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# Over 491 000 girls receive sanitary pads



President Advocate Duma Boko (left) handing over sanitary pads to a Form Five learner at Naledi Senior Secondary School who is also the chairperson of the National Children's Consultative Forum, Aumakwe Aron at the launch of the National Sanitary Pads Distribution initiative in Mogotitshane yesterday. President Boko said government found it befitting to provide female students with free sanitary pads to restore the dignity of the girl child. Photo: Felicity Male

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Ja eazi! Duela**Easy**  
ka Orange Money

Duela ka phone nako nngwe  
le nngwe, kae kapa kae.



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Vice President Ndaba Gaolathe (left) and American Hollywood producer, Mr Dijon Tailton (second left), singer, Ms La'Myia Good (second right) and actress, Ms Meagan Good during official opening of dreamers Exchange festival in Gaborone on Sunday. The Vice President said government intended to implement the start-up Botswana programme, which would include grants, incubation centres and 30 per cent procurement for youth led enterprises. He said the forthcoming Creative Industry Policy was designed to monetise creative work and elevate Botswana as a creative capital. Photo: Pheno Moalosi

# Youth ignite dreams, change

By Ndingililo Gaoswediwe

GABORONE - The vibrant Game City rooftop was alive with hope and inspiration on Sunday as the Dreams Alive Club marked its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary by hosting the Dreamers Exchange Festival.

The celebration, dedicated to empowering young creatives and entrepreneurs, drew a diverse crowd eager to connect, learn and be inspired by both local and international figures shaping the country's cultural and economic landscape.

Officiating at the event, Vice President Ndaba Gaolathe highlighted several government initiatives aimed at fostering youth development.

He cited programmes such as revitalising technical and vocational training, integrating cutting-edge sectors like artificial intelligence and green technology and establishing creative hubs and studios.

Mr Gaolathe said one standout initiative was Start-Up Botswana, which provided grants, incubation and procurement opportunities for young entrepreneurs.

Additionally, he said the new Creative Industry Policy was aimed to monetise local talent and establish Botswana as a regional hub for arts and entertainment.

He said that in a global economy exceeding US\$2 trillion annually, Botswana's creative sector had immense potential to carve out its own share.

"Your voice matters. Your ideas matter. Your time is now," Mr Gaolathe declared, igniting a sense of pride and purpose among the attendees.

Despite this optimism, he acknowledged the significant challenges facing youth, notably a youth unemployment rate of 33.5 per cent.

"The failure has not been yours,"

he said, adding, "it has been ours."

He explained that government was rolling out initiatives to align education, technology and innovation with economic growth, urging young people to recognise their strength and actively shape their future.

Mr Gaolathe praised the organisers for creating a platform that elevated local talent and stressed the importance of nurturing homegrown creators across various sectors.

What made the event even more distinguished was the presence of Hollywood stars - Ms Meagan Good, Ms La'Myia Good and Mr Dijon Talton, whose participation, Mr Gaolathe said, underscored Botswana's rising influence in the global creative scene.

He said their involvement symbolised a bridge of collaboration and opportunity, inspiring local artists, filmmakers, designers and entrepreneurs to aspire beyond borders.

He also stated that the country's rich history provided a solid foundation for a new wave of innovation driven by young talents reshaping Botswana's narrative across film, music, fashion, coding and business.

Furthermore, the Vice President extended an open invitation to international creatives such as the Hollywood stars present to collaborate with local talents through masterclasses, co-productions and digital storytelling initiatives.

He expressed confidence that such partnerships would foster a vibrant Botswana-Hollywood exchange, transforming the country into a regional centre for creative excellence.

Mr Gaolathe reaffirmed the government's commitment to systemic change through digitising business registration processes, amplifying youth voices in policymaking and creating systems that support scalable, impactful ideas.

Adding to the momentum, Ms Otsetswe Koboyankwe, acting CEO of the National Arts Council of Botswana, stressed the importance of commercialising the creative industry for economic diversification and employment creation.

She stated that storytelling helped to preserve culture and values. Despite financial constraints, Ms Koboyankwe shared that the council, through arts grants, had empowered youth in various ways, such as participation in international events and festivals, including the Dreamers Exchange Festival itself. She testified that these efforts had enabled young talents to gain exposure and opportunities.

Ms Tshepiso Maruping, founder and director of Dreams Alive Club, expressed that the festival served as a vital platform for exchanging ideas and visions. She believed that such gatherings created a space where dreams were nurtured and future collaborations were born.

**BOPA**

## Over 200 exit social safety net

By Kehumile Moekejo

MABUTSANE - The recent mass assessment of beneficiaries of various social safety programmes in Mabutsane District Council has resulted in 207 people being recommended for termination from the council aid.

Addressing a full council meeting on Monday, the council chairperson, Mr Tuelo Zulu noted that the mass assessment to review the eligibility of beneficiaries enrolled in the programmes was to facilitate their exit and assistance to gain independence.

He said from a total of 2 634 beneficiaries who were subjected to the assessment, 1 411 were recommended while the rest were either terminated or deferred for more information to inform the final decision.

"At the beginning of May, a total of 2 634 beneficiaries were targeted for assessment and a total of 1 411 have been recommended, 14 have

not been recommended, 71 clients were deferred for more information and 207 were recommended for termination. The remaining 931 cases are still to be assessed," he said. He noted that while most of the beneficiaries who exited the programme were destitute people who had recovered from various ailments, orphans with a surviving parent were also recommended for exit.

Mr Zulu said the social workers consulted the parents to take on their responsibility, as espoused by the Children's Act.

However, he underscored the need to ensure that where eligible, those children would be registered in alternative programmes.

"Nevertheless, caution is exercised so that children do not suffer by registering those in need in alternative programmes more especially the needy students' category," he explained.

On other issues, Mr Zulu called on the council management to ensure

prudent financial management, owing to the council's financial challenges.

He urged them to exercise caution and closely monitor their expenditure to ensure effective service delivery.

"The financial position of the council remains pressurised, requiring prudent financial management and strategic decision making to ensure fiscal sustainability. I therefore want to encourage procuring entities to closely monitor their budgets, this will ensure financial stability, compliance and budgetary regulations and continued delivery of essential services without compromising the council's operational efficiency," he said.

He also regretted that the council's income generation efforts were thwarted by rental arrears for primary school teachers' accommodation which had been accruing since September last year.

**BOPA**

## Tlokweng council infrastructure projects on track

By Baleseng Batlotleng

TLOKWENG - Despite the tough economic outlook and current financial landscape, the Tlokweng District Council is pleased with the progress of its village infrastructure projects.

Tlokweng District Council chairperson, Ms Ontiretse Bogatsu expressed this during a full council session in Tlokweng, yesterday.

Providing a project implementation update, Ms Bogatsu said the Tlokweng 25km internal roads project was progressing well, currently at 93 per cent completion ahead of the planned 92 per cent.

"It should be noted that the contractor's key resources including personnel and machinery and the consultant supervising the project on behalf of council are still on site. Notably, the project has an electrical works package which entails installation of 695 solar lights of which 473 solar light

have been installed along the newly constructed roads," she informed the meeting.

Ms Bogatsu said the project was currently at 70 per cent against the planned 83 per cent of completion and a catch up plan had been drawn to ensure successful delivery of the project. She said the construction of Tlokweng Recreational Park facilities, conference and landscaping were completed in March.

Ms Bogatsu said the project was currently on defects liability period for 12 months from time of completion and despite the delayed delivery, the project was delivered to good quality and within budget.

She added that the much anticipated community project was ready for occupation and use and that it was vital that the operationalisation of the facility was fast tracked so that the community could reap its benefits.

Regarding the transfer of

primary healthcare from the Ministry of Health to that of local government, Ms Bogatsu said the health care facilities were in extremely bad state and required major maintenance.

She said an assessment conducted in March revealed that over P8 million was required to upgrade all health facilities in the district to an acceptable standard.

"However, the district is expected to receive only P1 850 000 from the Ministry of Health for this purpose. This significant shortfall places increased pressure on the council as maintenance requests continue to rise, yet the allocated budget remains insufficient to adequately address the growing needs of our primary healthcare infrastructure," she added.

Ms Bogatsu said in order to facilitate the Bonno Housing initiative, Tlokweng Land Board had resolved to submit 147 plots in Ranfurwa, which were

conditionally approved subject to provision of storm water drainage with reservation that the private sector developers would address the storm water condition.

She said in addition to these plots, the land board submitted two additional pieces of land, which were a 2.4ha plot at Ranfurwa Ward and 2.78 ha at Masetlheng Ward. She further informed councillors that the Tlokweng Land Board had completed the assessment of properties in the Sefoke area, with 43 out of 80 valuation reports finalised and amounted to P7.2million. She said the board had prepared and submitted a project memorandum to secure further funding from the Ministry of Finance. Ms Bogatsu explained that the board had received an amount of P4.1million in January this year to acquire land amounting to about 10ha within the village boundary aimed at facilitating further village expansion. **BOPA**

# Botswana to establish defence industry

By Tebagano Ntshole

GABORONE - President Advocate Duma Boko has encouraged members of Botswana Defence Force (BDF) to embrace innovation and find home grown solutions, highlighting their key role in the envisaged development of the defence industry.

Speaking at the BDF Strategic Conference held in Gaborone yesterday, the President said such

an industry would help the country with its economic expansion and further presents opportunities for the BDF members whose expertise would be needed even after their retirement.

“I encourage you to be innovative, to embrace technology, to develop and deploy homegrown solutions to the challenges that you face,” he said.

President Boko who is also the Commander in Chief of

Armed Forces said they should always think innovatively around technology and its utilisation in relation to defence systems and refine their technical acumen accordingly.

“Your innovative ideas could easily give birth to defence industry that will not only shorten your supply chain but also contribute to economic development,” he said.

The President said he had directed that a feasibility study

on setting up a defence industry should be prioritised and the BDF technical input was essential.

He said the law needed to be amended to facilitate the establishment of this industry in the shortest possible time.

Advocate Boko said the industry would provide prospects and opportunities for members of the BDF, adding that with the facility, retirement might mean shifting from active duty into a supporting

industry.

He said BDF members were better placed to be involved in the industry and urged them to attend this as it presented opportunities for them. Meanwhile the President said the theme of the Conference ‘Embracing a New Dawn in Defence Capabilities: Inspired by Human Security, Accountability and Meritocracy, spoke not only of change in hardware or tactics, but also assistance given to people.

He saluted the BDF members for continuing to keep the nation safe and said Botswana appreciated the sacrifices they made, sometimes at a cost of their lives, in order to attain a secure and stable environment in which personal freedoms were assured.

“We owe you and the entire BDF membership a debt that we can never fully repay,” he said.

President Boko said government was aware of the challenges they faced such as conditions of service for the members as well as civilian employees, operational readiness and social welfare challenges and assured them that government remained committed to ensuring that the military was adequately equipped and resourced.

“We will continue to listen to your concerns with an open mind and we will continue to address these concerns in the best manner we can,” he said. President Boko said he was aware that they had challenges over pensions and said the retirement age of BDF personnel had to be reviewed.

There were also issues over accommodation, health care services, equipment maintenance, refurbishment and replacement of military ware.

President Boko said citizens expected the military to be gatekeepers of all things that were good and noble.

“Botswana impose trust and confidence in you to serve them with diligence, above all other considerations.

Your first responsibility is the protection of life, and you cannot have your members act otherwise. Any departure from this national conduct will invariably erode the trust and confidence that the nation places in you,” he said.

President Boko reminded them that they were the nation’s first line of defence and the nation expected them to provide a safe and stable environment upon which economic growth was built.

