Germany, US, China, Japan. This provides the rationale and the criteria for locating embassies by diplomatic alignment model-

> For Botswana, the strongest motivations are diamond market access, strategic partnerships with development powers (e.g., China, US, UK, EU), regional diplomacy (SADC, AU), and consular needs for citizens in South Africa, UK, and India.

Proposed Mission	WDAS Score	Rationale
Canada (Ottawa + Toronto)	78%	High Priority – mining finance, FDI, G7 alignment
United Arab Emirates	85%	Core Priority – diamonds, logistics, investment
Saudi Arabia (Riyadh)	70%	High Priority – food security, energy investment
Turkey (Ankara/ Istanbul)	65%	Strategic Emerging Priority – construction, air hub
South Korea (Seoul)	60%	Technology Priority – EVs, batteries, ICT
Qatar (Doha)	58%	Energy & Connectivity Priority – LNG, airline links
Singapore	55%	Digital Trade & Governance Priority
Indonesia	52%	Emerging Market Development Opportunity
Vietnam	50%	Future Growth Market

To Page 26



sions to foreign and economic objectives has been made. These scores estimate how strongly each proposed new mission aligns with Botswana's strategic, economic, and geopolitical priorities. A score above 75% indicates a high strategic return; 60–75% indicates strong medium-term value.

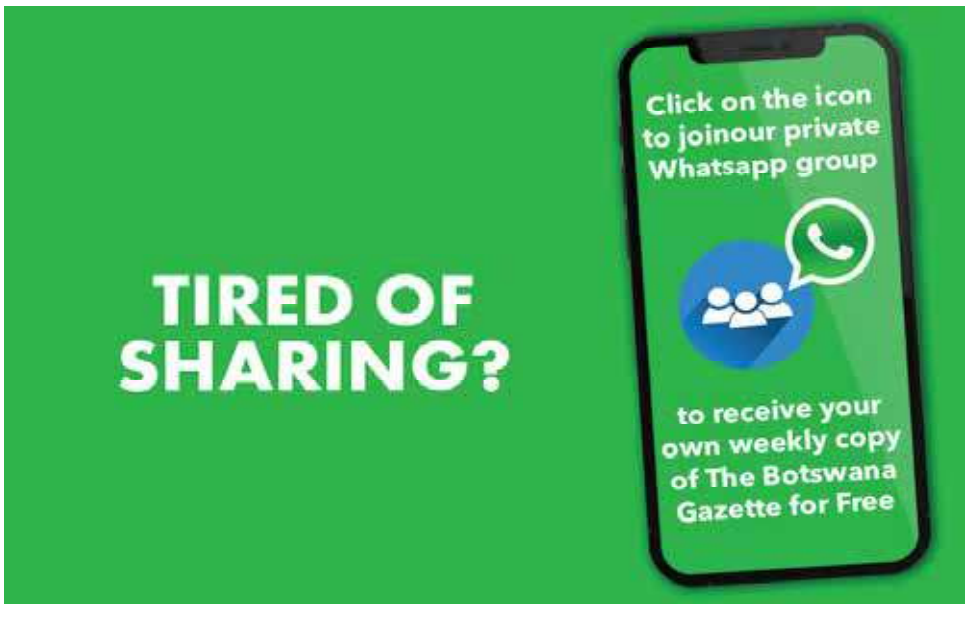
Priority Ranking of Future Diplomatic Missions

1. Canada – Ottawa (Embassy) + Toronto (Consulate)
2. United Arab Emirates – Dubai or Abu Dhabi (Embassy)
3. Saudi Arabia – Riyadh (Embassy)
4. Turkey – Ankara (Embassy) + Istanbul (Business Consulate)
5. South Korea – Seoul (Embassy)

The analysis in the infographic shows the diplomatic alignment of both existing and possible proposed missions (in bold). The proposed new missions in Astana and Bishkek do not display significant alignment to foreign policy exigencies, however, Canada and the UAE stand out as top-tier candidates due to their unique capacity to support Botswana's mining, investment, and diversification agendas. Saudi Arabia and Turkey provide strategic entry points into energy and infrastructure markets, while South Korea supports Botswana's industrial and digital transformation vision.

> For Botswana, the strongest motivations are diamond market access, strategic partnerships with development powers (e.g., China, US, UK, EU), regional diplomacy (SADC, AU), and consular needs for citizens in South Africa, UK, and India.

Botswana's diplomatic map should be shaped not by improvisation or symbolic gestures but by disciplined strategy grounded in economic reality. The alignment model presented here makes this clear: some missions generate outsized strategic returns, while others exist largely for historical or political reasons. The proposed additions in Canada, the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Turkey and South Korea show strong, measurable alignment with Botswana's future-facing priorities in energy, investment, logistics and technology. By contrast, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan—despite their recent cameo in the SONA—offer limited commercial or geopolitical value at this stage. Ultimately, the purpose of diplomacy is to advance national interests, not to scatter scarce resources across the map. Botswana's next chapter in foreign policy will depend on its ability to focus where the returns are greatest, deepen partnerships that matter, and ensure that each new mission strengthens the country's economic security and global relevance. In this respect, the modelling provides a compass: one that points firmly toward a leaner, sharper and more purposeful diplomatic footprint.



From Page 25

ling. The model presents a rationale that aligns diplomatic imperatives with national strategic, economic, geopolitical, and operational priorities.

