

# BOTSWANA Daily News

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## Development budget targets high return projects



Minister of Finance, Mr Ndaba Gaolathe

Ministry of Minerals and Energy gets the largest share of P5.23 billion, intended to stabilise electricity supply.

In alignment with the government's commitment to transform the country into a regional transport hub, the second largest budget proposal of P3.86 billion goes to the Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure.

Ministry of Water and Human Settlement is allocated P3.62 billion expected to prioritise completion of major water supply and sanitation projects which are currently in their final stages.

P2.86 billion is allocated to the Ministry of Local Government and Traditional Affairs for the implementation of various programmes and projects.

Ministry of Lands and Agriculture gets P1.77 billion towards supporting ongoing management projects across the country. Part of the budget is expected to fund emerging national priorities and programmes such as the Cannabis Production and Regulatory Framework.

Remaining P4.05 billion would be allocated through the rest of the government ministries and departments towards the construction and refurbishment of facilities in different sectors, while also funding research and innovation projects.

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# 'Transparency on FMD builds market confidence'

Thamani Shabani

**BUTALE**

The Vice President, Mr Ndaba Gaolathe has emphasised Botswana's commitment to transparency in reporting disease outbreaks, specifically the Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD).

Addressing a kgotla meeting in Jackalas No. 1 on Friday, Mr Gaolathe said this transparency installed trust with countries Botswana exported meat to, particularly in the European market.

"In doing so, Botswana is installing trust to those which it sells meat to, especially the European markets," he said.

He contrasted this approach with other countries that do not disclose disease outbreaks, highlighting the benefits of Botswana's openness.

Mr Gaolathe also Minister of Finance stressed the need for community involvement in preventing the FMD spread; in the same breath commanding residents of Zone 6b for helping maintain disease control fences and patrolling

the border line.

He said government had allocated P97 million for vaccination efforts, and applauded residents for vaccinating their cattle, with nearly 7 000 animals vaccinated in Zone 6b so far.

He urged residents to report any FMD symptoms and adhere to movement restrictions, warning against secretly moving cattle from infected areas.

He said the Ministry of Lands and Agriculture faced a shortage of animal health experts, but he however praised its efforts to maintain disease control fences and patrol the border lines.

Mr Gaolathe also said due to financial constraints, government would not compensate butchery owners for lost sales resulting from the FMD outbreak, explaining that because of their high numbers, compensating them was not feasible.

He warned about stray animals, saying they posed a risk of spreading the disease as they were not controlled.



*Jakalas No. 1 residents after a kgotla meeting addressed by Vice President Ndaba Gaolathe on Friday. Mr Gaolathe said the current Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) outbreak in South Africa and Zimbabwe was an emergency with potential to escalate into a national disaster, particularly given the Botswana's size and limited disease-control infrastructure in the southern regions. Photo: Ogopoleng Kgomoethata*

Commenting, residents raised the proposal that government previously made to extend the use of identity cards for cross-border travel to Zimbabwe, an idea that was previously met with resistance.

They observed that the move would potentially curb illegal border crossing and therefore help in preventing the spread of livestock diseases, especially FMD.

A resident, Mr Busane Salani

from Siviya supported the idea, citing its relevance now.

Mr Salani also suggested opening another border gate between Ramokgwebana and Matsiloje to ease access and address the temptation for some to cross the border at ungaZetted points.

Other residents, like Ms Francina Budani, secretary of Jackalas No. 1 Farmers' Committee, and Mr Moses Mbengwa, who

reported FMD symptoms, thanked government for opting to vaccinate cattle over culling.

Minister of Lands and Agriculture, Dr Edwin Dikoloti emphasised collaboration and adherence to veterinary advice as key to stopping the disease.

"Only working together and adhering to the advice of the veterinary department can stop this disease," he said. **BOPA**

# SKMTH emerges as national healthcare anchor

Lesedi Thatayamodimo

**GABORONE**

The transformation of Sir Ketumile Masire Teaching Hospital (SKMTH) into a public health hospital has ignited nationwide debate, with differing views on whether the facility should remain true to its original mandate as a teaching and referral institution.