“Your role in maintaining national peace and security directly and indirectly enhances Botswana’s attractiveness to foreign investors,” he said and continued to encourage them to be anchors of safety and security, as well as peace that guaranteed the enjoyment of the fundamental human rights.

The President said it was imperative for the country to ensure that those who guaranteed its peace, its safety and security were taken care of.

“It is an obligation therefore, to look after the BDF. It is your work, your commitment that continues to reassure investors that Botswana is a safe destination of capital and innovation in this era of the knowledge economy.”

The President encouraged the BDF personnel to utilise the Bonno Housing Scheme saying it was aimed at affording citizens with decent housing. **BOPA**



President Advocate Duma Boko (centre), Minister for State President, Mr Moeti Mohwasa (left) and Botswana Defence Force (BDF) Commander Lt Gen Placid Segokgo during the official opening of BDF 20th Strategic Conference in Mogoditshane yesterday. President Boko encouraged BDF members to embrace innovation and come up with home grown solutions, highlighting their key role in the envisaged development of defence industry. Photo: Pheno Moalosi

## Over 491 000 young girls to get free sanitary pads

By Lorato Gaofise

GABORONE - Government has expended more than P69 million for the provision of free sanitary pads to over 491 000 young girls across the country through the National Sanitary Pads Distribution initiative.

Launching the initiative at Mogoditshane Senior Secondary

School yesterday, President Advocate Duma Boko said as a government based on respect for human rights, they found it befitting to provide female learners with free sanitary pads to restore the dignity of the girl-child and empower them.

Of the 491 576 young girls who would benefit from the initiative, President Boko said 10 per cent were those living with disability.

Through the initiative themed: Dignity to the Girl Child, he said government wanted to ease the burden on parents, pressure on society and to nurture young people instilled with a sense of dignity.

He therefore, expressed gratitude to officially launch an initiative he long pioneered even before becoming a President.

“We appreciate challenges that our young learners faced, often resulting in absenteeism, sometimes dropouts, but overall a violation of the dignity of the girl child,” he said.

President Boko commended United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund for its support and for offering counselling and guidance to the girl child. He also encouraged learners to focus on their studies and on being a better version of themselves and guard against negative influences of social media.

Talking to the initiative, Minister of Child Welfare and Basic

Education, Ms Nono Kgafela-Mokoka said the sanitary pads would be distributed freely to all female learners aged up to 19 years.

“The initiative is more than a box of pads. It is a symbol of respect, progress and national pride. So we are here to also cultivate and encourage a culture of open communication between parents and children on issues of reproductive health, which culturally are a taboo,” she added.

Ms Kgafela-Mokoka said currently, the ministry was developing guidelines on the distribution and disposal of sanitary pads especially that some of the recipients, who fall within the age cohort, were out of school youth.

She said guidance and counselling guidelines would be used to inform the distribution and disposal of sanitary towels. To ensure protection of the environment, the minister said the ministry was introducing incinerators for safer disposal.

The launch, the minister said resonated with the ministry’s objective to ensure a child-friendly and inclusive learning environment through existing legal frameworks and policies, such as the Education Act and the Children’s Act.

“The Education Act comprehensively provides care and support services to learners, and it has already been reviewed

through the support of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation and United Nations Population,” she said.

Ms Kgafela-Mokoka said that the initiative was a government’s commitment to upholding the wellbeing of adolescents and young people with the view to empower young girls.

Receiving the sanitary pads, National Children’s Consultative Forum chairperson, and also newly elected President of the Southern African Development Community Child Led Parliamentary Forum, Aumakwe Aron said having access to sanitary pads was a basic need.

The Form Five learner at Naledi Senior Secondary School said the initiative would allow female students to learn comfortably knowing that they had access to sanitary pads.

Even before assuming the highest office, Aumakwe said President Boko was still the champion of children’s rights. For that reason, she expressed appreciation to President Boko for the initiative, pleading with him to encourage other leaders to embrace the initiative.

The initiative, Aumakwe said would go a long way in shaping young girls’ future, encouraging them to use the pads with due care and dispose them in a way that would not harm or pollute the environment. **BOPA**

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# Multitudes mourn renowned cattle baron

By Lindi Morwaeng

MOLEPOLOLE- Multitudes of mourners gathered in Molepolole on Saturday to bid farewell to a renowned cattle baron and former Township Rollers football legend and staunch supporter, Geoffrey Matsila, who died tragically in a freak accident after he was run over by his own vehicle on Tuesday while preparing to leave for his cattle post.

The late 78-year-old, widely respected across the Kweneng district for his passion for livestock farming and contributions to local football, was laid to rest on Saturday following an emotional funeral service attended by family, friends, farmers, and football lovers from all walks of life. According to their neighbour, Ms Mmadipodi Keikanne, the accident occurred early Tuesday morning.

She recounted how the deceased's wife, Ms Bokamoso Matsila, rushed to their home for help after finding her husband pinned down by the vehicle.

"My husband and I rushed to their home and found him stumped by the front tyre," Ms Keikanne said. Together, they used a jack to lift the vehicle and remove him. An ambulance was called, but he was pronounced dead upon arrival at the Scottish Livingstone Hospital," she explained.

Ms Keikanne said it was suspected that the vehicle, which had been left running, rolled backward because the handbrake was not engaged. She said the deceased may have attempted to stop it and, in the process, fell and was run over.

The vehicle had reportedly been

## Hisense donates to Tembisa community

JOHANNESBURG- As part of International Children's Day celebrations, Chinese electronics giant Hisense on Sunday donated essential home appliances to the community of Tembisa in Johannesburg, South Africa.

The donation included much-needed equipment to support Umthambeka Primary School's daily operations and improve learning conditions for the children. Hisense also used the opportunity to educate them about the importance of using electricity safely at home and in school.

Phuthi Jerry Mohlake, acting principal of Umthambeka Primary School, said the donations and safety drive would be a great help.

"I think it is going to help them when the teachers are teaching electricity awareness in class. This campaign reflects our commitment to building an Africa for Africa by addressing real challenges with local solutions," said Wang Han, service and quality director at Hisense.

The initiative highlights Hisense's commitment to giving back to communities and supporting education in South Africa. *Xinhua*

*He was instrumental during the height of COVID-19 in 2021, when the association donated 11 cattle, P7 800 and three small stock to government's COVID-19 relief programme.*

loaded for the cattle post trip, and the weight may have contributed to the severity of the incident.

His wife had briefly gone back inside the house before the accident occurred. However, the exact circumstances remain under police investigation. Speaking at the funeral, Mr Jack Matsila, one of the family elders, revealed that the deceased had been on his way to fetch cattle for the Kweneng Beef Farmers Association Field Day, which was held the same Saturday in Molepolole.

He served as the chairperson of the association, and the cattle he was collecting were to be exhibited at the event. The association's secretary, Mr Sebala Leshomo, described him as a visionary and tireless leader who revived the Kweneng Beef Farmers Association in 2016. That same year, the field day was hosted at his farm.

"He was instrumental during the height of COVID-19 in 2021, when the association donated 11 cattle, P7 800, and three small stock to government's COVID-19 relief programme," Leshomo explained.

"In 2023, under his leadership, we hosted another successful farmers' day at Thipakaebaa cattle post, where we had invited Former President Dr Mokgweetsi Masisi. Though the President couldn't attend, he sent the then Assistant Minister of Agriculture, Mr Molebatsi Molebatsi, on his behalf," he noted.

Mr Leshomo further stated that when his term ended in 2022, the association lost momentum and collapsed, but he was later co-opted back to revive it.

"His absence at this year's field day, which happened to fall on the day of his funeral, deeply affected us. His cattle, known for their outstanding quality, would have elevated the exhibition. His passing has left a huge leadership vacuum," Mr Leshomo said.

Fellow farmer, Mr Molefi Keaja, described him as an astute cattleman who introduced him to the Charolais breed, and teaching him how to run farming as a business enterprise. "He understood cattle farming not just as tradition, but as a professional operation," he said.

Matsila's other great passion was football, particularly Township Rollers Football Club, where he was a former player, lifelong supporter, and founding member of the City Rollers Social Club.

A memorial service was held in his honour by the club on Friday. Club chairperson, Mr Bafana

Pheto remembered him fondly. "When we joined Rollers, we found him already established. He was known by the name 'Sliding' in football circles. He even offered his house in Gaborone to be used as the club's office. That's how committed he was," Mr Pheto said.

Mr Pheto went further to narrate that Matsila was especially influential during Rollers' 60th anniversary celebrations, helping reconnect the club with its earliest legends, including the second goalkeeper from the club's early days in Kanye.

"He contributed his finances, his livestock, and his heart to the club," he said.

Mr Tsotsi Matsila, his brother, also attested to his football obsession.

"When Rollers played, everything else stopped. I remember once he took his

daughter, Mpho, to a match in Gaborone. After Rollers lost, he was so upset he forgot her at the stadium. The club's bus brought her home later!" he told the mourners.

His only son, Mr Kagiso Matsila, said his father's love for people and the club was unmatched.

"When we lived in Gaborone, our house just a stone's throw from the National Stadium was the club's unofficial change room.

I became a Rollers ball boy just by being his son," he said.

His long time friend, Mr Morwalela Seema, said their friendship began in the 1970s.

"He played left wing-back and hated losing. A knee injury ended his playing days early, but he remained devoted to the sport," he explained. Mr Charity Madisa, from City Rollers Social Club, said Matsila's death had shattered them.

"He was the founding president

of our club. He was the financial and emotional backbone of the club. Who will fill that void?" he asked rhetorically.

He also said he coined the phrase 'Next Time' a slogan meant to encourage players and fans after a tough match.

Notably, at the club's 2015 Annual General Meeting, according to the club Secretary, Mr Orbet Kgati, Matsila is said to have advised that Rollers should never be fully sold to private investors, recommending that 20 per cent remain with the members while 80 per cent could go to shareholders, a principle the club still upholds today. The late Matsila was set to celebrate 50 years of marriage with his wife in October. He leaves behind three children and grandchildren as well as two siblings. He was born in May 7, 1947 and died on May 27, 2025. *BOPA*



**Renowned cattle baron and former Township Rollers football legend and staunch supporter, Geoffrey Matsila, who died tragically in a freak accident after he was run over by his own vehicle on Tuesday was laid to rest on Saturday.**

## Chinese doctors perform first CT-guided lung biopsy

DAR ES SALAAM - The 34<sup>th</sup> batch of the Chinese medical team in Tanzania's Zanzibar has successfully conducted the region's first-ever CT-guided percutaneous lung biopsy, marking a significant milestone in local medical advancement.

The groundbreaking procedure represents a major leap forward in the precision diagnosis of respiratory diseases in Zanzibar, said Khalid Msabah Rashid, director of logistics at Zanzibar's Ministry of Health and liaison

officer to the Chinese medical team, adding that it also underscored the growing impact of Chinese medical teams in enhancing healthcare capabilities across the region.

"This is the first operation of its kind in Zanzibar's history," Rashid said. "We are deeply impressed by the professionalism and technical expertise shown by the Chinese doctors. This is not only a medical breakthrough, but also a vivid symbol of the enduring friendship between the two sides."

The operation was led by Chen Wei, a specialist in respiratory and critical care medicine and head of the Chinese medical team. He was joined by imaging expert Zhang Jiandong and supported by local medical staff.

Using real-time CT imaging, the team precisely guided a needle into the patient's lung to extract tissue samples from a suspicious lesion, laying the groundwork for accurate pathological diagnosis and subsequent treatment, said Chen. *Xinhua*

# War shatters hopes, dreams of Sudanese children

KHARTOUM - Thirteen-year-old Muayad Kamel weaves through the central market in southern Khartoum, clutching a small plastic box filled with rosaries, tissues, and masaweek teeth-cleaning twigs.