Countries establish embassies where trade, geopolitics, diaspora needs, multilateral institutions, or political alliances justify the investment. For Botswana, the strongest motivations are diamond market access, strategic partnerships with development powers (e.g., China, US, UK, EU), regional diplomacy (SADC, AU), and consular needs for citizens in South Africa, UK, and India. An analysis of diplomatic alignment of Boswana's mis-

pharmavision
an avacarehealth company

VACANCY

Position Title: Director – Bio-Innovation & Strategic Development
Location: Gaborone, Botswana
Reporting to: Managing Director / Group CEO
Regional Alignment: Avacare Group – Regional Innovation & Biotechnology Integration Initiative

POSITION OVERVIEW
Pharma Vision, as part of Avacare Group's drive to integrate biotechnology and pharmaceutical innovation across SADC region, is seeking a visionary leader to spearhead this transformation in Botswana. The Director – Bio-Innovation & Strategic Development will lead scientific innovation, regulatory modernization, and cross-border compliance, positioning Pharma Vision as Avacare's regional Centre of Biologics Business Development Excellence. The role uniquely combines biotechnology, regulation, and financial strategy to align science with sustainable business growth.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES
- Champion Pharma Vision's regional agenda of converging biotechnology and pharmaceutical systems through innovation, research translation, and regulatory alignment.
- Lead the design and establishment of a Bio-Innovation Business Development Division at Pharma Vision to serve as a pilot model for regional biotech–pharma integration.
- Direct strategic compliance and governance frameworks.
- Develop cross-border regulatory pathways to accelerate biosimilar and advanced therapy product registration in line with SADC and ZaZiBoNa harmonization efforts.
- Oversee biotechnology feasibility studies and investment modeling, supporting Pharma Vision portfolio diversification strategy.
- Lead scientific collaborations between Avacare subsidiaries, universities, and research institutions across Southern Africa to foster biotechnology development and knowledge transfer.
- Represent Pharma Vision and Avacare Group in regional and international biotechnology and regulatory forums, influencing policy and promoting local biotech capacity.
- Integrate sustainability and ethical compliance into biotechnology operations, ensuring adherence to both global best practices and regional development priorities.
- Mentor internal teams and design leadership programs to build Botswana's next generation of biotechnology and regulatory professionals.

QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERTISE
- Bachelor's degree in pharmacy with valid registration with BHPC
- Degree and/or a Master's in Bio-innovation or biotechnology studies.
- Masters in business management and financial management will be added advantages
- At least 5 years extensive experience in regulatory affairs, biotechnology, and pharmaceutical business leadership.
- Proven record in integrating scientific innovation with business and compliance strategy.

APPLICATION PROCESS
Qualified candidates with a demonstrable record of scientific and strategic innovation are invited to submit:
- A comprehensive CV, and
- A motivation letter highlighting alignment with the Pharma Vision's regional biotechnology strategy to hr.recruitment@avacarehealth.com by 4th December 2025.

VACANCY

An established leading Retail chain store invites applications from citizens of Botswana for the following senior position based in Gaborone.

MERCHANDISE PLANNER

Tasks and duties.
- Utilized Advanced Excel, Excel VBA and Macros Analytics and Modeling Tools to identify Opportunities for Improved Inventory Efficiency and Profit Margins.
- Collaborate with Buyers and Category Managers to Optimize Product Assortments and Ensure Inventory Aligned with Customer Demand.
- Implement Inventory Control Strategies to Minimize Stock outs, overstocks and markdowns.
- Analyzed Historical Sales Data, Inventory Levels and Market Trends to Develop Accurate Sales Forecasts and Inventory Purchase Plans.
- Managed in-season open to buy funds to ensure buying teams aligned to the overall business strategy buying plans
- Develop and maintain KPI dashboards
- Conduct post-season analysis to identify sales and missed opportunities.
-

Qualification
- Diploma / Degree in Operations Research and Statistics, Financial Engineering.

Experience
- Minimum of 5 Years' Experience in Business Operations.

Send certified copies of Certificates, C.V and traceable references to:

The Director
New Co.Retail (Pty) Ltd
P.O. Box 259
Gaborone

Closing Date: 14 days from date of issue of this advert

Employment and Labour Relations Bill: When Sick Leave Replaces Annual Leave



Tumisang Bagidi (Lead HR Consultant)



Thuo Ditsele (HR Consultant)

Leave management is a fundamental aspect of modern employment relations, balancing the needs of organisations with the wellbeing of employees. One area that often causes confusion in the workplace is the situation where an employee, whilst on annual leave, falls ill. The Employment and Labour Relations Bill**,** provides clear guidance on the matter.

Annual Leave

Before we can talk about the conversion, lets understand annual leave which serves a specific purpose in employment law. Annual Leave allows employees time to rest, rejuvenate, and attend to personal matters away from work. It is a period meant for physical and mental restoration after continuous service. When an employee becomes ill during this time, the intended purpose of rest and recovery from work-related fatigue is defeated. The law therefore recognises that illness during annual leave should not unfairly deprive an employee of their right to genuine rest.

To consult, contact us on
+267 75 54 67 84 (Gaborone),
+267 74 037 833 (Maun)
+267 393 9435 or
info@aupracontax. co.bw,
tax5@aupracontax.co.bw

CLICK HERE
To join our free HR WhatsApp group, follow the link

The Bill

Under section 219 (10) the bill stipulates that if an employee becomes sick during their annual leave and can produce a valid medical certificate confirming the illness, the portion of annual leave affected by sickness must be converted into sick leave. For such conversion to take place, however, the law requires that the employee provides medical proof of illness. A valid medical certificate from a recognised health practitioner serves as formal confirmation that the employee was genuinely unwell and unfit during the specified period. This provision is important for maintaining fairness and accountability between both parties. It prevents employees from abusing the system by extending their holidays under the guise of illness, while also protecting employees from losing their annual leave due to genuine sickness. The medical certificate thus acts as an objective safeguard in the process.

The Employer and The Worker

From an employer's standpoint, this requirement introduces a clear obligation to manage leave records carefully. Once an employee provides a valid medical certificate, the employer must record those days as sick leave rather than annual leave and adjust the employee's leave balances accordingly. The affected period must then be deducted from the employee's sick leave entitlement, not their annual leave allocation. This ensures that employees receive fair treatment and that all leave entitlements remain consistent with legal provisions. Employers should also communicate these adjustments to employees to maintain transparency and trust.

The Bill, places significant emphasis on fair labour practices and employee welfare. It reinforces that employees cannot be penalised for falling ill while on leave, provided the illness is substantiated. It also calls for employers to ensure that company leave policies are aligned with the provisions of the law, and failure to convert annual leave to sick leave when proper proof is presented could amount to an unfair labour practice, potentially exposing the employer to legal disputes or sanctions under the new framework. Employees, on the other hand, should be encouraged to notify their employers promptly when they fall sick during leave and to submit the required medical documentation as soon as possible. Furthermore, employees are to ensure that they refrain from any form of abuse or fraud in this instance, as that may lead necessary action being taken against them. This cooperative approach ensures smooth management of entitlements while preserving fairness and accountability on both sides.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the rule allowing the conversion of annual leave to sick leave upon valid medical proof is both a legal safeguard and a moral necessity. It upholds the principle that every employee deserves genuine rest and fair treatment, even when unforeseen illness intervenes. For employers, it presents an opportunity to strengthen compliance, build trust, and promote a culture of care within the workplace. For employees, it provides reassurance that the law protects their right to both health and rest. The Bill thus continues Botswana's progress toward a more humane and balanced employment system, one where fairness is not merely an expectation but a lived workplace reality.

