The Botswana
GAZETTE
WEDNESDAY 04 NOVEMBER 2026 | SINCE 1984

Listing Rush Ends BSE's IPO Drought

22.



+ THE AUDIT BOKO CHOSE TO IGNORE

15-16

2.

"ABSOLUTELY, I WILL NOT APOLOGISE" - KHAMA

Ian Khama's refusal to withdraw his attack on Zambia's president risks complicating the UDC government's regional diplomacy as Zambian figures demand evidence and an apology.

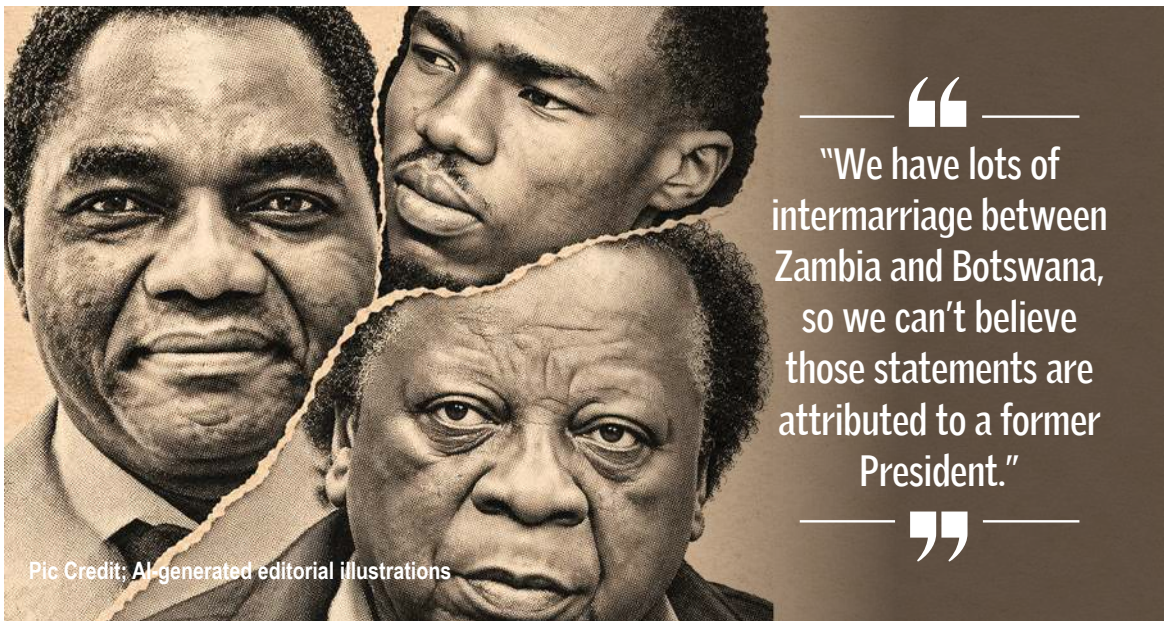
PHOTO COMPOSITE

AI-generated editorial illustration



KHAMA REFUSES TO APOLOGISE TO ZAMBIA

Ian Khama's refusal to withdraw his attack on Zambia's president risks complicating the UDC government's regional diplomacy as Zambian figures demand evidence and an apology.



Pic Credit; AI-generated editorial illustrations

SESUPO RANTSIMAKO AND BONGANI MALUNGA

Former president Ian Khama has refused to apologise for calling Zambian President Hakainde Hichilema "Africa's newest dictator", standing by allegations of political persecution and electoral interference despite demands from Zambian figures that he substantiate or withdraw his remarks.

"Why should I apologise for stating facts? Absolutely, I will not apologise. Because as much as there are calls for me to apologise, I have received many messages from Zambia thanking me for what I said and what I stand for," Khama told The Botswana Gazette.

His refusal risks complicating the UDC government's regional diplomacy, with President Duma Boko being asked to intervene while his administration maintains relations with Zambia.

DIPLOMATIC TENSION

The dispute stems from Khama's intervention during a sitting of Ntlo ya Dikgosi in Gaborone, where he questioned Minister of International Relations Dr Phenyo Butale about Botswana's attendance at Hichilema's inauguration.

"With the stated position of Botswana as upholding the rule of law, democracy and human rights, with hindsight, does the Minister regret that we attended the inauguration of Africa's newest dictator in Zambia, after they have violated all these principles that we uphold?" Khama asked.

Butale defended Botswana's attendance, saying diplomatic engagement with neighbouring countries was necessary to influence dialogue and democratic processes.

His response highlighted the tension between Khama's public criticism and the government's approach to relations with its neighbour. While Khama insists that speaking out defends democratic principles, Butale's position emphasises continued engagement as a means of influencing developments.

The exchange leaves the government navigating a dispute involving a former president whose remarks were made in a public institutional setting, rather than through a private political statement.

> "Why should I apologise for stating facts? Absolutely, I will not apologise."

APOLOGY DEMANDS

Zambian youth advocate and Grow Zambia Agenda ambassador Mukuka Kampamba demanded a public apology within 24 hours, describing Khama's comments as an insult to Zambians. He challenged Khama to produce evidence and called on Boko to intervene.

Former Zambian Vice President Enock Kavindele, speaking in Lusaka, urged Khama to respect Zambia's sovereignty and produce credible evidence for allegations against an elected government. He argued that serious accusations should rest on facts rather than political labels.

Nominated Member of Parliament Judith Kabemba Nkonge also demanded that Khama withdraw his remarks and apologise to Hichilema and Zambians.

Describing his intervention as "reckless and unbecoming of a former head of state", she argued that Khama should promote diplomacy and respect for democratic institutions.

The backlash extended to State House, where Chief Communications Specialist Clayson Hamasaka criticised Khama and referred to his previous meetings with Hichilema.

"We have lots of intermarriage between Zambia and Botswana, so we can't believe those statements are attributed to a former President," Hamasaka said.

KHAMA STANDS FIRM

Khama maintains that his criticism concerns the principles underpinning multiparty democracy, including free electoral competition and voters' ability to choose their representatives.

He accused Hichilema's administration of persecuting opponents through arrests, detention, beatings, fabricated criminal charges and interference with electoral and judicial processes. These remain Khama's allegations, which Zambian figures have challenged him to substantiate.

Khama further maintained that human rights organisations had raised similar concerns about the treatment and detention of political opponents in Zambia.

He questioned why he should apologise when, in his view, organisations monitoring human rights had also criticised Zambia's record.

The competing positions have widened the controversy beyond the original remark. Zambian critics are demanding evidence and respect for their country's leadership, while Khama presents his refusal to retreat as a defence of democratic accountability.

For Botswana's government, the immediate diplomatic challenge is to preserve engagement with Zambia as the public confrontation continues to attract regional attention, without allowing Khama's position to be confused with its own stated approach to regional relations.



NDB Interest Rates

Lending Rates	Nominal Interest Rate (%)	Average Effective Interest Rate (%)
MoPR	5.50%	5.50%
Prime Lending Rate	7.01%	7.01%
Mortgage Facility	Prime + 2.7% - Prime + 7.9%	4.26 % - Prime + 11.99%
Other Long-Term Loans (Commercial Loans)	Prime + 4.00% - Prime +15.00%	5.25% - Prime + 16%
Individual Agriculture Loans	Prime + 4.00% - Prime +15.00%	Prime + 3 - Prime + 19.25%
Seasonal Loans	Prime (7.01%) - Prime + 8%	Prime (7.01%)

Gaborone(Head Office)
P.O. Box 225, Gaborone
Tel: +267 395 2801 | Fax: +267 390 9907
Call centre: +267 360 4999

Maun
P.O. Box 453, Maun
Tel: +267 686 0316 | Fax: +267 686 0645

Palapye
P.O. Box 10387, Palapye
Tel: +267 492 0552 | Fax: +267 492 0551

Francistown
P.O. Box 282, Francistown
Tel: +267 241 6044 | Fax: +267 241 6065

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT BANK
Empower. Transform. Succeed

FNB Botswana
Local & Foreign Currency Deposit and Lending Rates
November 2026

The following standard Savings, Lending and Investment rates will apply

Local Currency Deposit 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%	-
FNB Motshelo Savings Account	2.25% - 3.35%	2.27% - 3.40%	500
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%	3.24%	1,000
6 Months Fixed Deposit	4.10% - 4.35%	4.14% - 4.40%	1,000
12 Months Fixed Deposit	4.95% - 5.35%	4.95% - 5.35%	1,000
24 Months Fixed Deposit	5.00% - 5.45%	4.88% - 5.31%	1,000
Over 36 Months Fixed Deposit	5.05% - 5.50%	4.77% - 5.17%	1,000
MoPR	5.50%		

***For term deposits the minimum amount is BWP 500,000 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.

Local Currency Lending Interest Rates

Lending Rates	Nominal Interest Rate Per Annum (%)	Average Effective Interest Rate
MoPR	5.50%	5.50%
Prime Lending Rate	7.01%	7.01%
Mortgage Facility	3.5% to Prime +14.75%	3.56% to Prime +17.06%
Overdraft Facility (Revolving Credit Lines)	Prime +14% to 18%	Prime +16.15% to 21.08%
Credit Card	22% - 28%	24.36% - 31.89%
Lease Loans (VAF)	Prime -1.5% to Prime + 15.63%	Prime -1.36% to Prime + 18.13%
Unsecured Personal Loans (Excluding Overdraft, Mortgage and Credit Card)	5% to Prime +20%	5.12% to Prime +23.61%
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

First National Bank of Botswana Limited Registration Number BW00000790476. Member of the Deposit Insurance Scheme of Botswana



Former Directorate of Public Service Management (DPSM) director Festinah Bakwena. *Photo Credit: @BWGovernment*

Maundeni and Bakwena Reject Cadre Deployment

Political scientist Professor Zibani Maundeni and former DPSM director Festinah Bakwena say the BNF's proposed cadre deployment policy Is ill-advised and a threat to Botswana's merit-based and apolitical public service

TEFO PHEAGE

Political scientist Professor Zibani Maundeni and former Directorate of Public Service Management (DPSM) director Festinah Bakwena have criticised the Botswana National Front's cadre deployment proposal, arguing that political affiliation should not determine appointments or promotions in Botswana's public service.

Their criticism follows renewed debate within the Botswana National Front (BNF) over deploying party cadres to strategic positions in government departments, local authorities and state-owned enterprises following the Umbrella for Democratic Change's (UDC) assumption of power in October 2024.

Former BNF president Otsweletse Moupo has proposed a framework for identifying suitably qualified party members for strategic positions while maintaining safeguards against nepotism and favouritism. Other party veterans have advocated a more deliberate deployment strategy to ensure that the governing party's political programme is implemented across state institutions.

Maundeni told The Gazette that the proposal risked reversing progress towards an apolitical public service. He argued that Botswana was still recovering from political interference during the administrations of former presidents Ian Khama and Mokgweetsi Masisi.

KHAMA-MASISI ERA

According to Maundeni, Botswana's traditionally merit-based public service has served the country well, ensuring institutional continuity and allowing qualified citizens to compete for positions regardless of their political affiliations.

He said the system began deteriorating during the Khama and Masisi administrations, when public officers increasingly became identified with particular political camps.

"I agree that the BDP did it. It proved disastrous and toxic. Institutions collapsed," he said.

Maundeni alleged that, after becoming president, Masisi targeted public officers perceived to be loyal to Khama, damaging some officials' careers.

" Masisi embarked on a crusade to remove anyone who was said, alleged or even suspected to be Khama's person and brought his own who ultimately collapsed his administration," he said.

To Page 13

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

DOSELA CAMP SERVICES

EXECUTIVE CHEF / CULINARY TRAINER

Location: Khoemacau Mine Project

Dosela Camp Services (Pty) Ltd, a citizen-owned facilities management company operating at Khoemacau Mine, invites applications from suitably qualified and experienced professionals for the position of Executive Chef / Culinary Trainer.

Position Overview
Reporting directly to the General Manager, the incumbent will provide leadership in kitchen operations while developing and empowering locally recruited employees through structured culinary training.

This position has a strong skills-transfer mandate, aimed at equipping local employees with industry-standard culinary competencies and facilitating pathways towards formal accreditation. Dosela is committed to ensuring that employees acquire transferable skills that remain valuable beyond the life of the mining project.

Key Responsibilities

- Lead and manage kitchen operations, ensuring high standards of food quality, hygiene and service delivery.
- Develop and deliver practical and theoretical culinary training programmes.
- Train, mentor and assess employees in food preparation, cooking techniques, menu planning and kitchen management.
- Develop competency-based training plans and monitor employee progress.
- Facilitate preparation for formal assessment, certification and accreditation through recognised training institutions.
- Ensure compliance with food safety, HACCP and occupational health and safety standards.

Minimum Requirements

- Diploma in Hospitality Management, Culinary Studies or equivalent.
- Recognised qualification/accreditation in Training, Moderation and/or Assessment.
- Minimum 10 years' professional experience as a chef, preferably in senior or executive positions.
- Demonstrated experience in staff training, mentorship and skills development.

Application Procedure

The ideal candidate must combine strong culinary expertise with a passion for mentorship and local empowerment, demonstrating the ability to develop employees into competent, industry-ready culinary professionals.

Applications, accompanied by a detailed CV and certified copies of qualifications, should be emailed to:

info@doselacampservices.co.bw

Application closing date **24th November 2026**

Duty Station: Khoemacau Mine Project.

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.



"By Batswana, for the Projects that build Botswana"

100% CITIZEN-OWNED ▲ 70% YOUTH HIRING ▲ TRAINING ACADEMY ▲ ZERO HARM CULTURE



HOW TO ENTER: SPEND **P350** OR MORE AND SWIPE YOUR **SPAR** REWARDS CARD

P350 INSTANT CASH WINNERS



P12 000 FREE GROCERY SHOPPING

P24 000 FREE GROCERY SHOPPING



SAVE EXTRA

COMBO DEAL



SPAR Super Maize Meal 12.5 kg or **A1** Super Maize Meal 12.5 kg + **SPAR** Parboiled Rice 10 kg + **Crosse & Blackwell** Tangy Mayonnaise 750 g + **All Gold** Tomato Sauce Assorted 700 ml + **SaveMor** Cooking Oil 2 litre + **Noodle King** Eezy Macaroni 3 kg or **Pasta King** Macaroni 3 kg

BUY ALL FOR **359.99** per combo

WITH Rewards CARD

DOUBLE MONEY BACK QUALITY GUARANTEED

COMBO DEAL



SPAR Super Maize Meal 5 kg, **SPAR** Long Grain Parboiled Rice 2 kg, **SPAR** Cooking Oil 750 ml, **SPAR** Tomato Sauce 700 ml, **SPAR** Mayonnaise Assorted 750 g, **SPAR** Macaroni, Elbow or Spaghetti 500 g

BUY ALL FOR **164.99** per combo

WITH Rewards CARD

Maximum 10 deals per customer on all **SAVE EXTRA** products. Specials available at selected **SPAR** stores in **Botswana** from **19 October 2026** up to and including **08 November 2026**, while stocks last. We reserve the right to limit quantities. Prices include VAT. **E&OE**. Rewards Prices Only Valid for Rewards Card Holders.

SBT1825

SPAR Rewards More for You

SIGN UP FOR MORE! MORE SAVINGS. MORE WINS. MORE FOR YOU.

Maximum 10 SPAR Rewards deals per product, per customer on all SAVE EXTRA products. While stocks last. Ts & Cs apply.

My SPAR My Botswana

Govt Targets Underperforming State Enterprises

With state enterprises reporting losses, weak governance and missing accounts, government is preparing an overhaul that will test whether public money delivers value.

BONGANI MALUNGA

Government is preparing a shake-up of Botswana's state-owned enterprises (SOEs), with underperforming parastatals facing restructuring, consolidation or other intervention amid mounting concerns over losses and weak governance.

Only a handful of the country's 63 parastatals consistently make money, raising questions about the cost of keeping them afloat.

Vice President and Minister of Finance Ndaba Gaolathe reinforced the reform agenda at a stakeholder consultation on the SOE Ownership Policy in Francistown last Thursday, warning that taxpayers cannot indefinitely support entities that fail to show value for money.



Photo Credit: BWGovernment

FISCAL EXPOSURE

"Recent fiscal risk analysis points to a sector where information is fragmented, audited financial data is not always readily available and the government lacks a sufficiently consolidated view of performance," Gaolathe said.

The gaps have complicated efforts to establish the true financial cost of struggling parastatals.

The latest available Auditor General figures put accumulated SOE deficits at P485.1 million by March 2023, up slightly from P483.3 million the previous year.

The 2026/27 budget provides P16.1 billion in grants and subventions to parastatals and local authorities, with much of that funding destined for SOEs.

LOSSES MOUNT

Parliament's Committee on Statutory Bodies and State Enterprises has heard evidence of mounting financial problems.

Botswana Development Corporation reported a P167 million loss for the year ending June 2025, with nearly half its loan portfolio classified as non-performing.

Botswana Railways reported accumulated operating losses of P235 million between 2021 and 2024, including P60 million in 2024.

The Botswana Agricultural Marketing Board told the committee in May that it was operating without a board and owed suppliers approximately P66 million. Some farmers had reportedly waited more than two years to be paid, while management identified weaknesses in procurement, finance and reporting.

GOVERNANCE FAILURES

Botswana National Productivity Centre has operated without a board since June 2024. MPs have also questioned why its audited financial statements for 2023/24 and 2024/25 were not tabled.

Air Botswana has lagged in financial reporting amid governance problems, while government injected about P500 million into the airline between 2021 and 2025.

Gaolathe told Parliament last year that only 14 of 45 assessed SOEs complied with King III corporate governance principles, leaving more than two-thirds below that benchmark.

OWNERSHIP TEST

Government's proposed ownership framework is expected to guide decisions on which SOEs remain strategically necessary, which need restructuring and how their performance should be measured.

"Every Pula committed to sustaining an underperforming enterprise is a Pula that is unavailable for other national priorities. The government has to be satisfied with its investment in our SOEs and what those investments produce and whether they produce value to our public," Gaolathe said.

The policy will place greater emphasis on whether continued state ownership produces measurable financial, economic or public-service value.

Stanbic Bank

QUARTELY DEPOSITS AND LOANS INTEREST RATES DISCLOSURES

TABLE III – QUARTERLY REPORT ON PUBLIC DISCLOSURE ON ACTUAL DEPOSIT INTEREST RATES OFFERED TEMPLATE

Type of Deposit Account	Currency	JULY Interest Rates (%)	AUGUST Interest Rates (%)	SEPTEMBER Interest Rates (%)	Range* Interest Rates (%)
Current	BWP	0.00 - 2.00	0.00 - 2.00	0.00 - 2.00	0.00 - 2.00
Call	BWP	0.05 – 0.05	0.05 - 0.05	0.05 – 0.05	0.05 – 0.05
	USD	0.05 - 0.07	0.05 - 0.07	0.07 – 0.07	0.05 – 0.07
	ZAR	-	1.75 - 1.75	1.50 - 1.75	1.50 - 1.75
Savings	BWP	0.25 – 2.40	0.25 – 2.40	0.25 – 2.40	0.25 – 2.40
1 month	BWP	1.00 - 4.25	1.25 – 12.00	1.25 – 4.35	1.00 – 12.00
	USD	1.30 - 1.30	1.25 - 1.25	1.25 - 1.25	1.25 - 1.30
2 months	BWP	3.75 - 5.00	2.25 - 15.00	2.25 - 3.75	1.90 - 13.75
	USD	-	-	1.35 - 1.35	1.35 - 1.35
3 months	BWP	1.90 - 15.00	1.90 – 6.50	1.90 – 4.90	1.90 – 16.00
	USD	1.50 - 1.50	1.45 - 1.45	1.45 - 1.60	1.45 - 1.60
4 months	BWP	2.10 - 5.25	3.00 -5.75	3.00 - 4.00	2.10 - 5.75
5 months	BWP	2.15 - 5.25	4.00 - 4.00	-	2.15 - 5.25
6 months	BWP	2.10 - 6.00	2.10 - 7.00	3.25 - 5.50	2.10 - 7.00
	USD	1.75 - 3.50	3.00 - 3.50	1.75 - 1.75	1.75 - 3.50
9 months	BWP	4.85 - 5.35	5.10 - 5.10	3.85 - 4.85	3.85 - 5.35
12 months	BWP	2.20 - 7.25	2.20 -6.70	1.50 – 6.00	1.50 - 7.25
	USD	0.90 - 2.00	2.00 - 2.00	-	0.90 - 2.00
	ZAR	-	2.80 - 2.80	-	2.80 - 2.80
24 months	BWP	5.25 - 5.25	0.50 - 5.00	5.00- 5.00	0.50 - 5.25

TABLE IV - QUARTERLY REPORT ON PUBLIC DISCLOSURE ON ACTUAL LENDING INTEREST RATES OFFERED TEMPLATE

Type of Deposit Account	Currency	JULY Interest Rates (%)	AUGUST Interest Rates (%)	SEPTEMBER Interest Rates (%)	Range* Interest Rates (%)
Monetary Policy Rate		5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50
Prime Lending Rate		7.01	7.01	7.01	7.01
Mortgage Facility	BWP	4.51 - 19.01	4.51 - 27.02	4.51 - 10.00	4.51 -27.02
Overdraft Facility (Revolving Credit Lines)	BWP	7.01 - 17.01	7.01 - 10.00	7.01 - 17.01	7.01 -17.01
Credit Card	BWP	28.00 – 32.00	28.00 – 32.00	28.00 – 32.00	28.00 – 32.00
Lease Loans	BWP	5.01 - 22.01	5.01 - 22.01	5.01 - 17.01	5.01 -22.01
Unsecured Personal Loans (excluding overdrafts, mortgage and credit cards)	BWP	5.01 - 27.01	5.01 - 27.01	5.01 - 27.01	5.01 - 27.01
Business Loans	BWP	10.00 - 22.01	10.00 - 22.01	10.00 - 22.01	10.00 -22.01
	USD	-	-	3.63 - 8.63	3.63 - 8.63

Member of the Deposit Insurance Scheme of Botswana.

OKAVANGO DIAMOND COMPANY

PRACTITIONER: SHEQ

Okavango Diamond Company, or ODC, is a rough diamond marketing company that is wholly owned by the Botswana Government. We offer our global customer base open access to scale supply of the full range of diamonds sources. With access to 30% of Debswana's run of mine production, ODC is an important supplier to the market with sales in the region of $900 million per annum. Our vision is to serve as a premier, transparent and market-driven global channel for Botswana's rough diamonds so if you are a professional of distinction; you need to be part of the best of the breed in the diamond industry for a period of six (6) months.

Job Purpose:

Reporting to the Senior Manager Facilities, the position will be responsible for developing, implementing SHE standards, practices, policies and procedures to ensure compliance to regulatory framework and international best practice, as well as, for planning, implementing, monitoring, auditing and evaluating safety and environmental systems, including, coordinating Occupational Health, Safety and Environmental preventive strategies. Additionally, the position will be responsible for coordinating the implementation of strategies to prevent environmental degradation, property losses and injuries to staff and stakeholders.

The Job

The incumbent will be responsible for, among others, the following:

- Translating national and international legislation into operational SHE policies and programs.
- Developing and reviewing SHE procedures, SOPs and inspection tools to ensure company-wide consistency.
- Facilitating safety surveys, maintaining risk registers, and driving recommendations to improve safety culture.
- Managing and coordinating the Emergency Response Plan and systems.
- Implementing and monitoring medical surveillance programs to track employee health.
- Establishing and monitoring the Environmental Management System (EMS) to ensure regulatory compliance.
- Conducting hygiene surveys and implementing actionable measures to minimize hazard exposure.
- Overseeing the Occupational Health Management System (OHMS) and its monitoring activities.
- Analyzing safety incidents and trends to provide insights for proactive improvements.
- Investigating incidents using root cause analysis to recommend corrective actions and prevent recurrence.
- Developing and delivering comprehensive safety training programs to ensure competency.

The person

The ideal candidate will possess the following:

- A Bachelor's Degree in Occupational Health and Safety or any other relevant qualifications.
- At least five (5) years' relevant professional work experience in Occupational Health, Safety, Environment and Quality Management.
- Basic skills in Microsoft Office.
- Demonstrated experience in implementing or improvement a SHE Management System.

To apply in confidence, please visit www.peopleconnections.co.bw. Applicants should submit a Cover Letter, Detailed Curriculum Vitae, Certified Academic Certificates and at least three (3) referees. **Application documents should be in pdf format and merged.**

Closing Date: 08 November 2026

For enquiries: Contact 3975917 / 3915503

PEOPLE CONNECTIONS
connecting people and business



AI-generated editorial illustration

Strengthening Retirement Outcomes Through Effective Investment Strategy

REASON NYAMAMBI, MANAGING DIRECTOR, OLD MUTUAL LIFE BOTSWANA



A comfortable retirement is not determined by how much you earn, but by what you save, protect and grow along the way. Old Mutual Life Botswana Managing Director Reason Nyamambi explains how the financial decisions made today can mean the difference between financial security and hardship in retirement.

For many people, retirement is imagined as a date: the day they leave employment and begin a new chapter of life. From an investment perspective, however, retirement is a journey that begins long before that date and continues well beyond it.

The financial decisions made during a person's working years influence the resources available when they stop earning a salary. How much they contribute, how long their savings remain invested, how their investments perform and how they manage their savings along the way all have a bearing on the eventual outcome.

This is why retirement planning needs to look beyond the final value of a retirement fund. It must consider the decisions and investment conditions that shape that value over time.

THE VALUE OF STARTING EARLY AND CONTRIBUTING CONSISTENTLY

Time is one of the most important factors in long-term investing. Contributions made early in a person's working life have more time to benefit from investment growth, including the effect of returns accumulating on previous returns.

The level of contributions also matters. Even where an individual starts saving early, contributions that are too low may result in insufficient savings at retirement. Increasing contributions as income grows can help strengthen the eventual outcome.

For employers and retirement fund stakeholders, this raises important questions about whether contribution structures remain appropriate as salaries, living costs and retirement expectations change.

Members also need to understand the relationship between their current contributions and their future needs. A retirement fund statement provides a picture of accumulated savings, but members should also consider what those savings could mean in terms of an income during retirement.

WHAT HAPPENS TO SAVINGS ALONG THE WAY?

A retirement investment journey rarely follows a straight line. Employees change jobs, experience periods of financial pressure and make decisions that can interrupt their savings.

One of the most consequential decisions is withdrawing retirement savings when leaving employment. While access to accumulated funds may address an immediate financial need, withdrawing those savings can significantly reduce the capital available for retirement. It also removes the opportunity for that money to remain invested and potentially grow over the remaining years.

Preservation is therefore an important part of retirement planning. Maintaining savings when changing employment helps protect the progress already made and allows the investment journey to continue.

Consistent contributions and preservation work together. A member who contributes regularly but repeatedly withdraws accumulated savings may undermine the long-term value of those contributions.

UNDERSTANDING INVESTMENT RISK OVER TIME

Retirement savings are exposed to financial market movements throughout the investment period. Markets experience stronger and weaker cycles, and the value of investments can fluctuate as economic conditions change.

The impact of these fluctuations depends partly on when they occur. A member with many years until retirement may have more time to recover from a period of weaker market performance. For someone approaching retirement, a decline in investment values can have more immediate consequences, particularly if they need to begin drawing an income.

This is why investment strategy should take account of members' time horizons, risk profiles and retirement objectives. The approach suitable for someone at the beginning of their career may not be appropriate for someone nearing retirement.

One investment approach designed to address the experience of market fluctuations is Smooth Bonus investing. During stronger investment periods, a portion of returns is set aside to help cushion weaker periods. The intention is to moderate short-term fluctuations while pursuing long-term growth.

Old Mutual Life Botswana's Kgodiso Smooth Bonus Investment Portfolio brings this approach to the local market. It provides an investment option for consideration within the broader retirement investment landscape.

The suitability of any investment option must be assessed in relation to the objectives of the retirement fund, the needs of its members and their investment time horizons. Smooth Bonus does not eliminate investment risk or guarantee returns. Its approach is intended to support a steadier investment experience over time.

THE TRANSITION FROM SAVING TO LIVING ON SAVINGS

Reaching retirement changes the role of accumulated savings. During a person's working life, the focus is generally on building capital through contributions and investment growth. At retirement, that capital may need to provide an income over many years.

This transition requires careful planning. Retirees need to consider their expected expenses, inflation, income requirements and how long their savings may need to last. Decisions about how much to withdraw and how the remaining savings are invested can influence their financial security throughout retirement.

The investment journey therefore does not end when employment ends. The focus shifts towards managing accumulated resources responsibly so that they can support the retiree's needs over time.

BUILDING BETTER RETIREMENT OUTCOMES

There is no single decision or investment product that can guarantee a comfortable retirement. Better outcomes are shaped by a combination of adequate contributions, consistent saving, preservation, appropriate investment strategies and informed decisions at different stages of life.