Each step reflects a burden far too heavy for someone his age. The market, centered around a once-bustling bus station, was slowly stirring back to life, humming with vendor calls and the steady buzz of generators, the only source of electricity.

Kamel slips quietly between the idle vehicles, moving through rows of half-loaded buses.

He lifted his box toward the windows, calling out his wares, his voice barely audible. A fine layer of dust coats his face and clothes, worn thin by long days in the heat.

"I used to be one of the top students," he said softly, when asked why he left school. "But now I have to help my family." His father is sick. He has younger siblings.

Kamel works over 10 hours a day, arriving early and leaving before sunset. On a good day, he earns around 5 000 Sudanese pounds (less than US\$2).

"This isn't enough for more than a simple meal of fava beans for the family. But I'm glad I can help. I just hope this nightmare ends, and we can return to a normal life," the boy added with a faint smile.

Behind that smile lies a quiet sorrow, shared by countless Sudanese children whose lives have been upended by the ongoing war between the Sudanese Armed Forces and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces.

As the conflict stretches into its third year, children are paying a heavy price, as their lives, education, and hopes for the future hang by a thread. According to a report by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) released on April 15, the number of children needing humanitarian aid has doubled from 7.8 million in early 2023 to over 15 million in 2025.

In a makeshift school established by activists in Khartoum's Al-Inqaz neighborhood, 10-year-old Muram sits on the ground, carefully drawing a dove in her notebook.

"I learned that the dove is a symbol of peace, and I pray that peace will spread across our country and that life will return to normal," she said, her voice

brimming with hope.

Muram is one of about 15 children attending the temporary school, a modest effort to restore a sense of learning and routine after education was abruptly halted by the outbreak of conflict in mid-April 2023.

With no desks or chairs and barely any materials, the school relies on improvised methods to get by, a reflection of the wider economic struggles. Still, Muram beams at the chance to learn again.

"I lost my school bag, books, and pens because of the war," she said, "but I'm happy to be back in school."

Muram misses the friends and classmates she left behind at her original school. "Many of my classmates were displaced to other areas and now live in camps. The war took away our dreams of learning and forced us from our homes.

More than 17 million children are entirely out of school because of the war and its devastating impact," said Abdul Qadir Abdullah Abu, secretary-general of the Sudanese National Council for Child Welfare.

"Millions are without education or shelter, while others are displaced and living as refugees," Abu told *Xinhua*. He estimates around 8 million children are displaced within Sudan, and another 1.5 million have fled as refugees.

According to UNICEF, Sudan is grappling with the world's largest child displacement crisis, putting the future of its 24 million youngest citizens at risk. *Xinhua*

## UN-Habitat Assembly adopt strategic plan

NAIROBI - The resumed second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly concluded late Friday in Nairobi, the Kenyan capital, with the adoption of a bold strategic plan aimed at tackling the global housing crisis.

More than 1 300 delegates, including ministers, city mayors, urban planners, innovators, donors, campaigners, and entrepreneurs, attended the premier event that ran from Thursday to Friday.

Held every four years, the assembly is the world's highest decision-making body on sustainable urbanisation and human settlement, composed of 193 UN member states.

Kenya president William Ruto hailed the consensus-based adoption of the United



KHARTOUM - Students queuing to wash their hands at the courtyard of a school in Port Sudan city. As the conflict stretches into its third year, children are paying a heavy price, as their lives, education, and hopes for the future hang by a thread. Photo: Xinhua

## Economic hardship bite on Tunisia families

TUNIS - As Tunisians prepare for Eid al-Adha next week, many families face an uncomfortable choice between religious tradition and financial reality, with the soaring cost of sacrificial animals putting the Islamic holiday beyond reach for many households.

The Feast of Sacrifice, one of Islam's most important observances set to begin June 6, traditionally involves families slaughtering a sheep or cow over three days.

But Tunisia's struggling economy has made the ritual increasingly unaffordable as inflation, drought, and supply constraints drive livestock prices sharply higher.

In Mourouj, a southern district of Tunis, Lotfi Slama faces the same dilemma confronting families across the North African nation.

The 54-year-old father of three says sheep now cost between 1 200 and 1 700 dinars (around US\$400-550), placing them well

beyond his middle-class budget.

"That's simply unaffordable for a typical middle-class family," Slama said, blaming delayed government action in opening official livestock markets for constraining supply and inflating prices.

Retired teacher Brahim Haffoudhi, 64, has set his own threshold.

"Unless prices fall below 1 000 dinars, I won't be buying this year," he said. "The price per kilo hasn't come down enough to make this accessible."

Both men stressed that Islamic teachings do not require the sacrifice from those unable to afford it, a religious flexibility that provides some comfort amid the economic squeeze. Badr Sayari, 37, another customer at the market, plans to mark the holiday more modestly.

"The Sunnah of sacrificing a sheep is a noble act, but if your resources are limited, buying a modest amount of meat to mark the occasion is entirely valid and

spiritually sufficient," he said.

The price surge stems largely from a prolonged drought that has devastated pastures and driven up feed costs, according to economists and agricultural experts. Livestock breeders struggling with higher production costs have passed the burden to consumers.

The Tunisian Mixed Professional Association for Red Meat and Dairy Products set official prices at 21.9 dinars (around US\$7.43 dollars) per live kilogram for sacrificial sheep, though market prices often exceed that benchmark. The Ministry of Social Affairs estimates sacrificial animals will cost 920-1 800 dinars this year representing three to seven times the monthly income of the country's poorest families.

With monthly social aid at roughly 260 dinars and minimum wages ranging from 414 to 493 dinars, the economics leave little room for traditional celebration. *Xinhua*

During the assembly, it was also announced that the 13<sup>th</sup> session of the World Urban Forum will be held in Baku, the capital of Azerbaijan, on May 17-22, 2026, under the theme: Housing the world: Safe and resilient cities and communities.

The UN-Habitat's strategic plan seeks to boost access to housing, land, and basic services, such as clean drinking water and sanitation, aligning with the global quest for converting cities into hubs for green innovation, prosperity, and resilience.

Ana Claudia Rossbach, executive director of the UN-Habitat, said the plan is rooted in the bold vision of transforming cities through upgrading informal settlements, improving land governance, accelerating climate action, and eradicating

poverty.

Rossbach stressed that political goodwill, innovative financing, partnerships, and targeted use of technology would be key to hastening the implementation of the strategic plan.

Alice Wahome, Kenya's cabinet secretary in the Ministry of Lands, Public Works, Housing and Urban Development, who read Ruto's speech, said the strategy presented a solid blueprint for realising urban renewal through increased access to decent shelter, safe drinking water, sanitation, and waste management.

In addition, the plan will boost post-recovery efforts in cities reeling from conflicts, poverty, inequalities, and fragilities linked to the climate crisis, Wahome said. *Xinhua*

# NARDI pleads for farmers input

By Lindi Morwaeng

**MOLEPOLOLE** - As government prepares to revise the long-standing 1991 Agricultural Policy, farmers have been urged to actively engage and ensure their concerns and realities on the ground are well represented.

The advice came from the National Agricultural Research and Development Institute (NARDI) CEO, Professor Julius Athlopheng when officiating the Kweneng Beef Farmers Association Field Day held in Molepolole on Saturday.

Prof. Athlopheng emphasised the importance of farmers' participation in shaping the revised policy, noting that an inclusive policy would ensure that reforms reflected the experiences of farmers, particularly those in open veld cattle farming, who make up the majority.

"Records indicate that only 20 per cent of beef farmers operate on ranches, while 80 per cent practice open grazing.

This clearly shows that the country's beef production is largely driven by communal farmers, and their voices must be heard in policy spaces," he said.

He acknowledged a number of challenges raised by farmers and shared that the Ministry of Lands and Agriculture was already working to address some of those through the establishment of new specialised departments, including one focused on pricing mechanisms and another on partnership facilitation.

In line with the event's theme: Gearing Towards Production of Good Quality Beef Through Technologies, Professor Athlopheng encouraged farmers to adopt smart farming technologies to enhance livestock productivity such as

tools for improving calving rates, managing disease outbreaks and reducing mortality.

He also urged farmers to take advantage of artificial insemination straws supplied by government, and sourced from high-quality cattle breeds imported from countries such as the United States, to help improve the national herd.

Kweneng Beef Farmers Association representative, Mr Moroka Tshwaane, said the association was revived in 2016, to promote knowledge-sharing and peer support among farmers.

He highlighted the association's ongoing contribution to national causes, pointing out that at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, members donated 11 cattle, small stock, and over P7 000 to the national relief effort.

Mr Tshwaane also talked about challenges affecting the sector, including encroachment

of cultivated fields on open grazing areas, livestock theft and predator attacks, shortage of veterinary extension services, particularly in remote cattle posts, unreliable national herd data due to limited field presence of extension officers, cumbersome EU compliance processes, with frequent re-registration requirements, disease outbreaks and low cattle prices that undermine profitability.

"Without adequate veterinary coverage and data collection at

cattle posts, we cannot make informed decisions or accurately track the performance of our national herd," he said.

While only a few farmers exhibited livestock at the event, participants stated that platforms such as the field day remained critical for visibility and market access.

Exhibitors expressed concern over the high costs of transporting and feeding animals, which they cited as a key barrier to broader participation. **BOPA**

## Official advises farmers to embrace, adopt insurance

By Marvin Motlhabane

**KANYE** - Farmers are encouraged to prioritise insurance as a means to mitigate potential losses arising from unforeseen circumstances.

In an interview recently, Mr Kabo Mdojwa, executive head of insurance for Citizen Entrepreneurial Development Agency (CEDA)'s Insurance Brokers (CIB) said farming continued to be a risk and costly endeavour arising from unforeseen circumstances.

However, he said despite the launch of CEDA Insurance Brokers in September 2023, registration numbers among farmers remained low.

This, he said had led to increased efforts to engage with CEDA to raise awareness about the diverse insurance packages available.

Mr Mdojwa said CIB, a subsidiary of CEDA, aimed to provide insurance solutions for CEDA-funded clients as well as members of the public who sought insurance options.

Their offerings include a comprehensive range of insurance products, encompassing life and health insurance, as well as property and liability covers. Specific products include coverage for farm equipment, irrigation systems, tractors, boreholes, vehicle insurance, and employee coverage, he said.

He said these insurance covers were designed with the understanding that many Batswana were engaged in farming.

He stressed that livestock represented not just animals, but crucial assets related to income, inheritance, and legacy for farmers.

Like any business, farming is vulnerable to risks that could disrupt production.

He acknowledged the various threats that farmers faced, which included natural disasters, fire damage, lightning strikes, attacks from wild animals and uncontrollable diseases.

In cases of loss, he said recovery might take years, if it was possible at all.

The Livestock Insurance product is thus essential, providing compensation for the unexpected and unforeseen consequences that farmers might encounter.

"This product offers flexibility, enabling farmers to insure only the animals that are most important to their operations, rather than requiring insurance for the entire herd," he explained.

In terms of crop insurance, Mr Mdojwa advised Batswana that this cover was designed to protect against losses stemming from perils such as hail, windstorms, fires, lightning, frost, pests, and diseases.

The coverage extends to various field crops, including maize, sorghum, beans, including horticulture.

Regarding herd select coverage, he mentioned that it specifically targeted cattle, sheep, and goats, covering all mortality risks such as death due to diseases, accidents, theft, and transit.

The herd essential package offers protection for selected livestock against death from fire, lightning, theft, and accidents, including humane slaughter. These insurance packages also extend to stud animals and feedlots, he said.