Briefing the media recently, SKMTH acting chief executive officer, Dr Rachel Seleke-Motsu, said the move was aimed at easing chronic congestion at Princess Marina Hospital (PMH), which had for years struggled under the weight of rising patient numbers.

By expanding Sir Ketumile's role to provide broader public health services, Dr Seleke-Motsu said pressure on PMH would be significantly reduced, ultimately improving access to healthcare for Botswana.

She noted that the move aligned with government's commitment to universal health coverage, a key pillar under the Ministry of Health.

Within the broader national healthcare system, she added, SKMTH had already made a significant structural impact.

"As the transition continues, further adjustments and commissioning of spaces are expected," she said.

She emphasised that the transition phases would be critical in ensuring that the facility met its long-term goals of excellence in healthcare, teaching and research.

Nonetheless, Dr Seleke-Motsu reiterated that SKMTH's mandate remained firmly centred on specialised healthcare delivery, adding that the institution was designed to support advanced medical treatment, medical education and research, while positioning itself to meet global standards of clinical excellence.

Sharing similar sentiments,

a Paediatric Endocrinologist at PMH, Dr Seeletso Nchingane said the hospital's infrastructure reflected such ambition, adding that SKMTH played a central role in improving access to specialised care and reducing long patient waiting times.

He reiterated that the expansion was intended to improve patient flow management, strengthen primary healthcare referral pathways and ensure that specialised services were accessed appropriately.

Dr Nchingane confirmed that government had recently approved the reinstatement and integration of certain services into public hospitals, stressing that "this does not mean services have been shut down elsewhere."

Instead, he said, hospitals were now running together and in parallel in a coordinated manner.

"Radiology and other diagnostic services are among those being aligned across facilities," he said.

He explained that a major focus of the transition was the introduction and expansion of sub-specialist services.

"From February 2 this year, sub-specialist clinics in internal medicine and paediatrics began operating, alongside efforts to clear a longstanding backlog of orthopaedic surgical cases. Sub-specialties now available or being strengthened include cardiology, nephrology, neurology, gastroenterology, endocrinology and adolescent health services," he added.

Dr Nchingane noted that while some clinics started later than planned due to the sudden nature of the transition and space constraints, the move was already yielding positive results.

He said the expansion of outpatient department (OPD) space had increased the number of consulting rooms operating simultaneously, allowing more patients to be attended to in a



*SKMTH acting chief executive officer, Dr Rachel Seleke-Motsu*

**"There will no longer be patients queuing from 4am, only to leave late in the day"**

shorter period and significantly reducing waiting times that previously stretched from six months to over a year.

He further said the Theatre capacity was also improving, saying PMH currently had four paediatric

theatres, while across SKMTH network there are 18 theatres, five of which were operational.

He said plans were underway to activate additional theatres, a move expected to substantially reduce surgical backlogs over the next three years.

"There will no longer be patients queuing from 4am, only to leave late in the day," he said.

Furthermore, he said access to high-level diagnostic technology, including MRI and fluoroscopy, had also improved, reducing the need for costly external referrals and enabling earlier diagnosis to prevent complications.

"The expansion of intensive care unit (ICU) services is another priority, as ICU care remains one of the most resource-intensive components of healthcare delivery," he said.

Looking ahead, Dr Nchingane said Phase Two of the transition was scheduled to begin on February 16, with parallel services running across hospitals to further ease pressure on emergency departments.

Further plans include expanding oncology and other specialised medical wards, with new wards and programmes currently in development.

He said the reforms aimed to open services to all patients, improve efficiency and ensure Botswana's public healthcare system continued to progress.

However, not everyone is convinced. Some citizens argue that SKMTH should remain focused on its initial purpose as a teaching hospital, designed primarily to train health professionals and provide specialised medical services. They fear that expanding its scope could dilute its academic mission and long-term strategic value.

One concerned Motswana acknowledged that the transition has not been smooth, reflecting

broader concerns about implementation challenges and whether the shift was adequately planned and communicated.

Others, however, point out that Botswana has precedent for such adjustments during times of national need.

Mr David Modise recalled that during the COVID-19 pandemic, SKMTH was temporarily repurposed as a COVID-19 referral hospital.