Employers, trustees, advisers and financial services providers all have a role in helping members understand these factors. Equally, individuals need to take an active interest in their retirement savings and the choices available to them.

Retirement may have a date on the calendar, but financial preparedness is built over many years. The quality of that journey will have a lasting influence on the opportunities and security people can enjoy when their working lives come to an end.

Stanbic Bank

Stanbic Bank Botswana
DEPOSIT, LENDING AND FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSIT RATES
November 2026



Stanbic Bank Botswana Prime Lending Rate (SBBPLR) - 7.01%

BWP Deposit Interest Rates

Type of Deposit Account	Nominal Interest Rates % (Lowest - Highest)	Actual Interest Rates % (Lowest - Highest)	Minimum Opening Balance
Current	NIL	NIL	P50
Youth Account	2.00%	2.02%	P50
Call	0.05% - 1.00%	0.05% - 1.00%	P10,000
Premium Call	0.80% - 1.30%	0.80% - 1.31%	P50,000
32 Day Notice	0.25% - 1.00%	0.25% - 1.00%	P1,000
Savings (Pure Save)	0.25% - 0.75%	0.25%-0.75%	P50
Koketso Savings	2.40%	2.43%	P100
Matshelo Savings	0.50% - 1.50%	0.50% - 1.51%	P500
Maitlamo Savings (12 - 36 months)	2.30% - 2.80%	2.32% - 2.84%	P100
91 day fixed deposit *[a]	1.90%	1.92%	P1,000
6 month fixed deposit [a]	2.10% - 2.30%	2.12% - 2.32%	P1,000
12 month fixed deposit [a]	2.20% - 2.35%	2.22%-2.38%	P1,000
24 month fixed deposit [a]	2.55% - 2.80%	2.58% - 2.84%	P1,000
Over 24 month fixed deposit [a]	2.80% - 3.30%	2.84% - 3.35%	P1,000
Stanbic Bank Prime Lending Rate	7.01%		

* Reference rate
[a] Rate applies to Flexi - Access Account
All interest rates quoted are on annual basis

Lending Interest Rates

Lending Rates	Nominal Interest Rates % (Lowest - Highest)	Actual Interest Rates % (Lowest - Highest)
MoPR	5.50%	
SBBPLR Lending Rate	7.01%	
Mortgage Facility	SBBPLR - SBBPLR + 15%	SBBPLR - SBBPLR + 16.08%
Overdraft Facility (Revolving credit lines)	SBBPLR +5% - SBBPLR +18%	SBBPLR + 5.12% - SBBPLR + 19.56%
Credit Card	28% - 32%	31.89% - 37.14%
Lease Loans	SBBPLR - SBBPLR + 15%	SBBPLR - SBBPLR + 16.08%
Unsecured Personal Loans (excluding overdrafts, mortgage and credit cards)	SBBPLR +8% - SBBPLR +22%	SBBPLR + 8.30% - SBBPLR + 24.36%
Other Long-Term Loans	SBBPLR - SBBPLR + 18%	SBBPLR - SBBPLR + 19.56%
*Scheme related lending is per the scheme contract and is negotiable.		

All interest rates quoted are on annual basis

Foreign Currency Deposit Interest Rates

Type of Deposit Account	Nominal Interest Rates (%)	Actual Interest Rates (%)	Minimum Opening Balance
SA RAND	SA RAND	SA RAND	SA RAND
Current	0.0%	0.0%	100.00
Call	0.00%-1.75%	0%-1.76%	500.00
1 Month	1.50%-2.50%	1.51%-2.53%	1,000.00
2 Months	1.60%-2.60%	1.61%-2.63%	1,000.00
3 Months	1.70%-2.70%	1.71%-2.73%	1,000.00
6 Months	1.80%-2.80%	1.81%-2.84%	1,000.00
12 Months	2.20%-3.20%	2.22%-3.25%	1,000.00
Over 24 Months	2.40%-3.50%	2.43%-3.56%	1,000.00

Type of Deposit Account	Nominal Interest Rates (%)	Actual Interest Rates (%)	Minimum Opening Balance
U.S. DOLLAR	U.S. DOLLAR	U.S. DOLLAR	U.S. DOLLAR
Current	0.0%	0.0%	50.00
Call	0.05%-1.00%	0.05%-1.00%	100.00
1 Month	0.25%-0.35%	0.25%-0.35%	100.00
2 Months	0.35%-0.42%	0.35%-0.42%	100.00
3 Months	0.37%-0.45%	0.37%-0.45%	100.00
6 Months	0.40%-0.60%	0.40%-0.60%	100.00
12 Months	0.45%-0.75%	0.45%-0.75%	100.00
Over 24 Months	0.75%-1.25%	0.75%-1.26%	100.00

Type of Deposit Account	Nominal Interest Rates (%)	Actual Interest Rates (%)	Minimum Opening Balance
BRITISH POUND	BRITISH POUND	BRITISH POUND	BRITISH POUND
Current	0.0%	0.0%	50.00
Call	0.05%	0.05%	100.00
1 Month	0.05%-0.07%	0.05%-0.07%	100.00
2 Months	0.07%-0.09%	0.07%-0.09%	100.00
3 Months	0.09%-0.10%	0.09%-0.10%	100.00
6 Months	0.10%-0.15%	0.10%-0.15%	100.00
12 Months	0.20%-0.30%	0.20%-0.30%	100.00
Over 24 Months	0.25%-0.40%	0.25%-0.40%	100.00

Type of Deposit Account	Nominal Interest Rates (%)	Actual Interest Rates (%)	Minimum Opening Balance
EURO, AUD & JPY	EURO, AUD & JPY	EURO, AUD & JPY	EURO, AUD & JPY
Current	0.0%	0.0%	50.00
Call	0.00%	0.00%	100.00
1 Month	0.00%	0.00%	100.00
2 Months	0.00%	0.00%	100.00
3 Months	0.00%	0.00%	100.00
6 Months	0.00%	0.00%	100.00
12 Months	0.00%	0.00%	100.00
Over 24 Months	0.00%	0.00%	100.00

- All interest rates quoted are on annual basis
- Interest is calculated based on the daily closing balance and is credited to the account monthly. Interest begins to accrue from the day a deposit is made, if the minimum balance requirement is met. This applies to all interest-bearing products, except fixed deposits.
- Fixed Deposit interest is calculated based on the principal amount, agreed term and applicable interest rate. The accrued interest is paid at maturity or termination.

Member of Deposit Insurance Scheme of Botswana

REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE

REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA
MINISTRY OF INFRASTRUCTURE, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

KAZUNGULA BRIDGE AUTHORITY

P O Box 416, Kasane, Botswana. Tel: 00267 625 3029, E-mail: info@kba.africa

INVITATION FOR BIDS
IFB No. KBA/ORD/006/2026.
TENDER FOR PROVISION OF MAINTENANCE AND SECURITY SERVICES AT THE KAZUNGULA ONE STOP BORDER POINTS (OSBPS) - LONG TERM CONTRACTS

1) The Kazungula Bridge Authority (the Client) has received funding and intends to use part of these funds for eligible payments under the contract covered by this invitation to bid.
2) KBA invites eligible bidders to submit bids for the provision of maintenance and security services at the Kazungula One Stop Border Point (OSBP) under long-term contracts, comprising the following lots:

Line Item N°	Description of Goods	Final (Project Site) Destination
Lot 1	**Security Service** (a) Physical Security Services – One Stop Border Point (OSBP) Botswana **– Lumpsum Contracts**	OSB Botswana
Lot 2:	**Maintenance Services** (b) Maintenance works OSBP Botswana (painting, carpentry, roof ceiling, leakages etc.) **– Lumpsum Contracts**	OSB Botswana
Lot 3:	**Office Cleaning Services** (c) Cleaning Services- OSBP Botswana **– Lumpsum Contracts**	OSB Botswana
Lot 4:	**Grounds Cleaning** (d) Grounds and waste management - OSBP Botswana **– Lumpsum Contracts**	OSB Botswana
Lot 5:	**Litter and Sanitary collection** KBA Office and 5Km on A33 road towards Lesoma Junction – **Lumpsum Contracts**	Botswana
Lot 6:	**Flovac Vacuum Sewage System Maintenance** (e) Sewerage system maintenance- OSBP Botswana **– Lumpsum Contracts**	OSB Botswana
Lot 7:	**Hotel and Conference facilities** (f) Conference and Banqueting Botswana **– Framework Contracts**	OSB Botswana
Lot 8:	**Airflight agents for KBA staff** (g) Air travel KBA Staff **– Framework Contracts**	Botswana
Lot 9:	**Fabrication and Road Signage** (h) Physical advertising – Botswana – **Framework Contracts**	Botswana
Lot 10:	**Advertising** (i) Media Houses – Botswana – **Framework Contracts**	Botswana
Lot 11:	**Stationery and Toners** KBA Offices – Botswana – **Framework Contracts**	Botswana
Lot 12	**Fuel services** Fuel supply **–** Botswana **– Framework Contracts**	Botswana

3) This solicitation is open to all eligible bidders in Botswana.
4) Bidding will be conducted through the Open National Competitive (ONC) procurement method in accordance with the Public Procurement Act No. 24 of 2021, the Public Procurement Regulations, 2023 (Statutory Instrument No. 23 of 2023), and guidelines issued by the Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA).
5) Bids must be delivered by hand or courier to the Office of the Procurement Manager, KBA, Kasane, Botswana, no later than **30 November 2026** at **10:00 hrs**. Each bid must be clearly marked-LOT (-) "**Tender for the Provision of Maintenance and Security Services at the Kazungula One Stop Border Points (OSBPs) – Long-Term Contracts**" and "**Do Not Open Before 30 November 2026 at 10:00**" and must be accompanied by a Bid-Securing Declaration. Bids will be opened at that time in the presence of bidders or their representatives who choose to attend.
6) - A non-refundable deposit of **P500.00** payable by cash or bank deposit to the account below and produce proof of deposit upon collection of the tender documents in favor of Kazungula Bridge Authority is required for collection of the document.
   - Youth owned companies shall pay only **P250.00** as per Presidential Directive CAB 14(B) 2015. In addition, youth companies shall provide certified copies of Omang for shareholders.
   - **Name of Bank: Absa Bank Botswana Limited**
     Account Holder: Kazungula Bridge Authority
     Account No: 1107778
     Account type: Corporate Current
     Branch Name: Government Enclave
     Branch Code: 290267
     SWIFT CODE: BARCBWGX
     Currency: BWP

7) The physical address for collection of tender documents is Procurement Office
Kazungula Bridge Authority, DRTS Plot, Along A33 Road, Kazungula Botswana
Or
Sent to the bidder electronically upon receipt of proof of payment.

8) A **compulsory** site visit with representatives of the Procuring Entity will take place at Kazungula, One Stop Border Post-Botswana on 10 November 2026 and 11 November 2026
-Grounds Cleaning & Waste Management- 10:00am-11:30am
-Office Cleaning Services- 12:00-13:00pm
-Physical Security Services-14:00-15:00
-Maintenance Services**:** Maintenance works OSBP Botswana (painting, carpentry, roof ceiling, leakages etc.)- 10:00am-11:00am (11/11/2026)
- Litter and Sanitary collection :KBA Office and 5Km on A33 road towards Lesoma Junction- 11:30am- 12:30 am (11/11/2026)

9) Bids shall remain valid for 120 days after the bid-closing date. For purposes of clarifications, contact us at info@kba.africa or procurement@kba.africa no later than 7Days before bid closing date.

Procurement Manager
Kazungula Bridge Authority

REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE

REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA
MINISTRY OF INFRASTRUCTURE, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

KAZUNGULA BRIDGE AUTHORITY
P O Box 416, Kasane, Botswana. Tel: 00267 625 3029, E-mail: info@kba.africa
EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (EOI)

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR CONSULTING SERVICES TO DESIGN AND DELIVER AN EMPLOYEE TRANSITION SUPPORT PROGRAMME FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE KAZUNGULA BRIDGE PROJECT OFFICE (KBPO) DURING THE TRANSITION TO THE KAZUNGULA BRIDGE AUTHORITY (KBA)

1.0. Background

The Kazungula Bridge is a landmark regional infrastructure project jointly developed by the Governments of the Republic of Botswana and the Republic of Zambia to strengthen regional integration, facilitate trade, promote tourism and stimulate economic growth across Southern Africa.

Following the successful completion of the Project, the two Governments established the Kazungula Bridge Authority (KBA) as the permanent institution responsible for the management, operation and maintenance of the Kazungula Bridge and its associated infrastructure. Accordingly, the Kazungula Bridge Project Office (KBPO), which oversaw the Project's implementation and initial operational phases, is transitioning into the permanent Authority.

This transition represents a significant organisational transformation involving the establishment of a new institutional structure, workforce realignment and recruitment into the approved KBA establishment. Some employees may be appointed to positions within KBA, while others may experience changes in their roles, responsibilities or employment status.

Organisational transitions of this nature can create uncertainty and may have psychosocial, emotional, professional and financial consequences for employees. If not managed effectively, these challenges may adversely affect employee wellbeing, morale, productivity and organisational performance.

In recognition of its duty of care, KBA intends to implement a structured Employee Transition Support Programme (ETSP) to help employees navigate organisational change, build resilience, promote psychological wellbeing, strengthen career readiness and improve financial preparedness.

KBA therefore invites suitably qualified consultancy firms to design and deliver an integrated Employee Transition Support Programme that supports employees throughout this important institutional transition.

2.0. Scope

The Consultant shall undertake, but shall not be limited to, the following activities:

2.1. **Inception and Programme Planning**
- Hold an inception meeting with KBA Management.
- Review relevant background information.
- Conduct a rapid organisational and employee needs assessment.
- Develop a detailed implementation plan.
- Prepare an inception report.

2.2. **Organisational Change Management**
Design and facilitate interactive sessions covering:
- Understanding organisational change.
- Managing uncertainty.
- Organisational resilience.
- Managing emotions during change.
- Building confidence in times of uncertainty.
- Maintaining productivity during organisational transitions.

2.3. **Employee Psychosocial Support**
Provide structured psychosocial support through:
- Group wellness sessions.
- Stress management.
- Emotional resilience.
- Anxiety management.
- Coping strategies.
- Work-life balance.

The Consultant shall also provide confidential one-on-one counselling sessions for employees who require individual support.

2.4. **Career Transition Support**
Provide practical career-transition support covering:
- Career planning.
- Career coaching.
- Skills assessment.
- CV review and enhancement.
- Cover letter development.
- Interview preparation.
- Personal branding.
- Job search strategies.
- Networking skills.

2.5. **Financial Wellness**
Deliver practical financial-wellness sessions covering:
- Budgeting.
- Personal financial planning.
- Debt management.
- Managing severance or terminal benefits.
- Income diversification.
- Financial resilience.

2.6. **Leadership Support**
Conduct a dedicated session for managers covering:
- Leading organisational change.
- Managing difficult conversations.
- Employee engagement.
- Supporting employee wellbeing.
- Maintaining productivity.
- Building resilient teams.

2.7. **Programme Close-Out**
The Consultant shall:
- Conduct programme evaluations.
- Facilitate a management debrief.
- Present preliminary findings.
- Submit the Draft and Final Consultancy Reports.

3.0. Main Deliverables
The Consultant shall submit the following deliverables:
1. Inception Report.
2. Detailed Work Plan.
3. Diagnostic Assessment Summary.
4. Training and Facilitation Materials.
5. Attendance Registers.
6. Individual Counselling Schedule (confidential).
7. Workshop Evaluation Report.
8. Management Debrief Presentation.
9. Draft Final Consultancy Report.
10. Final Consultancy Report.
11. Post-Transition Employee Support Recommendations.

4.0. Qualification Criteria

4.1. The Consulting Firm shall demonstrate the following:
- A minimum of five (5) years' experience in organisational development, human resource consulting, employee wellness, change management or related fields.
- Proven experience in delivering similar assignments for governments, public institutions, regional organisations or development partners.
- Demonstrated experience in organisational restructuring, psychosocial support or employee assistance programmes.
- Experience within Botswana, Zambia or the Southern African region will be an added advantage.

4.2. KEY PERSONNEL
The Consultant shall provide, at a minimum, the following key experts:
- Team Leader / Organisational Change Management Specialist.
- Clinical or Counselling Psychologist (professionally registered).
- Career Transition Specialist.
- Financial Wellness Specialist.

All proposed experts shall possess relevant academic qualifications and a minimum of five (5) years of relevant professional experience in their respective fields.

5.0. Expressions of Interest must be submitted in sealed envelopes addressed to the Procurement Manager, Kazungula Bridge Authority. Submissions must be delivered by courier to the Procurement Manager's Office at the DRTS Plot, along the A33 Road, Kazungula, Botswana, no later than 10:00 hours Botswana time on **Friday, 16th November 2026**. Submissions will be opened at that time in the presence of bidders who choose to attend.

Each sealed envelope must be clearly marked:
"Expressions of Interest (EOI) for Consulting Services to Design and Deliver an Employee Transition Support Programme for Employees of the Kazungula Bridge Project Office (KBPO) during the Transition to the Kazungula Bridge Authority (KBA)."

Telegraphic and electronic Expressions of Interest will not be accepted.

Requests for clarification should be sent to info@kba.africa and procurement@kba.afrika.

Procurement Manager
Kazungula Bridge Authority

UDC Backbenchers Accuse Cabinet of Disrespect

Ruling party MPs say Cabinet sidelines them on major decisions yet expects their votes and public defence, exposing tensions within the UDC.

SESUPO RANTSIMAKO



Pic Credit; Duma Gideon Boko

Tensions are growing within the ruling Umbrella for Democratic Change (UDC), with backbench MPs accusing Cabinet of disrespecting and sidelining them when they question government decisions.

Mogoditshane North MP and backbench representative Galenawabo Lekau said legislators were frustrated by their exclusion from discussions on important decisions before they are announced publicly.

SHUT OUT

In an interview, Lekau said MPs often learn of major government developments through the media during parliamentary recess, leaving them unable to explain the decisions to constituents.

He accused Cabinet of turning backbenchers into voting instruments, seeking their support when parliamentary business requires it but excluding them from decisions affecting the electorate.

RUBBER STAMPS

Lekau said MPs were expected to defend government policies without having been consulted or informed beforehand, weakening their ability to represent constituents and contribute to policymaking.

He also accused Cabinet of targeting legislators who express dissent rather than addressing their concerns.

"It is not like we are anti-government, but rather we want to support government on decisions we are well aware of. We are being disrespected," he said.

Fee Dispute

The complaints follow Lekau's criticism of increases in travel document fees, a decision that reportedly angered UDC backbenchers.

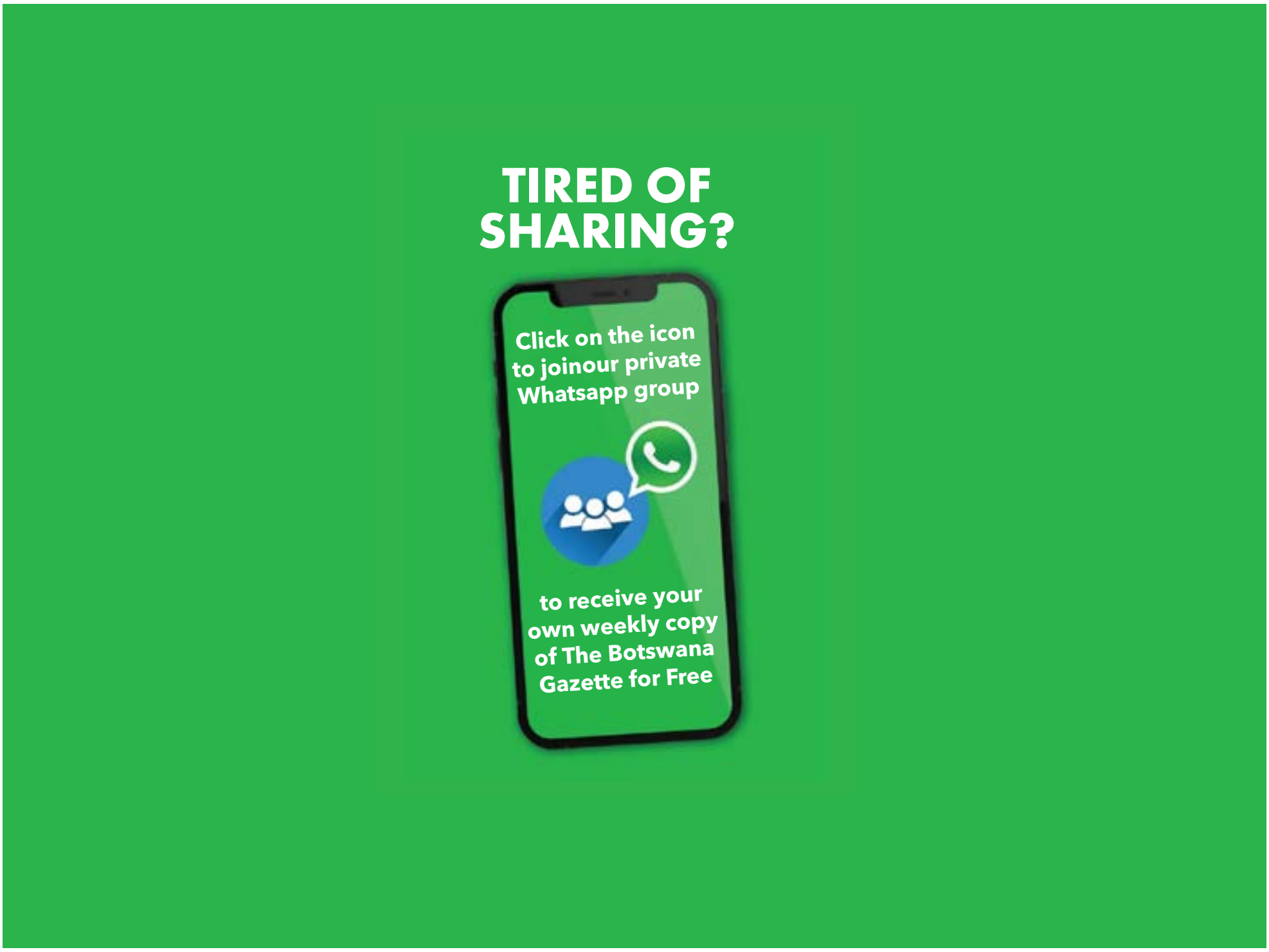
The MPs called for the increases to be reversed and for wider consultations. Lekau said Cabinet had not engaged them despite their objections.

CABINET RESPONDS

Minister for State President and Leader of the House Moeti Mohwasa acknowledged that relations between Cabinet and backbenchers were still developing, saying it would be unreasonable to expect perfection at this stage.

He urged aggrieved MPs to use caucus and party structures, and said Cabinet took their concerns seriously.

"The only wish is that those who might feel otherwise could use the caucus and party platforms to ventilate their grievances. Cabinet takes these concerns seriously and will continue to address grievances whenever they arise to bring harmony and cohesion between itself and the backbench. At the end of the day, we are one with a single mandate," said Mohwasa.



From Page 4

'CADRE DEPLOYMENT IS FAVOURITISM'

Maundeni dismissed arguments that cadre deployment could be implemented without compromising merit, saying prioritising party members inherently disadvantages equally qualified citizens outside the governing political movement.

"Cadre deployment, in simple terms, is favouritism. What you are essentially saying is that you are going to favour your own party members for appointment. That puts those who are not politically aligned at a disadvantage, even where they may qualify," he said.

He also cautioned against importing political practices from countries with different governance systems, citing South Africa's experience with cadre deployment and arguing that it had failed to protect institutional effectiveness. He said countries such as China employed similar approaches within a political system designed to sustain one-party rule.

MERITOCRACY UNDER THREAT

Former DPSM director Festinah Bakwena shared Maundeni's concerns, arguing that meritocracy and political neutrality were among the founding principles of Botswana's public service.

She said the system had allowed citizens to compete for senior positions on the strength of their qualifications and performance without having to demonstrate political allegiance.

"We heard about it during the BDP era, but only in hushed tones because the law was very clear that ours is a continuous, apolitical public service anchored on meritocracy," she said in an interview with the Gazette.

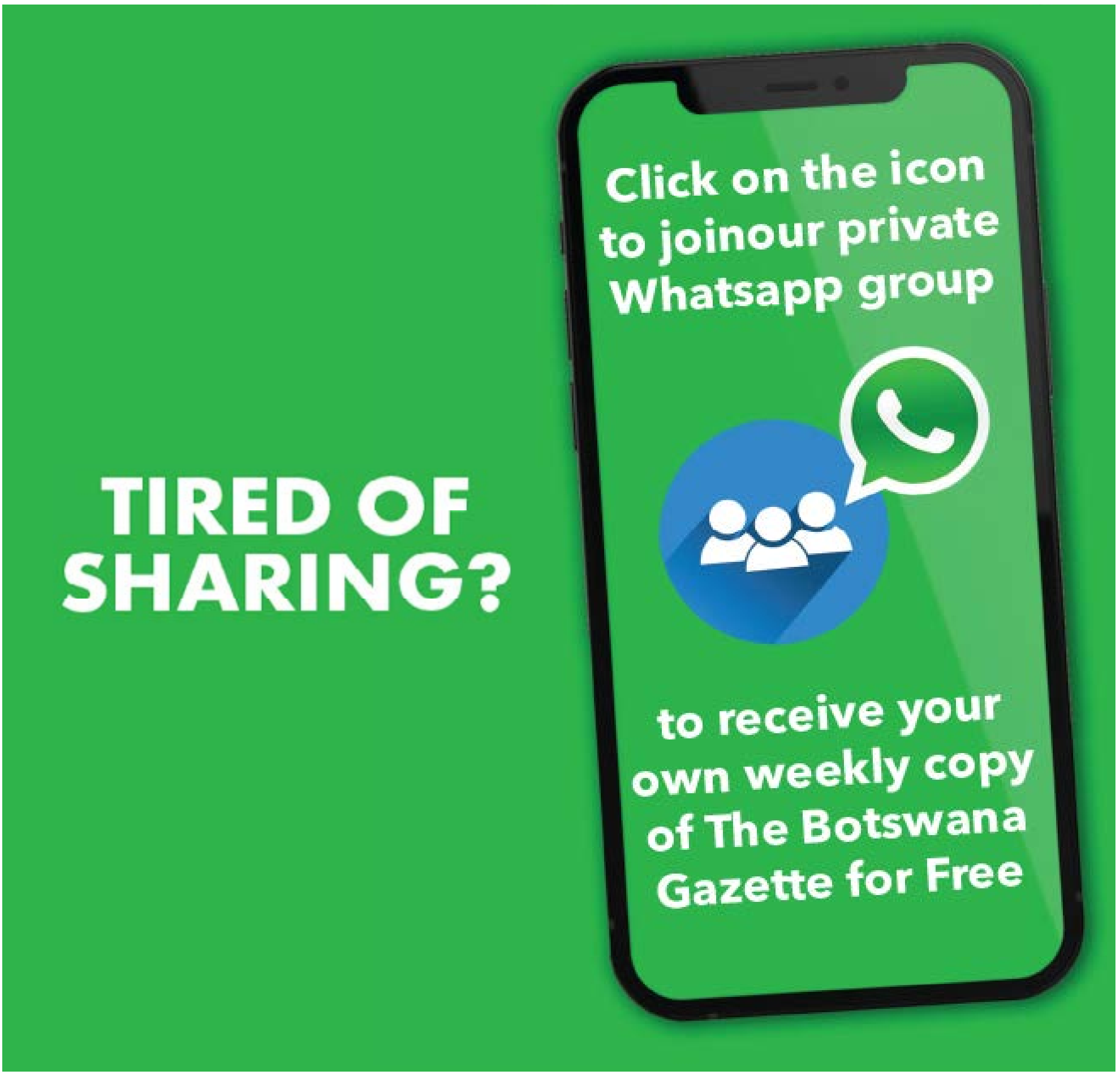
Bakwena warned that formalising cadre deployment could create pressure on public officers to acquire membership cards of governing parties to improve their prospects of promotion and career advancement.

She recalled allegations that some officials had deliberately made their BDP membership cards visible to influential figures as a way of signalling political allegiance and gaining favour.

She further questioned the legal basis for introducing cadre deployment under the existing public-service framework, arguing that government would have to amend the relevant legislation to accommodate political considerations in appointments.