Mr Mdojwa underscored the significance of the agricultural sector in diversifying the economy and creating employment opportunities, making it imperative to minimise losses while striving for sector development. **BOPA**



National Agricultural Research and Development Institute (NARDI) CEO, Professor Julius Athlopheng (left) urged farmers' participation in shaping the revised policy as crucial, noting that an inclusive policy would ensure that reforms reflected the experiences of farmers, particularly those in open veld cattle farming, who make up the majority. Photo: Lindi Morwaeng

## Tanzania trains tourist vehicle drivers ahead of peak season

**DAR ES SALAAM** - Tanzanian traffic police in the northern tourism hub of Arusha have provided specialised training to more than 800 tourist vehicle drivers in preparation for the upcoming tourism peak season, which officially begins this month.

Senior Assistant Commissioner of Police William Mkonda said on Friday that the initiative was

designed to improve drivers' professional capacity and ensure the safety and quality of transport services offered to tourists.

"Tourist vehicle drivers are essential in shaping Tanzania's global image," Mkonda said.

"By adhering to traffic regulations and conducting themselves professionally, these drivers can serve as safety ambassadors and help boost

tourist arrivals."

Lembrisi Moses, chairperson of the Tanzania Tour Guides Association, noted that the programme reinforced drivers' knowledge of road signs, speed limits and their responsibility to protect passengers. "This training is a crucial step in promoting both safety and service excellence in Tanzania's tourism industry," Moses added. **Xinhua**

# 2025 ADMISSIONS TOUR

maru-a-pula



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VENUE	LOCATION	DATE & TIME
School Visit Matsha SSS	Kang	02 June @ 14:00
School Visit Ghanzi SSS	Ghanzi	03 June @ 14:00
Expo Kalahari Arms	Ghanzi	03 June @ 19:00
School Visit Maun SSS	Maun	04 June @ 14:00
Expo At Cresta Rileys	Maun	04 June @ 18:00
School Visit Nata SSS	Nata	05 June @ 13:30
Palapye Expo	Palapye	07 June @ 13:00



## BOTSWANA DEFENCE FORCE

**MISSION STATEMENT:** Botswana Defence Force Exist to Defend Botswana's Territorial Integrity, Sovereignty and National Interests

### VACANCY CIRCULAR NO. 4 OF 2025 EXTERNAL ADVERTISEMENT

The Botswana Defence Force is looking forward to recruit suitably qualified Non-Uniformed Personnel for the following positions:

#### 1. PRINCIPAL MECHANICAL ENGINEER II D3 – X1 POSITION TENABLE AT SIR SERETSE KHAMA BARRACKS

**Qualifications:** BSc in Mechanical Engineering/ BMechEng or equivalent.

**Experience:** At least four (4) years' work experience, two (2) of which should have been served as Senior Mechanical Engineer at D4 salary scale or equivalent level in the private sector.

**Certification:** Registration with Engineers Registration Board and practicing license.

**Salary:** D3 (P293,652 – P323,748) per annum.

**Leave:** 30 working days per annum.

**Benefits:**

- Optional Contributory Medical Aid Scheme (Government pays 50% while employee pays 50%).
- Contributory Pension Scheme (Government pays 15%, employee pays 5%)
- Housing and Upkeep Allowance: P309.00 per month.
- Scarce Skill Allowance at 40 % of basic salary.

**Job Purpose:** Manage, control and coordinate Mechanical projects in the Botswana Defence Force.

**Job Duties and Responsibilities:**

- Conduct in-depth analysis of design performance for proposed and developed structures using various methods to ensure adherence to standards.
- Provide professional advice with regards to mechanical works to ensure operational efficiency.
- Liaise with other professionals in the development of comprehensive designs for building projects.
- Plan all mechanical related projects in the BDF for effective service delivery.
- Facilitate skills development for the mechanical engineering branch to ensure achievement of Command goals.
- Ensure that Performance Management and Quality Improvement programs are designed and implemented in a manner that aligns with the overall strategy.
- Manage the implementation of performance management system to ensure achievement of organizational goals.

**Key Competencies:**

- Leading and Deciding
- Supporting and Cooperating
- Interacting and Presenting
- Analyzing and Interpreting
- Creating and Conceptualizing
- Organizing and Executing
- Adapting and Coping
- Enterprising and Performing

#### 2. CHIEF FIRE OFFICER D3 SALARY SCALE – X1 POSITION TENABLE AT THEBEPHATSHWA AIR BASE

**Qualifications:** Diploma in Fire Engineering and Safety Management or BSc in Fire Engineering, BSc in Fire Safety or BSc Fire Safety Management or related field from an accredited institution.

**Experience:** At least twelve (10) years' relevant work experience, two (2) of which should have been served at D4 salary scale or in a similar level in the private sector.

**Salary:** D3 (P293,652 – P323,748) per annum.

**Leave:** 30 working days per annum.

**Benefits:**

- Optional Contributory Medical Aid Scheme (Government pays 50% while Employee pays 50%).
- Contributory Pension Scheme (Government pays 15% while Employee pays 5%).
- P 309.00 housing and upkeep allowance.
- Firefighters overtime allowance at 30% of basic salary.

**Job Purpose:** Coordinate Fire, Crash and Rescue Services activities in the Botswana Defence Force to ensure attainment of BDF goals.

**Job Duties and Responsibilities:**

- Facilitate the development of Fire, Crash and Rescue Services policies and procedures to ensure compliance to standards.
- Provide leadership and direction for the achievement of BDF Fire, Crash and Rescue Services mandate.
- Provide advice on the implementation of firefighting policies and procedures to ensure compliance to governing instruments.
- Manage the processing of all administrative issues and queries to ensure timely response in line with relevant policies and procedures.
- Oversee employee grievance/complaints and disciplinary action processes to ensure compliance to governing instruments.
- Liaise with stakeholders to strengthen relationship for the achievement of the Fire, Crash and Rescue Services goals.

- Facilitate the training and development of the Fire, Crash and Rescue Services personnel to develop skills and competencies.
- Manage the implementation of Performance Management System to ensure operational efficiency.

**Key Competencies:**

- Leading and Deciding
- Supporting and Cooperating
- Interacting and Presenting
- Analyzing and Interpreting
- Creating and Conceptualizing
- Organizing and Executing
- Adapting and Coping
- Enterprising and Performing

#### 3. DEPUTY CHIEF FIRE OFFICER D4 - X1 POSITION TENABLE AT THEBEPHATSHWA AIR BASE

**Qualifications:** Diploma in Fire Engineering and Safety Management or BSc in Fire Engineering, BSc in Fire Safety or BSc Fire Safety Management or related field from an accredited institution.

**Experience:** At least eight (8) years' relevant work experience, two (2) of which should have been served at C1 salary scale or in a similar level in the private sector.

**Salary:** D4 (P255,948 – P282,120) per annum.

**Leave:** 30 working days per annum.

**Benefits:**

- Optional Contributory Medical Aid Scheme (Government pays 50% while Employee pays 50%).
- Contributory Pension Scheme (Government pays 15% while Employee pays 5%).
- P309.00 housing and upkeep allowance.
- Firefighters overtime allowance at 30% of basic salary.

**Job Purpose:** To manage the implementation of Crash, Fire and Rescue Services policies and procedures in the Botswana Defence Force.

**Job Duties and Responsibilities:**

- Provide advice on the implementation of firefighting policies and procedures to ensure compliance to governing instruments.
- Manage the processing of all administrative issues and queries to ensure timely response in line with relevant policies and procedures.
- Manage the employee grievance/complaints and disciplinary action processes to ensure compliance to governing instruments.
- Liaise with stakeholders to strengthen relationship for the achievement of the Fire, Crash and Rescue Services goals.
- Facilitate the training and development of the Crash, Fire and Rescue Services personnel to develop skills and competencies.
- Ensure alignment employees objectives to the Crash, Fire and Rescue Services goals to ensure productivity.

**Key Competencies:**

- Working with People
- Presenting and Communicating Information
- Writing and Reporting
- Planning and Organizing
- Delivering Results and Meeting Customer Expectations
- Following Instructions and Procedures
- Adapting and Responding to Change
- Coping with Pressures and Setbacks

#### 4. SENIOR DIETICIAN D4 SALARY SCALE – X1 POSITION TENABLE AT SSKB

**Qualifications:** BSc in Human Nutrition and Dietetics or equivalent.

**Experience:** At least six (6) years' work experience, two (2) of which should have been served as Dietician I at C1 salary scale or similar level in the private sector.

**Certification:** Registration with Botswana Health Professions Council and Practicing license.

**Salary:** D4 (P255,948 – P282,120) per annum.

**Leave:** 30 working days per annum.

**Benefits:**

- Optional Contributory Medical Aid Scheme (Government pays 50% while employee pays 50%).
- Contributory Pension Scheme (Government pays 15%, employee pays 5%)
- Housing and Upkeep Allowance: P309.00 per month.
- Scarce Skill Allowance at 30% of basic salary as prescribed by DPSM.

**Job Purpose:** Provide nutrition screening and assessment, counseling, and intervention for patients in the Botswana Defence Force.

**Job Duties and Responsibilities:**

- Provide medical nutrition therapy for a wide range of clinical conditions to BDF personnel and their families to optimize health, performance and readiness of service members
- Incorporate and integrate nutritional standards into feeding and training programmes in order to optimize members' physical, mental and long term health benefits.
- Assess nutritional status of soldiers in relation to scientific indices, body fat and nutritional intake in order to provide professional guidance with the aim to enhance members physical and health benefits.
- Conduct research and periodic assessment of military personnel on nutrient and fluid consumption patterns in order to advice accordingly.
- Collaborate with Food Service Personnel to review and develop general military menu and therapeutic diet to ensure compliance with nutrition standards and approved dietary requirements and intake of soldiers.
- Implement nutrition quality assurance guidelines to ensure that provision of food services (including outsourced contract) complies with specific applicable nutrition/dietetic standards.
- Develop and disseminate nutrition education materials on mission specific nutrient requirements, need and weight control in order to integrate nutrition education with diseases prevention and monitoring programmes as well as physical training programmes.
- Provide advice regarding meal planning, presentation of foods and strategies to promote healthy diet.

**Key Competencies:**

- Leading and Deciding
- Supporting and Cooperating
- Interacting and Presenting
- Analyzing and Interpreting
- Creating and Conceptualizing
- Organizing and Executing
- Adapting and Coping
- Enterprising and Performing

**5. CHIEF CATERING OFFICER D4 SALARY SCALE – X1 POSITION TENABLE AT 2 MILITARY GARRISON (FRANCISTOWN)**

**Qualifications:** Diploma / Degree in Culinary Arts or any related field.

**Experience:** At least two (2) years' work experience as Principal Catering Officer at C1 salary scale or six (6) years in a similar role.

**Salary scale:** D4 (P255,948 – P282,120) per annum.

**Leave:** 30 working days per annum.

**Benefits:**

- Optional Contributory Medical Aid Scheme (Government pays 50% while Employee pays 50%).
- Contributory Pension Scheme (Government pays 15% while Employee pays 5%).
- Housing and Upkeep Allowance of P309.00 per month.

**Job Purpose:** Manage kitchen operations in the BDF dining establishments to ensure operational efficiency and effectiveness.