"At the height of the crisis, the facility was cordoned off and dedicated almost entirely to managing COVID-19 cases, despite this not being part of its original mandate," he said.

He said those decisions were made under extraordinary circumstances, often through Extraordinary Gazettes, with policies adopted swiftly and the public required to comply in the interest of national health and safety.

As a supporter of the current transformation, Mr Modise argued that the same principle applied today, noting that public need can necessitate a shift in how national resources are utilised.

"The pandemic showed us that intentions can change when the needs of the people demand it," he said.

He added that Botswana now faced a different but equally pressing challenge of overcrowded hospitals and a growing demand for quality healthcare.

Similarly, Ms Mpho Thebe noted that comparable policy decisions had been implemented in other sectors.

Ms Thebe cited the education sector during the tenure of former Minister of Education, Ms Pelonomi Venson-Moitoi, when Form Three students were allowed to progress to Form Four despite unsatisfactory results as an urgent intervention to address systemic challenges. **BOPA**

# Fiscal cliff ahead as public debt rises

## GABORONE

**EE Total financial requirements are estimated at P22.3 billion, of which P18.6 billion remains unfinanced.**

The national budget speech presented on Monday shows the country is to experience a deficit of P26.35 billion, equivalent to 8.9 per cent of GDP, during the 2026/27 financial year.

Presenting the Appropriation Bill (Bill No 1 of 2026), the Vice President and Minister of Finance Mr Ndaba Gaolathe said the deficit would be financed through a mix of domestic and external borrowing,

He however, explained that the country had experienced challenges with regard to external borrowing, resulting in greater reliance on domestic debt instruments and leaving a significant financial gap.

"Total financial requirements are estimated at P22.3 billion, of which

P18.6 billion remains unfinanced," the minister said, stating that this illustrated a structurally overstretched fiscal framework in which expenditure commitments persistently exceed available and realistic resources.

Mr Gaolathe said this was fiscally unsustainable and underscored the urgent need for more credible, disciplined and prudent financial planning.

"Failure to secure the required financial affordability will inevitably lead to accumulation of arrears, an adjustment mechanism that defers rather than resolve underlying fiscal obligations," he said adding this could lead to increase in public debt burden, raise debt service costs and intensify pressure on the fiscus.

He said during the 2025/26 financial year, the budget was mostly financed through domestic

market, and in December 2025, public debt amounted to P90.03 billion of which P55.98 billion was domestic and P34.06 billion in external debt.

"The debt-to-GDP ratio is estimated to reach 38.77 per cent of GDP by March 2026," the minister said.

Mr Gaolathe said debt levels were expected to increase as the Government Investment Account (GIA) funds were insufficient to announce the projected deficit.

The Vice President said the additional financing would raise total public debt, and guarantees, to 44.66 per cent of GDP by the end of 2026/27 financial year, which will require calibration of statutory debt ceiling set at 40 per cent of GDP.

"While such an increase may generate short-term credibility

concerns, these are outweighed by the significantly greater economic risks that would arise from the sharp fiscal consolidation needed to stay within the existing ceiling," he said.

The Minister of Finance said a well-defined increase in the statutory debt limit, anchored to a credible consolidation plan and supported by structural reforms would be necessary to balance fiscal sustainability with economic growth.

"This approach would create sufficient space for a gradual and orderly fiscal adjustment, while preserving the flexibility required to respond effectively to adverse shocks," he said.

The budget deficit came as the government expenditure was estimated at P103.58 billion against revenues of P77.22 billion. **BOPA**

# Gaolathe proposes P23.38 billion development budget

## GABORONE

The proposed P23.38 billion development budget for the 2026/2027 is expected to prioritise projects premised on high return on investment, Finance Minister, Mr Ndaba Gaolathe has said.

Minister Gaolathe, who was delivering the 2026/27 national budget in Gaborone, yesterday, noted that the Ministry of Minerals and Energy was allocated the largest share of P5.23 billion, intended to stabilise electricity supply and strengthen the national grid's resilience in the midst of rising demand and the challenges facing the regional electricity supply.

"The provision is intended to cover several critical allocations, including P2.270 billion for BPC power imports, P730 million to meet the loan obligations to the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China, P200 million for the Cross-Border Electricity Supply Project, and P100 million for the Power Distribution Network Reinforcement," he explained.