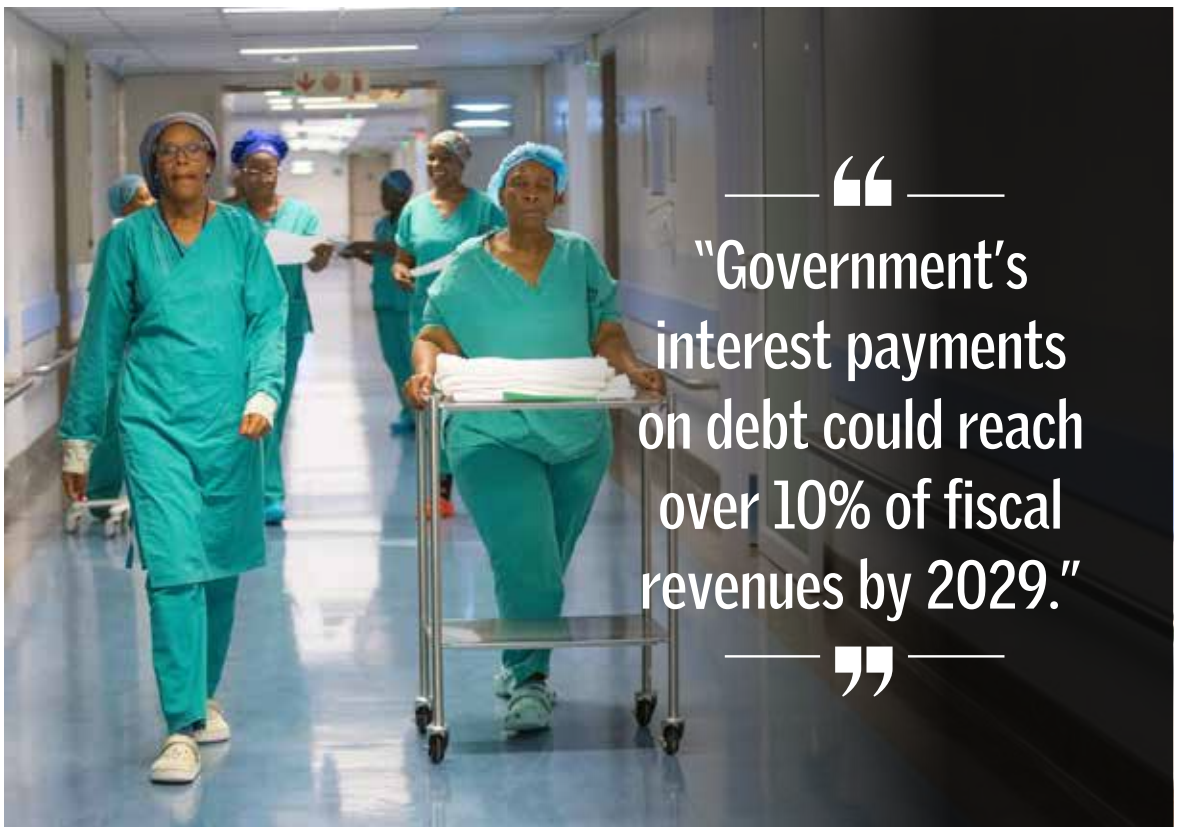


Political scientist Professor Zibani Maunden *Photo Credit: Social Media*



Debt Threatens Health and Education

Econsult warns that rising debt costs could consume more than a tenth of government revenue by 2029, squeezing healthcare, education and other essential services.



GAZETTE REPORTER

Botswana faces difficult spending choices as rising public debt and borrowing costs threaten to squeeze government funding for healthcare, education and other essential services.

In its 2026 third-quarter Economic Review, consultancy Econsult warns that further decisions on the level and composition of public spending cannot be avoided if government is to stabilise its finances.

DEBT WARNING

The firm says Botswana risks moving onto an unsustainable debt path if recent rises in borrowing and interest rates continue.

"If the recent trajectory of rising debt and interest rates is continued, government's interest payments on debt could reach over 10% of fiscal revenues by 2029, which would restrict funding even further for critical areas of government spending such as healthcare and education," the review states.

The warning comes amid subdued diamond revenues and pressure to fund healthcare, education, infrastructure and economic diversification.

Econsult says fiscal consolidation is essential even though spending restrictions are hurting parts of the economy.

"While this causes problems for some segments of the economy, in the medium-term fiscal stabilisation is essential and will help to reduce pressure on interest rates and prevent an unsustainable increase in government borrowing," it states.

UNFUNDED PROMISES

"Pressure on the budget will remain, for instance from important but unfunded policy initiatives such as the proposed National Health Insurance scheme," Econsult observes.

It adds that "further tough choices regarding the level and composition of government spending cannot be avoided."

LIVESTOCK SQUEEZE

The consultancy also identifies the livestock and beef sector as a major drag on economic growth, warning that FMD-related restrictions could inflict lasting harm.

"With no income from cattle and beef sales (also goats and sheep), while meeting ongoing feeding and labour expenses, many farmers, traders and feedlot operators will struggle to survive commercially," the report states.

Econsult estimates that about 100,000 households typically earn some income from livestock-related activities, exposing many families to the restrictions.

FRAGILE IMPROVEMENT

Preliminary Ministry of Finance figures suggest the 2025/26 budget deficit fell to P16.8 billion, equivalent to 6.1 percent of GDP, while the first quarter of 2026/27 recorded a P2.5 billion surplus.

Econsult cautions that the figures remain provisional and could be revised. It points to the 2023/24 deficit, initially put at P11.1 billion, or 4.2 percent of GDP, before being revised to P14.7 billion, or 5.6 percent.

It also notes that the latest surplus was supported partly by a once-off P7.3 billion distribution from the Bank of Botswana from its 2025 profits.

That payment will lower borrowing needs in 2026/27, but Econsult warns it should not be confused with a sustainable improvement in government finances.



IEC Awaits Boko's Writ on ConCourt Referendum

..As BOCONGO raises concern over government's silence since Parliament approved the proposed amendments

GAZETTE REPORTER

The Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) says it has yet to receive a presidential writ authorising preparations for the Constitutional Court referendum, while civil society has raised concerns over the government's silence more than seven months after Parliament approved the proposed constitutional amendments.

The Bill, which seeks to establish a Constitutional Court, requires approval through a referendum before it can become law. In an interview with The Gazette this week, IEC Secretary Jeff Siamisang said "the Commission could only begin planning for the referendum once it received a presidential writ".

BOCONGO CALLS FOR TRANSPARENCY

Botswana Council of Non-Governmental Organisations (BOCONGO) which has been crisscrossing the country on public education on the matter has raised serious concerns over delays and silence.

The executive director Kutlwano Pelontle told the Gazette t the absence of clear public communication was leaving citizens and stakeholders uncertain about the process.

"BOCONGO is concerned by the lack of transparency and public communication from Government regarding the progress of the referendum process following Parliament's approval of the Constitution (Amendment) Bill No. 14 of 2025," he said.

Pelontle said government had not sufficiently explained when the outstanding processes would be undertaken or provided anticipated timelines for the referendum.

"What is particularly concerning is that citizens and stakeholders are left to rely on fragmented information and public statements to understand the status of a process that directly concerns their constitutional rights and democratic participation."

He said government's responsibility extended beyond fulfilling constitutional and administrative requirements to keeping the public informed throughout the process.

BOCONGO is calling for an update on the presidential writ, clarification on when it is expected to be issued and an indicative referendum timetable.

"The public should not have to continuously seek answers about the progress of a constitutional process in which they are ultimately expected to participate," Pelontle said.

PUBLIC EDUCATION AFFECTED

Pelontle warned that uncertainty was affecting civil society's ability to organise civic education, allocate resources, mobilise communities and establish partnerships.

BOCONGO had already begun community dialogues, information stalls and stakeholder engagements across different parts of Botswana to explain the proposed constitutional changes

However, he said these initiatives required adequate time and a predictable timetable to reach citizens effectively before voting.

"Civil society cannot effectively plan its public education and mobilisation interventions around an unknown timeline. Equally, citizens cannot be expected to develop an informed understanding of constitutional changes within a limited period, particularly when the subject matter requires explanation and public interrogation."

Pelontle said a referendum required sustained public education because voters were being asked to decide a specific constitutional question with potentially complex legal and governance implications.

WARNING OVER PARTICIPATION

Pointing to what he described as relatively low turnout in Botswana's previous referendums, Pelontle cautioned against assuming that announcing a voting date would automatically generate public participation.

"A referendum should not be treated merely as an administrative exercise culminating in a vote. It must be a process characterised by transparency, access to information and meaningful public participation."

Pelontle said government should explain what stage the process had reached, what remained outstanding and when citizens could expect to vote.



Pic Credit; AI-generated editorial illustrations

The Audit Boko Chose to Ignore

Six months after his auditors linked untendered contracts to billions in losses, the President told MPs he would hand out more "without flinching."

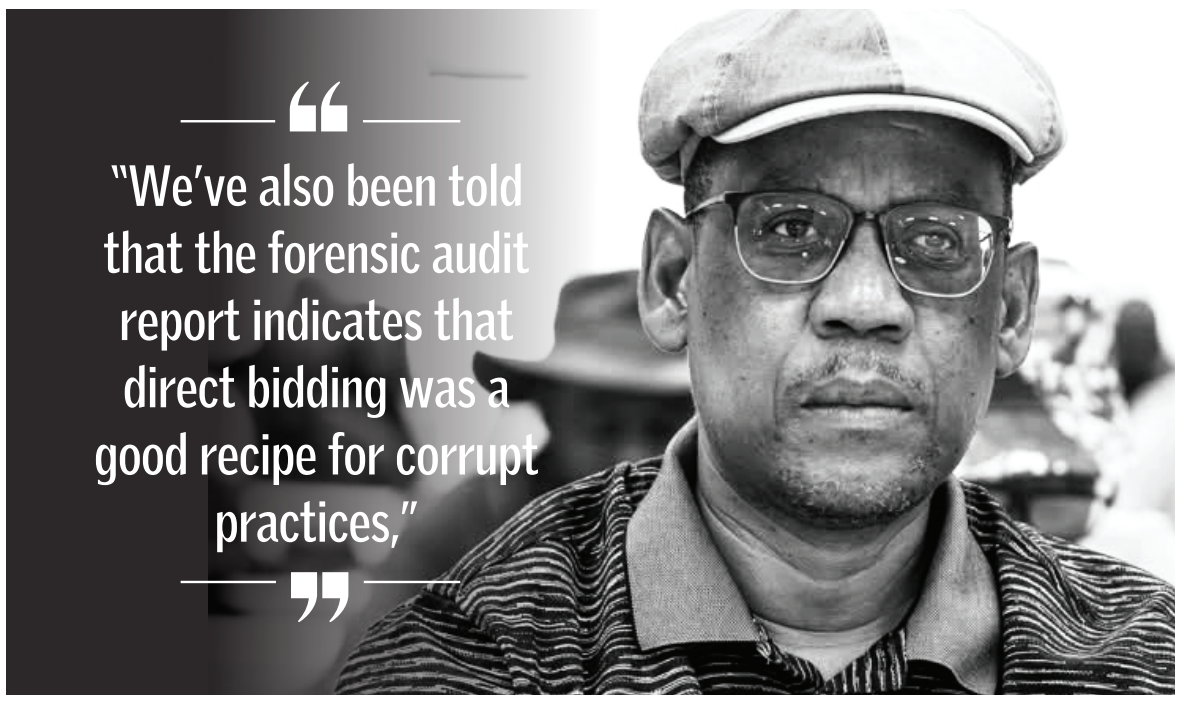
[1] KASANE — Six months ago, President Duma Boko received a report he had paid for. It found that government had been handing out too many contracts without competition, and that weak buying rules had helped cost the country an estimated P33 billion over ten years.

[2] On Monday, speaking to members of Parliament at a leadership retreat in Kasane, the President argued for more contracts handed out without competition.

[3] "Do what the law allows you to do. Do it in good faith," he told them. "And if it falls on me to do it, I'll do it. Without flinching. Without any compunction."

[4] His complaint was that tenders are too slow. It takes months to advertise a job, months to choose a winner, and then a losing bidder goes to court and the project freezes. His answer is to skip the tender and appoint a company directly.

[5] Leader of the Opposition Dumelang Saleshando sat in the audience in Kasane. He has opposed direct appointments since before Boko came to power, and he is not surprised. "It has become very clear that President Boko does not like competitive bidding for government jobs," he told the Gazette on Tuesday.



WHAT HIS OWN AUDIT FOUND

[6] In March 2025, Boko hired Alvarez & Marsal, a Dubai-based firm, to examine how public money had been spent, for a reported P57 million. He did not put that job out to tender either. At a press conference on 20 March 2025, he said open tendering "often leads to delays, high costs, and creates opportunities for corruption."

[7] The firm's findings were released in Gaborone on 5 May 2026 by Moeti Mohwasa, Minister for State President. They estimated that about P33 billion was likely lost to fraud, waste and mismanagement between 2014 and 2024. More than 80 senior officials and 150 companies were implicated. Mohwasa called the figure "a conservative and preliminary estimate."

[8] How government buys was at the centre of the problem. The auditors found that direct appointments were overused and that "emergencies" were declared without good reason. "Non-competitive procurement had become normalised rather than exceptional," they wrote. They recommended reining in direct awards.

[9] "We've also been told that the forensic audit report indicates that direct bidding was a good recipe for corrupt practices," Saleshando said on Tuesday.

THE WRONG LAW

[10] In Kasane, the President told MPs to "look at the Public Finance Management Act," which he said "provides 15 ways of procuring." But the rules on how government buys are in a different law, the Public Procurement Act of 2021. That law does allow direct appointments, but only in specific situations, such as an emergency or when only one supplier can do the job.

[11] Saleshando wants Parliament to make the rule plainer. Lawmakers, he said on Tuesday, should "push strongly for amendment of the procurement laws to make sure that it becomes clear in the laws that competitive bidding is the default position." Even in a real emergency, he warned, direct buying can be abused: during COVID-19, "masks were procured for between five and ten times the actual costs."

"It has become very clear that President Boko does not like competitive bidding for government jobs,"

WHEN DIRECT DEALS GO WRONG

[12] The President's government has already been told no once. In 2025, the Ministry of Child Welfare and Basic Education gave a South African company, Emeritus Training Academy, a P662 million contract to teach coding and robotics in schools, without a tender.

Continues to page16

From page15

In August 2025, the Public Procurement Regulatory Authority, the official watchdog, found the ministry had no good reason to skip competition. It called the project "unplanned, not budgeted for, and poorly conceptualized" and ordered it cancelled. The High Court agreed.

[13] In December 2025, the Court of Appeal overturned the High Court's order on procedural grounds, without disputing the watchdog's findings. By July 2026, the ministry had given the company a new contract worth P654 million, again without a tender.

[14] Then there are the schools and clinics. In June 2025, the Finance Ministry's most senior official, Tshokologo Kganetsano, told Parliament's Public Accounts Committee that a plan by South African businessman Zunaid Moti to build schools and clinics had been sent back because "the financial implications in the deal were huge." Moti is a friend of the President and helped fund the UDC's 2019 election campaign.



[15] On 5 September 2026, a school and clinic built by Moti's company opened in Gaborone. It is called the Duma Boko School and Clinic, and the President attended the opening. The government has not said how the project was approved or what it will cost taxpayers.

[16] The President's own office has also kept paying for an old direct deal. In 2021, under former President Mokgweetsi Masisi, American entertainer Steve Harvey's company was directly appointed to make radio and television programmes for the state broadcaster. First reported at about P470 million, the deal has since been put before Parliament at more than P1 billion. It is still running. No wrongdoing is alleged against Steve Harvey Global.

NOBODY IS COUNTING

[17] How many contracts has this government handed out without a tender? Nobody can say. Botswana does not publish a list, and the Gazette could find no official count. Even the President's deputy disagrees with him. In July 2025, Vice President and Finance Minister Ndaba Gaolathe described direct appointment as the least preferred way for government to buy, because it shuts out competition.

[18] If the President believes the law is the problem, he has the power to change it. His side holds 49 of Parliament's 69 seats. In two years, it has not proposed a single change to the procurement law.

[19] The President delivers his State of the Nation Address in the coming days. Saleshando says Parliament must act first. "President Boko needs to be stopped in his tracks on this campaign of trying to make sure that a system that is easily abused should become the main source through which government procures goods and services," he said.

Report Questions Boko's Rights Record

An EU-funded assessment says Botswana's government has yet to turn its rights rhetoric into clear reforms, while concerns persist over media freedom and civil society engagement.

GAZETTE REPORTER

President Duma Boko's Umbrella for Democratic Change (UDC) administration has yet to translate its human rights commitments into clear policies and legislative reforms, according to a European Union-funded assessment of Botswana's civic space.

The assessment, published under the EU-supported Civil Society Organisations initiative, questions the government's record on inclusivity, freedom of expression and engagement with civil society.

RIGHTS COMMITMENTS

The report, produced under the EU-supported initiative known as EU SEE, says the administration has not yet matched its rights-oriented public stance with substantive policy commitments.

"While the new government has positioned itself as human rights–oriented, it has yet to adopt explicit policies or commitments that substantively advance the rights of marginalised groups in Botswana, including women and LGBTQI+ persons," the assessment states.

It says civil society organisations remain central to advancing inclusion and holding public institutions accountable.



(Pic:Monirul Bhuiyan/PRESS PHOTO)

"Overall, civil society continues to shape public discourse and advance democratic accountability, even as contested perceptions and uneven government engagement persist," the report says.

MEDIA PRESSURE

The assessment also raises concerns about the environment for independent journalism under Boko.

"Public statements by President Duma Boko questioning the credibility of the media, reports of restrictive engagements between government leaders and journalists, and allegations of efforts to manage public discussion around constitutional reform have raised concerns about increasing pressure on independent journalism," the report says.

It cites the temporary removal of journalist Letumile Montsosa from a radio programme, reportedly linked to reporting on the constitutional review process.

"The temporary removal of journalist Letumile Montsosa from a radio programme, reportedly linked to coverage of the constitutional review process, further heightened concerns about media independence and the ability of citizens to freely engage in public debate," the report says.

Media Bill

The proposed Media Bill, 2025, gazetted in December 2025, is another concern. Although intended to modernise media regulation and promote professionalism, some media stakeholders and civil society organisations fear it could expand state oversight and weaken editorial independence.

"However, concerns have been raised by media stakeholders and civil society organisations that certain provisions may increase state oversight of the media, undermine editorial independence, and potentially restrict press freedom."

CIVIL SOCIETY STRAIN

Relations between government and civil society have also come under pressure over the proposed Constitutional Court Bill and constitutional review process.

According to the report, some officials have characterised civil society positions as politically motivated or oppositional, rather than recognising their role in public debate and governance.

"These tensions have reinforced perceptions of a contested civic space, especially for organisations engaged in policy advocacy and governance-related issues," the assessment states.

It contrasts these tensions with media recognition of NGOs as watchdogs and development partners, particularly in civic education, public awareness and service delivery.

"Protecting fundamental freedoms, including freedom of expression, association, and media independence, will remain essential for ensuring meaningful civic participation and enabling CSOs to continue contributing to democratic governance, accountability, and national development," the report says.

Batswana Sour on China

Afrobarometer findings show approval of China's influence halving over a decade, raising questions about the durability of Beijing's goodwill in Botswana.



GAZETTE REPORTER

Batswana's positive perceptions of China have fallen sharply over the past decade, with a new Afrobarometer survey showing a dramatic decline in the proportion who view Beijing's influence favourably.

The share of citizens who regard China's influence on Botswana as positive fell from 74 percent in 2014 to 37 percent in 2024, a drop of 37 percentage points.

Only half of Batswana (50 percent) now believe China's economic activities have some or a lot of influence on the national economy, down from 76 percent in 2014.

GOODWILL WANES

The findings suggest that despite China's longstanding diplomatic ties and substantial economic footprint in Botswana, its influence no longer attracts the optimism it did a decade ago.

"Notably, perceptions of China's influence on Botswana as substantial and positive have declined sharply over the past decade," the report states.

It adds: "the proportion of citizens who see China's influence on Botswana as substantial has declined sharply compared to a decade ago (from 76% to 50%), as has the share who see China's influence as positive (from 74% to 37%)."

SOCIAL DIVIDE

Men and urban residents are more likely than women and residents of peri-urban and rural communities to regard China's influence as substantial and beneficial.

Education also shapes perceptions. Respondents with higher education are twice as likely as those with primary education or no formal schooling to consider China's influence significant, at 67 percent against 33 percent.

Half of highly educated respondents view the influence positively, compared with 23 percent of those with primary or no formal education.

Among economically better-off citizens, 43 percent assess China's economic impact positively, compared with between 32 and 34 percent of poorer respondents.

PANDEMIC RECOGNITION

China nevertheless retains goodwill for its response during the COVID-19 pandemic. Asked which country or organisation had been most helpful to Botswana, 46 percent named China, ahead of the United States at 10 percent and the African Union and Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention at five percent.

Another 35 percent were uncertain about Botswana's biggest benefactor during the pandemic.

The contrast suggests that appreciation for crisis assistance has not translated into sustained confidence in China's broader influence.

BVI EXPORT MARKETS FACE THREAT

Namibia and South Africa's plans to manufacture more foot-and-mouth disease vaccines at home could weaken Botswana Vaccine Institute's valuable regional export business.

BONGANI MALUNGA

Botswana Vaccine Institute (BVI) faces a long-term threat to its regional foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) vaccine exports as Namibia and South Africa move to strengthen domestic production.

Namibia, which has relied heavily on BVI, is planning its own manufacturing plant to reduce dependence on imported vaccines.

The move raises questions about future demand following a three-year arrangement under which Namibia received more than 3.8 million doses from Botswana, worth N$60.7 million, approximately P50.43 million.

NAMIBIAN PLANS

Ben Haraseb, Namibia's agriculture ministry director for agricultural production, extension and engineering services, outlined plans for the facility at the Agriculture Investment Conference and Expo in Windhoek in October.

Botswana is currently Namibia's largest supplier of FMD vaccines. The immediate risk to BVI may be limited because Namibia's plant is not yet operating and a multi-year supply arrangement remains in place.

However, successful local production could eventually reduce Namibian orders and weaken a key export market.

SOUTH AFRICA PRODUCES

South Africa, another major BVI customer, resumed domestic FMD vaccine production through the Agricultural Research Council (ARC) in February 2026 after more than two decades without large-scale local production. Its first locally produced batch was handed over on 6 February.

In September, Agriculture Minister Willie Aucamp announced plans to allow qualifying private companies to use ARC intellectual property to manufacture its vaccine at scale.

The ARC is also expanding its own capacity, potentially reducing South Africa's reliance on imports if domestic output reaches planned levels.

In 2025, South African authorities and industry spent R72 million on 900,000 BVI doses. Millions more doses were secured from Botswana during subsequent outbreaks.

EXPORT EXPOSURE

BVI CEO Andrew Madeswi said in February that regional demand was roughly 43 million doses against the institute's optimal capacity of about 25 million doses, underlining the opportunity in Southern Africa.



BVI has supplied a range of African markets, and Botswana-produced SAT-type vaccines became particularly important as outbreaks spread. In 2025, South African industry described BVI as the region's only producer of SAT-type FMD vaccines at the time.

LONG-TERM RISK

The greater threat is a gradual loss of market share rather than an immediate collapse in demand. Namibia and South Africa may continue buying Botswana vaccines while their production facilities scale up, particularly during outbreaks.

But once reliable domestic manufacturing is established, BVI could shift from being a primary supplier to competing for supplementary orders.

Taxi Operators Demand TANA Safeguards

Taxi and combi operators want government to explain how workers and businesses will be protected as the TANA electric bus pilot enters the transport market.



> "The introduction of a new transport system should not come at the expense of those who built their livelihoods around the existing industry."

Photo Credit: TANA Botswana

SESUPO RANTSIMAKO

Public transport operators are demanding assurances from government that the introduction of TANA's electric bus pilot will not leave drivers, workers and businesses without income.

Botswana Combi and Taxi Association chairperson Kuda Christmas said government must explain how it intends to protect people whose livelihoods could be disrupted by the new service.

JOB SECURITY

Speaking to The Botswana Gazette following the launch of the electric bus service, Christmas said the association wanted guarantees against job losses and displacement of people who have depended on the transport industry for years.

He also called for details of any relief measures for workers and businesses that could lose income as the service enters the market.

LIVELIHOOD FEARS

Christmas said the association's concerns extended beyond drivers and vehicle owners to the wider public transport value chain, which supports thousands of livelihoods.

He argued that introducing a new transport system should not come at the expense of people who have built their livelihoods around the existing industry.

TRANSITION PLAN

The association wants to know whether government has developed a specific transition or relief plan, and what assurances it can offer operators and workers who may lose business to the pilot project.

Christmas said no one should be left behind as government introduces electric buses and that the livelihoods sustained by the existing transport system must be accounted for during the transition.

The demands follow the introduction of TANA's electric bus pilot, a new development in Botswana's public transport sector.

At the time of going to press, Minister of Transport and Infrastructure Keoagile Atamelang had not responded to The Botswana Gazette's enquiries.

LSB, CJ Smoke Peace Pipe

The Law Society and Chief Justice Gaolapelwe Ketlogetswe have agreed to a cessation of hostilities following tensions over judicial appointments and other institutional disputes



Chief Justice Gaolapelwe Ketlogetswe *Photo Credit: DailyNewsbw*

GAZETTE REPORTER

Relations between the Law Society of Botswana and the Chief Justice appear to be on the mend following a meeting aimed at resolving longstanding differences, with the Society acknowledging improved ties between the two sides.

LSB chairperson Lesedi Moahi confirmed in an interview with the Gazette that "the meeting took place last week", describing "judicial appointments as one of the issues discussed", while indicating that the Society had acknowledged improvements in the most recent recruitment exercises.

The engagement comes after Moahi publicly acknowledged that disagreements between the Society and the Administration of Justice had damaged relations between the two institutions, raising concerns about the state of cooperation between the legal profession and the judiciary.

Moahi said that while the latest appointments represented progress, the Society remained concerned about the absence of a clearly established framework to guide the recruitment of judges.

"Although there were noticeable improvements in the most recent appointments, which we appreciate, there is still a need for a clearly spelt-out, unambiguous procedure," he said.

CONCERNS

The Society has previously questioned the transparency of judicial recruitment, particularly the absence of publicly advertised vacancies, the criteria used to identify suitable candidates and the transparency of the Judicial Service Commission (JSC).

It has argued that judicial appointments should follow established procedures that promote merit, fairness and equal opportunity while protecting the independence and credibility of the judiciary.

The latest meeting could therefore mark an important step towards restoring working relations, although the Society's position suggests that reconciliation does not mean abandoning its demands for institutional reforms.

DETAILS FOR MEMBERS

Moahi was reluctant to disclose the full details of the engagement, saying the Society would first brief its members before making the discussions public.

"I would not want to divulge everything that was discussed at the meeting. All matters will be shared with our members at the appropriate time," he said.

4,274 Gain Citizenship Through Marriage

Government figures reveal that 4,274 Zimbabwean and South African nationals acquired Botswana citizenship through marriage between 2018 and 2026.



SESUPO RANTSIMAKO

A total of 4,274 Zimbabwean and South African nationals acquired Botswana citizenship through marriage between 2018 and 2026, with Zimbabweans accounting for nearly seven in every 10 beneficiaries.

Minister of Labour and Home Affairs Pius Mokgware disclosed the figures in response to a question in Ntlo ya Dikgosi.

FIGURES REVEALED

Of the total, 2,947 were Zimbabweans and 1,327 were South Africans. Zimbabweans accounted for approximately 69 percent of the combined figure, outnumbering South Africans by 1,620.

CROSS-BORDER TIES

Speaking to The Botswana Gazette this week, Mokgware attributed the comparatively high numbers from the two neighbouring countries largely to geographical proximity and shared borders, which facilitate relationships and intermarriages.

"The figures highlight the extent of social and family connections between Botswana and its neighbors, particularly Zimbabwe and South Africa, where cross-border movement has contributed to relationships that have resulted in foreign spouses seeking Botswana citizenship," the minister said.

NOT AUTOMATIC

Marriage to a Motswana does not automatically confer Botswana citizenship on a foreign spouse. Applicants must undergo naturalisation and meet the legal requirements prescribed under the Citizenship Act.

According to the Government of Botswana's published requirements, foreign spouses must generally have accumulated at least five years of residence and lodged a declaration of intention to apply for naturalisation at least two and a half years before applying.

> Marriage to a Motswana does not automatically confer Botswana citizenship on a foreign spouse.

They must also demonstrate good character, sufficient knowledge of Setswana or another language spoken by a tribal community in Botswana, and an intention to continue living in the country.

The process requires supporting documents, an assessment and a citizenship interview. The final decision rests with the minister.

MAKHADZI STUCK IN BOTSWANA UNTIL 5TH NOVEMBER

South African musician Makhadzi remains unable to leave Botswana as a P500,000 legal dispute with promoter Gilbert PP Seagile heads to court on 5 November, with her lawyers challenging the order keeping her in the country.