**Job Duties and Responsibilities:**

- Provide advice on the implementation of catering policies, procedures and guidelines to ensure compliance to set standards.
- Develop and implement innovative solutions and guidelines to ensure effective and excellent catering services in the Botswana Defence Force.
- Manage the Catering Resources to ensure alignment to the needs and priorities of the unit CAC operational efficiency.
- Establish links and liaise with relevant stakeholders to ensure compliance to legislation and set standards.
- Conduct research to discover new trends, menus and customer preferences.
- Monitor the implementation of standards in food preparation and presentation.
- Facilitate food cost control and food purchasing.
- Maintain stock levels and ensure continuity of supply of all items to the department.
- Plan and initiate on the job and induction courses for subordinate staff.
- Implement Performance Management Systems to ensure achievement of unit goals.

**Key Competencies:**

- Leading and Deciding
- Supporting and Cooperating
- Interacting and Presenting
- Analyzing and Interpreting
- Creating and Conceptualizing
- Organizing and Executing
- Adapting and Coping
- Enterprising and Performing

**6. SENIOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANT I (REFRIGERATION & AIRCONDITIONING) B1 – X1 POSITION TENABLE AT EASTERN MILITARY GARRISON (SELIBE PHIKWE)**

**Qualifications:** Trade Test B (Refrigeration & Air Conditioning) or equivalent qualification.

**Experience:** At least two (2) years' work experience as Technical Assistant (Refrigeration & Air Conditioning) B3/2 salary scale or in a similar role.

**Salary scale:** B1 (P91,608 – P108,228) per annum.

**Leave:** 20 working days per annum.

**Benefits:**

- Optional Contributory Medical Aid Scheme (Government pays 50% while employee pays 50%)
- Contributory Pension Scheme (Government pays 15% while Employee pays 5%)
- Housing and Upkeep Allowance of P366.70 per month

**Job Purpose:** Install, maintain and repair refrigerators & air conditioners in the BDF to ensure quality service delivery.

**Job Duties and Responsibilities:**

- Build Install & repair air conditioners and refrigerators to ensure delivery of quality service.
- Inspect air conditioners and refrigerators to ensure timely preventative maintenance.
- Maintain the Refrigeration & Air conditioning Section inventory to prevent loss of equipment.

- Compile and provide material specifications to guide decision making and ensure adequate supply.
- Monitor adherence to safety standards to ensure compliance.
- Implement Individual Performance Plan to ensure achievement of 2MG goals.
- Provide on the job training for Technical Assistants to improve skills and competencies.

**Key Competencies:**

- Leading and Supervising
- Working with People
- Adhering to Principles and Values
- Presenting and Communicating Information
- Delivering Results and meeting Customer Expectations
- Planning and Organizing
- Applying Expertise and Technology

**7. FIREFIGHTER B3/2 SALARY SCALE X 11 POSITIONS TENABLE ACROSS BDF CAMPS**

**Qualifications:** Basic Firemanship Course. Basic Ambulance Course and will be an advantage.

**Experience:** Direct Entry. No work experience required.

**Salary scale:** B3/2 (P65,508 – P91,344) per annum.

**Leave:** 20 working days per annum.

**Benefits:**

- Optional Contributory Medical Aid Scheme (Government pays 50% while employee pays 50%).
- Contributory Pension Scheme (Government pays 15% while Employee pays 5%).
- Housing and Upkeep Allowance of P398.80 per month.
- 30% Firefighters' overtime allowance.

**Job Purpose:** Undertakes firefighting operations to ensure provision of effective and efficient, crash, fire and rescue services.

**Job Duties and Responsibilities:**

- Undertake firefighting operations to prevent loss of life and property.
- Preserve the scene area to prevent destruction of evidence for investigation purposes.
- Undertake firefighting drills to ensure operational readiness.
- Test equipment to ensure timely preventive maintenance.

**Key Competencies:**

- Working with People
- Presenting and Communicating Information
- Writing and Reporting
- Planning and Organizing
- Delivering Results and Meeting Customer Expectations
- Following Instructions and Procedures
- Coping with Pressure

**8. CRAFTSMAN II (BRICKLAYING & PLASTERING) B4 – X1 POSITION TENABLE AT 2 MILITARY GARRISON (FRANCISTOWN)**

**Qualifications:** Trade Test C (Bricklaying & Plastering) or equivalent qualification.

**Experience:** At least two (2) years' work experience at A1 salary scale as Craft Improver or equivalent role.

**Salary scale:** B4 (P57,348 – P65,424) per annum.

**Leave:** 20 working days per annum.

**Benefits:**

- Optional Contributory Medical Aid Scheme (Government pays 50% while employee pays 50%).
- Contributory Pension Scheme (Government pays 15% while Employee pays 5%).
- Housing and Upkeep Allowance of P398.80 per month.

**Job Purpose:** Provide bricklaying and plastering services in the BDF to ensure achievement of the maintenance unit goals.

**Job Duties and Responsibilities:**

- Perform bricklaying, plastering and maintenance activities in the BDF to ensure delivery of quality welding services.
- Inspect buildings to ensure timely preventative maintenance.
- Maintain the bricklaying section inventory to prevent equipment loss.
- Compile and provide material specifications to guide decision making.
- Monitor adherence to safety standards to ensure compliance.
- Implement quality improvement initiatives to ensure maintenance of standards of quality service.
- Implement Individual Performance Plan to ensure achievement of 94 CMR goals.
- Provide on the job training for Craft Improvers to improve skills and competencies.

**Key Competencies:**

- Applying Expertise and Technology
- Adhering to Principles and Values
- Planning and Organizing
- Working with People
- Delivering Results and Meeting Customer Expectation
- Following Instructions and Procedures

**NB: All applications should include the following information:**

- Updated Curriculum Vitae.
- Certified true copies of academic certificate(s), transcript(s)
- Certified true copy of National Identity Card.
- At least two (2) work related references.
- Where applicable proof of registration with relevant professional/governing body.
- Also indicate; Date of first appointment, present post and date of appointment thereto.

*Applicants from serving Government employees should be routed through their Permanent Secretaries/ Heads of Departments. Applications not so routed will not be considered.*

**Closing Date: 25 June 2025**

Applications should be addressed to,  
Commander, Botswana Defence Force  
Civilian Personnel Records Management Unit  
Private Bag X06  
Gaborone

For further information, contact Recruitment Division at **3663093, 3663394, 3662716 or 3663167.**

**NB: Only shortlisted candidates will be responded to.**

**No hand deliveries will be accepted.**

## Borre ba tlhagisiwa ka bodiphatsa jwa go swa senku

**Ka Booster Mogapi**

**MOLEPOLOLE** - E re ka jaana Setswana se re molemo wa kgang ke go buiwa, borre ba kopilwe go bua ka mathata a ba kopanang le one mo botshelong gore ba tle ba kgone go bona thuso.

Mo bokopanong jwa borre jo bo neng bo dirilwe ke mokgatlo wa borre wa Young Fathers Forum ka matlhatso kwa Molepolole, borre ba ne ba tlhagisiwa ka bodiphatsa jwa go swa senku, ka seo se felela se ba tseisa ditshwetso tse e seng tsone.

Molalediwa wa tlotla Rre Molatlhegi Monjwe a re Molepolole o itsege ka kgokgontsho e e kwa godimo mme e dirwa thata ke borre.

A re ka jalo bokopano jwa mohuta o, bo fa borre sebaka sa go ithuna dinta, go arogana maele go tla ka ditsela tse ba ka di dirisang go fedisa kgokgontsho.

Rre Monjwe a re kgokgontsho e ka fedisiwa fela fa borre ba simolola go tsaya boikarabelo le gone go kopa thuso go sale nako gore dikgang tsa bone di rarabololwe.

O ne a lemotsha borre ka mofuta ya kgokgontsho mo gare ga yone e le kgokgontsho ya maikutlo, go mariwa ka dipuo, kgokgontsho ya madi le ya dititeo.

A re nngwe ya dikgokgontsho tse di kwa godimo mo lefatsheng leno ke kgokgontsho ya dipetelelo mme dipatlisiso go ya ka dipalopalo go tswa kwa go ba NAPHA di supile fa mo go bomme ba le lekgolo, 67 mo go bone ba kile ba kgokgontshiwa mo botshelong, mo go borre ba le 100, 44 mo go bone e supa fa e kile ya kgokgontsha fa bomme ba le 12 go tswa mo go ba le 100 ba supa fa ba kile ba kgokgontsha.

Rre Monjwe a re go supa gore e re ntsa bomme le bone ba kgokgontsha, borre e santse e le bone tshoso e rweleng ka dipalo di supa bone thata.

A re dingwe tse borre ba ka di dirang ke go fetola dingwe tsa ditumelo tsa bone, jaaka mo Setswaneng go itsiwe gore monna ga a lele.

Rre Monjwe a re kgodiso ya bana ba basimane e raya go le go ntsi mo go borre ka e ka jwala kana ya fedisa mowa wa go kgokgontsha.

A re borre ba tshwanetse ba nne le tebelopele mo matshelong a bone mme ba tseye boikarabelo jwa go tlhokomela malwapa a bone ka lorato le bopelotelele.

O ne a supa fa selo se se botlhokwa e le go bua mathata a bone le gone go kopa thuso go sale nako gore ba bone ditharabololo tsa dikgang tseo.

Modulasetilo wa komiti ya borre, Rre Simon Mogale, a re ba itemogetse fa borre ba le bonya go tsibogela dikgang.

A re goga dinao moo go felela go baka dikgang tse di seng monate ka jaana borre ba le dipelo

khutshwane.

Rre Mogale a re ba tshwaragane le namane e tona ya tiro ka borre ka bontsi ba kgokgontsha bomme, mme a kopa borre go emisa dikgang tseo.

O supile fa fa bontsi jwa borre ba sa tlotle malwapa a bone mme ba dira dilo tse e leng gore dimakatsa setshaba bogolo jang kgang ya go nna le malwapa a mannye ntsa ba tlogetse basadi kwa Iwapeng.

A re seo se senya ledula mme e bile se tsise dikgoberego tse di bakang kgokgontsho ya maikutlo le tse dingwe mo matshelong a batho.

Rre Merapelo Karabo, yo e leng mogokoganyi wa Young Fathers Forum, a re maikaelelo a bokopano joo ke go tla ka maele a borre ba ka thusanyang ka one go fedisa kgokgontsho.

A re e ne ya re ka ngwaga wa 2020 a gwehiwa ke go bona tshokolo ya borre bogolo jang ka go ne go lebege go sena kwa ba kopanelang teng go buisana ka dikgang tsa bone.

Rre Karabo a re lekgotla la bone le ne la dirwa go lebilwe gore borre ba ka thusanya jang mo dikgannyeng tsa bone mme lekgotla leo le ba fa sebaka sa go arogana maele, go gakololana le gone go ntsha maikutlo a bone ka kgokgontsho.

E rile a amogela borre mo kgotleng, mothusa kgosi ya Bakwena, Kgosi Lawrence Mhaladi, a supa Setswana se se reng 'se se thata se kgonwa ke banna' mme ka jaana dikgang tsa kgokgontsho di le thata, di batla borre.

A re bokopano jo bo botlhokwa thata ka jaana borre ba tlaa nna le sebaka sa go buisana le go kgaogana megopolo gore ba fapogile seporo fa kae e bile ba ya go dira eng go baakanya.

Kgosi Mhaladi a re tsela e Molepolole a buiwang ka teng ga e itumedise le e seng, mme seo se raya borre gore ba dira eng go busetsa motse wa bone mo seemong se se itumedisang.

A re rre mongwe wa motho mosweu o supile fa Molepolole e le motse o o borai go ka etelwa, o salwa morago ke Mogoditshane, o latelwa ke Mahalapye mme e salwe morago ke Old Naledi.

Kgosi a re seo se supa gore go na le mathata a matona ka Molepolole kana Kweneng ka bophara ka kgokgontsho e le yone e bakang dintsho tse di ntsi mo motseng wa bone.