He noted that the North-West Transmission Grid Phase, which will connect the Chobe District and enable exports to the ZIBONA market, was among the major projects earmarked for the financial year at a cost of P1.37 billion. Furthermore, he said other priorities for the ministry included Rural Village Electrification and Network Extension, as well as the Integrated Resource Plan.

He said these projects were aimed at expanding access to electricity by rural communities as well as contributing to the country's aspiration of achieving a 50 per cent renewable energy contribution by 2030. Additionally, Mr Gaolathe said plans were underway to commission the expansion of the Francistown and Ghanzi Petroleum Depots in April and August respectively, in an endeavour to secure petroleum product supply as a key component in sustaining economic growth.

In alignment with the government's commitment to transform the country into a regional transport hub, the second largest budget proposal of P3.86 billion would be allocated to the Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure. In addition to improving the national road network, the budget would go towards developing the Mmamabula-Lephala and Mosetse-Kazungula-Livingstone railway lines, as well as part of the Southern African Development Community (SADC)'s Strategic Plan of the North-South Corridor.

Mr Gaolathe said from the proposed ministry budget, a total of P3.02 billion was to be allocated to various ongoing road projects across the country, as well as those at various stages and phases. He said other infrastructure developments were also expected to benefit from this budget.

"The budget will also finance



Vice President and Minister of Finance, Mr Ndaba Gaolathe arriving at Parliament to deliver the 2026/27 National Budget Speech yesterday.  
Photos: Pheno Moalosi

a range of Built Infrastructure projects, including the refurbishment of Tonota College of Education, Molepolole College of Education, Department of Building Maintenance Area Offices in Gaborone West, Department of Building Maintenance Area Offices in Broadhurst, DRTS Serowe office and refurbishment of Old Supplies in Gaborone. In addition, part of the ministry's allocation will support the implementation of Rail and Aviation Infrastructure, ICT projects and Air Botswana Finances projects," he noted.

With a budget allocation of P3.62 billion, the Ministry of Water and Human Settlement is

expected to prioritise completion of major water supply and sanitation projects which are currently in their final stages. The projects include the North-South Carrier pipeline, Mmamashia Water Treatment Plant, Lobatse Water Supply Master Plan, Molepolole-Gamonyane NSC connection and Kanye Sanitation.

The minister also underscored the urgent need to refurbish and expand the Mambo Wastewater Treatment Plant in Francistown, Maun Water and Sanitation Phase II, as well as the Kgalagadi North Water Supply and Molepolole Water Supply and Distribution, which are new water supply pipeline projects. He said the social

housing projects, which include all Bonno housing components, was allocated P702.96 million.

Furthermore, he said a development budget of P2.86 billion was allocated to the Ministry of Local Government and Traditional Affairs for the implementation of various programmes and projects. He said while the Social Welfare Programmes accounted for 69.9 per cent of the ministry's total budget, there was need to expedite the implementation of the Single Social Registry (SSR) to avoid duplication.

"To enhance efficiency and reduce duplication across interventions, there is an urgent need to accelerate the rollout of the SSR, Proxy Means Testing as a targeting tool. The SSR project will be supported by the World Bank, which will undertake an assessment to identify bottlenecks, improve system performance and enhance citizen experience," he noted.

He noted that 56.2 per cent of the Ministry for State President, Defence and Security's P1.99 billion budget was directed towards the security organs, while P60 million would go towards the establishment of rehabilitation centres in Maun and Lobatse. He said P266 million would facilitate the creative industry, with the new Air Support project budgeted for P250 million.

Mr Gaolathe said the bulk of the P1.77 billion budget allocated for the Ministry of Lands and Agriculture would go towards supporting ongoing management projects across the country. He also said part of the budget was expected to fund emerging national priorities and programmes such as the Cannabis Production and Regulatory Framework. He said in order to support the country's food security and export goals, the government intended to invest in agricultural value chains and enhancing the commercialisation of livestock production. He further said the cultivation and use of industrial hemp and medicinal cannabis would be implemented in phases in an endeavour to diversify the economy.