GOSEGO MOTSUMI

South African music star Makhadzi remains stuck in Botswana after an urgent court order obtained by local entertainment promoter Gilbert "PP" Seagile barred her from leaving the country amid a P500,000 dispute over an alleged breach of agreement.

Her passport is currently held by the deputy sheriff, with her legal team seeking to have the order discharged at a hearing scheduled for 5 November 2026.

DISPUTED AGREEMENT

Seagile is pursuing P500,000 in damages, alleging that Makhadzi failed to honour an engagement for a One Woman Show scheduled for 12 September 2026, resulting in financial losses and reputational damage.

Although he maintains that the singer endorsed the event, Seagile acknowledged that the parties did not sign a formal contract.

"We didn't sign a contract but there is a conversation that acknowledges and endorses the show," he said in an interview.

He confirmed obtaining the court order but declined to share a copy. According to Seagile, the order included provisions for Makhadzi's passport to be surrendered and for her imprisonment.

"We opted for her not to go to prison because we were still negotiating," he said.

Seagile said he had committed himself to preparing for the show and suffered reputational damage following the dispute.

"I have invested so much in preparation for the show and now there is reputation damage because I am seen as someone whose things don't seem to work and I want P500,000 compensation," he said.

LAWYERS CHALLENGE ORDER

Makhadzi has disputed Seagile's account. In a social media livestream, she said she was stranded in Botswana and alleged that she had been harassed and effectively kidnapped.

Her lawyer, Bakotelo Mmipi of Bakotelo Mmipi Attorneys, said Seagile obtained an ex parte order without notifying the singer.

"We received an ex parte order from Gilbert. It's an order where someone goes to court without giving the other party notice," Mmipi told ***The Botswana Gazette.***

Mmipi disputes the existence of a binding agreement, arguing that Makhadzi was only approached with a proposal for a partnership. He said the communications presented by Seagile did not establish that she had been booked for the show.

According to Mmipi, Makhadzi had requested a meeting in Johannesburg to discuss the proposed partnership and insisted that any arrangement be put in writing.

He also alleged that Seagile used the singer's promotional material without her consent before claiming that an agreement had been reached.

PASSPORT HELD

Mmipi confirmed that the deputy sheriff has Makhadzi's passport, despite the legal team's proposal that her vehicle be accepted as security instead.

"The deputy Sheriff has Makhadzi's passport. We have proposed to them rather just take the car because she came here with a vehicle as security," he said.

He said the singer has professional commitments in South Africa and needs to return to work. The legal team intends to challenge the order at Thursday's hearing, seeking to have it discharged and allow Makhadzi to leave Botswana.

CLASS OF 2025 GRADUATION *Ceremony*

BOTHO UNIVERSITY
VIBRANCE • INNOVATION • IMPACT

BOTSWANA CAMPUS & BOTHO UNIVERSITY ONLINE

23rd October 2026
Fairgrounds, Ditshupo Hall



DR. SHEELA RAJA RAM, VICE CHANCELLOR - BOTHO UNIVERSITY



MS. NEO MOOKI - BOARD CHAIRPERSON, BOTSWANA STOCK EXCHANGE - KEYNOTE SPEAKER



FATEMA BENGALI RECEIVING THE VALEDICTORIAN AWARD FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE FROM ABSA BANK BOTSWANA



MONAMETSI CELESTINE HIYA RECEIVING SPIRIT OF BOTHO AWARD FOR OVERALL EXCELLENCE FROM ABSA BANK BOTSWANA

BEST STUDENT *Awards*

















BEST STUDENT *Awards*







































Thanking our Industry Sponsors for the Best Student Awards

First Capital Bank · RSM · Grant Thornton · AXIONLife · absa · Angels · SPIRAL ICON HOLDINGS · bakertilly · MASHATU LAND OF THE GIANTS · homeassist MEDICAL AID FOR YOUR HOUSE · Data Cloud · FinSef · CENTURY OFFICE SUPPLIES

+267 713 20 411
(You can also Whatsapp to this number)

www.bothouniversity.com

The Botswana Gazette
BUSINESS NEWS

CLICK HERE
To Join our private Whatsapp Group



Listing Rush Ends BSE's IPO Drought

Stanbic joins Kwa Nokeng and Continental Re in a pipeline that could deliver three IPO-driven listings within just one month

BONGANI MALUNGA

The Botswana Stock Exchange (BSE) is heading towards its busiest period for new equity listings in nearly a decade, with Stanbic Bank Botswana becoming the latest heavyweight to launch an Initial Public Offering (IPO) after years in which fresh listings were virtually absent from the local bourse.

Stanbic officially opened its offer on 30 October, putting 20 percent of the bank up for sale ahead of an anticipated Main Board listing on 7 December 2026. Up to 319.36 million shares are being offered at P4.30 each, valuing the transaction at approximately P1.37 billion as the offer is set to close at 16:30 on 27 November.

Stanbic is entering a BSE market that has suddenly gone from a prolonged listings drought to a crowded pipeline. The last completed BSE listing following a conventional IPO was CA Sales Holdings on 9 November 2017. CA Sales offered 136.1 million shares at P3.45 during its IPO and raised approximately P469.7 million. The offer was oversubscribed before the company joined the Foreign Main Board.

NINE YEAR DROUGHT

That means the local exchange has gone almost nine years without another company completing the same journey from IPO to listing.

That drought is now on the verge of being broken several times in quick succession. Kwa Nokeng Oil Holdings is scheduled to list on the BSE Main Board on 10 November after completing an IPO that attracted applications for more than 1.66 billion shares against the original 1.372 billion shares offered.

The fuel distributor's offer was 21 percent oversubscribed, attracting 990 applicants. Existing shareholders subsequently made additional shares available to satisfy the excess demand, while the BSE granted final approval for the listing on 19 October. Kwa Nokeng is therefore presently on course to become the first company since CA Sales in 2017 to complete an IPO and subsequently list on the BSE.

LISTING SURGE

It will potentially be followed less than a month later by Stanbic. Continental Reinsurance Holdings is also in the queue. Its P2.13 billion public offer, launched in August, was described at the time as the BSE's first IPO since 2017. However, repeated extensions have pushed the closing date to 20 November and its expected listing to 10 December.

If the current timetables hold, the BSE could therefore welcome three IPO-driven equity listings between 10 November and 10 December, Kwa Nokeng, Stanbic Bank Botswana and Continental Re, following nearly nine years without one.

SPRINGING TO LIFE

The IPO pipeline forms part of a broader surge in new investment products reaching the exchange.

In July, three Satrix exchange-traded funds, tracking the S&P 500, MSCI World and MSCI Emerging Markets, were secondarily listed on the BSE, widening local investors' access to international equities without requiring offshore brokerage accounts.

October also brought another significant innovation as Access Bank Botswana published documents for the creation and proposed listing of unsponsored Botswana Depository Receipts linked to Dangote Petroleum Refinery shares, potentially giving Botswana investors local-market exposure to the Nigerian industrial giant.

Neither the Satrix products nor the Dangote receipts are conventional IPOs by Botswana companies. However, taken together with the Kwa Nokeng, Continental Re and Stanbic transactions, they demonstrate how rapidly the BSE's menu of investable securities is expanding.

> "Stanbic is entering a BSE market that has suddenly gone from a prolonged listings drought to a crowded pipeline. The last completed BSE listing following a conventional IPO was CA Sales Holdings on 9 November 2017."

MAJOR BANKING PRESENCE

The Stanbic listing will also add another major banking counter to a market already containing Absa Bank Botswana, First National Bank Botswana and Access Bank Botswana. The bank has operated in Botswana for more than 34 years, with 14 branches, more than 80 ATMs and over 640 employees.

Unlike a conventional capital-raising IPO, Stanbic itself will not receive the proceeds, the shares are being sold by Stanbic Africa Holdings, the Standard Bank Group subsidiary that currently owns the Botswana operation. Following the offer, the parent company is expected to retain an 80 percent stake.

Stanbic Bank

STANBIC BANK (BOTSWANA) LIMITED
(Incorporated in the Republic of Botswana on 19 July 1991 and re-registered as a public company limited by shares on 9 September 2019)
(Unique Identification Number BW00000732198)
("Stanbic Bank", "SBBL" or "the Bank")

ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS

Relating to an offer for sale by Stanbic Africa Holdings Limited of up to 319 362 050 Stanbic Bank Shares at an Offer Price of BWP4.30 per Share, by way of a Private Placement of 255 489 640 Shares and a Public Offer of 63 872 410 Shares, and the subsequent listing of the Stated Capital of Stanbic Bank, being 1 596 810 250 Shares, on the Main Board of the Botswana Stock Exchange ("BSE").

Important dates

Event	Date / time
Press announcement and distribution of the Prospectus	29 October 2026
Opening of the Public Offer	**30 October 2026 at 09h00**
Closing of the Public Offer	**27 November 2026 at 16h30**
Results of the Offer submitted to the BSE	2 December 2026
BSE approval of the Listing	3 December 2026
Publication of Results	4 December 2026
Shares uploaded to CSDB accounts	4 December 2026
Latest date for refund of funds to unsuccessful applicants	4 December 2026
Latest date for written notification to individual applicants of their respective allocations	4 December 2026
Expected Listing Date on the BSE	**7 December 2026**

All times are Botswana local time. The dates are subject to change; any substantive change will be published in the Botswana press and on the BSE news service (X-News).

This Abridged Prospectus is published in terms of the BSE Equity Listings Requirements and the Companies Act (Cap. 42:01). It is a summary of, and must be read together with, the full prospectus dated 20 October 2026 ("the Prospectus"), which was registered by the Companies and Intellectual Property Authority ("CIPA") on 23 October 2026 in terms of sections 300(1) and 308(2) of the Companies Act, together with the documents referred to under "Registration of Prospectus". It does not contain all the information an investor should consider, and investors should read the Prospectus before deciding to apply for Shares. Capitalised terms have the meanings given to them in the Prospectus.

The Directors, whose names appear in this Abridged Prospectus, collectively and individually accept full responsibility for the accuracy of the information given in the Prospectus and in this Abridged Prospectus and certify that, to the best of their knowledge and belief, having made all reasonable enquiries, there are no facts the omission of which would make any statement false or misleading.

ADVISORS

Legal Advisors ARMSTRONGS Attorneys, Notaries & Conveyancers	**Sponsor and Bookrunner** IMARA Capital Securities (A member of the Botswana Stock Exchange)	**Valuation Advisor** BDO
Auditors and Reporting Accountants Deloitte.	**Transfer Secretary** CSDB CENTRAL SECURITIES DEPOSITORY BOTSWANA	**Communications Advisor** hotwire
Corporate Advisor Stanbic Bank	**Receiving Bank** Stanbic Bank	**Company Secretary** Siamisang Thokie Morolong Stanbic Bank

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Application has been made to the BSE for permission to list all the issued ordinary shares of the Bank, including the Offer Shares, on the Main Board of the BSE. Such permission will be granted when the Bank has been admitted to the Official List. Acceptance of applications is conditional on that permission being granted, failing which all application monies will be returned.

BSE disclaimer. The BSE takes no responsibility for the contents of the Prospectus or this Abridged Prospectus, makes no representation as to their accuracy or completeness and expressly disclaims any liability for any loss arising from, or in reliance upon, the whole or any part of their contents. Admission of the Shares to the Official List is not to be taken as an indication of the merits of Stanbic Bank or of its Shares.

CIPA disclaimer. CIPA has scrutinised the Prospectus to ensure that it complies with the statutory provisions and regulations of the Companies Act. CIPA does not express a view on the risk to investors or the value of the Shares and accepts no liability of whatever nature for any loss resulting directly or indirectly from an investment in them.

If you are in any doubt as to the action you should take, consult your stockbroker, banker, legal practitioner or other professional adviser immediately.

OVERVIEW OF THE BANK

Stanbic Bank is one of Botswana's longest-established commercial banks, with a licensed banking history dating back to 1991, and is the country's third-largest commercial bank by profitability. It was incorporated on 19 July 1991 as ANZ Grindlays Bank (Botswana) Limited, renamed Union Bank of Botswana Limited on 5 July 1993, and adopted its current name on 15 November 1993. As at 31 December 2025 the Bank reported total assets of BWP27.6 billion and total deposits of BWP22.7 billion.

The Bank is a member of Standard Bank Group (SBG), Africa's largest banking group by assets, which operates in 21 African countries and has its primary listing on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange. Under a Franchise Agreement with The Standard Bank of South Africa Limited dated 1 January 2011, the Bank uses the Stanbic brands and has access to the Group's technology, product and risk management platforms. It serves its clients through three business units:

- **Personal and Private Banking -** transactional banking, savings and investments products, mortgage and vehicle finance, personal lending, card products and wealth and private banking to individual customers;
- **Business and Commercial Banking -** transactional banking, working capital, trade and asset-based finance, term lending, cash management and foreign exchange solutions for SMEs, commercial businesses and mid-sized companies; and
- **Corporate and Investment Banking -** lending, transactional banking, treasury and markets, investment banking and advisory services for corporate, institutional, public sector and multinational clients.

The Bank operates 14 branches (six in Gaborone, and one each in Francistown, Ghanzi, Letlhakane, Maun, Mogoditshane, Palapye, Selebi Phikwe and Kazungula) and 81 ATMs and employs 645 staff. Its digital channels include the Shyft foreign exchange app and online banking platforms. Its wholly owned subsidiaries are Stanbic Financial Services (Pty) Ltd, Stanbic Insurance Services (Pty) Ltd and Stanbic Nominees Botswana (Pty) Ltd. The Bank already has a presence on the BSE through senior unsecured and subordinated Tier II notes issued under its BWP2 billion Domestic Medium Term Note Programme.

Key strengths include the backing of Standard Bank Group; more than three decades of operation in Botswana; consistent profitability and a strong capital position; a diversified client and income base; and established governance and risk management frameworks. Strategy: the Board approved the 2026–2028 Kgolo strategy in December 2025, centered on advancing digital transformation, disciplined risk management and operational excellence, and sustainable growth to drive long-term value creation.

PURPOSE OF THE OFFER

The Offer enables the Selling Shareholder to sell 20% of the Bank's stated capital to enable the Bank meets the public shareholding spread required for a Main Board listing; provides citizens of Botswana the opportunity to participate in the Bank's future growth and performance; broadens the shareholder base, increases local ownership and supports citizen economic empowerment; and enhhances the Bank's profile within the investment community while reinforcing transparency through the BSE's continuing disclosure obligations. The Bank is well capitalised and does not require new capital, so it will receive no proceeds from the Offer. The estimated costs of the Offer and Listing of BWP5.78 million will be borne by the Bank.

DETAILS OF THE OFFER

- The Offer comprises up to 319 362 050 existing ordinary shares of no par value, being 20% of the Stated Capital, offered for sale at BWP4.30 per Share: 255 489 640 Shares by way of Private Placement to selected institutional investors, and 63 872 410 Shares by way of Public Offer. At the Offer Price the Offer size is approximately BWP1.37 billion, implying a market capitalisation of approximately BWP6.87 billion for the Bank.
- The Selling Shareholder is Stanbic Africa Holdings Limited, incorporated in England and Wales (20 Gresham Street, London EC2V 7JE) which is a wholly owned subsidiary of Standard Bank Group Limited. It holds 100% of the pre-Listing Stated Capital. No new Shares will be issued and all proceeds will accrue to the Selling Shareholder.
- The Bookrunner has received irrevocable undertakings from institutional investors for up to 767,946,387 Offer Shares, representing 240% of the Offer, subject to the Broker Placing and final allocation. At least 63 872 410 Offer Shares (BWP274.65 million) are made available to the Sponsor for placing with its clients. The BSE has granted a waiver regarding disclosure of the the investors who have signed irrevocable undertakings **("Placees")**
- The Public Offer is open to natural persons and legal entities. Applications must be for a minimum of 250 Shares and thereafter in multiples of 10 Shares, paid in full in Pula without deduction or set-off.
- **Minimum subscription:** 159 681 025 Shares (50% of the Offer Shares, approximately BWP686.63 million). If this is not reached by the closing date, the Offer will not proceed and all monies will be refunded in full, without interest. Pursuant to the irrevocable commitments received in respect of the Private Placement, the Bank expects the minimum subscription to be achieved.
- **Allocation:** the Offer Shares will be allocated by the Bookrunner in consultation with the Bank and the Selling Shareholder, with the primary objective of a broad and balanced shareholder base and an orderly after-market. On oversubscription, Shares may be allocated pro rata or on another equitable basis, and no applicant will receive fewer Shares than another who applied for the same number of Shares or fewer.
- **Free float:** the BSE has approved a free float of 20%. Unless a further waiver is granted, the Listing will not proceed if a 20% free float or the minimum number of public shareholders is not achieved, in which case all applicants will be refunded by electronic funds transfer in Pula within stipulated date, without interest.
- **Lock-up:** from the Listing Date, the Selling Shareholder will lock up 75% of its retained shareholding at the CSDB; half of the locked-up Shares will be released 12 months after the Listing Date and the balance after 24 months.
- The Offer is not underwritten and no price stabilisation exercise is planned. The Shares will be held in dematerialised form through the Central Securities Depository Company of Botswana ("CSDB").

Shareholder	Before Offer	%	After Offer	%
Stanbic Africa Holdings Limited	1 596 810 250	100%	1277 448 200	80%
Placees (Private Placement)	-	-	255 489 640	16%
Public (Public Offer)	-	-	63 872 410	4%
Total	**1 596 810 250**	**100%**	**1 596 810 250**	**100%**

Rights attaching to the Shares. All Shares have identical voting rights and rank equally for dividends and for any surplus on a winding-up. Following the Listing, any new equity must first be offered to existing shareholders pro rata, subject to the BSE Listings Requirements. The Shares are not redeemable and will be freely transferable after the Listing.

SELECTED FINANCIAL INFORMATION

In FY2025 the Bank earned a profit after tax of BWP710 million and a return on equity of 24.3%, with a capital adequacy ratio of 22.6%, well above the regulatory minimum. Its cost-to-income ratio improved from 52.8% in FY2023 to 49.1% in FY2024 and 48.6% in FY2025, and its credit loss ratio was 0.6% in FY2025.

Summary income statement (BWP million)

	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	H1 2026
Net interest income	1 111.4	1 371.5	1 074.5	640.9
Non-interest revenue	520.2	579.5	941.6	418.2
Total income	1 631.6	1 951.0	2 016.1	1 059.1
Credit impairment charges	(109.3)	(42.8)	(84.6)	(40.7)
Total operating expenses	(861.2)	(958.4)	(979.8)	(539.2)
Profit after tax	**483.9**	**708.0**	**709.7**	**354.0**

Summary statement of financial position (BWP million)

	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	H1 2026
Loans and advances to customers	13 333.2	14 954.1	13 761.2	14 290.9
Deposits from customer accounts	20 140.4	20 875.9	20 274.1	21 781.1
Total assets	25 047.6	27 645.4	27 591.2	29 326.0
Total equity	**2 326.6**	**2 560.6**	**3 270.3**	**3 624.3**

Per-share information (thebe, after the 50-for-1 subdivision)[1]

	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	H1 2026
Earnings per share	30.31	44.34	44.45	22.17
Dividend per share	19.42	29.68	–[2]	–

FY2023-FY2025 audited; six months to 30 June 2026 reviewed; prepared under IFRS Accounting Standards. Financial year ends 31 December.
[1] Pro forma, on 1,596,810,250 Shares; headline and diluted headline EPS equal basic EPS.
[2] A dividend of BWP500 million (31.31 thebe per Share after the subdivision) in respect of FY2025 was approved by the Bank of Botswana and paid on 2 September 2026.

Profit forecast (BWP million)

	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
Net interest income	1 239.0	1 360.3	1 583.1	1 838.7
Non-interest revenue	900.6	1 042.6	1 138.9	1 268.4
Total income	2 139.6	2 402.9	2 721.9	3 107.1
Profit after tax	**711.9**	**797.5**	**919.9**	**1 026.6**
Return on equity (%)	23.1	25.9	26.2	26.7
Cost-to-income ratio (%)	51.2	49.5	48.7	48.1
Dividend payout ratio (%)	72	50-70	50-70	50-70

Summary statement of financial position (BWP million)

	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY 2029
Loans and advances to customers	15 559.2	17 235.0	18 238.3	19 329.1
Deposits from customer accounts	23 79.4	26 071.1	28 427.4	31 018.9

The forecast was prepared by the Directors and independently reported on by the Reporting Accountants' (Annexure 6 of the Prospectus); it is not audited and is not a guarantee of future performance. It assumes a stable political and regulatory environment; inflation above the Bank of Botswana's 3 to 6% objective range in the early forecast years; a restrictive policy rate that eases later in the period; gradually improving market liquidity; a stable sovereign credit rating; and direct tax of 22% for FY2026 and 24.5% for the remainder of the forecast period.

The Directors are not aware of any significant adverse change in the Bank's financial or trading position since 30 June 2026, and consider the Bank's working capital and regulatory capital adequate for at least the next 12 months.

DIVIDEND POLICY

The Board targets a payout of approximately 50% to 70% of headline earnings. Dividends are at the Board's discretion and depend on profitability, capital, liquidity, growth opportunities and regulatory requirements, including Bank of Botswana approval where required. No cash dividend was declared in respect of FY2024, as the Board retained earnings during a period of sector-wide liquidity pressure. Following an improvement in market factors, the Board declared a BWP500 million dividend in September 2026, a payout in excess of 70%. Dividends bear no interest and are forfeited if unclaimed for three years.

DIRECTORS

Name	Designation
Dr Tebogo T. K. Matome	Chairman, Independent Non-Executive Director
Chose Modise	Chief Executive, Executive Director
Realeboga Phoi	Chief Finance and Value Management Officer, Executive Director
Lungisa Fuzile	Non-Executive Director
Michaela Alves Da Silva	Independent Non-Executive Director
Mthabisi Bokete	Independent Non-Executive Director
Batsho Pamela Groth	Independent Non-Executive Director
Mark Haskins	Independent Non-Executive Director
Richard Christopher Irvine	Independent Non-Executive Director
Michael Kgengwenyane	Independent Non-Executive Director
Oduetse Andrew Motshidisi	Independent Non-Executive Director
Butler Phirie	Independent Non-Executive Director
Larona L. B. Somolekae	Independent Non-Executive Director

The Board is supported by the Audit, Risk Management, Credit, Information Technology, and Nomination and Remuneration committees, and applies the King IV principles as adopted within the SBG framework. No Director held Shares in the Bank before the Offer.

RISK FACTORS

An investment in the Shares involves risk. Investors should carefully consider all the risk factors set out in Part 7 of the Prospectus. The principal risks include:

- dependence on Botswana's economy, including the diamond and mining sectors, inflation, interest rates and the sovereign credit standing;
- credit risk; liquidity and funding risk if market liquidity tightens; and market risk from movements in interest and exchange rates;
- dependence on the Franchise Agreement, which may be terminated on specified events including a change of control. The Bank pays an annual royalty of 3% of total income;
- perational, technology and cyber risk affecting core banking, payments or digital platforms;
- regulatory and AML/CFT risk – the Bank paid a BWP800 000 administrative penalty in 2025 following a Bank of Botswana AML/CFT thematic examination;
- litigation, including a BWP161.8 million counterclaim by Steel Services (Pty) Ltd, which has been assessed as presenting a remote chance of loss;
- share price volatility, the possibility that an active trading market may not develop, dividends not being guaranteed, and dilution from future share issues; and
- competition from banks, non-bank lenders and fintechs, reliance on key personnel, and reversionary terms on certain state-grant properties, including the head office site.

HOW TO APPLY

1. Obtain the Prospectus and the appropriate Application Form

The Prospectus includes separate Application Forms for individuals and legal entities. Copies or reproductions of the Application Forms will not be accepted. Only one application per applicant is permitted, except for nominee companies, which must state the number of principals they represent.

2. Hold, or open, a CSDB account through a licensed BSE stockbroker

Applicants must have a CSDB account. Applicants without an existing account must open one through Imara Capital Securities (Pty) Ltd or Motswedi Securities (Pty) Ltd and submit CSDB account-opening documentation with the Application Form.

3. Apply and make payment

Apply for a minimum of 250 Shares, and thereafter in multiples of 10 Shares, and pay the full amount by electronic funds transfer in favour of "Stanbic Bank IPO", using the applicant's CSDB number or registered name as the payment reference. Cash will not be accepted. Proof of payment must accompany the Application Form and an application will only be complete once cleared funds have been received.

4. Submit the completed Application Form

Deliver the completed Application Form electronically to Imara Capital Securities (Pty) Ltd at ipo@imara.com before the Public Offer closes at 16h30 on 27 November 2026. Alternatively, the completed Application Form may be delivered by hand, in an envelope marked "Stanbic Bank IPO", to Imara Capital Securities (Pty) Ltd, Office 3A, Third Floor, Masa Centre, Plot 54353, New CBD, Gaborone, or to any of the following Stanbic Bank submission points listed below:

- Head Office, Plot 50672, Off Machel Drive, Fairgrounds, Gaborone
- Selebi Phikwe - Lot 2537, Phikwe Square Mall, Block A
- Ghanzi - Plot 8624, Taung Mall, Unit 19
- Palapye - Plot 27737, Palapye Junction Mall, Shop 15
- Kazungula - Plot 1461, Duncan Fourways Junction Mall, Shops 16, 17 and part of 22
- Francistown - Plot 1471/2, Galo Shopping Centre, Shop 35
- Maun - Plot 92, Mathiba Road

Applications are irrevocable once received by the Transfer Secretary or a registered stockbroker. No receipts will be issued. Shares may not be applied for in the name of an unassisted minor or a deceased estate. The Bookrunner, in consultation with the Directors, may accept or refuse any application in whole or in part, and applicants may receive fewer Shares than they applied for. Acceptance is conditional on the BSE granting the Listing. Successful applicants' Shares will be credited to their CSDB accounts; no share certificates will be issued.

DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION

Copies of the following documents may be inspected at the registered office of the Bank and at the offices of the Sponsor during normal business hours for 14 days from the date of the Prospectus: the Constitution of the Bank and the constitutions of its subsidiaries; the audited financial statements for FY2023, FY2024 and FY2025 and the reviewed interim financial statements for the six months ended 30 June 2026; the Reporting Accountants' reports (Annexures 3, 5 and 6); the material contracts; the written consents of the advisors; and the Prospectus. Copies of the Prospectus and Application Forms are available from the same addresses, at the locations identified above for the submission of Application Forms, and on the Bank's website at www.stanbicbank.co.bw.

ADVISORS' DETAILS

Role	Name and address
Registered office	Plot 50672, Off Machel Drive, Fairgrounds, Gaborone; Private Bag 00168, Gaborone
Company Secretary	Siamisang Thokie Morolong, Private Bag 00168, Gaborone
Sponsor and Bookrunner	Imara Capital Securities (Pty) Ltd, Office 3A, Third Floor, Masa Centre, Plot 54353, New CBD, Gaborone
Corporate Advisor	Stanbic Financial Services (Pty) Ltd, Plot 50672, Off Machel Drive, Fairgrounds, Gaborone
Receiving Bank	Stanbic Bank (Botswana) Limited, Plot 50672, Off Machel Drive, Fairgrounds, Gaborone
Legal Advisors	Armstrongs Attorneys, 2nd Floor, Acacia House, Plot 74358, New CBD, Gaborone
Auditors and Reporting Accountants	Deloitte & Touche, 2nd Floor, Twin Towers East, Plot 2883, Fairgrounds Office Park, Gaborone
Valuation Advisor	BDO, BDO House, 28 Kgale Mews, GIFP, Gaborone
Transfer Secretary	Central Securities Depository Company of Botswana Limited, 4th Floor, Fairscape Precinct, Plot 70667, Fairgrounds, Gaborone
Communications Advisor	Hotwire, Unit 3, Plot 144, Mountain View Office Park, Kgale, Gaborone

GENERAL

This Abridged Prospectus is a summary of the Prospectus and does not contain all the information that investors should consider before applying for Shares. Investors must read the Prospectus, which contains full details of the Offer, the Bank's business, financial position, risk factors and the terms and conditions of application, before making an investment decision. Stanbic Bank is a member of the Deposit Insurance Scheme of Botswana.

By order of the Board

Siamisang Thokie Morolong, Company Secretary
Gaborone, 20 October 2026.

Member of the Deposit Insurance Scheme of Botswana.

Stanbic Bank

LET'S
GROW TOGETHER

Own a share in the bank
that's grown with Botswana.

Stanbic Bank Botswana is listing on the main board of the Botswana Stock Exchange. Through the Initial Public Offer (IPO), Individuals and Institutional investors can apply to buy shares in the Bank.

Read the prospectus and speak to a licensed stockbroker. The Public Offer closes at 16h30 on 27 November 2026.

Apply to buy shares.

SCAN HERE TO LEARN MORE

Stanbic Bank Botswana is a member of The Standard Bank Group, an authorised financial services and registered credit provider. Member of the Deposit Insurance Scheme of Botswana.