"Fa re tshwaragane re ka kgona mme ebile ke maikarabelo a rona go ema ka dinao go fedisa dilo tse," Kgosi Mhaladi o tlhalositse jalo.

Kgosi o ne a supa fa a ne a tlhophiwa modulasetilo wa komiti kgolo ya twantsho borukhuthi mo kgaolong ya sepedisi sa South Division mme kgang e le gore borukhuthi o kare bo ikganeletse mo kgaolong ya Molepolole. **BOPA**



*Tona ya Dikgaolo le Merero ya tsa Ngwao, Rre Kethlalefile Motshegwa a buisa phuthego ya morero wa go fetola molao wa bogosi le o o tsamaisang makgotla a ditsheko a Setswana kwa Mabutsane ka Labotlhano. Senepe:Kehumile Moekejo*

# Puso e lemoga seabe sa bogosi

**Ka Kehumile Moekejo**

**MABUTSANE** - Tona wa Dikgaolo le tsa Ngwao, Rre Kethlalefile Motshegwa a re puso e lemoga seabe sa bogosi mo go ageng setshaba le gone go somarela ngwao.

O boletse jalo kwa phuthegong ya kgotla kwa Mabutsane ka Labotlhano, fa a tlhalosa maikaelelo a go sekaseka molao wa bogosi le o o tsamaisang makgotla a Setswana.

Maikaelelo a phuthego eo, e ne e le go tsaya megopolo ya morafe ka ditshekatsheko tse di tswelletseng tsa melao kakanyetso eo.

O boletse fa maikaelelo a tiro eo e le go tokafatsa ditsamaiso tse dikgologolo go itepatepanya le tsa segompieno a tlatsa ka gore ditshekatsheko tseo, di tlaa itebaganya le go tlhomagana ga bogosi ka maemo a bone, ditiro tsa bone, seabe sa ba ntlo ya bogosi gammogo le ditharabololo tsa dikgang tsa bogosi, gareng ga tse dingwe.

Rre Motshegwa o ne a tlhalosa gore e re ka jaana puso e itlamile go sireletsa ditshwanelo tsa setho, thulaganyo ya go tsaya megopolo ya Batswana ka tshekatsheko ya molao o o tsamaisang makgotla a Setswana e rotloetsa se.

A re maikaelelo magolo ke go tla ka molao o o netefatsang gore tshiamo e a dirwa mme go sa

gatelwe ditshwanelo tsa ga ope.

Rre Motshegwa o ne a kopa morafe go lebelela ditshetlana tse di farologanyeng tsa molao oo, bogolo jang tse di itebagantseng le ka fa dikgang tsa borukuthi le dikgotlhang di sekisiwang ka teng mo makgotleng a Setswana.

O ne gape a supa botlhokwa jwa go nonotsha lekgotla la boikuelo la makgotla a Setswana gore le kgone go dira tiro ka manontlhotlho.

Moetelelopele wa lekoko la tshekatsheko melao eo, Kgosi Puso, o ne a iteela kobo moroko a supa fa maikaelelo e le go lebelela melao eo ka bophara go e tokafatsa le go e ntshafatsa gore e kgone go dirisiwa lobaka lo lolelele.

A re go tlhalosa tatelano le maemo a bogosi go botlhokwa ka jaana go itsa ketsaetsego gape go netefatsa gore maemo ao a a tswana lefatsho ka bophara.

O ne a rotloetsa merafe go kwala ditso tsa bogosi jwa metse ya bone go itsa dikubetsano tse di leng teng mo bogosing gompieno a tlatsa ka gore go dira jalo, go ka somarela seriti sa bogosi ga ba ga bopaganya merafe.

O ne gape a supa fa go le botlhokwa gore go nne le lekgotla la dikgang tsa bogosi le le ikemetseng go fefosa tharabololo ya dikgang tsa mofuta oo, le gone go imolola maphata a puso.

Mo godimo ga moo, Kgosi

Puso o ne a tlhalosa fa ba dumela gore bogosi ga bo a tshwanela go kgotlelwa ke sepolotiki ka jaana tiro ya jone e le go bopaganya morafe.

Fa a ba kgwa dikgaba mo boemong jwa dikgosi tsa kgaolo ya Mabutsane, Kgosi Kemolatoletswe Moalafi o ne a re e re le ntsa ba lebogela gore puso e lemoga seabe sa bone ebile e tlotla morero, ga ba dumalane le ka fa go akanyediwang go dirwa maemo a bone ka teng.

A re go na le gore go tsenngwe maemo a bo moemela kgosi, ba tshwanetse ba bidiwa dikgosi botlhe mme ba farologangwa ka go tlhatlogana go itsa kgethololo.

"Ke dumela gore mo dikgosing tsotlhe tse di disitseng dithota ebile ba tsere boikarabelo mo merafeng ya bone, botlhe ke dikgosi," a tlhalosa.

Kgosi Moalafi o kopile gape gore metse e nne le dikgosi di le pedi gore ditirelo di tswelole fa yo mongwe a seyo a tlatsa ka gore go tlhatlogana dikgosi maemo go lebeleletse dipalo tsa batho go baya merafe e mengwe ka fa mosing.

Kwa bofelong, o ne a lebogela mogopolo wa gore go dirwe lekgotla la boikuelo jwa dikgang tsa bogosi, a supa fa dikgang tse di amang bogosi di golela pele.

O ne gape a kgala tsamaiso ya go tlhophiwa dikgosi, e a reng e diga seriti sa bogosi. **BOPA**

# Somalia sets date for unity conference

MOGADISHU - Somalia will hold a consultative forum bringing together political and civil society leaders to help forge unity, strengthen peace and advance reforms in the country.

Somali President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud announced on Sunday forum billed for Mogadishu on June 15 will convene politicians, government officials and community leaders to build consensus on key state-building priorities.

According to a statement issued by the Presidency, the forum will offer Somali political stakeholders and civil society representatives an opportunity to chart a path forward on critical issues such as institutional governance and the ongoing fight against terrorism.

The initiative follows weeks of consultations led by the president with former national leaders, federal member state authorities, political parties and civil society actors.

The Presidency said the forum aimed to find practical solutions to the country's pressing challenges and pave the way toward sustainable peace and development.

This development comes after the president launched his new Justice and Solidarity Party on May 13 during a meeting with opposition leaders, as the country prepares for a shift in its electoral system.

Political analysts said Somalia was preparing for an election in 2026, and that the formation of political parties and broad consensus-building around key priorities were essential steps toward that goal. *Xinhua*



Ms Motlalepula Mapharing, owner of Motty's Clothing, said she earned a living by selling second-hand clothes from her makeshift shop in Modipane. She said due to the high crime rate in the area, she is forced to close early. Photo: Tshepo Gombo

# Libya authorities arrest 50 migrants in desert

TRIPOLI - Libya authorities have arrested 50 illegal migrants from different African countries in the desert near the village of Nasmah, about 230 km south of Tripoli.

"Patrols of the Borders Guard were deployed in rugged valley areas near Nasmah, aimed to execute a security plan in the area and control the flow of illegal migrants through rugged desert routes," the Libya Interior Ministry said in a statement published on Facebook.

It said the 50 migrants arrested on Sunday "were provided with humanitarian and first aid assistance, before they were handed over to a reception centre to complete the necessary legal procedures."

Due to the insecurity and chaos that followed the 2011 ousting of longtime ruler Muammar Gaddafi, Libya has become a hotspot for migrants seeking to cross the Mediterranean towards European shores.

So far this year, 9 285 migrants have been intercepted and returned to Libya, while 160 migrants died and 234 others went missing on the central Mediterranean route, according to data from the International Organization for Migration. Libya has urged the EU and countries affected by migration flows from Libya to provide more support in curbing illegal migration. *Xinhua*

## PUBLIC NOTICE



### NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL OF CASINO LICENCE

Notice is hereby given that Thakadu and Kwena Hotels Co (Pty) Ltd t/a Thakadu Hotel, Casino & Conference Centre intends to apply for renewal of a casino licence at Tribal Grant Lot 67-No, Kgarapa Ward, Letlhakane, Botswana. Any person who wishes to object to the application shall notify the Gambling Authority ("the Authority"), in writing of such objection and the ground of that objection, within thirty (30) days of the date of the last publication of the notice.

Notice is further given that the non-confidential information pertaining to the above application shall be open for public inspection by interested persons during normal office hours of the Authority which are from 08:00 to 12:45 and 14:00 to 17:00. The Authority offices are located at Fairscape Precinct, West Building, Fairground Office Park, Gaborone. Interested parties are advised to make an appointment for such viewing with the office of the Licensing Services Manager by sending an email to [licensing@gamblingauthority.co.bw](mailto:licensing@gamblingauthority.co.bw) or calling 3986600 or 3957672.

All objections must be addressed in writing to Mr. Emolemo Peter Kesitilwe, Chief Executive Officer, Gambling Authority, Private Bag BR 161, Gaborone, and sent to [licensing@gamblingauthority.co.bw](mailto:licensing@gamblingauthority.co.bw), and should clearly state reasons for the objection.

**Mr. Emolemo Peter Kesitilwe**  
Chief Executive Officer

Date: 22 May 2025



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# Classified Ads

## FARM WORKERS

**FARM WORKER WANTED** in Werda/Lobatse. Cell: 74720453.

**FARM WOKER WANTED** at Semolale. Call:72756556 / 72830234

**FARM WORKER WANTED** at Jamataka cattle post. P O Box 25 Borolong or hand delivery at Borolong Rapulane ward Plot 2744. Cell 71741865 Kealeboga Keeditse

**FARM MANAGER: DEGREE** or diploma in animal husbandry, 3years experience.7 farm workers. Apply to: meksinvestments@gmail.com

**FARM WORKER WANTED** in Mahalapye at Lehokole farm Po Box 2470 Mahalapye 71760091/72253830

**FARM WORKER WANTED** at Mahalapye foreigner only Box 31 Mahalapye 74908022

**FARM WORKER WANTED**, Female at Majojo Obx 150 Bobonong .71536002

**HERD BOY WANTED** at Kobongo cattle post Kachikau. Contact Neo Nyathi 73143507 / 75344262

**FARM WORKER WANTED** at Gamokope Farms / Mmathethe :Contact, Edwin Molefhe, P O Box 2519 Gaborone, cell :71875860

**FARM WORKER WANTED** at Oodilands.Requirements \*Basic literacy \*Farm machinery operation \*Driving licence \*Age:30 years and above.Apply to Mr Keabetswe Emmanuel.K P O Box 601359 Gaborone/Cell 72221316 Closing date 20 June 2025

**FARM WORKER WANTED** at Kalamare. Write to Box 80135 Gaborone. Ketshogile M. Gaseitsiwe

**RELIABLE FARMWORKER REQUIRED** near Tlokweng 71305440

**FARM WORKER WANTED** GM Five company Box 70 Gaborone 3114866.

**FARM WORKER WANTED** at Gagatla. Contact Kebalepile Kepadisa, P O Box 3862 Gaborone. Cell 73513777

**LOOKING FOR A farm worker** in Malotwane. Age 35 to 40 years. Contact Dudu Mpho Staelo 72224758

## NEIGHBOUR CONSULTATION

**I KEPALETSWE MOGAPI** Selling/ tranfer polt at Gobojango / Mandelo ward to Witson Punzi. Objections Call: 76279467 within 30 days

**OWNER PLOT 15206** Extension 11 wishes to construct residential boundary wall. Any objection should be forwarded to Palapye District Council Physical Planning Office 4921092

**CHANGE OF LAND USE** The plot owner 4337 would like to change land use from single residential to group living. For any objections you can contact 3657400, Gaborone City Council physical planning office within fourteen (14) days of publication of this notice. Thulaganyo Ntebela. Contact No. 73970024

**NOTICE IS HEREBY** given that the owner of plot 22028 Ramotswa, Magope ward, intends to apply for change of land use from residential to multi-residential development. Any person with objections or comments may view the proposed plans at the building control office at Ramotswa district council and submit feedback

**I OWNER OF** plot 8999 in Tlokweng, Letlapeng ward would like to change land use from single residential to multi residential. All adjacent neighbouring plots if they have any objection shall contact Tlokweng Physical Planning Department : 3695002 /03 within 14 working days.