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HR SPECIALISTS
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A division of Aupracon PL- Pronounced Oprah-Con

The Botswana Gazette
TIME OUT
THE BOTSWANA GAZETTE
WEDNESDAY 19 NOVEMBER 2025

Honouring Botswana's Pride Trailblazers



The Botswana Gazette clinched the Media Representation Award at the inaugural BW Pride Awards, a ceremony honouring LGBTQIA+ changemakers in Botswana

GOSEGO MOTSUMI

The inaugural BW Pride Awards unfolded this past weekend at Avani Gaborone Resort & Casino, where an intimate breakfast ceremony honoured the individuals and organisations shaping visibility, creativity, and LGBTQIA+ advocacy across Botswana. Held privately due to constraints around the broader event rollout, the gathering was designed to ensure that those who consistently uplift the community received their long-overdue recognition.

A MOMENT THAT COULD NOT WAIT

Founder Vincent Roman Matthys emphasised the necessity of going ahead despite challenges. "Today was about showing up for those who continue to show up for our community," he said. "This intimate gathering reminded us that recognition, visibility, and honouring our shared work must continue, especially now."

> "Recognition, visibility, and honouring our shared work must continue"

With rising hostility toward LGBTQIA+ communities across the region, the ceremony served as an act of defiance and tenderness—an insistence that resilience and excellence deserve to be spotlighted even in uncertain times.

CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE

From activism to art, journalism to safe-space creation, the 2025 honourees represent a spectrum of leadership. Standout winners included Trailblazer of the Year Caine Youngman, Creative of the Year Freddie Pro, Organisation of the Year LEGABIBO, and Youth Voice of the Year Kobe Red.

A special highlight was the Media Representation Award, received by The Botswana Gazette, recognising its continued commitment to inclusive storytelling and platforming LGBTQIA+ voices.

LOOKING AHEAD

The organising committee expressed gratitude to Avani Gaborone Resort & Casino for supporting the ceremony and affirmed plans to expand the awards in coming years. With a focus on community, visibility, and pride, the BW Pride Awards aim to grow into a national celebration of safety, creativity, and belonging.

2025 BW Pride Awards Winners

- Trailblazer of the Year: Caine Youngman
- Community Empowerment Award: Banana Club
- Ally of the Year: Lesego Nchunga
- Creative of the Year: Freddie Pro
- Trans Visibility Award: Skipper Mogapi & Tshepo Ricki Kgositau
- Healing Justice Award: Seipone Boitshwarelo
- Organisation of the Year: LEGABIBO
- Youth Voice of the Year: Kobe Red
- Media Representation Award: The Botswana Gazette
- Legacy Award: Shanti Lo
- Hunk of the Year: Letlhogonolo Moremi
- Babe of the Year: Osaka Sun
- Fashion Icon: Mothusi Lesolle
- Digital Voice: Kobe Red
- Safe Space Award: ZEST
- Founder's Choice Award: Kat Kai Kol Kes



Dato Seiko's Healing Point

Music artist, Dato Seiko prepares to transform Maitisong Theatre with an intimate, emotionally charged musical experience centred on healing, reflection, and soulful connection

GAZETTE REPORTER

Musician Dato Seiko is set to take over the Maitisong Theatre stage on 30 November with a deeply personal solo showcase titled The Healing Point. Announced in collaboration with Maitisong Theatre and her management agency, Makwati Media, the show marks a shift from its original Molapo Theatre venue to allow for a more immersive encounter.

AN INTIMATE MUSICAL JOURNEY

Designed as a fusion of alternative and R&B soundscapes, The Healing Point aims to envelop attendees in a curated community atmosphere—one that prioritises closeness, introspection, and soulful resonance. For Dato Seiko, the evening represents more than a concert; it is a narrative arc through love, loss, and rediscovery.

> "When love left, maybe walking out the door, maybe carried away in a casket. This... this right here, is what comes after all of that. The Healing Point"

"There was The Loving Point, when everything felt whole, when love was full and alive and loud. And there was The Hurting Point, when everything you thought would last suddenly didn't," she said in a statement. "When love left, maybe walking out the door, maybe carried away in a casket. This... this right here, is what comes after all of that. The Healing Point. This is come back home after losing it all and losing yourself."

A PREVIEW OF WHAT'S TO COME

Alongside beloved releases, the performance will feature unreleased music she has been crafting over recent years, with plans to officially debut the new work in 2026. Fans can expect a show built on vulnerability and renewal—echoing her signature emotive storytelling.

Tickets are now available via reservation at +267 77089273 and 72860770.



I, the undersigned ABIGAIL TAMU owner of Plot 30249 located at Palapye, Khurumela Ward intends to change land use from residential to multi-residential use.

For any queries or objections please contact Palapye Sub district council Physical Planning Office at Private Bag 0072 in writing, or call 4920128, within fourteen (14) days of publication of this notice.



HAN-C, DATO STEP INTO AFRICA'S SPOTLIGHT

Botswana's Han-C and Dato Seiko will join the continent's top creatives at the launch of Billboard Africa Power Players Vol. 1

GOSEGO MOTSUMI

Celebrated local artists Han-C and Dato Seiko are set to stand among Africa's most influential music leaders as they attend the launch of Billboard Africa Power Players Vol. 1. The exclusive industry event takes place on 19 November at the Peermont D'oreale Grand Hotel in Johannesburg, bringing together trailblazers shaping the sound of a globalising African music scene.

A ROOM FULL OF POSSIBILITY

For Han-C, the invitation represents both honour and responsibility.

"It's an amazing opportunity," he told Time Out. "Other industries across Africa are more advanced, and the knowledge we gain there can be adapted and applied back home—and shared with others so we all grow."