Banks Free To Raise Lending Rates

BoB removes prime-rate ban as liquidity improves, handing banks greater pricing freedom while borrowers face renewed interest-rate risk



Bank of Botswana Governor Lesego Moseki *Photo Credit: BWGovernment*

BONGANI MALUNGA

Commercial banks have regained the freedom to increase their prime lending rates after the Bank of Botswana's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) unanimously lifted a moratorium that had prevented them from doing so.

The decision effectively restores banks' ability to adjust the benchmark rate from which the cost of many loans is calculated, giving lenders greater control over how they price credit as Botswana's financial system emerges from a prolonged liquidity squeeze.

The change means the protection that prevented banks from raising prime lending rates has disappeared. Should individual banks decide that their costs or market conditions justify an increase, households and businesses with loans linked to prime could face higher repayments.

NO AUTOMATIC RISE

The MPC's decision does not mean lending rates will automatically rise. In fact, the central bank believes conditions that previously placed pressure on banks have improved considerably, potentially reducing the need for lenders to charge customers more.

"Domestic liquidity has improved since the last quarter of 2025, supported by increased government funding and spending, increased diamond receipts, and adjustments to monetary policy operations. This has moderated funding costs, potentially lowering lending interest rates with improved prospects for policy transmission," the Bank of Botswana said.

As per BoB's assessment, banks now have more money circulating within the financial system and are finding it less expensive to secure funding than during the height of the liquidity shortage.

BALANCING ACT

While banks have regained the ability to increase prime rates, improving liquidity could simultaneously give them room to compete for customers by keeping lending rates unchanged or offering more attractive pricing to strong borrowers.

For commercial banks, lifting the moratorium restores an important tool for managing their lending businesses. When the cost of obtaining money rises, banks ordinarily have the option of passing some of that cost to borrowers through changes in lending rates. The moratorium restricted that flexibility.

The central bank said lifting the restriction was also consistent with its broader preference for maintaining a liberalised financial market, where lending prices are allowed to respond more freely to market conditions.

CONSUMER PERSPECTIVE

From a consumer perspective, the significance will largely depend on what individual banks do next.Prime lending rates generally serve as a starting point when banks determine what customers pay on certain loans. A customer may, for example, be charged prime plus or minus an agreed margin depending on their risk profile and loan arrangement.

Businesses borrowing to finance expansion, equipment or working capital could also see financing costs rise. However, the same improved liquidity that persuaded the MPC to remove the restriction could work in borrowers' favour.

With funding pressures easing and banks competing for lending business, the removal of the moratorium may ultimately produce greater differences in pricing between banks rather than an across the board rise in borrowing costs.

Debt Eats 63% of Household Income

Rising debt costs, stagnant wages and living expenses are squeezing Botswana households as defaults rise and borrowing becomes increasingly expensive

BONGANI MALUNGA

Botswana households are spending nearly two-thirds of their income servicing debt as rising borrowing costs, stagnant wages and persistent living expenses tighten the financial squeeze on consumers.

The findings are contained in the Bank of Botswana's 2025/26 Household Indebtedness Survey Report, released on 22 October 2026, which shows that the household debt-service-to-income ratio remained elevated at 63 percent in 2025.

This means debt repayments continued to absorb a significant share of borrowers' earnings at a time when households were already grappling with pressure on disposable incomes.

INCREASED HOUSEHOLD DEBT

Total household debt increased by 2.5 percent from P68.6 billion in December 2024 to P70.3 billion in December 2025, equivalent to 26.1 percent of Botswana's gross domestic product. While the central bank does not yet regard household debt as a systemic financial stability threat, it cautioned that borrowers are becoming increasingly vulnerable to income and cost-of-living shocks.

"Debt-To-Income ratios for both males and females increased, indicating that household leverage has risen relative to income and reducing borrowers' resilience to income, interest rate and cost-of-living shocks," the Bank stated.

Average debt-to-income ratios rose sharply, for male borrowers, the ratio increased from 38.4 percent in 2024 to 50.8 percent, while the corresponding ratio for women climbed from 37.7 percent to 50.7 percent. Borrowers aged between 40 and 49 years recorded the highest average ratio at 52.7 percent.

REPAYMENT STRESS

According to the report, signs of repayment stress are also emerging. The average default rate recorded by banks more than doubled from 2 percent in 2024 to 4.7 percent in 2025, although banking-sector non-performing loans remained relatively stable.

The Bank said lenders were preparing for further pressure, noting that "most banks anticipate a mild deterioration in household loan performance in 2026, attributable to a subdued economic outlook and inflationary pressures."

Borrowing also became considerably more expensive during 2025 as average interest rates on unsecured loans rose from 12.9 percent to 18.3 percent, while credit-card rates jumped from 19.8 percent to 27.9 percent. Mortgage rates increased from 8.5 percent to 10.6 percent, while motor vehicle financing rose from 9.9 percent to 12.5 percent.

ADDED PRESSURE

Despite the increased cost of credit, the Bank expects households to continue borrowing partly because of pressure on everyday finances. "Persistent cost of living pressures are expected to sustain demand for credit as consumers seek financing to supplement their disposable income and smooth consumption," the report states.

> Average debt-to-income ratios rose sharply, for male borrowers, the ratio increased from 38.4 percent in 2024 to 50.8 percent, while the corresponding ratio for women climbed from 37.7 percent to 50.7 percent.

The finding suggests that household credit demand is increasingly being sustained by the need to protect spending power as incomes struggle to keep pace with financial obligations.

Boko Defies De Beers Retreat Calls

President says Botswana's diversification drive will not come at the expense of diamonds as the government presses ahead with a bigger De Beers role

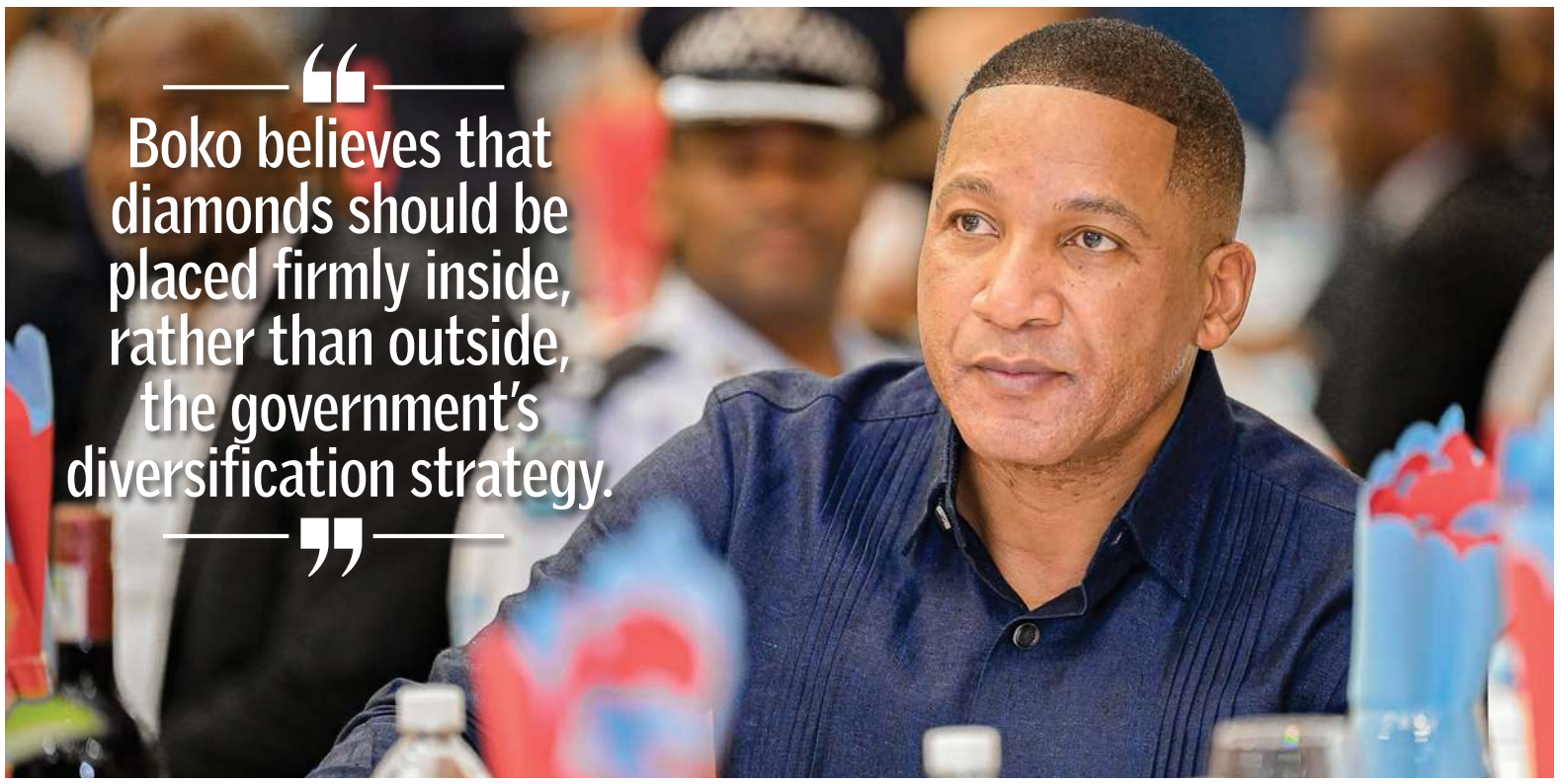


Photo Credit: BW Presidency

BONGANI MALUNGA

President Duma Boko has rejected the argument that Botswana must retreat from diamonds in order to diversify its economy, doubling down on the country's pursuit of greater influence in De Beers despite earlier warnings against increasing the state's exposure to the diamond giant.

Speaking at the 13th Parliament Executive Leadership Programme in Kasane on Monday, Boko said Botswana's economic transformation should be built around creating new productive sectors while preserving the diamond industry that has historically underpinned the country's growth.

Boko believes that diamonds should be placed firmly inside, rather than outside, the government's diversification strategy.

NO RETREAT FROM DIAMONDS

"We need productive diversification, diversification on the production side. This diversification cannot merely be a retreat from diamonds because as the evidence shows, diamonds continue to play a critical role, even as we want to diversify and create other engines," Boko said.

The position pushes back against arguments that Botswana's dependence on diamonds makes further investment in the sector too risky. The International Monetary Fund previously advised government against significantly increasing its stake in De Beers, citing Botswana's weakened fiscal position and the risks associated with concentrating more public resources in an industry on which the economy is already heavily dependent.

Botswana currently owns 15 percent of De Beers, while Anglo American is in the process of disposing of its 85 percent interest. The government has repeatedly signalled that its shareholding will rise, although the final size of the stake has not been publicly confirmed. Recent reports have suggested discussions around a stake of about 25 percent.

Boko, however, argued that weakness in the natural diamond market should not be interpreted as proof that the industry has reached the end of its economic relevance. "So how do we engage with the debate on diamonds? That's a debate at the heart of which sits De Beers. Some are saying the story is over. I maintained and maintained intransigently that the story has only just started. I maintain that position now and into the future," he said.

SHAPING THE DIRECTION

Boko asserts that this stance is the motive behind the government's push for a stronger position in De Beers. He said Botswana should use the changes taking place in the ownership of the diamond company to strengthen its ability to shape the future direction of the natural diamond industry rather than become a passive observer.

"That is why it became necessary to venture into the space and seek to take the industry by the scruff of its neck, assert Botswana's role in that industry and therefore stake a claim to the leadership of the industry for the country," Boko said.

The President also challenged the view that poor diamond sales necessarily reflected a dying product, arguing instead that shortcomings in marketing had contributed to depressed demand.

EXCLUDING A CRITICAL COMPONENT

"When the argument was that diamonds were not selling, I argued diamonds were just not being sold by those who were tasked to sell them. The marketing of diamonds had excluded a critical component of the very essence of the diamond, the story of the people behind this stone, flesh and blood, people of soul and intellect, whose lives have depended on this commodity," he said.

Boko linked the industry's recent signs of recovery to efforts to place producing communities and the human story behind natural diamonds more prominently in global marketing.

Diamond-market conditions have shown some improvement during 2026, although De Beers continues to face pressure from weak luxury demand, competition from laboratory-grown diamonds and the prolonged downturn that has battered the natural diamond industry.

"You can't write them out of the story, marketing their commodity. That is why when the story of the diamonds and the people was now given pride of mention and prominence in diamond marketing, we are witnessing a rebound, a bounce back," Boko said.

BAMB Pays P60m, Farmers Demand Plan

Grain farmers have received P60 million in overdue payments from BAMB, but P40 million remains outstanding as producers push for a coordinated national crop plan

BONGANI MALUNGA

Botswana Agricultural Marketing Board (BAMB) has paid P60 million towards outstanding debts owed to grain farmers, easing some of the uncertainty that had surrounded whether the parastatal would meet its end-of-October payment commitments.

However, about P40 million is still outstanding, leaving part of the farming sector exposed to cash-flow pressures as producers prepare for the new planting season.

According to the Pandamatenga Commercial Farmers Association (PCFA), farmers who were owed P400 000 or less have now been paid in full. Those with balances above P400 000 have received 57 percent of what they are owed.

SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS

The payments represent significant progress after farmers had previously faced uncertainty over whether BAMB would be able to clear its obligations by the end of October.

PCFA welcomed the latest movement, but warned that the remaining balances need to be settled quickly because farmers are still carrying costs from the previous production cycle while simultaneously trying to finance the next one.

"PCFA acknowledges the progress reported by the Botswana Agricultural Marketing Board (BAMB) regarding outstanding payments to grain farmers. P60 million has been paid, while approximately P40 million remains due," the association said in a statement released last Friday.

"We welcome this progress and recognise the efforts of BAMB's Board and Management to address the outstanding payments. The timely settlement of the balances remains critical as farmers continue to carry financial obligations from the previous season and prepare for the next."

DEEPER STRUCTURAL PROBLEM

While the payment dispute is gradually easing, farmers are increasingly shifting attention to what they see as a deeper structural problem, the absence of a coordinated national crop plan.

With the planting season already underway, PCFA argues that producers still lack sufficient information on how much grain the country requires, expected market demand and the prices farmers can realistically expect when their crops are harvested.

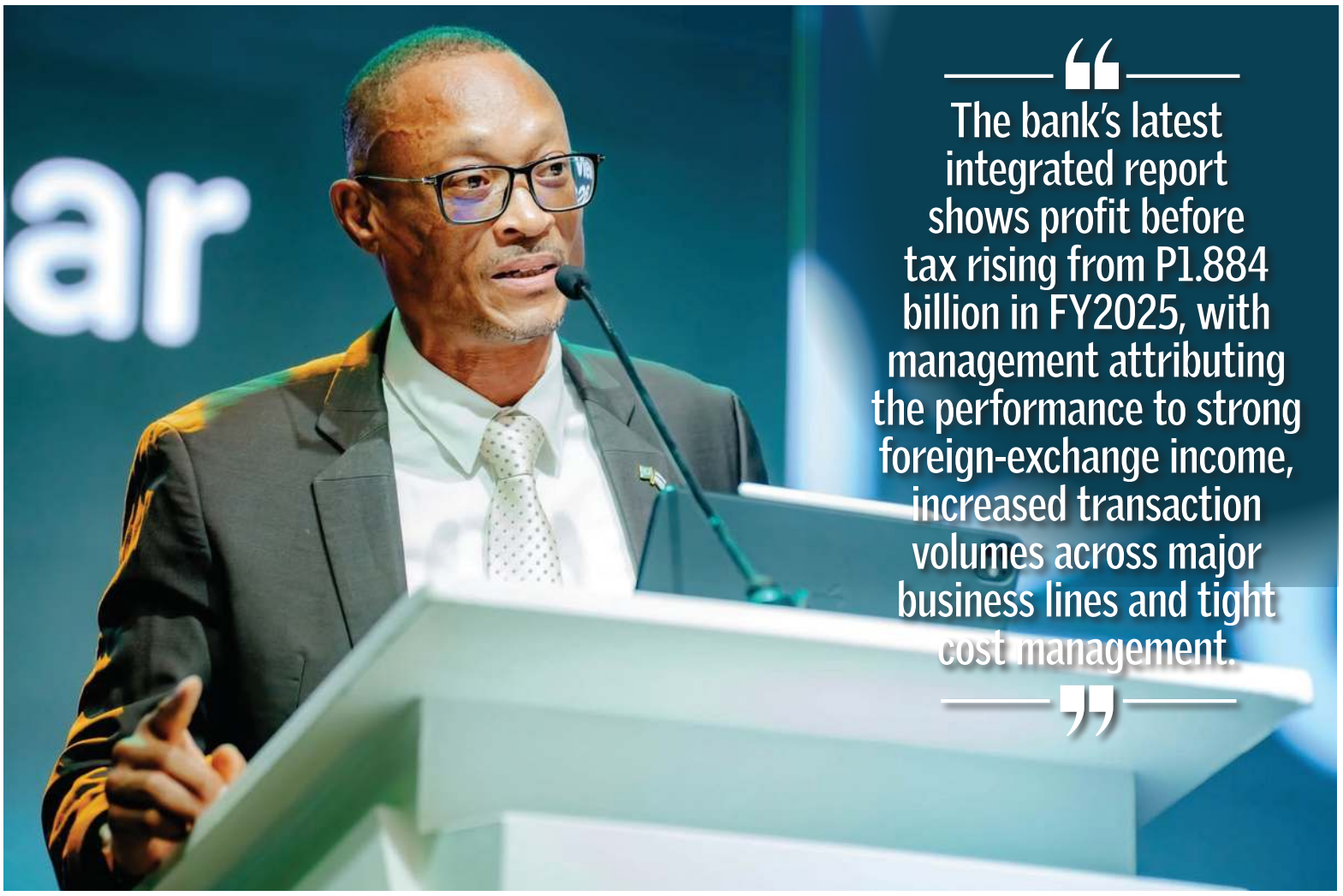
The association says that without this guidance, farmers are being asked to commit millions of pula to inputs, machinery and production loans without adequate certainty that their harvests will find a viable market.

CLARITY NEEDED

"With the new planting season upon us, farmers urgently need clarity on national crop requirements, anticipated market demand and producer prices," PCFA said. "Without a coordinated National Crop Plan, farmers are once again expected to commit substantial capital, take on production loans and carry the risks of farming without sufficient certainty about the market for their crops."

PCFA is therefore calling for BAMB, the Ministry of Lands and Agriculture, commercial producers and other stakeholders to urgently develop a national production framework that gives farmers clearer signals before planting decisions are locked in.

"PCFA therefore calls for BAMB, the Ministry of Lands and Agriculture, producers and other relevant stakeholders to urgently prioritise a practical National Crop Plan, developed with meaningful participation by farmers and communicated in time to guide planting decisions."



FNBB CEO, Mr Steven Bogatsu *Photo Credit: FNBBotswana*

Transactions Drive FNB Botswana Profit Up 12%

Higher transaction volumes, foreign-exchange earnings and fee-based business helped FNB Botswana lift profit before tax despite sluggish credit demand

BONGANI MALUNGA

FNB Botswana’s growing transaction engine helped push profit before tax up 12 percent to P2.117 billion in FY2026, as increased activity across major business lines offset pressure from slower lending growth and tight domestic liquidity.

The bank’s latest integrated report shows profit before tax rising from P1.884 billion in FY2025, with management attributing the performance to strong foreign-exchange income, increased transaction volumes across major business lines and tight cost management.

Acting Chief Financial Officer Orapeleng Senwelo and Treasurer Tshepiso Mokgethi-Magapa said the performance demonstrated the resilience of FNB Botswana’s diversified operations.

RESILIENCE

“In FY2026, the Bank demonstrated the resilience of its diversified business model by achieving broad-based growth, prudent lending practices and maintaining strong balance sheet, good quality loan book, sound liquidity and capital management,” they said in their commentary accompanying the results.

The clearest growth driver was non-interest revenue, which jumped 30 percent to P2.314 billion, from P1.780 billion in the previous financial year.

According to the bank, the increase was supported by higher digital transaction volumes, increased payments activity, stronger foreign-exchange income and continued momentum in fee-based businesses such as merchant services and advisory activities.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE SURGE

Foreign-exchange income alone surged 113 percent to P970 million, from P456 million a year earlier, making it a major contributor to non-interest revenue. That performance is significant because traditional lending faced a more difficult operating environment.

Growth in advances slowed by 5 percent, with FNB citing prolonged weakness in the domestic economy, constrained liquidity, elevated funding costs and subdued demand for credit. Net interest income consequently declined by about 2 percent to P1.912 billion, from P1.953 billion.

Senwelo and Mokgethi-Magapa said the tougher environment required the bank to become more selective in lending and deployment of capital. “We carefully balanced supporting our clients through a difficult period with preserving loan portfolio quality, protecting liquidity and maintaining appropriate returns for shareholders,” they said.

MORE GROWTH

Gross interest income nevertheless increased by 16 percent, supported by similar growth in interest earned on advances, while investment securities income rose 27 percent as volumes increased. The bank also had to absorb rising expenses. Total costs increased 8 percent year-on-year, employee costs rose 5 percent, while other operating expenses climbed 11 percent, partly reflecting spending on technology, digital transformation, process optimisation and other strategic initiatives.

The results suggest FNB Botswana is increasingly extracting growth from customers’ day-to-day financial activity even as the conventional lending environment remains difficult. Higher payment volumes, digital transactions, merchant activity and foreign-exchange earnings provided the revenue momentum that credit growth could not.



Acting Chief Financial Officer Orapeleng Senwelo *Photo Credit: FNBBotswana*



All Photos from: Stanbic Bank Botswana

From Customers To Owners

Stanbic Bank Botswana's public offer matters not because it makes the bank more famous, but because it gives Batswana a chance to share in the future they help create.

MANUEL VEIRUAPI RUHAPO | THE BRAND PARADOX

For most people, a bank is not an abstraction. It is where the first salary arrives, school-fee savings are kept, a small business asks for room to breathe and a family plans for the next difficult month.



People place their money, plans and trust in a bank. The bank grows because they use it. Yet the value created has traditionally belonged to those who already own the business.

Stanbic Bank Botswana's public offer asks: what happens when people are invited to own a piece of an institution that has been part of their lives?

The offer is an invitation to move from customer to participant. Stanbic Africa Holdings is selling an interest in Stanbic Bank Botswana, while the parent is expected to remain the majority owner.

Standard Bank Group's five-year record provides context, not a promise. Batswana are not being given past wealth or buying Johannesburg-listed parent shares. They are being offered a chance to buy into Stanbic Bank Botswana's future.

OWNERSHIP PARADOX

The Ownership Paradox is that a large institution can become more personal when it gives people a genuine stake in it.

Financial brands ask customers to save, borrow, transact and plan through them. But trust is usually one-way: the customer places faith in the institution while economic rewards flow to existing shareholders.

A public offer changes the shape of that relationship. The people who make a business relevant can also own a small part of it. They can ask whether it is building value carefully enough to deserve both their capital and custom.

> "Banking is, before anything else, a business of trust. Compliance and governance are how we keep that promise.- Chose Modise"

This is a powerful brand moment, not because it makes Stanbic more visible, but because it changes what the relationship can mean. A customer becomes someone with an interest in the bank's reputation, discipline and future.

TRANSFER PARADOX

The Transfer Paradox is that real wealth transfer is not charity. It is access.

Stanbic's offer is a sale of existing shares. The proceeds do not go into Stanbic Bank Botswana as new operating capital. It does not hand the parent group's accumulated wealth to Botswana households. It creates access to future local value creation.

It is not a promise that every shareholder will make money. Dividends are not guaranteed and share prices can rise or fall. The prospectus identifies economic, credit, liquidity, technology, cyber, competitive and market risks.

To Page 31







From Page 30

Citizen economic empowerment cannot rest only on jobs, suppliers and sponsorships. Ownership gives people a seat, however small, in businesses that shape the economy.

Once people become owners, the bank must be more than persuasive. It must be explainable, showing that decisions protect both the business and people who place savings in its future.

TRUST PARADOX

The Trust Paradox is that public ownership makes a brand more exposed, and therefore gives it a chance to become more trusted.

Before public ownership, a bank is judged through the queue, app, branch, call centre, loan decision and fees. Afterwards, it is also judged through results, governance, risk, dividends and whether leaders explain difficult conditions honestly.

That scrutiny is proof of a serious brand. Strong institutions explain difficult periods, trade-offs and the reasons behind their decisions.

The offer can become an act of reciprocity. Stanbic has grown through people's deposits, transactions, borrowing and business activity. It is opening a route for some of those people to share in its future, while holding it to a higher standard.

FOR BOTSWANA

The minimum public application is 250 shares, costing P1,075 before relevant charges. For many households, that calls for understanding, patience and an honest assessment of risk.

The Botswana Stock Exchange (BSE) says investors normally buy and sell through licensed brokers, who arrange accounts through which shares are held. The real test is whether a teacher, nurse, shop owner, graduate or first-time investor can understand the opportunity in clear English and Setswana, then decide without pressure.

If that happens, the offer can do more than create headlines. It can make ownership feel possible and bring the future of a major business into conversations at home, around the family table.

WHAT IT MEANS

Business owners and executives: Treat the listing as a lesson in participation. If you invite customers to own a stake in the business, pair the offer with honest education, clear risk explanation and accessible channels.

Marketing professionals: Do not reduce an IPO to a celebration of size. Translate price, process, risk and ownership into language people can act on. The most valuable campaign outcome is an informed participant, not a confused applicant.

Brand managers: Prepare for a higher transparency standard. Once public ownership enters the story, every results release, customer experience and governance decision becomes brand evidence.

> The Ownership Paradox is that a large institution can become more personal when it gives people a genuine stake in it.

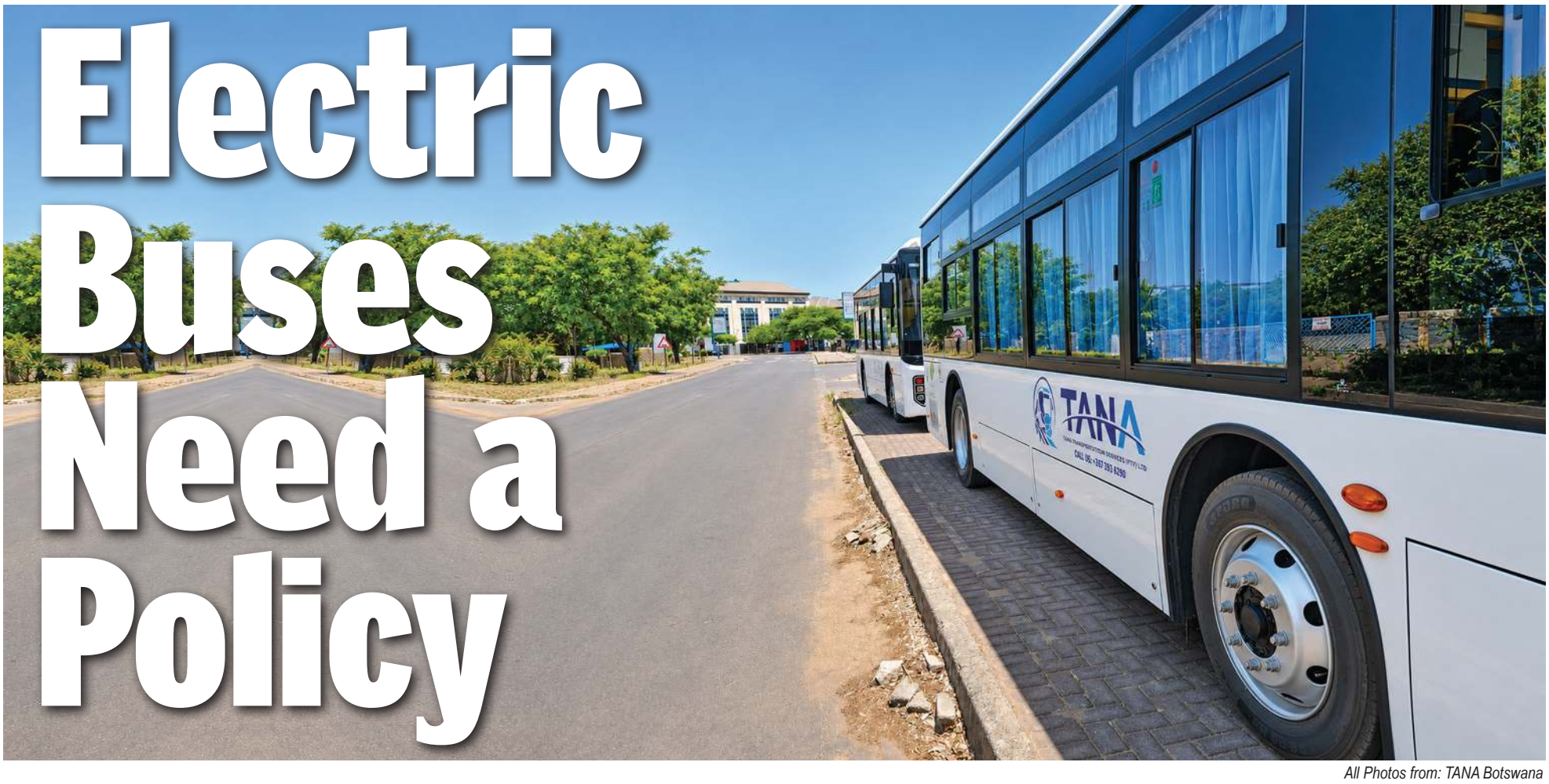
Stanbic is offering Batswana more than a transaction. It is opening a route from trust to participation. The enduring value will lie in whether people feel that their stake is understood, respected and matched by a bank worthy of their confidence.