**I OWNER OF** plot 393 in Tlokweng,Masetlheng ward would like to change land use from single residential to multi residential, all adjacent neighbouring plots if they have any objection shall contact Tlokweng Physical Planning Department: 3695002/03 within 14 working days.

**CHANGE OF LAND** use, owner of plot 37622 in Molepolole, Kweneng 4MW Solar Power Plant (Pty) Ltd would like to change land use from agriculture to mixed-use. For any objections contact Kweneng District Council Physical Planning Office 5922100, within fourteen (14) days of publication of this notice.

**I OWNER OF** plot 12286 in Lobatse, Extension 30 would like to build a boundary wall. All adjacent neighbouring plots if they have any objection shall contact Lobatse building control department within 14 working days.

## VACANCIES

**HOMOLOPHATHIC DOCTOR REQUIRED** (1) at Acon (Pty) Ltd P O Box 26627,Gaborone. Requirements:Qualifications & experience.A degree in Homoeopathic Medicine is required.At least 3 years of relevant experience.Please forward the Cv and application qualifications to the above address before 15th June 2025

**AUTO ONE IN** Mogoditshane is looking for hybrid and electrical mechanic with 2years experience to start immediately. Closing date 25/06/2025. Call 72556074

**ADVERTS**  
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### NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETINGS ADMINISTRATION OF Estates Act [Cap 31:01]

**NOTICE IS HEREBY** given that by virtue of section 31 of the Administrative of Estates Act (Cap.33:01), heirs and next of kin of the deceased and all persons having claims against the above estate, are being called upon to attend before the Master of the High Court at **Francistown High Court** on the date and time specified opposite the names of their deceased relatives for purposes of recommending for appointment, a person or persons as Executor/ Executrix Dative as well as identifying beneficiaries and to discuss any other business relating to their deceased relative.

Name of Deceased	Estate Number	Date of Meeting	Time	Master
MMADINTWA LEPAELO	ESHIFT-000148-25	28-10-2025	0900HRS	DRM

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 26<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MAY 2025

MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

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

Masters Reference: ESHFT 000126/25

### NOTICE TO DEBTOR AND CREDITORS

**IN THE ESTATE** of the late LETSWELETSE ZAMBEZI ESHFT:000126/25 who died at NATA A3 ROAD (NEAR NATA LOGDE), CENTRAL-TUTUME DISTRICT on the 03/04/2024

**NOTICE IS HEREBY** given that Debtors and Creditors in the above Estate are hereby required to pay their claims of whatever nature with the undersigned within 30 days after the publication hereof.

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 19<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MAY 2025

ZAMBEZI MBISE EXECUTOR DATIVE  
P O BOX 21037 FRANCISTOWN

AND TO: MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT  
PRIVATE BAG F13 FRANCISTOWN

### NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETING Administration of Estates Act[Cap.31:01]

**NOTICE IS HEREBY** given that by virtue of section 31 of the Administration of Estates Act (Cap: 33:01), heirs and next of kin of the deceased and all persons having claims against the above estate, are being called upon to attend before the Master of the High Court at Maun on the date and time specified opposite the names of their deceased relatives for purposes of recommending for appointment, a person or persons as Executor/Executrix Dative as well as identifying beneficiaries and to discuss any other business relating to their deceased relative.

Name of Deceased Person	Estate Number	Date of Meeting	Time
1.RADIDIBA MAKGETHO	ESHMN-000036-25	3rd July 2025	11:00 HRS

DATED AT MAUN THIS 20<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MAY 2025

CHARLES TLAGAE ATTORNEYS, PLOT 711/712,  
ABOVE LEWIS FURNITURES, MAUN; TEL: 6862214 FAX: 6862213

### NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS Master's Reference: ESHGB 000204/24

**IN THE ESTATE** of the late **OBODITSE LESOLE** who died at Phaleng Ward, Shoshong, Central District, Botswana on the 15<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that Debtors and Creditors in the above Estate are hereby required to pay their debts and file claims of whatever nature with the undersigned within thirty (30) days after the publication hereof.

DATED at.....on this.....Day of.....2025

The Executrix  
Kebotsemang Mabutho  
P O Box 2029 **MOGODITSHANE**  
CELL: 71538179/72691588

### NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETINGS ADMINISTRATION OF Estates Act [Cap 31:01]

**NOTICE IS HEREBY** given that by virtue of section 31 of the Administrative of Estates Act (Cap.33:01), heirs and next of kin of the deceased and all persons having claims against the above estate, are being called upon to attend before the Master of the High Court at **Francistown High Court** on the date and time specified opposite the names of their deceased relatives for purposes of recommending for appointment, a person or persons as Executor/ Executrix Dative as well as identifying beneficiaries and to discuss any other business relating to their deceased relative.

Name of Deceased	Estate Number	Date of Meeting	Time
1.KELEDI SELEPILWE	ESHMN-000034/24	8 <sup>th</sup> July 2025	11:00 HRS

DATED AT MAUN THIS 20<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MAY 2025

CHARLES TLAGAE ATTORNEYS, PLOT 711/712, ABOVE LEWIS FURNITURES,  
MAUN; TEL: 6862214 FAX: 6862213

### IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA HELD AT FRANCISTOWN NOTICE TO DEBTOR AND CREDITORS

ESHFT 000 697-24

**IN THE ESTATE** of the late **ITANI MUTATUKI and OTILIA MUTATUKI- ESHFT 000697-24** who died at North East District in 2003.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY** given that Debtors and creditors in the above Estate are hereby required to pay their claims of whatever nature with the undersigned within 30 days after the publication hereof.

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 30<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MAY 2025.

**EXECUTOR DATIVE** AND TO: Minister of High Court  
P O Box 11714 Private Bag F13  
**FRANCISTOWN** **FRANCISTOWN**

### NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS Master's Reference: ESHGB 000204/24

**IN THE ESTATE** of the late **OBODITSE LESOLE** who died at Phaleng Ward, Shoshong, Central District, Botswana on the 15<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that Debtors and Creditors in the above Estate are hereby required to pay their debts and file claims of whatever nature with the undersigned within thirty (30) days after the publication hereof.

DATED at.....on this.....Day of.....2025

The Executrix  
Kebotsemang Mabutho  
P O Box 2029  
**MOGODITSHANE**  
CELL: 71538179/72691588

### KEBONANG J. IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA HELD AT GABORONE

CASE NO. CVHGB- 001426/23

In the matter between-  
**POWAMAN ELECTRICAL DISTRIBUTORS**

PLAINTIFF

AND  
**MICOLEAN ELECTIONAL SERVICES (PTY) LTD**

FIRST DEFENDANT

AND  
**MOTHUSI SEBEGO**

SECOND DEFENDANT

### NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

**BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT TAKE NOTICE THAT** pursuant to a judgement and Writ of Execution of this Honourable Court, the following property of the above-named Defendant will be sold in execution by the Deputy Sheriff **ONKGOPOTSE MOTLHAGODI** to the highest bidder as follows:

**DATE OF SALE** : 20 June 2025  
**VENUE** : Broadhurst Magistrate Court  
**TIME OF SALE** : 1030hrs

**PROPERTY TO BE SOLD** : Cream White Couch, Ricon heavy duty Printer White, White office table, Black TV stand, 65 inch Hisense TV Black, Hisense Fridge Grey and B783 BTM Red 2023 Chery station wagon CLVTOB24B4PD41116, 1.6 liter. **The above is sold Voetstoot (as it is)**

**CONDITIONS OF SALE** : Strictly Cash

DATED AT GABORONE THIS 15<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MAY 2025

Deputy Sheriff Onkgopotse Motlhogodi  
(71 868 324 / 73 321 097)  
c/o **SIBANDA LAW CHAMBERS**  
(Plaintiff's Attorneys)  
P.O. Box AE 655 AEH  
GABORONE



## JOB ADVERTS

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We are seeking a Senior Maintenance Supervisor to manage our workshop and job sites. The candidate will be required to manage teams in the workshop and on sites and be a skilled Welder/Fitter that can competently do metal fabrication and as well as work with other materials at our facilities or construction sites.

#### Qualifications/Competencies

1. Professional Certification e.g. minimum of NCC.
2. Must be a competent draughtsman well versed in the use of AutoCAD or an equivalent software.
3. Proven track record in managing teams and planning projects.
4. Experience working with various equipment such as rollers and bending machines would be a huge advantage.
5. Exposure to working in a mining background would be an added advantage.
6. Valid driver's licence a must.

#### ELECTRICIAN

The ideal candidates will be responsible for installing and repairing complex electrical control, wiring, troubleshooting and lighting systems working from a technical blueprint. The candidate will also have experience working on distribution works and not afraid to work at heights.

#### Qualifications/Competencies

1. Minimum NCC qualification
2. Experience working as an electrician in both distribution and building services.
3. Deep electrical system, power distribution, generation, blueprints, maintenance, and repair knowledge.
4. Minimum 5 years working experience
5. Valid driver's license a must

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Admin@powergate.co.bw and recruitment@crowntalent.co.bw

Closing date : 13th June 2025



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## Event driver of economic dev.

By Thuso Kgakatsi

**HUKUNTSI** - A spirit of celebration and cultural pride filled Ghukwa Farm this past weekend, as the annual Macheng Bushfire Festival brought together locals and visitors from across Botswana and neighbouring countries.

With the rhythmic beat of drums, the vibrant colours of traditional attire and an infectious sense of unity, festival goers enjoyed a dynamic programme that included a sunrise hike, traditional dances and a cultural night showcasing local talent and indigenous expression.

The festival, Minister of Local Government and Traditional Affairs, Ketlhalefile Motshegwa said in his keynote address, was a solemn reminder of 'who we are, where we come from and what we must preserve for future generations'.

He further said the Macheng

Bushfire Festival was not only a cultural showcase, but also a driver of grassroots economic development.

"Through the trading of indigenous goods, craft exhibitions and culinary showcases, the event provides a platform for entrepreneurs and artisans to network, collaborate, and grow their businesses. It also highlights the role of culture in promoting tourism and community-based development in rural Botswana."

Motshegwa also addressed continued relevance of traditional leadership in modern governance, saying long before formal government structures, traditional leaders were the custodians of the land and moral stewards of their communities; a role they continue to fulfill today.

"We recognise and celebrate the vital partnership between traditional leadership and all spheres of government.

This partnership is essential

for rural development, service delivery, and building communities that are self-reliant and prosperous."

Focusing on the broader goal of rural transformation, the minister emphasised the need to empower communities from the ground up.

"Our rural areas are rich in culture and resources, but remain vulnerable to poverty.

Traditional leaders are uniquely positioned to drive this transformation," he said.

He further acknowledged the role of youth as carriers of tradition, calling for more inclusive cultural education programmes and mentorship opportunities to ensure that heritage remained a living, evolving force that resonated with younger generations.

Motshegwa urged deeper collaboration between traditional leaders and local governments, emphasising the need to institutionalise cultural

programmes, preserve indigenous languages, and protect sacred sites.