> "The knowledge we gain there can be applied back home"

He added that sharing space with industry giants opens doors to collaborations, exposure, and unexpected creative pathways. He also expressed gratitude to BITC for making the opportunity possible.

A CONTINENTAL CELEBRATION

The Billboard Africa event will spotlight cultural innovators and unveil the platform's roadmap for 2026. Attendees—ranging from major artists to entertainment executives—will network, exchange ideas, and imagine new futures for African music. For Botswana, the presence of two of its most dynamic voices signals growing visibility on the continental map.

> "It's an amazing opportunity," he told Time Out. "Other industries across Africa are more advanced, and the knowledge we gain there can be adapted and applied back home—and shared with others so we all grow."

The opportunity stems from BITC's partnership with Global Venture Partners (GVP), which holds rights to several major media platforms, including Billboard. The collaboration previously enabled songstress Amantle Brown to perform at the Billboard Power Players event in London.

The Group is a well-known Retail and QSR Chain situated in Gaborone, and invites applications for the following position:

NATIONAL FINANCE MANAGER

QUALIFICATION AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED:

- Master of Commerce-Accounting
- Member of an internationally recognized professional body preferably ACA or ACCA
- Experience in working with ERP system
- Implementation of Internal Audit Controls
- Minimum of 10 years' experience in Finance and Auditing

An attractive remunerations package is on offer to the correct candidate.

Please send your resume to:

The Managing Director
New Co. Retail (Pty) Ltd
P.O. Box 259
Gaborone
Tel: 3952792

Closing Date: 14 days from the issue of this advert

PENPOWER IGNITES PURPOSE

PenPower Expo 2025 returns with a mission to unite authors, aspiring writers and readers in a celebration of storytelling, purpose and African narratives

GAZETTE REPORTER

PenPower Expo 2025 is gearing up to transform Enko Botho in Block 7 Gaborone into a creative sanctuary on 23 November, bringing together authors, readers, and dreamers who believe in the power of words to shift culture. More than a literary gathering, the Expo champions storytelling as ministry — a calling to heal, inspire and preserve African truth.

A PLATFORM BUILT ON PURPOSE

The Expo was born from three shared convictions: to build a supportive community for Christian authors, to close the gaps between academia and self-taught writers, and to amplify African stories in our own languages. Translation into Setswana and other indigenous languages remains a priority, ensuring local narratives retain their authenticity and spiritual depth.

The realization by the organizers was "If we don't create platforms for Christian voices and African stories, we leave the world to be shaped by voices that do not reflect our convictions." So PenPower Expo became that platform.

EMPOWERMENT FOR EVERY WRITER

Attendees can expect connection with publishers and creatives, clarity on writing and collaboration, confidence to finally commit their stories to the page, and resources ranging from translation opportunities to literary partnerships. The Expo also underscores spiritual grounding, framing writing as a divine mandate rather than mere talent.

> Attendees can expect connection with publishers and creatives, clarity on writing and collaboration, confidence to finally commit their stories to the page

LEADERS GUIDING THE MOVEMENT

The event is hosted by three influential literary leaders: Pastor Dr. Daniel S. Matematema, a multi-award-winning author and mentor; Dr. Peggy Dithapelo Lubinda, an educator and counselor dedicated to personal transformation; and Dr. Onkeme R. Letshwiti, a prolific pastor-author with more than 40 books to his name.



Botswana: A Paradise in Peril

A new documentary, Botswana: Paradise in Peril, blends storytelling, lived experience and conservation politics to spotlight the emotional and ecological realities of life alongside wildlife in rural Botswana

GOSEGO MOTSUMI

The red carpet rolled out at Masa recently for the premiere of Botswana: Paradise in Peril, a documentary that pulls viewers far beyond safari postcards and into the textured, complicated world of rural communities living with wildlife every day. Commissioned by the Botswana Wildlife Producers Association (BWPA) and crafted by local company ABI Films, the production invites audiences to see Botswana not just as a destination, but as a living landscape of coexistence, conflict and culture.

A WINDOW INTO MARGINAL LANDS



Pic Credit; nationalgeographic

The film travels through marginal conservation areas where elephants graze, lions roam and people farm on the edges of protected wilderness. Here, controlled and sustainable hunting is presented not as spectacle, but as a tool—one tied to land rights, biodiversity protection and rural income. It's a perspective fiercely debated on the global stage, and one the documentary tackles head-on by challenging anti-hunting narratives that often overshadow community realities.

A NATIONAL CONVERSATION, A GLOBAL AUDIENCE

At the launch, the Minister of Environment and Tourism Wynter Mmolotsi described the documentary as a timely bridge between policy and lived experience, reaffirming government support for ethical sustainable hunting and community-led conservation.

"Botswana is a country with diverse wildlife and ecosystems, with opportunities for both ecotourism (non-consumptive) and sustainable, controlled hunting (consumptive) tourism," Mmolotsi said.

"The use of controlled hunting in marginal areas provides an opportunity for the people of Botswana to judiciously use their natural resources, providing them with the rights of access to these resources and to benefit from the economic returns generated from community-based natural resource management (CBNRM)."

The Speaker of the National Assembly Dithapelo Keorapetse echoed this, calling the film "a true story of Botswana" and expressing a desire to see it on global platforms to deepen international understanding.

A FILM FOR THE PEOPLE

For producer Moabi Mogorosi, the film's first audience must be the communities who shaped it. He shared plans to screen it across the Okavango panhandle, insisting their voices remain central to the narrative.

"They've been taking care of the Delta for the world, their stories must be heard," Mogorosi said.

> It's a perspective fiercely debated on the global stage, and one the documentary tackles head-on by challenging anti-hunting narratives that often overshadow community realities

With its sweeping visuals and candid storytelling, Paradise in Peril is more than a conservation documentary—it is a cultural moment, one that reframes Botswana's wild beauty as both blessing and burden, shared by all who call it home.

A TASTE OF JAPAN IN GABS

The Embassy of Japan's "I Love Sushi" exhibition brings centuries of culinary artistry to life in Gaborone through immersive displays, historical storytelling, and edible experiences.



GOSEGO MOTSUMI

The Embassy of Japan in Botswana has opened its vibrant "I Love Sushi" travelling exhibition at the National Museum and Art Gallery, where it will be on display until 6 December 2025. The showcase, rich with colour and cultural nuance, celebrates sushi not merely as food but as a living archive of Japanese heritage.