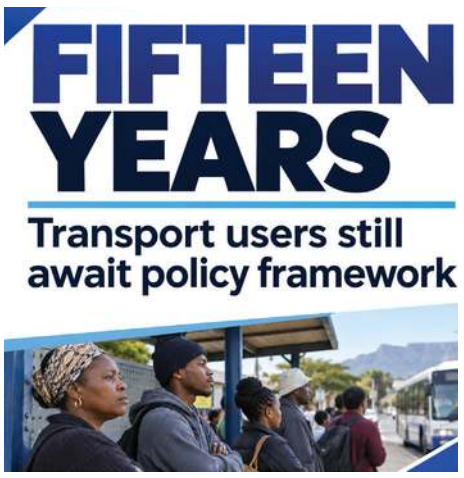
The Brand Paradox is a weekly column by Manuel Veiruapi Ruhapo that explores the counterintuitive truths behind building great brands in Botswana and beyond. Manuel Ruhapo is the founder of Blacmarc Group, a brand strategy consultancy Agencies that helps businesses solve their most complex brand challenges. Contact me on : manuel.ruhapo@blacmarc.co.bw/ruhapo@gmail.comContact me on: manuel.ruhapo@blacmarc.co.bw/ruhapo@gmail.com

Electric Buses Need a Policy



All Photos from: TANA Botswana

Gaborone's electric Metrobus initiative is welcome, but its success depends on reforms first proposed fifteen years ago.



DR DOUGLAS RASBASH

Years after most cities have operated electric buses, CEDA and the Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure have finally announced an electric Metrobus service for Gaborone, operated through CEDA subsidiary Tana Holdings. The initiative promises more accessible, efficient and environmentally sustainable public transport, complementing existing operators. It is welcome progress, but its success will depend on the wider policy, network and management reforms that government was advised to pursue fifteen years ago.

Without an overall policy, a coordinated network plan and an accountable passenger transport authority, ad hoc projects will always underperform and quickly disappoint.

The September 2011 draft Integrated Transport Policy White Paper set out a comprehensive programme. Further studies developed the proposals. Yet the familiar pattern continues: announce an initiative, acquire infrastructure or vehicles, and leave the arrangements needed to make them work together unresolved. Gaborone does not lack recommendations. It lacks sustained and coordinated implementation.

SOCIAL NEED

Section 56, "Attending to social need", established objectives that should still guide public transport: increase patronage, reduce private car use in urban areas, prioritise public transport projects, reduce social exclusion and provide infrastructure for disabled people.

These are outcomes. A new bus rank, electric fleet or priority lane is a means of achieving them. The distinction matters because a project can be completed without significantly improving anyone's journey. The same section specified practical measures: bus priority schemes, parking charges for private cars, pedestrian and cycling infrastructure, accessible boarding facilities and financial support for socially necessary services. It explicitly proposed: "Providing subsidies to operators for social services and concessionary fares to elderly and the mobility impaired."





Affordability cannot depend indefinitely on operators accepting fares that fail to support maintenance, vehicle replacement and reasonable working conditions. Where government requires concessions or services that cannot meet their costs, the obligation should be identified, costed and funded transparently.



Keeping fares affordable is necessary. Keeping operators commercially viable is also necessary. A proper fares policy must reconcile both through transparent costing, predictable reviews, service contracts and targeted support. It should also address transfers. A passenger should not face an unreasonable cumulative fare simply because the planned

To Page 33

From Page 32

network requires changing vehicles.

OPERATOR REFORM

The 2011 draft policy proposed reforming the permit system, moving towards quality licensing, publishing timetables and fares, and encouraging small operators to combine into larger enterprises capable of attracting investment. Its objectives included: "Have fewer larger PT operators". This was an explicit recognition that fragmentation constrains improvement. Numerous individual businesses cannot easily coordinate schedules, ticketing, maintenance, fleet procurement and passenger information.



Existing operators could participate through route companies, cooperatives, feeder contracts and ownership opportunities. Their experience and livelihoods deserve consideration, alongside passengers' right to a better service. The role of combis would evolve. Smaller vehicles remain useful for neighbourhood circulation, lower demand routes and feeding trunk services. On busy corridors, their share should gradually diminish as larger buses move more people efficiently.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE

Section 57 proposed: "Devolve regulatory responsibility for PT to local government". Section 68 then set out the proposed "Gaborone Passenger Transport Authority", identifying: "The existence of multiple institutions acting without the necessary coordination…" The proposed authority would assume responsibility for transport and land use planning across Greater Gaborone, together with bus priority, traffic signals and traffic management.

This was a draft proposal, not evidence that those powers were enacted. But it demonstrates that the governance problem and a proposed solution were documented fifteen years ago. A dedicated metropolitan passenger transport authority should now be the first institutional commitment.

Because journeys cross council boundaries, the authority must represent Gaborone and its adjoining peri urban local authorities. It needs professional capacity, funding and enforceable powers, rather than merely another coordinating committee.

The authority must also be distinct from the operators it oversees. CEDA's announcement identifies Tana Holdings as the operator of the electric Metrobus initiative. Setting up a public transport business is one responsibility. Planning and governing the entire metropolitan network is another.

CONNECTED NETWORK

The immediate requirement is to define that network: trunk corridors, connecting routes, neighbourhood feeders, interchanges and terminals serving Gaborone city and its adjoining peri urban settlements. Every route should have a stable number, clearly displayed destination, published alignment and understandable service information. Stops need names, identification, safe access and secure waiting.



Dedicated lanes, queue bypasses and signal priority can improve reliability and vehicle productivity. Their purpose is to move people efficiently, supported by enforcement and appropriate stopping arrangements.

Parking policy must reinforce these improvements. Section 56 explicitly proposed: "Parking and other user charges for private cars". The subsequent April 2016 metropolitan public transport study strengthened the argument. Its modelling found that park and ride would contribute little to a shift from cars unless accompanied by city centre parking charges.

"Setting up a public transport business is one responsibility. Planning and governing the entire metropolitan network is another."

POLICY STILL MISSING

Welcome the rank improvements. Welcome the electric buses. Welcome bus priority lanes. But require government to explain how they fit into one funded, managed and measurable passenger transport system. To now imagine that CEDA has become the new custodian of urban public transport provision is ridiculous. In the same way, the Ministry of Trade has become the driver of the urgently needed and economically expedient transition to eMobility. Where is the Ministry responsible for the transport sector in all this confusion?

The absence of a transport policy is self-evident at every decision-making junction. Fifteen years after the policy recommendations were written and the full consultation across ministries and nationally carried out, transport users are still waiting for the policy framework that would make the investments work; without it they will surely disappoint.



BSBS Marks 30 Years

BSBS marked three decades in education through its annual golf tournament, which brought together corporate partners and stakeholders at a time when institutional partnerships remain central to community development.

Botswana School of Business Sciences (BSBS), formerly Botswana Accountancy College (BAC), marked its 30th anniversary through its eighth annual Gaborone Golf Day, held at Stanbic Bank Gaborone Golf Club on 29 October.

The tournament brought together corporate partners and golf enthusiasts under the theme, "Celebrating 30 Years of Excellence, Growth and Impact: A Legacy in Every Swing."

Established in 1996, BSBS has expanded from a specialised accountancy college into a multidisciplinary institution offering programmes in business, finance, computing and other professional fields.

PARTNERSHIP ROLE

Acting Executive Director Pascaline Sefawe said the anniversary provided an opportunity to reflect on the institution's contribution to education and the role of partnerships in extending its reach.

"Our greatest achievements are not measured solely by what we have accomplished today, but by the opportunities we create, the lives we touch, and the lasting difference we leave behind," she said.

She said partnerships were important in extending the institution's impact beyond the classroom and creating opportunities for communities.



ABSA SUPPORT

Absa Bank Botswana, a long-standing banking partner, reaffirmed its support for the institution's initiatives.

Absa representative Herold Matenge said the partnership aligned with the bank's commitment to supporting charitable causes and issues affecting society.

"We believe that your story matters," Matenge said, adding that the bank's participation was intended to help ensure that people reached through the institution's initiatives received meaningful support.

He said Absa had supported BSBS over the past few years and intended to continue contributing to its initiatives.

Organisations represented at the event included Absa Bank Botswana, Abaricom, Debswana, Minet, Hilton Garden Inn, BICA, CIPS, IISA, Nashua, Baker Tilly, ACCA and PC Net.

The tournament concluded with a prize-giving ceremony and networking session.

CEDA Pushes Business Independence

CEDA wants citizen-owned businesses to become commercially viable and less dependent on government-backed financing.

BUSINESS REPORTER

Citizen-owned businesses should gradually move away from government-backed financing and develop the capacity to secure commercial funding, CEDA Caretaker Chief Executive Officer Khalala Mokefane has said.

Speaking at the National Business Conference in Francistown on October 20, Mokefane said development finance should create sustainable enterprises capable of competing independently in the market.

BEYOND FUNDING

He said CEDA's performance should be measured by the sustainability of businesses it supports rather than the volume of loans disbursed.

"Our success should not be measured simply by how much money we disburse, but by how many sustainable, competitive, and commercially viable enterprises we help build," he said.

Mokefane said access to funding alone was insufficient, citing challenges involving financial management, market access, governance and operational efficiency.

He said CEDA was adopting a capacitation-first approach, combining business advisory services, mentorship and continued support to prepare entrepreneurs for independent growth.

GRADUATING BUSINESSES

Mokefane called for an enterprise graduation pathway to strengthen businesses' governance, financial reporting, operational capacity and creditworthiness so they could qualify for commercial financing.

"CEDA should not be the permanent financial home of every enterprise we support. We should be the institution that prepares businesses to stand independently, compete confidently and attract capital from the wider financial market," he said.

He said the transition would require collaboration between CEDA, commercial banks, credit guarantee institutions, development partners and the private sector.

Mokefane cited CEDA's Poultry Finance Suite, the Letsema Horticultural Market and partnerships with Debswana and Morupule Coal Mine as initiatives aimed at linking businesses to commercial opportunities.

"We must finance businesses to succeed, not simply finance them to exist," he said.



CEDA Caretaker Chief Executive Officer Khalala Mokefane

Orange, Huawei Deepen Partnership

The two companies have signed an MoU to expand cooperation in artificial intelligence, cloud services and digital infrastructure, with potential applications across key sectors of Botswana's economy.

Orange Botswana and Huawei Technologies Botswana have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to expand their strategic partnership and support digital infrastructure development and industry digitalisation in Botswana.

The agreement, signed in Gaborone builds on existing cooperation in wireless networks, fintech, energy, transmission infrastructure and network operations.



Huawei Technologies Botswana Managing Director Li Dalu and Orange Botswana Chief Executive Officer Néné Maïga

EXPANDING TECHNOLOGY

Under the agreement, the companies will explore opportunities in artificial intelligence (AI), cloud services, enterprise solutions, mining, energy and data centre services.

Orange Botswana Chief Executive Officer Néné Maïga said the partnership would extend beyond connectivity to include services and infrastructure supporting businesses and communities.

"Our role extends beyond connectivity. We are building the infrastructure, services and capabilities that enable everyone to take part in the digital economy," she said.

DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE

The companies will also explore opportunities to strengthen digital infrastructure, including data centre services. Orange Botswana's Tier III-certified Data Centre provides hosting services for businesses and institutions.

The company said its Orange Digital Center had reached more than 9,400 people through 70 programmes in 2026, covering digital literacy, entrepreneurship and technology skills.

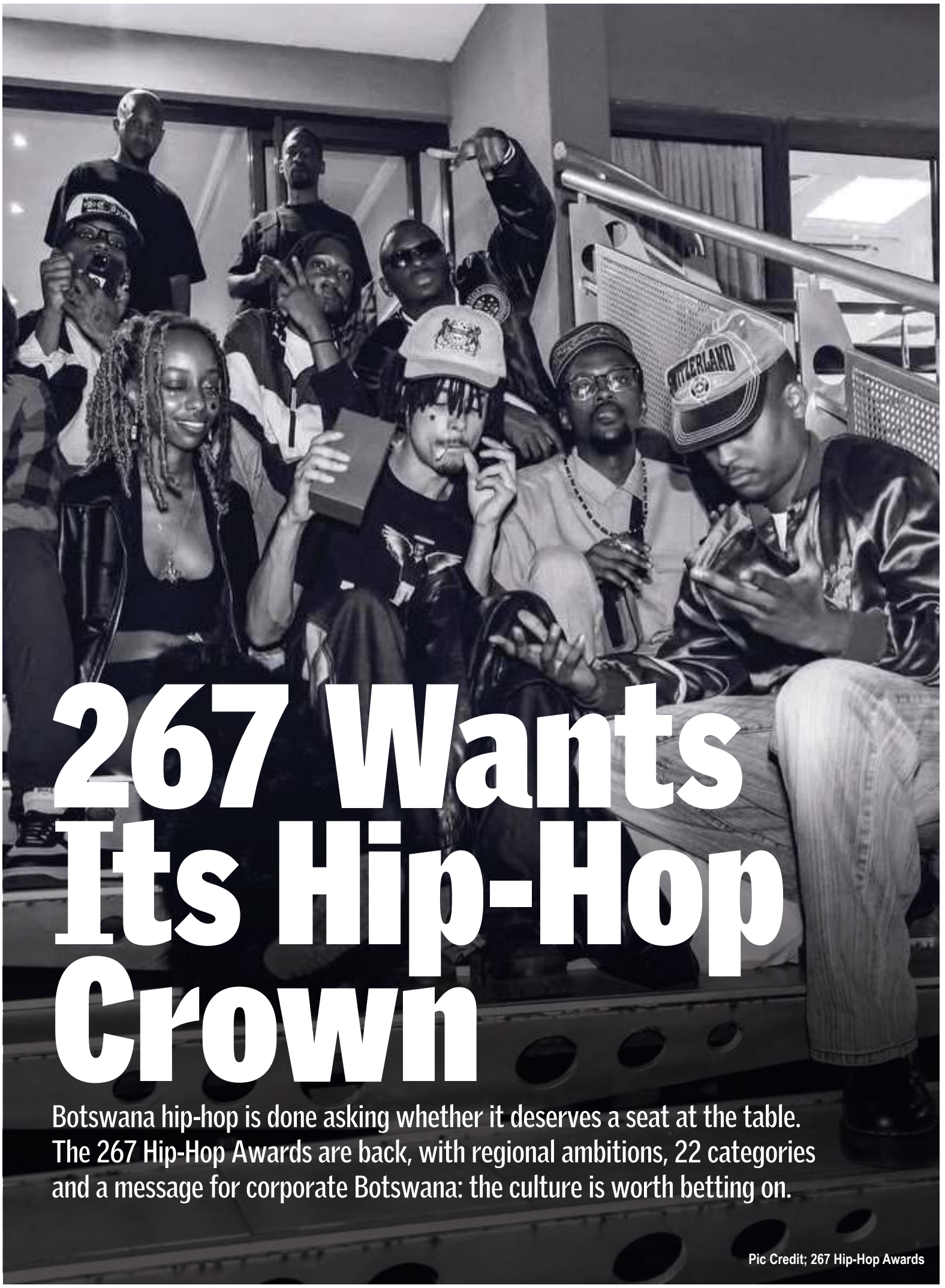
Huawei Technologies Botswana Managing Director Li Dalu said the partnership would combine Orange's local market knowledge with Huawei's expertise in cloud, connectivity and AI.

"Our focus now is to turn this agreement into practical solutions and measurable value for our customers and partners," he said.

IMPLEMENTATION

Under the MoU, the companies will establish closer technical engagement to identify priority projects, assess emerging technologies and develop digital solutions for specific industries.

The Botswana Gazette
TIME OUT
THE BOTSWANA GAZETTE
WEDNESDAY 04 NOVEMBER 2026



267 Wants Its Hip-Hop Crown

Botswana hip-hop is done asking whether it deserves a seat at the table. The 267 Hip-Hop Awards are back, with regional ambitions, 22 categories and a message for corporate Botswana: the culture is worth betting on.

Pic Credit; 267 Hip-Hop Awards

GOSEGO MOTSUMI

Botswana hip-hop has bars to spit, beats to drop and a business case to make. Now, the 267 Hip-Hop Awards want the country to pay attention — and perhaps open its wallet.

Formerly known as the Rarely Hip-Hop Awards (RaHAs), the awards return for their second edition in 2026/2027 with a new identity, 22 categories and ambitions extending beyond Botswana's borders. The rebrand is more than a fresh coat of paint; it is an attempt to make the platform bigger than the person behind it.

Junior Bakgethisi of Rare Media Agency says the name change was deliberate.

> "We want them to see that there is value worth investing in within the Botswana Hip-Hop space and that our artists are marketable and bankable."

"Using Botswana's country code '267' as the name firmly positions these awards as a celebration belonging to all of Botswana's urban culture," he told Time Out.

NO BORDERS, JUST BARS

The biggest addition is the Best Regional Hip-Hop Award, which opens the door to artists from Zimbabwe, Zambia, Namibia, Lesotho, Eswatini and South Africa.

For Bakgethisi, the move is about building relationships, not simply importing neighbouring countries' star power.

"We want SADC to see Botswana as a mutual partner, and to recognize their artistry the same way we want ours to be recognized."

It's an ambitious play: positioning Botswana as both a creator and consumer in a regional hip-hop economy, rather than a market that only watches the action elsewhere.

SHOW ME THE MONEY

The awards also want corporate Botswana in the room. Bakgethisi is calling on businesses to recognise the commercial potential of local artists, arguing that the scene has talent worth investing in.

"Most Hip-Hop artists and lovers are nerds, and it's easy to properly distinguish good art from bad through the artistic structures that Hip-Hop itself has formed," he says.

"We want them to see that there is value worth investing in within the Botswana Hip-Hop space and that our artists are marketable and bankable."

Sixteen categories will be open for nominations, with five nominees in each. The remaining six include the ICON Award, WarZone Battle Rapper of the Year and platform-specific honours.

Submissions open from 1–6 November 2026, covering work released between 30 November 2025 and 31 October 2026. The ceremony is scheduled for March 2027, with the venue still to be announced.

The inaugural edition was a proof of concept. This time, Bakgethisi promises a more organised operation and a bigger statement.

"We are changing the game forever."

Tsholofelo Rehabilitation Centre
P.O Box 1974
Serowe
Tel/Fax: +267 4600976
Email: tsholofelorehab@gmail.com

TSHOLOFELO REHABILITATION CENTRE

VACANCY ADVERTISEMENT – VACANCY CIRCULAR NO. 1 OF 2026

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for the position of **Physiotherapist** tenable at Tsholofelo Rehabilitation Centre in Serowe.

Tsholofelo Rehabilitation Centre is a Non-Governmental Organisation partly funded by the Government of Botswana to provide rehabilitation, stimulation and advocacy for children with disabilities in Serowe and surrounding villages. The Centre also offers special education. Tsholofelo Rehabilitation Centre does not have permanent sources of funding but sustains its operations with the assistance from donors and well-wishers.

1. PHYSIOTHERAPIST – 1 POST (SHORT TERM CONTRACT OF 12 MONTHS)

Annual salary : C2/C1 Salary Scales
C1 ranges from P192 588.00 - P229 104.00 per annum.
C2 ranges from P156 336 – P185 868 per annum.

Leave : 30 working days per annum.
25 working days per annum for C2 salary scale.

Qualification: Diploma/Degree in Physiotherapy.

Requirements:
- At least two (2) years' minimum relevant work experience.
- Must have no criminal record.
- Must not be registered in the Register of Children Abusers in accordance with Children's Act.
- Must be of sober habits.
- Having worked with people with disabilities (PWDs) will be an added advantage.
- **MUST HAVE ACTIVE PRACTICE LICENSE AND BE REGISTERED WITH THE BOTSWANA HEALTH PROFESSIONS COUNCIL.**

NB: At the end of the 12 month contract, severance benefits will be paid.

Main Duties:
- To head and run the Physiotherapy Department with a view to stimulate and rehabilitate children with disabilities.
- To work as a team member with a view to plan the work of the Physiotherapy Department.
- To ensure a proper upkeep of equipment and that the supply of materials needed in the Department are available.
- To guide, motivate and coach subordinates to improve the quality of the service provided to children with disabilities.
- To assess children with disabilities referred to Tsholofelo Rehabilitation Centre and plan therapy and treatment accordingly.
- To assess the needs of the Clients and where necessary refer them to Medical Practitioners, Social Workers, Orthopaedic Technicians, Surgeons, Speech Therapists, Audiologists, Eye Specialists etc.
- To plan and implement Community Based Rehabilitation and assist other members of the team.
- To undertake any other duties as may be required to meet the exigency of the service.

Competencies and skills
- Supervision
- Team work
- Drive for results
- Customer focus
- Time management
- Ethics and values

Applications should quote the number of the Vacancy Circular and provide the following:
- Full names and address.
- Up to date curriculum vitae.
- Certified copies of certificates (Academic and Professional).
- A minimum of two current references (not more than 6 months).
- Certified copy of proof of identity (Omang) or Passport for non-citizens.

VACANCY CIRCULAR NO. 2 OF 2026

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for the position of **Accounts Officer** tenable at Tsholofelo Rehabilitation Centre in Serowe.

ACCOUNTS OFFICER (1 POST) - (SHORT TERM CONTRACT OF 12 MONTHS).

Annual Salary: C2 Salary scale (P156 336 – P185 868 per annum).
Leave: 25 days per annum.
Qualifications: Diploma/Degree in Accounting/Accounts/Finance.

Requirements:
- At least 2 years minimum Accounting/Accounts work experience.
- Experience in working in a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) will be an added advantage.
- **Must be registered with Botswana Institute of Chartered Accountants (BICA)**

NB: At the end of the 12 month contract, severance benefits will be paid.

Competencies and Skills
- Time management
- Communicating effectively
- Integrity and Trust
- Analytical thinking and Visioning
- Drive for results
- Ability to explain financial/accounting procedures
- Deciding and Initiating Action
- Work under pressure and tight deadlines

Duties
- Prepares bank reconciliations.
- Prepares of yearly financial budget with the Management.
- Enters all income and expenditure in the Xero system.
- Processes all financial transactions in an accurate and timely manner.
- Prepares payments for all purchases.
- Ensuring that imprest is retired well on time.
- Handles petty cash within the Centre.
- Monitors payments against and allocating alongside the financial budget, and adhering to the budget at all times and provide support to management.
- Payment of employees' PAYE to BURS.
- Helps with preparation of internal and external audits and respond to audit queries in a timely manner.
- Files and maintaining financial records accurately.
- Oversees short and long term plans and initiatives and help budgeting activities.
- Preparing monthly reports for the management and quarterly reports for the donor/funder and the Board.
- Ensures proper recording and custody of all procurement documents.
- Management of all procurement and disposal activities carried out by the Centre.
- Initiates Procurement Plans and ensures their implementation.
- Entering all assets into the Xero system.
- Conducts inventory checks and arranges for auction sales.
- Any other duties as assigned by the Supervisor/Management.

Applications should quote the number of the Vacancy Circular and provide the following:
- Full names and address.
- Up to date curriculum vitae.
- Certified copies of certificates (Academic and Professional).
- A minimum of two current references (not more than 6 months).
- Certified copy of proof of identity (Omang) or Passport for non-citizens.

APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO:

The Board Chairperson
Tsholofelo Rehabilitation Centre
P. O. Box 1974
Serowe

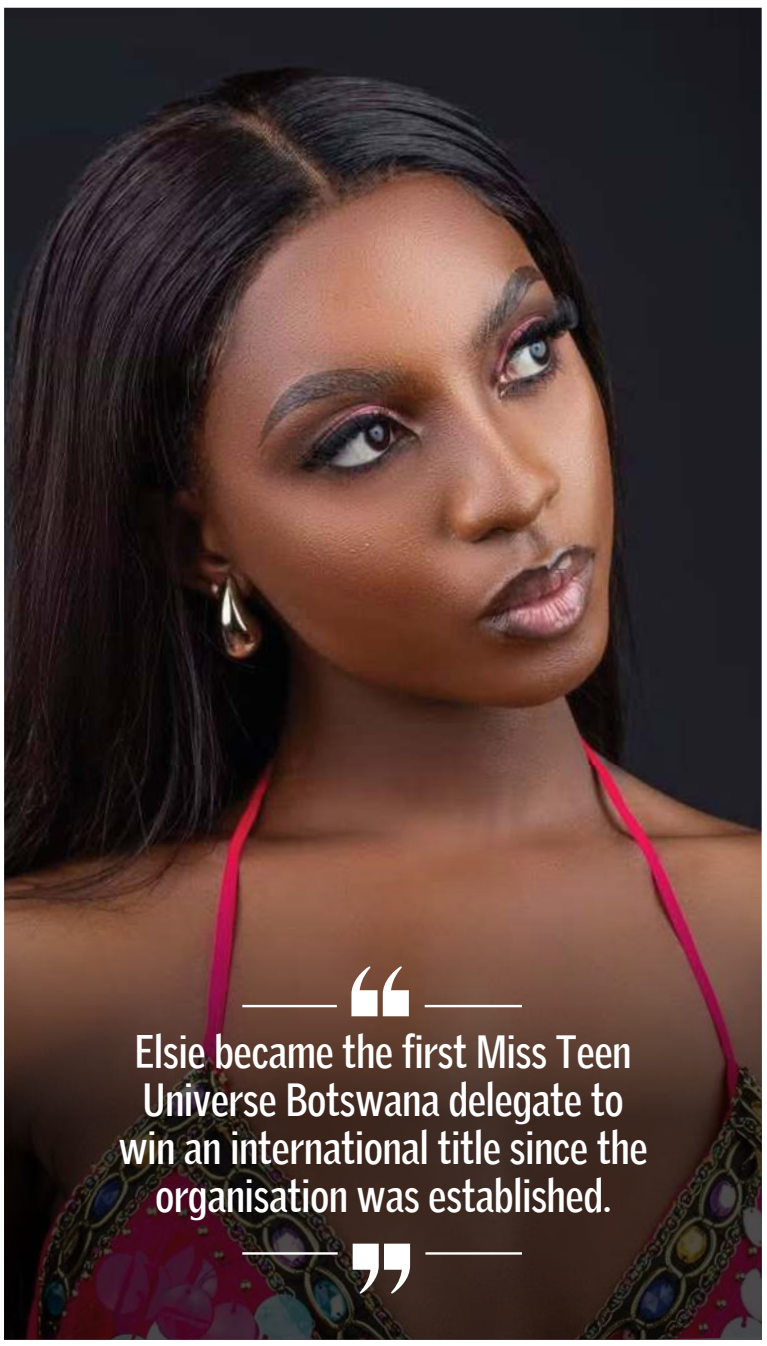
OR
Hand delivered at Tsholofelo Rehabilitation Centre
Plot 10128, Mannathoko Ward, Serowe near Ranokanyane Junior Secondary School

NB: PLEASE NOTE THAT APPLICATIONS SENT BY E-MAILS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERRED.

ONLY SHORT - LISTED CANDIDATES WILL BE RESPONDED TO:

CLOSING DATE: 10TH NOVEMBER, 2026 AT 15.30HRS.

For further information please contact Mrs Lesego Bolaane at 73948978



Why Elsie's Crown Matters

Botswana has a continental queen. Now comes the real test: can Elsie Katlego Maswere's Miss Teen Universe Africa 2026 victory turn pageant glamour into investment, opportunity and a bigger stage for the country's young creatives?

GOSEGO MOTSUMI

A crown is lovely. But what happens when the applause fades and the sponsors go home?

For Elsie Katlego Maswere, Botswana's new Miss Teen Universe Africa 2026, the bigger prize could be what her victory unlocks for an industry that needs more than congratulatory posts to thrive.

Crowned in Cambodia recently, after competing against contestants from more than 35 countries, Elsie became the first Miss Teen Universe Botswana delegate to win an international title since the organisation was established under The Pageant Empire BW in 2023. She returned home on 28 October with a continental title and an argument for taking Botswana's pageant industry seriously.