"This is not a symbolic task, it is a developmental imperative," he said, advocating for increased financial and logistical support from both government and the private sector.

"Let us invest in our culture, empower our traditional leaders, and build a nation deeply rooted in pride, prosperity, and unity."

Kgosi Merapelo Tshweneyagae, speaking at the event, reflected on the growth and impact of the festival, now in its third year.

He commended organisers for curating a rich and dynamic programme, acknowledging the hard work and dedication behind its planning.

He shared that the venue holds personal significance, as it was the ancestral land of his forebears.

He praised the festival for its economic impact, particularly its support of small and local

businesses.

"Despite being in its early stages, this festival has shown remarkable potential.

With its growing popularity and impact, we want it to become a cherished tradition and beacon of cultural pride in the region," he said.

As Macheng Bushfire Festival came to a close with spirited performances and heartfelt community exchanges, culminating in what was described as a 'dance around the fire' it became clear that the event was more than just a celebration, but a reaffirmation of identity, a showcase of local strength, and a rallying call for collaborative development grounded in culture.

Groups that graced the stage included Thakgo Ya Autate, Kuruaboo Traditional Group, Morwa Kgaisang, Macheng Pantsula Crew, Our Originality, Namstap Troupe, Shubie, Pace, and Tjau Ya Mabuasehube. **BOPA**



Revellers came in large numbers to witness the last edition of Toropo Ya Muka Music Festival in Francistown on Saturday. Photo: Thamani Shabani

## Toropo Ya Muka Music Festival ends with bang

By Kelebogile Taolo

**FRANCISTOWN** - The Toropo Ya Muka Music Festival drew to a close with a bang at the Obed Itani Chilume Stadium in Francistown on Saturday, as string of local artistes performed to revellers who braved the chilly weather.

The festival, which celebrated its 10th year anniversary, has been a hallmark of northern Botswana's music scene since its inception in 2015.

On Saturday, artistes such as Chokoma and Juu Matere

kept the crowd entertained with encouraging waves and dancing as various musical acts took the stage. Chokoma electrified the stage with his popular songs while Juu Matere showcased his dance skills during his performance of Chobolo, igniting excitement among the crowd. The artistes' energy was so infectious that the cold seemed to vanish as revellers sang along and fully engaged in the festivities.

South African artiste, Janesh Abi wa Mampela, known for her contributions to 'Lekompo'

genre, who was accompanied by a talented team, also left a lasting impression with their captivating performance that resonated with the audience, creating an unforgettable experience.

Many attendees expressed their delight about the festival, despite the bittersweet feeling of it being the last edition. Lentswe Lentswe, a man in his early 30s, shared that he had attended the festival for years and considered the final event the best.

"Toropo Ya Muka Music Festival has been one of the biggest events in this region.

It is unfortunate that this is the last edition. I wish they could consider having at least two more before ending it," he said.

Lentswe praised the overall experience and the effective security measures in place.

"I came with my friends to enjoy. I have heard so much about the Toropo Ya Muka Music Festival, and now that I am here, I can say it is superb. We're having a great time," said Anita Maboka, who is in her 20s and attended the festival for the first time. Local artiste DJ Kanchana, who attended as

a guest rather than a performer, expressed appreciation for the festival, noting that despite the weather conditions, everything was well organised.

He noted the growth of local music, with artistes continually improving their craft.

Other notable performers at the festival included various local DJs, Dr Vom, ATI, C-RU, The Beauty Queens, and many more. Toropo Ya Muka Music Festival may have closed its doors, but it certainly left a lasting legacy in the hearts of revellers. **BOPA**

# Sport platform for empowerment

By Anastacia Sibanda

GABORONE - Sport must serve as a platform for national development, youth empowerment, community wellness and economic opportunity.

This was said by Botswana National Olympic Committee (BNOC) president Botsang Tshenyego during the ordinary general assembly on Saturday, who urged stakeholders to recommit themselves to focus on the systems and structures that made victory possible from grassroots to elite levels, but not just on the competitions ahead only.

He said sport must be an engine for dignity and transformation.

“Let us dare to imagine a Botswana where sport touches every village, every school and every family,” he said.

Tshenyego further said the current quadrennial 2025-2028 Strategy was already under development.

He said it would include the findings of the capability framework exercise to ensure that BNOC had the required resources and capabilities to deliver the strategic plan, followed by a budget and the preparation of annual business plans linked to the secretariat’s reporting and performance management system.

The on-going consultations, he said would ensure alignment to the framework of the Olympic Quadrennial plans for 2025-2028.

Tshenyego also highlighted that board structures and secretariat continued to challenge themselves to act with integrity at all times.

He said amongst other things, declaration of interests continued to be a standard requirement where there was potential for conflict.

“The board will continue to work on strengthening its committees to better enhance responsibility and accountability,” he said.

He also said the organisation

*‘Let us dare to imagine a Botswana where sport touches every village, every school and every family.’*

continued to digitise their processes as they exploited more opportunities for the benefit of their stakeholders, which also helped them to respond to the environment and climate action mandate.

“We continued to go green and having a paperless environment. As opposed to the Annual General Assembly held virtually, for the Ordinary General Assemblies, we have a physical meeting due to the nature of business to be discussed, most importantly to highlight the Audited Financial statements from the previous year,” he said. **BOPA**



Botswana National Olympic Committee (BNOC) president, Botsang Tshenyego (left), Handball National head coach, Harninder Dhaliwal (second left), Botswana Badminton Association treasurer, Kegomoditswe Shoshong (second right) and Ministry of Sport and Arts director, Moreetsi Bogosi during BNOC AGM in Gaborone on Saturday. Tshenyego applauded the athletes, coaches, teams and administrators who proudly flew Botswana’s flag high at international competitions. Photo: Pheny Ramatu

# Darts select formidable squad

By Thamani Shabani

FRANCISTOWN - The Botswana Darts Association (BODA) has announced the selection of 16 athletes across the under 15 and under 18 categories, including both boys and girls, to represent Botswana at the upcoming Africa Union

Sports Council Youth Darts Championships (Region 5).

The championships are set to take place in Mazuwe, Zimbabwe, at the end of August this year.

The selection process culminated on Saturday at a national tournament held at Mater Spei College in Francistown.

The selected athletes were

recognised for their exceptional skills and dedication throughout the competition.

In the under 18 boy’s category, the selected athletes include Gofaone Tamucha from Shashe River School in Tonota, Moitshepi Motlogelwa from Molefhi Senior Secondary School, Thabiso Tadubana from Mater Spei

College and Frabregas Gomang (currently out of school).

Floyd Bakang has been designated as a reserve for this category. For the under 15 boys, Junior Baakile from Lebogang Junior Secondary School, Ethern Moloji from Tonota Junior Secondary School, Jasson Marisa from Dawn Bell Academy, and Daniel Kemang and Laone Nthabiseng, both from Tonota Junior Secondary school, have secured their places in the tournament. The Under 18 girls saw Montle Matlho, Amanda Malidza, Wame Mabelebele, all from Mater Spei College, Laone Kereteletswe from Shashe River School and Tshepnag Balang (currently out of school) making it to the tournament.

The under 15 girl’s category representatives include Chedu Siwame from Saint Arnold Primary School, Sandile Kontopo, Katlego Tattha, and Kagiso Sikwane all from Tonota Junior Secondary School, as well as Katlo Setlhare from Letlhabile Junior Secondary School.

BODA’s public relations officer, Edith Bakaang expressed satisfaction with the selection tournament, stating: “The tournament went as planned, and we are hopeful that this formidable team will make the country proud by securing the desired medals.”

She also urged the parents of the athletes to provide their unwavering support during the tournament to help ensure their children perform to the best of their abilities. **BOPA**



Darts athletes at a selection tournament in Francistown on Saturday. Botswana Darts Association selected 16 players to represent the country at the up coming Region 5 tournament in Mazuwe, Zimbabwe in August. Photo: Thamani Shabani.

# Calendar Stars secure promotional playoffs spot

By Kelebogile Taolo

FRANCISTOWN - Francistown-based Calendar Stars FC’s hard fought victory over BR Highlanders has ensured that the team clinch a spot in the promotional playoffs.

Calendar Stars defeated BR Highlanders 1-0 during the

last game of the First Division League- North played at the Francistown City Council Stadium on Saturday, to ensure that they finished second with 39 points, with Gomotsang Simon scoring a stunning goal in the 21<sup>st</sup> minute for his team.

Calendar Stars coach, Joseph Mokgacha, praised his team’s

resilience, acknowledging challenges faced during the match, particularly in the first half. “I am happy we got three points and managed to qualify for the promotional playoffs. Our opponents were playing better in the middle, but we managed to contain them,” he said.

Looking ahead, he expressed

confidence in the team’s preparation and determination to secure a favourable position by the end of the games, saying he led a dedicated and a team with fighting spirit. Reflecting on his team’s performance BR Highlanders coach, Kabo Koifho, said despite playing well, they were unable to convert opportunities into goals.

“Sometimes in football, you need good luck to win.

If luck is not on your side, you do not win. If you don’t score your chances, you are bound to lose games,” he stated. TIn the 21st minute, Gomotsang Simon scored a stunning goal, giving Calendar Stars a crucial 1-0 lead as first half ended. **BOPA**



BFA CEO, Mfolo Mfolo (left) and Diamond Trading Company Botswana (DTCB) corporate affairs manager, McDonald Motsele during DTCB women football championship semi-final draw in Gaborone yesterday. Motsele said DTCB was committed to making a positive change in the lives of people by investing in sport development and engaging key stakeholders in issues affecting women football. Photo: Gothusang Lesego.

## Draw pits GU against Nico

By Anastacia Sibanda

GABORONE - Lekidi Football Centre will host the semi-finals of the 2025 DTCB Women's Football Championship, following the draw held yesterday.

The defending champions, Gaborone United (Red Roses), will take on Selebi Phikwe-based Nico United, while newcomers Orapa United will battle Makgabz City from Tsabong in what promises to be an exciting clash. In last year's edition, Gaborone United showcased dominance

by defeating Makgabz City 25-0 before securing the title with an 8-1 victory over Tawana Top Girls in the final.

The Red Roses look to defend their crown, but questions remain about whether they can overcome the challenge posed by Nico United, a squad that has proved to be formidable.

Nico United has earned recognition as a competitive and capable team, capable of upsetting even the strongest opponents.

Meanwhile, Gaborone United has steadily built a balanced

team that consistently delivers results. Speaking during the draw, DTCB corporate affairs manager Macdonald Motsele highlighted the organisation's ongoing support for women's football. He noted that DTCB entered into a three-year partnership with the Botswana Football Association (BFA) in 2022, valued at P1.5 million.

The sponsorship has contributed to various women's football championships across the country.

"The sponsorship was meant to end last year, but we are

extending it because this story is worth telling," he said. He added that in 2025, the sponsorship would be further increased by an additional P1.5 million, aiming to involve key stakeholders and address pressing issues affecting women's football.

BFA CEO Mfolo Mfolo also emphasised the importance of regional participation in women's football development. Since 2022, the number of registered teams has grown from 66 to 136, with registered players increasing from 5 045 to over 3 000 even as team numbers decreased slightly

in recent years.

The semifinals are scheduled to take place at Lekidi Football Centre on Friday, with the first match between Gaborone United and Nico United kicking off at 11am. The second semifinal between Makgabz City and Orapa United will follow at 2.25pm. The third-place match will be held at the National Stadium at 12.40pm, with the final slated for 3.15pm.

The champions will receive P250 000, with second place earning P150 000, third P100 000, and fourth P50 000. **BOPA**