FROM ANCIENT PRESERVATION TO MODERN ART

During a guided tour, Kashima Kohei, Head of Culture & PR at the Embassy, unpacked sushi's surprising beginnings. Long before the familiar nigiri emerged in Edo-era Tokyo, sushi existed as Nare-zushi—a fermented fish dish from Southeast Asia or Southern China where rice was discarded after use. Over centuries, fermentation methods evolved, rice joined the plate, and the introduction of vinegar accelerated creativity, giving rise to maki-zushi, inari-zushi, and eventually the iconic nigiri.

A "Sushi Family Tree" panel visually traces this evolution, while a dazzling display of 150 types of modern sushi showcases how tastes have diversified. "The colourful sight… is truly worthy of being called modern art," Kohei told Time Out.

THE CULTURE AROUND THE CUISINE

Visitors are also treated to ukiyo-e art reproductions depicting Edo-period street stalls, where nigiri was the fast food of its time—quick, cheap, and eaten standing. A recreated sushi stall brings this history to life.

The exhibition continues into the present with a dramatic installation of 930 sushi models, a section on rotation sushi an Osaka-born innovation that transformed fine dining into family-friendly fun and a virtual experience created with Tokyo's Kizushi restaurant.

"When you sit down, a chef, who carries on the tradition of Edomae-zushi, will skillfully prepare and serve various sushi tuna, Kohada, squid, and more right before your eyes. Please enjoy the realistic experience, just as if you were in a real sushi restaurant," Kohei said.

CULINARY ART AS CULTURAL EXPRESSION

Deputy Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Sport and Arts, Tebogo Matebesi, reflected on the exhibition's broader significance. "Food, like art, tells stories," he said, connecting Japanese culinary traditions to Botswana's own values of community, sustainability, and creativity.

IS AI TAKING OVER MUSIC VIDEOS?

As AI-generated visuals sweep through the creative industry, Botswana's leading videographers and musicians reflect on whether the technology threatens traditional filmmaking or simply expands artistic possibility

GOSEGO MOTSUMI

The rapid rise of AI-generated video has begun reshaping how local artists tease, promote, and visualise their upcoming music. Short AI clips—often cheaper and faster to produce—are now common across social platforms.

> "I haven't seen any convincing AI music video that replaces the original feel you get when capturing with the camera"

Yet behind this shift lies a deeper debate: is AI taking over, or is it simply shifting the creative landscape?

THE HUMAN TOUCH STILL MATTERS

Renowned videographer Jack Botlhoko, who has shaped the visual identity of many local artists, is adamant that the heart of filmmaking remains human.

"No! Honestly I do feel like AI is here to make our life easier and it will never replace videographers," he said in an interview. "I haven't seen any convincing AI music video that replaces the original feel you get when capturing with the camera."

Botlhoko believes the enduring appeal of real images says everything. "As much as AI has never threatened the sale of cameras, this must tell us that original pictures still win," he noted, adding that authentic moments and natural backgrounds remain irreplaceable. While he anticipates a rise in AI-generated videos—largely due to cost and convenience—he insists that human-driven visuals hold unmatched emotional depth.

A TOOL, NOT A THREAT

Music artist Han C shares a similar outlook, though with a more adaptive tone.

"AI is here, and it's not going anywhere," he said. "I see it as a tool—something that can elevate the skills we already have rather than replace them."

For Han C, the technology's strength lies in expanding imagination, not shrinking jobs. It can streamline processes, spark new ideas, and open doors to creativity that once felt out of reach.

THE FUTURE IS A BLEND

Asked whether he prefers AI-generated or traditional videos, Han C leaned toward the latter. Authenticity, emotional accuracy, and full creative control still matter most. "AI isn't yet at the point where everything feels completely natural or emotionally aligned," he said. Until then, man-made visuals remain the medium that best mirrors the music.

URGENTLY REQUIRED: A growing Accounting & Business Consulting firm having offices based in Gaborone, Francistown and Maun urgently require the services of the following: -

MANAGERS (ACCOUNTS/AUDIT) (2):

The incumbents should hold A.C.A./A.C.C.A. or equivalent, should also be an Associate/Fellow member of Botswana Institute of Chartered Accountants and have atleast 6 - 8 years of post qualification experience of which atleast five years must have been in the field of Audit. High Computer Literacy, good interpersonal and problem solving skills is a necessity.

The above positions offer an attractive salary and other fringe benefits.

Interested applicants should immediately send in their applications with full details to: -

THE MANAGING PARTNER
INDUSTRIAL MANAGEMENT & ACCOUNTING SERVICES (PTY) LTD
P.O. BOX 40096
GABORONE

E-mail: sksharma.om@live.com

Closing Date: **5th December, 2025**

FARM WORKER WANTED

at makgwarapane farms in ditshegwane box 346 letlhakeng call 72178562

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT FRANCISTOWN

CASE NO: CVHFT 000 324/24

In the matter between:
ABSA BANK BOTSWANA LIMITED
formerly **BARCLAYS BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED** — **Plaintiff**
And
SEGAMETSI LEJAGE — **Defendant**

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to a Writ of Execution issued out of the above Honourable Court in the above matter, the right, title and interest to and in the following immovable property of the Defendant will be sold by Public Auction by **Deputy Sheriff Ookeditse Masolotate** to the highest bidder as follows:

DATE OF SALE : 19th December 2025
VENUE : Tribal Lot 333, Tatisiding
TIME : 1400 Hours
PROPERTY TO BE SOLD : The Defendant's right, title and interest to and in certain piece of Land being Tribal Lot 333, Tatisiding, measuring 1000m² (One Thousand Square Metres), held under Memorandum of Agreement of Lease No. FT TL 1059/2019 dated the 4th day of October 2019 and made in favour of **SEGAMETSI LEJAGE** together with developments thereon, being a walled yard consisting of a Three bedroomed house with Master ensuite, bathroom/toilet, living room, dining room, kitchen, laundry room and a double door garage.
TERMS OF SALE : Cash or bank transfer only.

CONDITIONS OF SALE may be inspected at the offices of the hereunder mentioned Deputy's Sheriff's offices at Lotsane Ward, Palapye, Gampone's Complex, Next to Standard Chartered Bank, Palapye. He can be contacted at 74724543.