MORE THAN A SASH

Elsie believes her win could help shift perceptions of pageantry from a glamorous pastime to an industry worthy of investment.

“Sponsors will be able to see that there is value that could come out from the pageant industry,” she told Time Out, arguing that greater corporate support could benefit the sector as a whole.

That is where the real conversation begins. Pageants require preparation, travel, presentation and sustained commitment, yet the public often sees only the polished photographs and the final walk. Without sponsors willing to back contestants, local talent risks having ambition but limited access to international platforms.

AUTHENTICITY OVER IMITATION

Elsie also wants to challenge the pressure on young women to fit a narrow mould of what a beauty queen should look or behave like.

She says contestants can become so focused on copying successful competitors that they lose sight of their own strengths.

“Every journey every queen is unique and has capabilities of their own that could change the world,” she said.

Her experience competing in Cambodia alone strengthened her independence and revealed a resilience she had not known she possessed.

THE NEXT GENERATION

For Elsie, the crown must reach beyond her own achievements. She wants to inspire African girls to pursue their ambitions, even when they come from places where creative careers receive little support.

“I want to show them that you can do anything despite where you come from because the little hope you have can take you far,” she said.

Botswana can celebrate its new continental queen. But if her victory is to mean something lasting, the industry must turn the moment into momentum: more investment, more opportunities and more young women given the chance to compete.

GABORONE COMES HUNGRY

Lunch plans turned into an all-day affair as Kgale View Night Market brought global flavours, local entrepreneurs and Gaborone's social butterflies to the Game City Parkade. Come for the food, stay for the discoveries.

GOSEGO MOTSUMI

Who said a parkade couldn't be a foodie destination? On Sunday, the Game City Parkade became a playground for hungry explorers as Kgale View Night Market returned, opening at noon for lunch before rolling into the night. The result was a welcome reminder that Gaborone's market culture is about more than shopping: it is about eating adventurously, discovering local brands and finding your people.

My first stop was Jollof World. I had been looking forward to trying its food, and getting to taste egusi soup alongside jollof rice made the stall a personal highlight. The appeal was the chance to explore West African flavours without leaving the city. For anyone whose idea of a good outing involves discovering what's cooking beyond their usual menu, this was the kind of stop worth making.

FOLLOW YOUR APPETITE

The Grill Masters stall was attracting its fair share of attention, with braaied beef cuts and bao buns drawing hungry marketgoers. It was a tempting combination of smoky, fire-grilled favourites and a different take on the bun. At Titan Burgers, mocktails offered a refreshing way to beat the heat between food stops.

There was more to browse beyond the plates. NutriBots Delights brought dried fruits and nuts, while local perfume brand Ikay Essence offered another reason to pause between bites. The mix of food, accessories, cosmetics and emerging businesses turned wandering into part of the entertainment.

“The market gives entrepreneurs a platform while offering visitors a reason to try something new.”

LOCAL HUSTLE, SOCIAL ENERGY

What started as a small gathering at Kgale View Lodge has grown into a monthly fixture attracting up to 80 vendors, with Kgale Hill providing the backdrop. Its staying power lies in the combination of food, music, shopping and community.



The latest edition also marked TSW's partnership with the market, including a red-carpet Fast Lane for eligible new users.

“Kgale View Night Market has developed a wonderful community,” said Hamza Tajbhai, speaking on behalf of the market.

That community is the secret ingredient. The market gives entrepreneurs a platform while offering visitors a reason to try something new. My verdict? Come hungry, arrive curious and leave room for one more stop. At Kgale View, Sunday lunch is merely the beginning.



SESAME WANTS GOSPEL WITHOUT BORDERS

A Crown Gospel Awards nomination, a new single and a free worship experience are putting Sesame in motion. But behind the milestones is a bigger mission: getting Botswana's gospel artists out of the shadows and onto the international stage.

GOSEGO MOTSUMI

Botswana has no shortage of anointed voices. What it does have is an industry struggling to give those voices the financial backing they need. Gospel singer Sesame Baingapi-Khofi, popularly known as Sesame, wants to change that conversation and she is not waiting for the local industry to catch up.

Fresh off the release of her single *Leseding*, Sesame has earned a Best of Africa nomination at South Africa's Crown Gospel Music Awards 2026, adding another continental milestone to her musical journey.

TALENT NEEDS A PASSPORT

Having previously received a Crown Gospel Music Awards nomination in 2023, Sesame knows that international recognition does not simply fall into an artist's lap. It takes initiative, a recorded body of work and the confidence to knock on doors beyond Botswana.

"Opportunities are available outside Botswana and as artists all we need to do is to seek them out," she told Time Out.

But she is not pretending the journey is easy. The biggest obstacle, she argues, is money. While musicians in some countries can invest in their craft full-time, Botswana's gospel artists often have to contend with an industry that cannot reliably put food on the table.

"I know a lot of talented people, who are also anointed but we dont have the money to record our songs," she says.

For Sesame, it is a sacrifice to pursue gospel music in Botswana, where passion alone cannot pay studio bills.

NO TICKET TO HEAVEN

Her response is to make worship more accessible. On 4 December, she returns with the second edition of SoldOutForChrist, a free gospel gathering bringing together ministers from Botswana, Lesotho, South Africa and the United Kingdom.

The line-up includes Minister Spokes, Takalani Chairo, Katleho Seobi, Fifi Sibanda, Seako and Minister Leo, alongside other local gospel performers.

The event follows its inaugural edition last December and is Sesame's way of giving back to audiences who have supported her ministry.

"Funds shouldn't be a limitation," she says.

> "For Sesame, it is a sacrifice to pursue gospel music in Botswana, where passion alone cannot pay studio bills."

Ultimately, Sesame wants her music to do more than fill worship spaces. She wants it to lead people to Christ while encouraging fellow Botswana artists to stop playing small.

The message is clear: the talent is here. Now it needs the investment, visibility and courage to travel.

DStv Puts Value on Screen

Less money, fewer repeats, more football and a fresh menu of entertainment. DStv's Botswana shake-up promises to give subscribers more control over what they watch and what they pay for.

GOSEGO MOTSUMI



> "There is also a promise of 40% fewer repeats, a pledge that could be music to the ears of viewers tired of watching the same programmes come around again."

For years, paying for television has come with a familiar gripe: why pay more when the repeats keep rolling? DStv Botswana appears ready to tackle that frustration with a major shake-up promising lower prices, fresh channels and packages that let viewers choose their own entertainment battles.

Unveiled under the Expect More campaign in Gaborone, the overhaul takes effect on 5 November, introducing five new packages and price cuts across the board.

THE PRICE IS RIGHT?

MultiChoice Botswana CEO Stephanie Pillay says the changes reflect what subscribers have been asking for, including more choice and better value.

"We do not want our products to be grudge purchases," she said, acknowledging the need to make customers feel they are getting their money's worth.

The Starter package drops from P140 to P120, while Family falls from P295 to P280. The premium package, DStv Premium, moves from P860 to P800.

There is also a promise of 40% fewer repeats, a pledge that could be music to the ears of viewers tired of watching the same programmes come around again.

FOOTBALL GETS ITS OWN LANE

The headline-grabber for sports fans is a dedicated sports package priced at P400, bringing competitions including the UEFA Champions League, Premier League, PSL and La Liga into one offering.

For movie buffs, the new Movies and Series package costs P420, with M-Net moving down into the offering. Meanwhile, SuperSport Kickoff will bring a live Premier League match of the week to the Access package.

The strategy is clear: viewers should not have to pay for an entire entertainment universe just to watch the things they love.

BOTSWANA, ON SCREEN

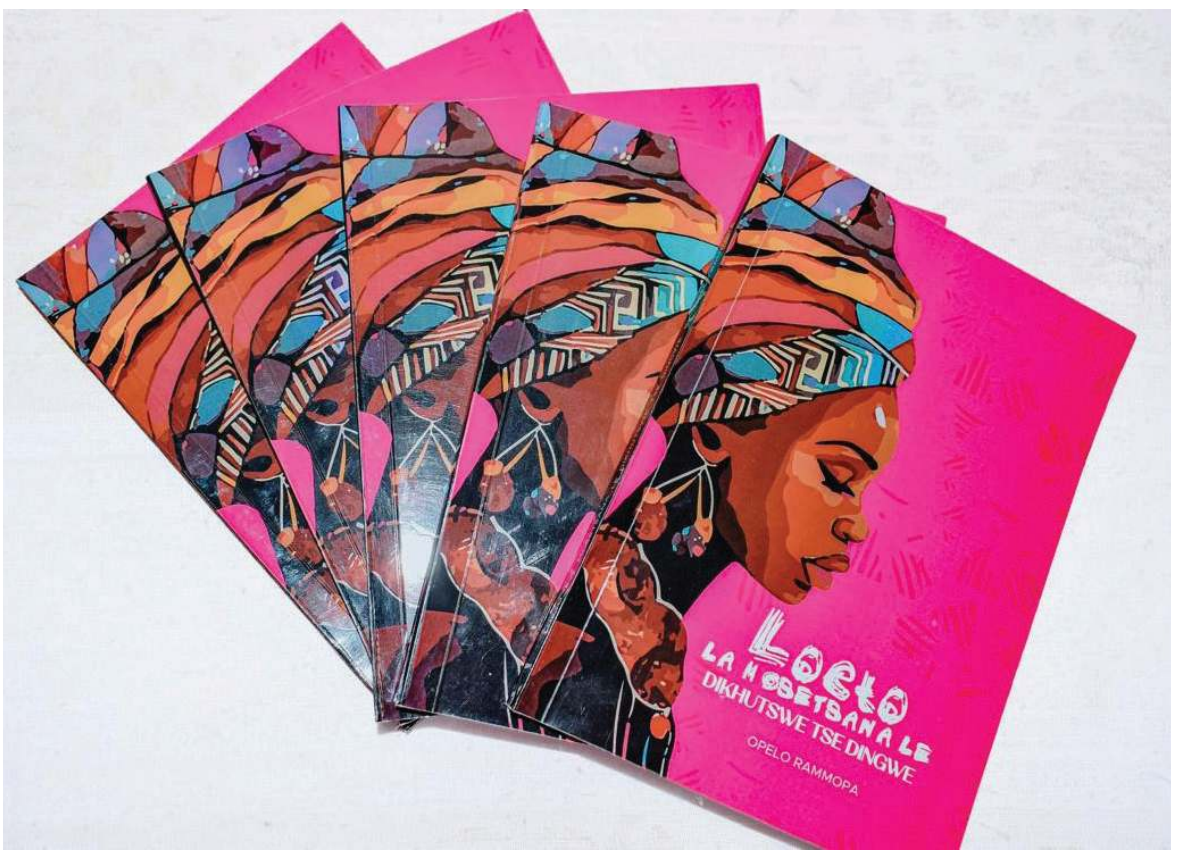
Beyond the price cuts, Pillay says the broadcaster remains invested in local storytelling. She confirmed that Mzansi Magic has commissioned three additional locally produced films scheduled to air later this year.

"We pride ourselves with being Africa's storyteller, we pride ourselves in being Botswana's storyteller," she said.

The real test begins when the new packages land. Lower prices make a compelling pitch, but the promise of more value will ultimately depend on what audiences find when they switch on.

Rammopa's New Read Breaks the Silence

Sexual abuse, bullying, jealousy and teenage sexuality are not exactly dinner-table conversation. Local author Opelo Rammopa wants to change that, using Setswana storytelling to confront the issues adults often leave young girls to navigate alone.



GOSEGO MOTSUMI

Some lessons arrive too late. Others are never taught at all. In her forthcoming book, *Loeto la Mosetsana Le Dikhutswe Tse Dingwe*, emerging author Opelo Rammopa takes aim at the silences surrounding girls' lives and the consequences that can follow them well into adulthood.

Written in Setswana, the book explores the social pressures confronting young girls, from bullying and discrimination to sexual abuse, jealousy and decisions that can shape their futures. But Rammopa is not simply interested in exposing problems. She wants her stories to get parents, educators and young people talking before preventable harm becomes a painful lesson.

"I believe the society is not doing enough to address this kind of challenges adequately in such a way that, we wait for things to happen first and then try to address it when the damage has already been done," she said in an interview.

TALK BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE

For Rammopa, the problem begins at home and in communities where uncomfortable subjects are avoided rather than explained. Telling children what not to do, she argues, is not enough; they need to understand why, know their rights and feel safe asking questions.

"The more you tell a child not to engage into sexual activities the more they become curious."

Her book looks at the roots of these challenges, using fictional characters to make difficult conversations less intimidating for families.

"I believe this book will make conversations between educators, parents and young people to be simple because they will understand that such things happens and should be discussed," she says.

It is an ambitious role for a book: to become a conversation starter in homes where silence has long been the default setting.

THE PRICE OF TELLING OUR STORIES

Rammopa's own journey has involved confronting fear, too. She says self-doubt initially kept her from sharing her work, while the high cost of printing and translating Setswana books presents another hurdle for emerging writers.

> "The more you tell a child not to engage into sexual activities the more they become curious."

She believes affordable printing, greater support from bookshops and government purchases of Setswana books for schools could help more local authors reach readers.

The book's launch date is yet to be announced, but its central challenge is already clear: young girls need more than warnings; they need honest conversations, guidance and room to speak.

The Dance That Keeps San Culture Alive

In Chobokwane, nine girls have graduated from a tradition that teaches far more than dance. The Dúù programme is keeping San knowledge alive while giving women and girls new ways to shape their future.

GOSEGO MOTSUMI

In a world racing towards the next big thing, nine San girls in the Ghanzi District are learning the value of something that must never go out of style: ancestral knowledge.

On Friday, 30 October, Chobokwane became a meeting point for tradition and tomorrow as the Family Support Centre celebrated the second annual Dúù Dance graduation, supported by Palms for Life Fund. But this was no ordinary graduation. The lessons went beyond steps and songs; they were about identity, womanhood, healing and keeping a culture breathing across generations.

MORE THAN A DANCE

Dúù, the Naro word for eland, is a traditional learning practice through which older San women pass down knowledge and life skills to younger generations. Think of it as a living classroom where cultural memory is taught through movement, music and shared wisdom.

The programme brought together 68 women and nine girls from Chobokwane, New Xanagas, East Hanahai and West Hanahai.

"The Dúù Dance Ceremony is an important cultural preservation and intergenerational knowledge-transfer initiative aimed at ensuring that traditional knowledge, practices and values are passed on from elderly women to younger generations," said Family Support Centre representative Onkemetse Maruping in an interview.



Nine girls graduated, while nine women trained as Dúù Dance Mothers to help sustain the practice. Two traditional healers and seven knowledge holders contributed to training covering traditional medicine, cultural norms, songs and dances.

ANCESTRAL KNOWLEDGE MEETS AI

Preserving tradition does not mean rejecting the future. Graduates participated in artificial intelligence training, exploring how technology could help preserve and promote Indigenous cultures.

Women also discussed income-generating opportunities, employment and grants for Indigenous women-led groups.

Palms for Life's Larona Lekgabe said the organisation was proud to support the programme as part of its commitment to protecting Indigenous cultural knowledge alongside its broader social development work with San communities in Botswana.

> Dúù, the Naro word for eland, is a traditional learning practice through which older San women pass down knowledge and life skills to younger generations.

The initiative connects cultural preservation with practical opportunities for women and girls to shape their futures.

REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA

INTEGRATED **MEASLES RUBELLA VACCINATION CAMPAIGN**

DATE:
16 - 20 November 2026

WHERE:
Health facilities and other designated sites in your community.

WHO SHOULD RECEIVE THESE SERVICES?

- **MEASLES RUBELLA (MR) VACCINE:**
  Children aged 9 - 59 months.
- **VITAMIN A SUPPLEMENTATION:**
  Children aged 6 - 59 months
- **ALBENDAZOLE (DEWORMING):**
  Children aged 12 - 59 months



Protect Children, Protect Our Future

#SireletsangBana



For more information contact:
Ministry of Local Government and Traditional Affairs: 3658423/3658467
Ministry of Health Toll free: 16649
76227605

World Health Organization
unicef for every child
BOTSWANA RED CROSS SOCIETY
BOMRA MEDICINES REGULATORY AUTHORITY
Promoting access to safe medicines

Middleton's Cookbook Makes Global Final

TIMEOUT BRIEFS

BY GOSEGO MOTSUMI

From Botswana's seswaa to Korean fried chicken, Kenneth Middleton's debut cookbook is cooking up international recognition, landing among just eight finalists worldwide.



Botswana's culinary creativity is getting a global seat at the table, and Middleton's *Paradise* is bringing the flavour.

The debut cookbook has been named one of just eight worldwide finalists in the First Cookbook category at the 2026 Gourmand World Cookbook Awards, putting its ambitious blend of local and international cuisine in the global spotlight.

A PASSPORT FOR THE PALATE

Published by Penguin Random House South Africa, *Paradise* celebrates indulgent, guilt-free cooking, taking readers from southern African staples such as seswaa to Vietnamese pho and Korean fried chicken.

That culinary crossover gives the book a deliciously expansive identity, celebrating food without borders while keeping regional flavours in the mix.

Middleton welcomed the recognition with characteristic optimism, thanking his publishers and supporters as he awaits the final verdict.

"Until then, this office remains optimistically disposed towards a favourable verdict and we place our fate in the hands of providence," he said.

The winners will be announced in May 2027. Until then, *Paradise* has already secured a place among the world's standout debut cookbooks.

KATLEGO TWALA'S TOKYO MOMENT

From Botswana to Tokyo, Katlego C.L. Twala is making her mark on the international art scene, earning recognition for work that connects African perspectives with the wider world.

Botswana's art scene has another reason to look beyond its borders. Artist Katlego C.L. Twala has earned the Sponsor Award at the inaugural Toyota Tsusho Corporation (TTC) African Art Award in Tokyo, Japan.

The recognition celebrates her artistic excellence, creative vision and perspectives connecting Africa with the world.

A CANVAS WITHOUT BORDERS

Twala was among young, award-winning African artists from Botswana, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Ethiopia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo hosted in Tokyo for the sponsored exhibition.

TTC says the award was "established to support artists working across Africa", providing a platform for creatives to showcase their work in Japan.

Twala's growing international profile reflects a career built on technical training and notable exhibitions. She studied at the Swedish Academy of Realist Art and the Barcelona Academy of Art before winning the New Emergence Art Prize in 2024.

Her momentum continued in 2025, when she presented a sold-out solo booth at Latitudes Art Fair with the Banana Club Artist Fund, followed by a presentation at FNB Art Joburg with Everard Read Gallery.

The Tokyo award adds another milestone to her trajectory, putting a Motswana artist's creative vision in an international conversation.



BEAUTY RESET BRUNCH RETURNS IN 2027

Beauty routines meet bigger conversations when Jessica Molefe's Beauty Reset Brunch returns to Gaborone, bringing sisterhood, wellness and personal growth back to the rooftop.



Consider this your cue to gather the girls, refresh your goals and make room for a little self-discovery. The Beauty Reset Brunch is returning on 27 February 2027, with makeup artist and content creator Jessica Molefe bringing the women-focused experience back to Game City Rooftop in Gaborone.

"Get ready for a day of beauty, meaningful conversations, sisterhood, inspiration, and unforgettable experiences as we gather to celebrate becoming the woman of your dreams," Molefe announced. "Tickets are officially on sale!"

MORE THAN A PRETTY FACE

Following a successful inaugural edition earlier this year, the brunch is positioning itself as more than a beauty date on the social calendar.

The experience explores self-perception, wellness and personal growth, with professionals in beauty, dermatology, fitness and mindset bringing practical knowledge into the conversation.

That mix gives the event a broader purpose: creating space for women to talk about how they look, how they feel and who they want to become.

The rooftop setting adds a social touch, but the real draw is the promise of connection and conversations that go beyond makeup bags and skincare routines.

With tickets already on sale, the countdown to February has officially begun. Whether the goal is a fresh perspective, new connections or a little inspiration, the Beauty Reset Brunch is inviting women to make themselves part of the plan.

Discover Wine Without the Splurge

A memorable home tasting needs curiosity more than expensive equipment, with blind pours, unfamiliar bottles and even seswaa opening up fresh discoveries.



Pic Credit; AI-generated editorial illustrations



Phenyo Motlhagodi — formally trained wine enthusiast (trained at the Cape Wine Academy); Chartered PR Practitioner (Chart.PR) with the Chartered Institute of Public Relations; and founder of a pan-African boutique PR, Influence & Reputation Management consultancy. Instagram: @phenyomotlhagodi.

There is something wonderfully sophisticated about a wine tasting. A few bottles on a table, some glasses, a group of friends and suddenly everyone is discussing acidity, tannins and whether that aroma is blackcurrant, blackberry or simply the bottle of hand wash sitting too close to the kitchen.

Wine tastings can look intimidating, but they really don't have to be. Yes, you can bring in a professional wine consultant, and yes, we do not come cheap. A proper tasting involves more than turning up with six bottles and saying, "Okay, everybody, smell this." There is programme development, wine selection, sourcing, service, storytelling and hosting. When the occasion calls for it, it is money well spent.

But not every tasting needs the full professional treatment. Perhaps you are having friends over, celebrating with family or hosting clients for your business. You can absolutely put together your own wine tasting, and with a little planning, it can be a very good one.

CHOOSE DISCOVERY

This seems obvious, but it is probably the mistake I see most often. Someone announces that they are hosting a wine tasting and then produces the same Chardonnay, Cabernet Sauvignon and Sauvignon Blanc everyone has been drinking for the last three years.

Congratulations. You have organised a familiar drinking session and put glasses on the table. The whole point of a tasting is discovery. If everyone already knows the wines, the grape varieties and the brands, there is very little to discover.



And here is the slightly uncomfortable part: the host should also be willing to explore. You cannot spend the entire afternoon Googling grapes you have never tasted and then pretending to be the resident expert at 7pm. Expand your own palate in the process.

PICK A THEME

A tasting becomes much easier to organise when there is a reason behind the wines. You could compare Cabernet Sauvignon from different regions, explore South African Chenin Blanc, taste wines made from lesser-known grape varieties or look at Old World versus New World styles. You could even make the theme as simple as three whites and three reds from producers nobody in the group normally buys.

The theme gives the tasting structure and people something to discuss beyond whether they like the bottle. Five or six wines are more than enough for a home tasting.

KEEP IT SIMPLE

At home, work with what you have.

Ideally, use clean glasses of a reasonably similar shape so that people are not tasting from a champagne flute, a tumbler and a water glass and wondering why the wines are behaving differently. But do not let the absence of specialist stemware stop you.

You also do not need expensive printed tasting sheets. Give everyone a piece of paper and ask them to score each wine out of 10 or 100, then jot down what they smell, taste and like or dislike. The important thing is to get people thinking about the wine rather than simply swallowing it.

TASTE BLIND

Pour the wines without revealing exactly what they are. Hiding the labels can remove some of the assumptions people bring to the table. A famous producer, expensive bottle or prestigious region can influence expectations before the wine even reaches the mouth.

> "A famous producer, expensive bottle or prestigious region can influence expectations before the wine even reaches the mouth."

Ask everyone to look at the wine, smell it and taste it before revealing the identity. Then let the arguments begin. Someone might confidently declare that they are drinking Pinot Noir and discover that it is actually something completely different. That is not failure. That is wine.

KEEP IT FUN

Your guests are not sitting for a wine diploma. The point is to make them curi-

CONTINUES TO PAGE 43

FROM PAGE 42

ous. Which wine surprised you? Did the wine change after sitting in the glass for ten minutes?

There is no need to frighten people with a vocabulary lesson on tertiary aromas unless they actually want one.

> "The best tastings are rarely the ones where everyone agrees. They are the ones where everyone leaves having discovered something."

If someone says, "It smells like my grandmother's spice cupboard," don't immediately correct them because the official tasting note says clove and nutmeg. Ask them what they mean. Their reference point may be completely different from yours, and that is exactly what makes tasting interesting.



FEED YOUR GUESTS

Wine and food belong together, and a tasting is much more enjoyable when there is something to eat. This does not mean a twelve-course menu.

Simple is often better. Cheese, cured meats, crackers, fruit, nuts and a few savoury bites can keep everyone comfortable while giving you an opportunity to see how the wines behave with food.

For a more local experience, think beyond the usual cheese board. Seswaa, grilled meats, spicy chicken, roasted vegetables and other familiar flavours can produce fascinating pairings. You might discover that a wine you disliked on its own suddenly makes perfect sense with food. That is useful knowledge.

TELL THE STORY

The difference between a collection of bottles and a wine tasting is storytelling. Tell people why you chose the wines. Give them a little background on the grape, the region or the producer. Explain one or two things worth noticing, then let the wine do the rest. Put the bottles in an order that makes sense, generally moving from lighter styles to fuller ones.

Most importantly, remember that you are hosting people, not conducting a laboratory experiment. Laugh. Debate. Someone will inevitably announce that a wine tastes like "Kool-Aid," and somewhere in the room a wine enthusiast will quietly have a crisis. Let them.

The best tastings are rarely the ones where everyone agrees. They are the ones where everyone leaves having discovered something.

START EXPLORING

Be a little adventurous. Choose a grape nobody can pronounce, a producer nobody has heard of or a region that sends everyone to Google.

You might choose badly. You might choose brilliantly. Either way, you will have done something much more valuable than simply opening another bottle. You will have discovered something. And that, ultimately, is what a good wine tasting is supposed to be about.





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

CASE NO. CVHGB – 001620-25

In the matter between
NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT BANK — **Plaintiff**
and
MARION BERRY INVESTMENTS (PROPRIETARY) LIMITED — **1st Defendant**
ESTATE LATE DUMIZWENI MTHIMKHULU — **2nd Defendant**

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to a Judgment granted by the above Honourable Court on the 13th October 2025 the following immovable property of the abovementioned Defendant will be sold by means of public auction to the highest bidder by **Deputy Sheriff Opelo Mothibi** as follows:

DATE OF SALE : Friday 11 December 2026
VENUE : Lot 1016, Moshaweng
TIME OF SALE : 1400 hours
TERMS OF SALE : Strictly Cash or Electronic Fund Transfer, otherwise detailed conditions of sale may be inspected at the Plaintiff's Attorneys' offices or the Deputy Sheriff's office.

PROPERTY TO BE SOLD : The 1st Defendant's title, rights and interests in a certain piece of land being Lot 1016, Moshaweng, situate in the Bakwena Tribal Territory, measuring 14, 3322 Ha, (Fourteen Comma Three Three Two Two Hectares) held under Memorandum of Agreement of Grant of Lease Number TG 54/2020 dated 05th day of June 2020 made in favour of MARION BERRY INVESTMENTS PROPRIETARY LIMITED together with all the improvements thereon being 2 boreholes with its equipment's both operating with their solar panels, 2 reservoirs, 1 room connected with storage, 4 rooms L shape, 2 Bedroomed house, fitted kitchen, toilet, sitting room, bathroom, separated toilet and shower, division of 8 kraals, 3 ploughing shelters and a small poultry house, 3 piece sofa set, bedroom suite set, double bed X 2, 1000L Jojo tank and 60 small stock.

DATED AT GABORONE ON THIS 2ND DAY OF NOVEMBER 2026.

COLLINS CHILISA CONSULTANTS
Plot 4858, Lecha Road
Off Marakanelo Way
Extension 11
P O Box 45136
GABORONE
Deputy Sheriff Opelo Mothibi
[Cell No. 72234419/77636760]

COLLINS CHILISA CONSULTANTS
Attorneys • Notaries • Conveyancers





YOUR JOB, YOUR MONEY, YOUR FUTURE

Rising living costs, workplace stress and uncertain retirement prospects are putting employees under increasing pressure. Old Mutual is challenging employers to look beyond salaries and productivity, arguing that protecting workers' well-being today is just as important as securing their financial future.



CLICK WATCH

LEATILE ZACHARIAH

Old Mutual has called on employers and human resources practitioners to adopt a more holistic approach to employee well-being, placing equal emphasis on workplace conditions, financial security and long-term retirement preparedness.

The call was made during the Old Mutual HR Thought Leadership Session held last Thursday at the Gaborone International Convention Centre (GICC) in Gaborone, where industry experts and HR practitioners examined emerging workplace trends and the changing expectations of employees.

Addressing the gathering, Old Mutual Interim Group CEO Ricardo Sardien said the future of HR extended beyond human capital management, talent development and organisational culture to include the financial well-being of employees.

He noted that retirement decisions made during an individual's early working years could influence their quality of life decades later. However, rising living costs were making it increasingly difficult for employees to balance present financial obligations with long-term savings.

Citing Statistics Botswana's reported annual inflation of 7.8 per cent in September, he said employers needed to recognise the impact of economic pressures on employees' ability to save. He further cautioned that access to retirement benefits did not automatically translate into adequate retirement provision.

BEYOND THE PAYCHEQUE

Old Mutual Managing Director Reason Nyamambi said financial services providers needed to move beyond positioning products and take a more active role in educating employers and employees to make informed financial decisions.

She called for closer collaboration, engagement and knowledge transfer, arguing that changing workforce needs required innovative solutions rather than relying on arrangements designed for previous economic and employment conditions.

Nyamambi used the occasion to unveil Kgodiso, a smooth bonus investment product designed to support retirement financial security. She said the product offered employers and employees an investment option aimed at delivering steadier growth amid market volatility.

She explained that HR practitioners were deliberately prioritised for the launch because of their influence in shaping retirement benefit decisions within organisations.

WORKPLACE PRESSURES

Meanwhile, Dr Onalethata Johnson, Managing Director of Lyra Botswana, challenged organisations to reconsider how they approach employee wellness, arguing that productivity cannot be addressed by focusing exclusively on the individual.

She highlighted human factors management, which examines the relationship between employees and their working environments, including workload, technology, leadership styles, communication and organisational culture.

Johnson observed that the workplace was the third leading cause of stress among employees, making it important for organisations to examine how their own systems and management practices contribute to workplace pressures.

She said factors such as excessive workloads, job insecurity and the absence of psychological safety could undermine employee performance, regardless of individual wellness interventions.

Her presentation underscored the importance of creating supportive working environments where employees can communicate concerns, manage change and perform effectively.

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

CASE NO. CVHFT 000 573--22

In the matter between:
BBS BANK LIMITED **PLAINTIFF**
and
LESEDI MOSEKGWA **DEFENDANT**

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION – IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

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 property of the Defendants will be sold by public auction to the highest bidder by **Deputy Sheriff BATHUSI BILLY** or an Auctioneer duly appointed by the Deputy Sheriff.

DATE OF SALE : 20th November 2026;
VENUE : Lot 15888, Francistown;
TIME OF SALE : 1030 hrs;
PROPERTY TO BE SOLD : a certain piece of land being 15888, Francistown, situated in the Francistown Extension 34, measuring 405m² (Four Hundred and Five Square Metres) which property is held under Deed of Transfer of No. FT 455/2011 dated 2nd day of August 2011 registered in favour of **LESEDI MOSEKGWA** with some developments thereon being a three (3) bedroomed house, master ensuite, toilet and bath combined, sitting room, kitchen, ceramic tile, air conditioned, paved carport, electric fence, screen wall, motor gate, water and electricity.

TERMS OF SALE : strictly cash only, otherwise detailed conditions of sale may be inspected at the Plaintiff's Attorneys' offices or the Deputy Sheriff's office.

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN ON THIS 5TH OCTOBER 2026.

COLLINS CHILISA CONSULTANTS
Attorneys • Notaries • Conveyancers

COLLINS CHILISA CONSULTANTS.,
Plaintiff's Attorneys,
Plot 400, Moffat Street,
P.O. Box 484, Tel. 2412761,
FRANCISTOWN.
Deputy Sheriff Bathusi Billy
Cell No. 71607940/74777581



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

Case No. IC EX 489/25

In the matter between:
KAELO RASETSHWANA & 55 OTHERS **APPLICANTS**
And
GREEN AFRICA LANDSCAPING **RESPONDENT**

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION-MOVABLE PROPERTY

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to the judgment of the above Honorable Court the following property of the abovenamed Defendant will be sold by public auction by Deputy Sheriff **D.J MOYO** to the highest bidder as follows:

DATE OF SALE : 23 November 2026
TIME : 10:00 am
VENUE : Tlokweng

PROPERTY TO BE SOLD :
1. 1 x 1 Volvo 65 seaters bus Reg No: B 979 APJ
2. 1 x 1 Trailer Reg No: B 198 BJU with 4 Jojo
3. 1 x 1 Bard winer
4. 1 x 1 John Deer Grass cutter
5. 1 x 1 Trailer 12 meters
6. 1 x 1 Trailer 6 meters
7. 1 x 1 Double Cab Hilux Reg No: 740 ACW
8. 1 x 1 Hino 700 Truck Reg No: B 241 ALL
9. 1 x 1 6 meters container
10. 1 x 1 Mercedes Benz horse Reg No: B 350 AIJ
11. 1 x 1 Small Trailer
12. 1 x 1 Main Truck Reg No:
13. 1 x 1 Porter Camp
14. 1 x 1 Isuzu Dyna B 516 ATA

CONDITIONS OF SALE : Cash or Bank transfers

DATED AT GABORONE THIS 02 DAY OF NOVEMBER 2026

DEPUTY SHERIFF D.J MOYO
72192666/ 3914511/72772565
C/O KABELO RASETSHWANA & 55 OTHERS
P.O Box 20572
Gaborone

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

CASE NO. CVHFT 000522-21

In the matter between:
STANBIC BANK BOTSWANA LIMITED **PLAINTIFF**
and
CECILIA WABO RAPELANG **DEFENDANT**

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION – IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

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 property of the Defendant will be sold by public auction to the highest bidder by **Deputy Sheriff URGENT CHILISA** or an Auctioneer duly appointed by the Deputy Sheriff.

DATE OF SALE : 20th November 2026;
VENUE : Lot 10754, Block 7, Francistown;
TIME OF SALE : 1030 hrs;
PROPERTY TO BE SOLD : A certain piece of land being Lot 10754, situated in Francistown Extension 17, measuring 420 m² (Four Hundred and Twenty Square Metres) which property is held under Deed of Transfer No. FT 539/2012 dated 20th July 2012 made in favour of **CECILIA WABO RAPELANG** with some developments thereon being a three (3) bedroomed house with sitting room, dining room, kitchen, bathroom with toilet, garage and screen wall with electric fence.

TERMS OF SALE : strictly Cash or Electronic Fund Transfer, otherwise detailed conditions of sale may be inspected at the Plaintiff's Attorneys' offices or the Deputy Sheriff's office.

.

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN ON THIS 5TH OCTOBER 2026

COLLINS CHILISA CONSULTANTS
Attorneys • Notaries • Conveyancers

COLLINS CHILISA CONSULTANTS,
Plaintiff's Attorneys,
Plot 400, Cnr of Baines Avenue & Moffat Street,
Central Residential Area,
P.O. Box 484,
Tel. 2412761/72357763,
FRANCISTOWN.



FOUR WINS MARK YOUNG ZEBRAS DEBUT

Botswana's Under-15 side won four of 10 matches in Azerbaijan, recording a 40 percent win rate on their maiden global appearance

BONGANI MALUNGA

Botswana's Young Zebras returned from the inaugural FIFA Under-15 World Cup and Festival in Azerbaijan with four victories from 10 matches, completing an historic first appearance on the FIFA World Cup stage.

The youthful Botswana side finished 123rd out of 189 participating nations, scoring 21 goals while conceding 32 during the week-long tournament in Baku. Their record of four wins and six defeats translated into a 40 percent win rate.

That return placed Botswana slightly behind several of Africa's stronger performers but alongside some familiar regional rivals.

Zambia produced one of the continent's outstanding campaigns, winning nine of their 10 matches for a 90 percent success rate, while Ghana won eight of 10 and eventually finished seventh overall. Senegal and Mali collected seven victories apiece, while South Africa, Namibia and Malawi each won five matches.

FOUR WINS

Botswana's four wins matched Zimbabwe and Mozambique, while bettering the returns of regional neighbours Eswatini, who won three of 10, and Lesotho, who managed two victories from nine matches.The Young Zebras' four victories came against Mongolia, Papua New Guinea, Myanmar and Tahiti, with Botswana saving their biggest win for the final day of competition.

Botswana signed off by hammering Tahiti 7-1 on October 30, their largest victory of the tournament. The result secured Botswana 123rd place, one position above Tahiti, who finished 124th. Botswana's campaign had started on a difficult note when Mali handed them a heavy 7-1 defeat in their opening Group O fixture, but they responded by beating Mongolia 4-1.

Their second victory arrived against Papua New Guinea, whom they edged 2-1 during the preliminary phase. Papua New Guinea subsequently finished among the tournament's lowest-ranked sides.

HEAVY DEFEAT

A heavy defeat against Belarus contributed to Botswana being placed in Tier D for the classification phase, where the team continued to experience contrasting fortunes. After defeats against Saudi Arabia and Tanzania, Botswana bounced back to edge Myanmar 4-3 in a seven-goal thriller, registering their third victory of the tournament.

They then lost 4-2 to Turkmenistan before producing their most emphatic performance against Tahiti in the final classification fixture. The final numbers therefore tell a mixed but significant story, 10 matches, four wins, six defeats, 21 goals scored and 32 conceded.

Botswana's 40 percent winning rate fell short of Africa's leading sides but the Young Zebras still matched Zimbabwe and Mozambique for victories and collected more wins than Eswatini and Lesotho.

The competition itself was unprecedented, FIFA brought together 189 associations and almost 3000 young players, with 187 of the participating teams managing at least one victory. A total of 932 matches produced 4505 goals.

SIGWENI J.
IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT FRANCISTOWN

CASE NO: MAHFT 000 064/26

In the matter between:
FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED (WESBANK DIVISION) — **APPLICANT**
And
LUDO JEALOUS MHLASI — **RESPONDENT**

SUBSTITUTED SERVICE

TO: **Ludo Jealous Mhlasi**
P.O Box 1634
ORAPA

Formerly residing at House No. 3, Bulbul Street, Orapa but whose present whereabouts are unknown:

TAKE NOTICE that by summons issued out of this Honourable Court, you have been called upon to give notice, within **Twenty-One (21) days** after publication hereof, to the Registrar and to **FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED (WESBANK DIVISION)** c/o **M MMOHE ATTORNEYS** (Applicant's Attorneys) of intention to defend (if any) in an action wherein **FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED (WESBANK DIVISION)** claims:-

Directing, ordering and authorizing any Deputy Sheriff of this court to attach and repossess a **2020 Toyota, Urban Cruiser, Brown, Hatch Back of registration numbers B572 BOR and chassis No. JTDPYGJ1S00712996** from the Respondent or any other person(s) claiming title through the Respondent pending the finalization of an action for recovery of monies owed to the Applicant; The Respondent and any person claiming through the Respondent be and is hereby interdicted from encumbering, dealing or disposing the motor vehicle pending the outcome of the aforesaid action; Directing that the Respondent pay the costs of this Application on an attorney and own scale.

TAKE NOTICE FURTHER that if you fail to give such notice, judgment may be granted against you without further reference to you.

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 3RD DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2026

MMOHE ATTORNEYS
ATTORNEYS, NOTARIES & CONVEYANCERS

M MMOHE ATTORNEYS
(Applicant's Attorneys)
Plot 3936,Peolwane Street, Minestone
P.O. Box 1860
FRANCISTOWN

DEPUTY REGISTRAR & MASTER

TSHEKISO J.
IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT FRANCISTOWN

CASE No. CVHFT 000 020/25

In the matter between
ABSA BANK BOTSWANA LIMITED — **PLAINTIFF**
And
LESEGO SERUMOLA — **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 **ZACHARIAH MASHAMAITE** to the Highest Bidder:

DATE OF SALE : 10th December 2026
TIME : 10:00 a.m.
VENUE : Lot 18802, Palapye
PROPERTY TO BE SOLD : Lot 18802, Palapye

SITUATE : at Palapye in the Bamangwato Tribal Territory

MEASURING : 1328m² (One Thousand Three Hundred and Twenty Eight Square Metres) which property is held under Notarial Deed of Cession No. FT MA 241 /2020 registered on the 19th day of October 2020 made in favour of LESEGO SERUMOLA
The property comprises of a three bedroomed house, kitchen, sitting room, bathroom and toilet, fence with some improvements thereon.

CONDITIONS OF SALE : Detailed conditions of sale may be inspected with Deputy Sheriff Zachariah Mashamaite on cell No. 77638433 / 74271019

CONDITION OF SALE : Cash or Bank guarantee cheques

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN ON THIS 3RD DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2026

MMOHE ATTORNEYS
ATTORNEYS, NOTARIES & CONVEYANCERS

DEPUTY SHERIFF ZACHARIAH MASHAMAITE
C/O M MMOHE ATTORNEYS
Plot No. 3936, Peolwane Street
Minestone
P.O. Box 1860
FRANCISTOWN

INTENTION TO CHANGE MARRIAGE PROPETY REGIME

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

1. Bushi Alfred Ntile and Nnaniki Patricia Galebutswe Ntile, married in community of property on the 12th February 2004, at Tlokweng wish to change their property regime to out of community of property.

2. The parties intend to apply to the High Court of Botswana after the expiration of the 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, should they have objections to the parties changing their property regime, are to inform the parties Attorneys, Mokopakgosi Attorneys, before the expiration of the said 3 weeks period, or make representations before the High Court of Botswana once the contemplated application is lodged.

DATED AT GABORONE THIS 2nd DAY OF NOVEMBER 2026

MOKOPAKGOSI ATTORNEYS
APPLICANT'S ATTORNEYS
PLOT 546, EXTENSION 4, GABORONE
P.O. BOX 45287, RIVERWALK
GABORONE

MOESI J.
IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT FRANCISTOWN

CASE NO: CVHFT 000 350/21

In the matter between:
FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED — **APPLICANT**
And
MOREETSI B. MOGALAKWE — **RESPONDENT**
In re:

CASE No. CVHFT 000 350/21
FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED — **PLAINTIFF**
And
MOREETSI B. MOGALAKWE — **DEFENDANT**

SUBSTITUTED SERVICE

TO: MOREETSI B. MOGALAKWE
Respondent
P. O Box 20665
MAUN

Formerly residing at Boseja Ward, Maun, but whose present whereabouts are unknown that by summons issued out of this Honourable Court, you have been called upon to give notice, within **Twenty One (21) days** after publication hereof, to the Registrar and to FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED c/o M Mmohe ATTORNEYS (Plaintiff's Attorneys) of intention to defend (if any) in an action wherein FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED claims:-

a) Payment of the sum of **P209 503.90**;
b) Interest at the rate of prime plus 22% per annum from 15th day of April 2021 to the date of final payment;
c) 10% collection commission in the event of paying the amount in installment; and
d) Costs of the suit at attorney and own client.

TAKE NOTICE FURTHER that if you fail to give such notice, judgment may be granted against you without further reference to you.

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 3RD DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2026

MMOHE ATTORNEYS
ATTORNEYS, NOTARIES & CONVEYANCERS

M MMOHE ATTORNEYS
Applicant's / Plaintiff's Attorneys
Plot 3936,Peolwane Street, Minestone
P.O. Box 1860
FRANCISTOWN

DEPUTY REGISTRAR & MASTER

DOLPHINS MAKE BOTSWANA BASKETBALL HISTORY

Dolphins become Botswana's first basketball club to reach the Road to BAL Elite 16 after finishing their Lusaka campaign with three wins

BONGANI MALUNGA



Dolphins Basketball Club have broken new ground for Botswana basketball after becoming the country's first club to advance to the Road to BAL Elite 16, completing their Group E campaign in Lusaka with a 3-2 record.

The Botswana champions sealed the historic progression despite losing their final match against Mozambican heavyweights Ferroviário da Beira on Tuesday, completing a campaign in which they transformed themselves from previous preliminary-round casualties into continental contenders.

FIBA had already identified Dolphins as being on the brink of history after their fourth match, noting that progression would make them the first Botswana club to reach the next stage of the Road to BAL.

CAMPAIGN BEGINNINGS

Their campaign began with a 77-72 victory over Zimbabwe's Harare Kings. Dallan Coleman led Dolphins with 19 points, Peter Cheng Marial collected a team-high nine rebounds, while Makur Jongkuch controlled the offence with seven assists. Dolphins turned the contest with a dominant 26-9 third quarter.

They followed that with a second comeback victory, overcoming Malawi's Bravehearts 78-74 after trailing 42-32 at halftime. Coleman again topped the scoring with 20 points, Marial dominated the glass with 12 rebounds, while Adrian Breitlauch supplied a team-best four assists.

Dolphins' unbeaten start was brutally halted by hosts Munali Suns, who inflicted a 96-56 defeat. Coleman remained Dolphins' leading scorer with 11 points, Breitlauch grabbed six rebounds, while Jongkuch led the side with two assists. Munali's size proved decisive as the Zambians dominated the paint and rebounding battle.

IMPORTANT VICTORY

Rather than collapse after the 40-point setback, Dolphins responded with arguably their most important victory. They edged South Africa's Soweto Panthers 63-56, lifting their record to 3-1 and putting qualification within reach. Coleman exploded for 30 points, Marial collected 11 rebounds, while Jongkuch produced seven assists.

Their final contest against Ferroviário da Beira ended in defeat, leaving Dolphins with their eventual 3-2 record but the groundwork laid through three victories proved sufficient for their historic advancement.

The achievement represents a significant leap from Dolphins' previous Road to BAL campaign, where they failed to progress from the preliminary stage. It also places Botswana basketball closer than ever before to the continent's premier club competition.

Dolphins will now head to Nairobi, Kenya, for the East Division Elite 16 scheduled for November 23-29. From there, the leading teams will battle for qualification to the 2027 Basketball Africa League.



GU, GALAXY RENEW BATTLE FOR SUPREMACY

Modern giants collide as GU's league momentum meets Galaxy's superior knockout record with an African Hero Top 8 final beckoning

BONGANI MALUNGA

Gaborone United and Jwaneng Galaxy will renew arguably the defining rivalry of Botswana football's modern era on Saturday when the country's two most decorated teams of the past eight years collide in the African Hero Top 8 semi-finals at the National Stadium.

The 8.30pm heavyweight encounter pits the reigning FNB Premiership champions against the reigning Orange FA Cup champions, with another major trophy now within touching distance for two clubs that have increasingly divided domestic honours between themselves.

Since 2019, Galaxy and GU have collected 13 major domestic trophies between them, illustrating just how decisively the balance of power has shifted towards the two clubs.

Galaxy hold a narrow edge with seven major trophies during the period. Their collection includes the 2019 Mascom Top 8, Premier League titles in 2020, 2023 and 2024, before completing an Orange FA Cup three-peat between 2024 and 2026. Their 2024 campaign produced a league and cup double.

GU are only one trophy behind with six. The Money Machine captured three successive Orange FA Cups in 2020, 2022 and 2023, while adding league crowns in 2022, 2025 and 2026. Their latest championship saw them finish the 2025/26 campaign on 74 points, 15 ahead of second-placed Galaxy.

GALAXY HOLD CUP EDGE

However, Saturday's knockout setting brings an intriguing twist. Galaxy have historically enjoyed the better of their major cup clashes with GU, advancing or winning three of their previous four knockout ties.

Their first major cup showdown came in the 2019 Mascom Top 8 final, where Galaxy defeated GU 2-0 in Francistown to lift the trophy. Later that year, Galaxy again eliminated the Reds from the following Top 8 edition, winning 4-3 on penalties after their two-legged quarter-final finished 1-1 on aggregate.

GU finally turned the tables in emphatic fashion in the 2021 Orange FA Cup semi-final, beating Galaxy 3-0 through goals from Mpho Kgaswane, Kekaetswe Moloi and Thatayaone Kgamanyane.

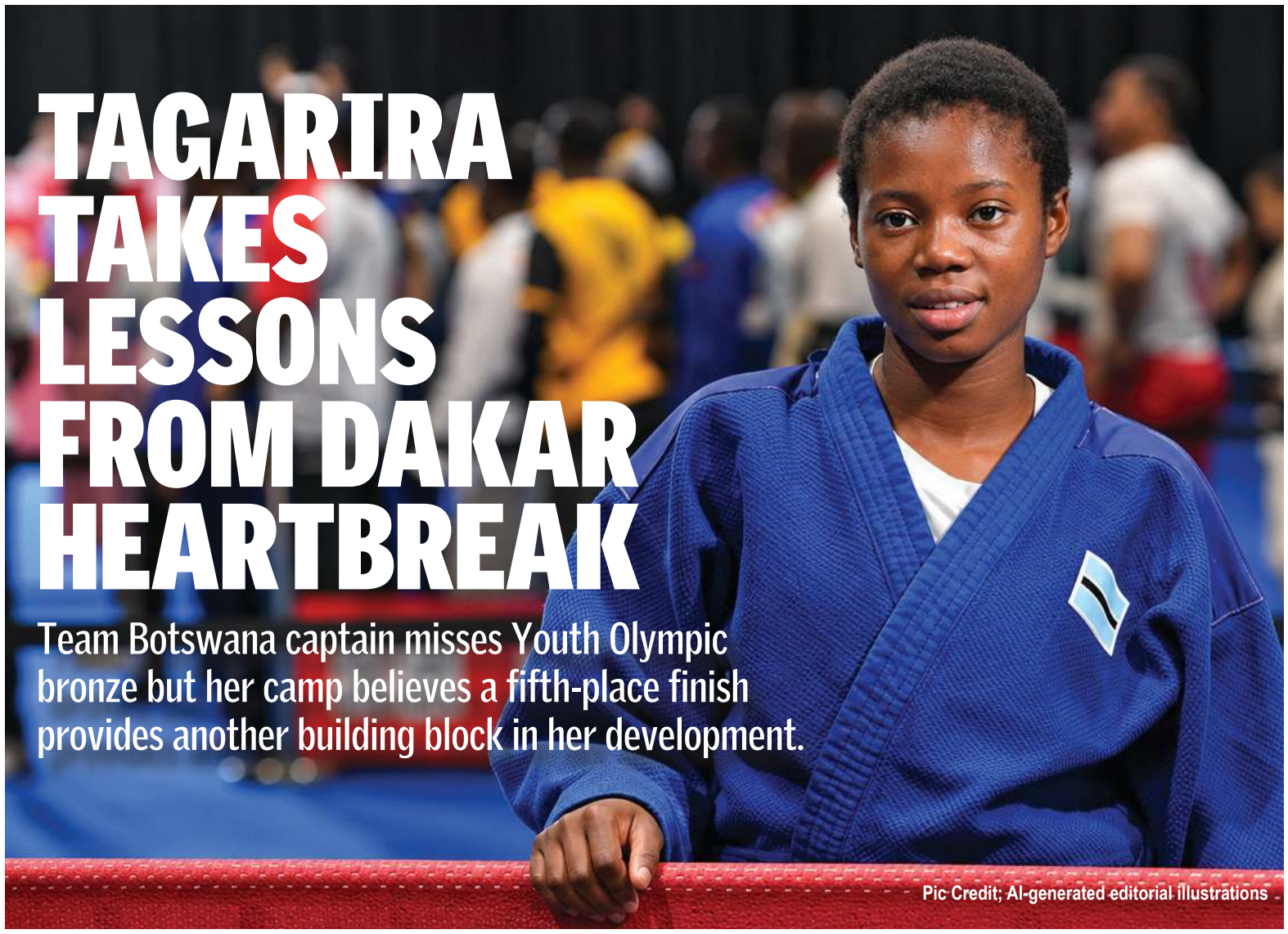
However, Galaxy reclaimed their knockout bragging rights only months ago as they eliminated GU 1-0 in the 2026 Orange FA Cup semi-final before going on to defeat Mochudi Centre Chiefs 2-1 in the final and complete a third consecutive FA Cup triumph.

GU CARRY LEAGUE MOMENTUM

GU will nevertheless enter Saturday's rematch with the psychological boost of having beaten Galaxy 2-1 at Galaxy Stadium last Saturday, exactly a week before their Top 8 showdown. That victory continued GU's recent league stranglehold over the Jwaneng side. They also beat Galaxy 1-0 in Jwaneng in February and famously defeated them 4-2 in May 2025 in the match that effectively delivered the league championship.

Saturday therefore offers a compelling collision of trends, GU's growing command of the league rivalry against Galaxy's superior record when elimination football is involved. Before the giants settle their score, Mochudi Centre Chiefs and Sua Flamingoes will contest the opening semi-final at 5pm.

But come 8.30pm, the National Stadium spotlight will fall firmly on the two clubs that have dominated Botswana football's trophy cabinet for much of the last eight years, with only one of them able to move within 90 minutes of adding another piece of silverware.



TAGARIRA TAKES LESSONS FROM DAKAR HEARTBREAK

Team Botswana captain misses Youth Olympic bronze but her camp believes a fifth-place finish provides another building block in her development.

Pic Credit; AI-generated editorial illustrations

BONGANI MALUNGA

Team Botswana captain Theresa Tagarira may have fallen agonisingly short of a Youth Olympic medal but her camp believes her run to the bronze medal contest at Dakar 2026 has provided another important step in the young judoka's development.

Tagarira finished joint fifth in the girls' -44kg category after losing her bronze medal contest to Venezuela's Rosalvick Aguilar on Sunday.

Aguilar seized control early by registering a yuko before maintaining the pressure on the Botswana youngster. Tagarira subsequently received a shido before the Venezuelan ended the contest with a shoulder throw for ippon with one minute and 24 seconds remaining. The victory earned Aguilar Venezuela's first medal of the Games.

COACH REMAINS OPTIMISTIC

Despite seeing a podium opportunity slip away, Tagarira's coach Thato Lebang believes the defeat should be viewed within the wider development of a judoka who has continued to test herself at increasingly competitive levels.

"These things happen, unfortunately Theresa fell out in the Bronze final. There was a slight misjudgement on her part but it's nothing we can't correct. It's a learning curve for her future development," Lebang noted.

Her fifth-place finish in Dakar follows a promising build-up to the Games, Tagarira won cadet gold at the Presidential Judo Championship in January and later reached a bronze-medal contest at the AUSC Region 5 Games in Namibia, performances which helped underline her progression ahead of the biggest assignment of her young career.

She was subsequently entrusted with captaining Botswana's six-member Youth Olympic team, adding leadership responsibilities to the challenge of competing against some of the world's leading junior judoka.

INTERNATIONAL PEDIGREE

Dakar provided another indication of her ability to compete at that level. The International Judo Federation listed Tagarira among African competitors whose performances deserved recognition despite missing the podium, alongside judoka from the Central African Republic. Aguilar eventually joined Italy's Sara Coni as the two bronze medallists in the -44kg division, while Turkey's Sema Nur Yuksel claimed gold and Jordan's Houda Wshah settled for silver.

For Lebang and the Botswana camp, however, the immediate takeaway is that the technical mistake which denied Tagarira a medal can be corrected. Having progressed from domestic success to fighting for Youth Olympic bronze within the same season, her Dakar disappointment could yet prove another important lesson in a rapidly developing career.

VULTURES COMPLETE TRI-NATIONS REDEMPTION

Financial struggles fail to derail Botswana as national side returns from last year's withdrawal to dominate Lesotho and Eswatini

BONGANI MALUNGA



Pic Credit; AI-generated editorial illustrations

> "The triumph carried added significance for Botswana after the national side withdrew from the same competition last year, making this year's title a story of redemption as much as sporting dominance."

Botswana completed a remarkable turnaround at the 2026 BOLESWA Tri-Nations Rugby 15s tournament, shrugging off difficult preparations and financial constraints to emerge champions in Eswatini. The triumph carried added significance for Botswana after the national side withdrew from the same competition last year, making this year's title a story of redemption as much as sporting dominance.

Despite entering the tournament on the back of preparations hampered by limited finances, Botswana produced two commanding performances against Lesotho and hosts Eswatini to sweep aside their regional rivals.

TITLE AMBITIONS

Botswana announced their title ambitions with a crushing 52-5 victory over Lesotho on October 28, immediately putting themselves in a strong position to challenge for the crown. They saved their most emphatic performance for the decisive encounter against Eswatini on Saturday, October 31.

Facing the hosts, Botswana showed little sign of the off-field difficulties that had disrupted their build-up, running riot in a comprehensive 71-5 victory to seal the championship. Across the two matches, Botswana accumulated an imposing 123 points while conceding only 10, underlining the gulf they created between themselves and their opponents during the tournament.

SHORTAGES

This time, even financial shortages during the pre-tournament period could not prevent the team from travelling, competing and ultimately returning home with the title. The emphatic nature of the two victories will also provide encouragement ahead of next year's tournament, when Botswana will have the added responsibility of defending the crown on home soil.

Botswana is scheduled to host the 2027 edition of the BOLESWA Tri-Nations, giving the newly crowned champions an opportunity to defend their title in front of a home crowd. After last year's disappointment, Botswana's return to the competition could hardly have been scripted better, from withdrawal to regional champions in the space of a year.

TIRED OF SHARING?



BACKPAGE
WEDNESDAY 04 NOVEMBER 2026
SINCE 1984

The Botswana Gazette
SPORT

DOLPHINS MAKE BASKETBALL HISTORY

Dolphins become Botswana's first basketball club to reach the Road to BAL Elite 16 after finishing their Lusaka campaign with three wins

47.

Photo Credit: Dolphins bc



GU, GALAXY RENEW BATTLE FOR SUPREMACY

47.



FOUR WINS MARK YOUNG ZEBRAS DEBUT

46.