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN ON THIS THE 11TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 2025

VAN NIEKERK ATTORNEYS
Plot 4660, Area G, Ditau Street, P.O Box 37, Francistown
Telephone No. 241 3421

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT GABORONE

CASE NO. CVHGB – 001840 - 22

In the matter between
BBS LIMITED — **Plaintiff**
and
MOTHUSI DARLY MAKHIWA — **Defendant**

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to a Judgment granted by the above Honourable Court on the 6th July 2023 the following immovable property of the above mentioned Defendant will be sold by means of public auction to the highest bidder by **Deputy Sheriff U J CHILISA** as follows:

DATE OF SALE : Friday 12th December 2025
VENUE : Tribal Lot 9507, Mogoditshane
TIME OF SALE : 1030 Hours
TERMS OF SALE : All participating bidders are required to make an **UP-FRONT** payment of BWP 10 000.00 directly to the undersigned Attorneys, refundable only to those who did not succeed in the sale. Only cash or bank guaranteed cheques will be accepted. The detailed conditions of sale are available for inspection at the undersigned Attorneys' offices.

PROPERTY TO BE SOLD : The Defendant's rights, title and interest in a certain piece of land being Tribal Lot 9507, Mogoditshane, situated at Mogoditshane in the Kweneng Tribal Territory measuring 969 m² (Nine Hundred and Sixty Nine Square Metres) held under Notarial Deed of Cession of Lease No. MA 685/2010 dated 21st December 2010 made in favour of Mothusi Makhiwa, together with all the improvements thereon a sitting room, kitchen, living room, dinning room, two bed room, master bedroom with toilet with bathing room, bedroom, double garage, and swimming pool.

DATED AT GABORONE ON THIS 10TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 2025.

COLLINS CHILISA CONSULTANTS
Attorneys • Notaries • Conveyancers

COLLINS CHILISA CONSULTANTS
Plaintiff's Attorneys
Plot 4858, Off Marakanelo Way
Extension 11
P O Box 45136
GABORONE
Deputy Sheriff U. J. Chilisa
[Cell No. 71594008]

BUSANG J
IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT LOBATSE

CASE NO: CVHGB-002108-23

In the matter between:
EWETSE T. RAKHUDU — **APPLICANT**
and
OLEFILE RAMAKOLOI — **RESPONDENT**

SUBSTITUTED SERVICE

TO: OLEFILE RAMAKOLOI, an adult male of full legal capacity whose last known place of residence is **JWANENG** and whose postal address is **UNKNOWN**.

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT you are required, within **Twenty-One (21) court days** after publication hereof, to give notice to the Clerk of Court and to the Applicant's Attorneys why an order should not be made against you in an application in which the Applicant prays that:

1. the order to dismiss the matter be rescinded and set aside;
2. Costs only on opposition; and
3. Any further and/or alternative relief.

TAKE NOTICE THAT you are required to appoint in such notice, an address within Botswana at which you will accept notice and service of all documents in these and subsequent\ proceedings.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT if you fail to give such notice of your intention to oppose the matter, the order sought as set out above, shall be granted against you without any further reference to you.

DATED AT GABORONE ON THIS 12th DAY OF NOVEMBER 2025.

MAKATI LAW CONSULTANCY
Applicant's Attorneys
Plot 15304, Lebethu Way, Broadhurst
P O Box 108
Tel:3975726
GABORONE.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT FRANCISTOWN

CASE NO. CVHFT 000 000 134-25

In the matter between:
STANBIC BANK BOTSWANA LIMITED — **PLAINTIFF**
And
MUKAMBA RUKURO — **DEFENDANT**

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to a judgment of the above Honourable Court, the following property will be sold by Public Auction by Deputy Sheriff Bathusi Billy to the highest bidder as follows:

DATE OF SALE : **12th December 2025**
TIME : **10.30 p.m.**
VENUE : **Magistrate Court, Broadhurst, Gaborone**
PROPERTY TO BE SOLD : 1x1 Nissan Navara Pick UP Diesel
Registration No. : B 612 BTM
Year Manufacture : 2023
Colour : White

TERMS AND CONDITIONS: Cash or Bank electronic transfer. Detailed conditions of sale may be inspected with Deputy Sheriff Bathusi Billy on Cellphone No. 74 777 581 (Mascom)

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN ON THIS 17TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 2025.

LOWA ATTORNEYS
ATTORNEYS, NOTARIES & CONVEYANCERS

LOWA ATTORNEYS
Plaintiff's Attorneys
Unit 16, Haskins Building
Plot No. 469/70, Blue Jacket Street
P .O. Box 3537
FRANCISTOWN
Tel: 2412300/78541541/73966100

NTENTION TO CHANGE MARITAL REGIME

(In terms of Section 8(1)(f) of the Married Persons Property Act, 2014)

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE that:

1. **JEFFREY MAPHEPA** and **MALEBOGO MAPHEPA**, married in community of property on the 1st of September 2012 at Mathathane Church, wish to change their matrimonial property regime from that of "IN COMMUNITY OF PROPERTY" to that of "OUT OF COMMUNITY OF PROPERTY."
2. The parties intend to apply to the High Court of Botswana after the expiration of the prescribed three (3) weeks statutory notice from the date of first publication hereof.
3. Any person, creditor, or debtor, who may have an interest in the assets and/or liabilities of the parties' estate are hereby invited to inform the parties' Attorneys should they have objections to the parties changing their matrimonial property regime. The parties' Attorneys being Gape April Attorneys at the address below.
4. Such notice should be submitted before the expiration of the said three (3) weeks period or else such objections should make representation before the High Court of Botswana once the contemplated application is lodged.

DATED AT GABORONE ON THIS 12th DAY OF NOVEMBER 2025.

GAPE APRIL ATTORNEYS, APPLICANT'S ATTORNEYS, GABORONE INTERNATONAL COMMERCE PARK, PLOT 104 UNIT 6B, P O BOX 504130 GABORONE, TELEPHONE NO: 3117181/72333088

FIRST AND FINAL LIQUIDATION AND DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT

Master's Reference: **ESHGB-000042/16**

IN THE ESTATE of the late **SISITARA BALOTLHANYE** who died at Princess Marina Hospital, Gaborone, Gaborone District, Botswana on the 31st day of March, 2023.

THE FIRST AND FINAL LIQUIDATION AND DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT in the Estate will lie open for inspection at the offices the Master of the High Court at Gaborone for a period of twenty-one **(21) days** from the date of publication hereof.

Any objection to the Estate Account may be lodged with the Master.

DATED at GABORONE on this 18th day of November 2025.

_____
Executor
Lebopeng Gladys Sheka
P O Box 366
GABANE
TEL: 72726174/77628448

RAGUIN'S WIN BOOSTS LOCAL TENNIS



Botswana Tennis Association (BTA) hails Ntungamili Raguin's third ITF Junior title of 2025 as a major inspiration for the country's junior players and local coaches, highlighting the growing potential of Botswana on the global junior tennis stage

GAZETTE REPORTER

Ntungamili Raguin, based in France, has clinched his third ITF Junior title of 2025 at the J100 tournament held in Kenya recently, defeating Italy's Mattia Baroni 3-6, 7-5, 6-3 in a nearly three-hour battle. The victory marks another milestone for Botswana tennis, elevating the nation's presence in the world junior rankings.

> "If one Motswana can do it, then the rest of them can too."

INSPIRING JUNIORS

"This win means a lot to the Association. It comes as an inspiration to our junior players who may otherwise have lost hope," said Botswana Tennis Association spokesperson Tshepang Tlhankane in a telephone interview. "It reminds them that they too can achieve great things. If one Motswana can do it, then the rest of them can too."

MOTIVATING COACHES

Tlhankane emphasized that Raguin's success also motivates local coaches. "Coaches need to push junior players under them to work harder because once their player achieves, they too achieve, and the Association alike," he said.

GLOBAL RECOGNITION

While winning multiple tournaments simultaneously would have been ideal, Tlhankane noted that every victory improves Botswana players' rankings and places the national flag among top-ranking countries in world junior tennis.

SUPPORT FOR DREAMS

Looking ahead, the Association plans to continue supporting Raguin's journey toward junior Grand Slam participation. "If Ntunga keeps winning these tournaments, he gets closer to the ultimate dream of playing junior slams, and that would be a first for Botswana. This is a dream that BTA will always support," Tlhankane affirmed.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT FRANCISTOWN

CASE NO: CVHFT 000274-23

In the matter between:
ABSA BANK BOTSWANA LIMITED
formerly **BARCLAYS BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED** **Plaintiff**
And
DINKWETSI JENNIFER SMITH **Defendant**

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to a Writ of Execution issued out of the above Honourable Court in the above matter, the following immovable property of the Defendant will be sold by Public Auction by **Deputy Sheriff Ookeditse Masolotate** to the highest bidder as follows:

DATE OF SALE : 19th December 2025
VENUE : Lot 10367, Francistown
TIME : 1100 Hours
PROPERTY TO BE SOLD : Piece of Land being Lot 10367, Francistown, measuring 675m² (Six Hundred and Seventy Five Square Metres), held under Deed of Transfer No. FT 267/2008 dated the 18th day of April 2008 and made in favour of **DINKWETSI JENNIFER SMITH**, together with developments thereon, being a Three Bedroomed house with master ensuite, bathroom Toilet and open kitchen.

TERMS OF SALE : Cash or bank transfer only.

CONDITIONS OF SALE may be inspected at the offices of the hereunder mentioned Deputy's Sheriff's offices at Lotsane Ward, Palapye, Gampone's Complex, Next to Standard Chartered Bank, Palapye. He can be contacted at 74724543

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN ON THIS 10TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 2025

VAN NIEKERK ATTORNEYS
Plot 4660, Area G, Ditau Street, P.O Box 37, Francistown
Telephone No. 241 3421

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT FRANCISTOWN

CASE NO: CVHFT 000 451/23

In the matter between:
ABSA BANK BOTSWANA LIMITED
formerly **BARCLAYS BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED** **Plaintiff**
And
BONTLE PRUDENCE MAELE **Defendant**

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to a Writ of Execution issued out of the above Honourable Court in the above matter, the right, tittle and interest to and in the following immovable property of the Defendant will be sold by Public Auction by **Deputy Sheriff Ookeditse Masolotate** to the highest bidder as follows:

DATE OF SALE : 18th December 2025
VENUE : Tribal Lot 13204, Mahalapye
TIME : 1100 Hours
PROPERTY TO BE SOLD : Piece of Land being Tribal Lot 13204, Mahalapye, measuring 600m² (Six Hundred Square Metres), held under Notarial Deed of Cession No FT MA16/2019 dated the 12th day February 2019 and made in favour of **BONTLE PRUDENCE MAELE**, together with developments thereon, consisting of Two bedroomed house, Kitchen, Living room, Toilet and Bathroom.

TERMS OF SALE : Cash or bank transfer only.

CONDITIONS OF SALE may be inspected at the offices of the hereunder mentioned Deputy's Sheriff's offices at Lotsane Ward, Palapye, Gampone's Complex, Next to Standard Chartered Bank, Palapye. He can be contacted at 74724543

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN ON THIS THE 10TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 2025

VAN NIEKERK ATTORNEYS
Plot 4660, Area G, Ditau Street, P.O Box 37, Francistown
Telephone No. 241 3421



Golf Union Pushes Wider Participation

Says its development programmes are gaining traction, though progress in reviving key facilities remains slow

TLOTLO KEBINAKGABO

Botswana Golf Union (BGU) president Derrick Musa says the organisation is intensifying efforts to grow participation in the sport, especially among women and juniors. He noted that while new programmes are being rolled out, the revival of some golf facilities is yet to gain momentum.

WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION A STRATEGIC FOCUS

Musa said addressing low female participation remains central to the Union's agenda. "Yes, we are aware of few women taking up the sport of golf. It's a focus area in our strategy and we have since developed a Women's Golf Charter which we will be implementing to attract more women to play golf," he said in a telephone interview.

He added that the Botswana Junior Golf League, run by Delta Sports International, along with junior programmes in Jwaneng and Orapa, is drawing more girls into the sport.

JUNIOR PROGRAMME EXTENDS TO SCHOOLS

The Union is expanding its junior development initiative, Unleash Your Drive, targeting children as young as six. The programme is being introduced in primary schools through 20 trained Level 1 instructors.

"We have received donation of equipment from the R&A and have distributed to some of our affiliated clubs and to Baobab Primary School to start implementing the program," Musa said. The first phase will later extend to more government schools, including upgrading some coaches to Level 2.

FACILITY REVIVALS REMAIN SLOW

Musa said the BGU is working to revive courses in Francistown, Lobatse and Palapye, though progress has been limited by lease renewals and funding challenges. "Our plan is to revive those facilities… we are working at getting Francistown, Lobatse and Palapye facilities revived and to start being active," he said.

Palapye's course, he added, is a new development being pursued with Morupule Coal Mine.

> "The game of golf at grassroots levels should benefit from corporate golf days."

CORPORATE GOLF DAYS UNDER REVIEW

Musa said corporate and charity golf days are monitored through affiliated clubs, with the Union setting regulatory standards. The BGU is developing a golf levy to support junior and grassroots programmes. "The game of golf at grassroots levels should benefit from corporate golf days," he said.

Gabs Hosts International Badminton Tourney

The Botswana Badminton Association is set to host the Botswana International Future Series 2025 from 20–23 November in Gaborone, attracting top players from across the globe and showcasing local talent on the international stage

TLOTLO KEBINAKGABO

Botswana is preparing to welcome approximately 86 athletes from 17 countries to compete at the Botswana International Future Series 2025, running from 20 to 23 November. According to Thobo Tshosa, Public Relations Officer for the Botswana Badminton Association, the tournament aims to elevate competition standards and provide national athletes with crucial on-home-soil experience.

"This is a unique opportunity for our athletes to earn international ranking points and improve their overall game while competing against some of the best players from around the world," Tshosa said.

MAXIMIZING EXPOSURE & EXPERTISE

The event is not just about athletes. Local administrators, technical officials, and umpires will also gain valuable hands-on experience, ensuring the long-term development of badminton in Botswana. The Royal Aria Indoor Sports Arena has been secured as the venue, offering world-class facilities for a smooth and professional tournament experience.

"Our team of technical officials and umpires are fully prepared to run the tournament according to international standards, ensuring that every aspect of the event meets global expectations," Tshosa added.

PROMOTING LOCAL TALENT

Fans are encouraged to watch Botswana's very own stars, including Godknows Ketlhabanetswe, the current Botswana Open Men's Singles Champion, and doubles champions Tshepo Perekisi and Tumelo Moilwa. Tshosa said their participation will inspire young players across the country to pursue badminton seriously.

"This tournament is a platform to inspire the next generation and attract new players, sponsors, and enthusiasts to the sport," he noted.

CREATING LASTING LEGACY

Beyond competition, the tournament is expected to strengthen Botswana's reputation as a capable host of international sporting events, stimulate investment in training facilities, and promote national pride. It is seen as a key step in nurturing local talent and positioning Botswana as a hub for competitive badminton in Africa.



Softball Team Targets African Glory

Team Manager says the squad is healthy, experienced, and confident

TLOTLO KEBINAKGABO

Botswana's U23 men's national softball team is primed and ready for the Africa Qualifiers of the U23 Men World Championship set to begin on 25th and end on the 30th of November in Kenya. Team Manager Lapologang Ketlhoilwe confirmed that preparations have been thorough and systematic, with the squad undergoing four intensive training camps to date.

"Our fifth and final camp begun of Tuesday (yesterday) and runs until our departure on Saturday," Ketlhoilwe said in a telephone interview. "We've had competitive games against elite local league teams during previous camps, which helped us assess fitness and execution. We addressed weak areas, and we are happy with where the team stands currently."

WINNING AMBITIONS

The team is aiming high, with qualifying for the World Championship as the top-ranked African side as the primary goal. "We have the talent to finish at the top," Ketlhoilwe stated confidently.

PLAYER DEVELOPMENT

The squad is composed of promising youngsters drawn from elite clubs across the country. Ketlhoilwe highlighted the growth and progress made by the athletes since their first camp.

> "We have the talent to finish at the top."

"When they first joined, they were not far off our expectations. Our focus was on building fitness and establishing effective player combinations to yield results. There has been significant growth in individual performance since the start of our preparations," she explained.


(Pic:Monirul Bhuiyan/PRESS PHOTO)

HEALTH STATUS

In terms of physical readiness, Ketlhoilwe confirmed that the team is in excellent health. "So far, everyone is healthy with no injuries reported," she said.

COMPETITIVE EDGE

Experience also plays a key role in the team's readiness. All 16 players have been active in the local league, bringing valuable competitive experience to the camp. Combined with three months of intensive preparation, Botswana's team is positioned strongly to compete at the highest level.

"Our athletes are used to a competitive environment, and the preparation they have undergone has put them in a better position to succeed," Ketlhoilwe added.

Team Set for African Youth Games

GAZETTE REPORTER

Botswana is finalising preparations for the 4th African Youth Games scheduled for 10–20 December 2025 in Luanda, Angola. The event will gather young athletes aged 14–17 from up to 54 African nations, making it one of the continent's most significant youth sporting stages

Angola will become the first Lusophone nation to host the multi-sport competition, which coincides with the country's 50th anniversary of independence. The Games will be staged across six cities, including Luanda, Benguela, and Bengo, and will feature 33 sporting disciplines.

Botswana is expected to compete in athletics, badminton, beach volleyball, basketball, boxing, cycling, equestrian, judo, swimming, table tennis, taekwondo, tennis, weightlifting, and fencing.

DEVELOPMENT PATHWAY

In a statement, the Botswana National Olympic Committee (BNOC) said the Games remain an important step for emerging talent. "For our young athletes, the Games are not only a platform for excellence but also a pathway to future success as they serve as qualifiers for the Dakar 2026 Youth Olympic Games," the BNOC noted. The organisation also highlighted the event's wider purpose, saying it "fosters unity, cultural exchange, and the celebration of African sport."



insidethegame

> "The Games are not only a platform for excellence but also a pathway to future success."

CONTEXT

Botswana previously hosted the 2nd African Youth Games in 2014, which drew about 2,000 athletes from 51 countries competing in 21 sports.

TIRED OF SHARING?



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RAGUIN'S WIN BOOSTS LOCAL TENNIS

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34.

Photo Credit: Tennis Kenya