He noted that the remaining P4.05 billion would be allocated through the rest of the government ministries and departments towards the construction and refurbishment of facilities in different sectors, while also funding research and innovation projects. **BOPA**

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**Editors**  
Ms Lorato Okaile Ms Masego Pilane  
Tel: 365 3640 Tel: 365 3569  
Email: [lgaleage@gov.bw](mailto:lgaleage@gov.bw) Email: [mkpilane@gov.bw](mailto:mkpilane@gov.bw)  
Mr Sefhako Sefhako Ms Sereki Mpitse  
Tel: 365 3589 Tel: 365 3595  
Email: [seseftako@gov.bw](mailto:seseftako@gov.bw) Email: [smpitse@gov.bw](mailto:smpitse@gov.bw)

**Head of Photography** Mr Yobe Shonga **Head of Marketing** Ms Lucretia Chima **Head of Graphics** Mr Edward Matlala  
Tel: 365 3604 Tel: 365 3574 Tel: 365 3557  
Email: [yshonga@gov.bw](mailto:yshonga@gov.bw) Email: [ichima@gov.bw](mailto:ichima@gov.bw) Email: [ematlala@gov.bw](mailto:ematlala@gov.bw)  
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Members of Parliament and guests listening to Vice President and Minister of Finance Mr Ndaba Gaolathe delivering the 2026/27 Budget speech in Gaborone yesterday. Photo: Pheno Moalosi

## Fiscal outlook downward as government tightens consolidation measures

### GABORONE

**Vice President and Minister of Finance, Mr Ndaba Gaolathe has announced a downward revision of Botswana's medium-term fiscal outlook, citing persistent global and domestic economic headwinds that continue to strain the country's public finances.**

Delivering the 2026 Budget Speech in Gaborone yesterday, Mr Gaolathe said the revision reflected the urgency of strengthening fiscal and external buffers while maintaining policy credibility in an increasingly challenging macro-fiscal environment.

"The macro-fiscal environment remains difficult, characterised by declining mineral revenues, rising expenditure pressures and growing demands for social and economic support," he said, adding that those factors continued to place strain on the fiscal position.

Despite the pressures, Mr Gaolathe reaffirmed government's commitment to a coordinated fiscal consolidation strategy aimed at restoring fiscal sustainability, rebuilding buffers and safeguarding macroeconomic stability.

He said key measures included tighter expenditure prioritisation, improved efficiency in public spending, strengthened domestic revenue mobilisation and accelerated reforms of state-

owned enterprises (SOEs).

Mr Gaolathe further emphasised that consolidation efforts would be implemented in a balanced and growth-supportive manner, with essential social spending protected and critical investments preserved to support long-term economic transformation.

The minister warned that Botswana's medium-term outlook was subject to significant macro-fiscal risks, both external and domestic.

Externally, he said, slower global growth, continued weakness in the diamond market, volatile commodity prices, heightened geopolitical tensions and climate-related shocks could prolong economic recovery.

"Such developments could widen fiscal and current account deficits and undermine efforts to rebuild buffers."

Domestically, he said growth risks remain skewed to the downside, particularly if the diamond market fails to recover.

While the non-diamond sector is expected to cushion the economy, Mr Gaolathe cautioned that its stabilising effect was limited.

He also highlighted the potential economic fallout from delays in containing the Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) outbreak, which could lead to production losses, higher livestock mortality, reduced beef export receipts and threats to national food security.

In addition, he said the slower-than-anticipated implementation of the Botswana Economic Transformation Programme (BETP) could impede progress on diversification and the broader transformation agenda.

On the fiscal front, Mr Gaolathe said revenue risks were mounting as mineral earnings were projected to remain well below long-term averages, offering only modest upside.

"The persistent shortfall is widening fiscal gaps and intensifying financing pressures," he said.

At the same time, Mr Gaolathe

said expenditure risks remained elevated, with both recurrent and capital spending continuing to outpace revenue growth.

"Without credible consolidation, structural deficits are likely to persist, increasing reliance on borrowing," he said, adding that as a result, debt vulnerabilities were becoming more pronounced.

While public debt remains within statutory limits, Mr Gaolathe warned that sustained fiscal slippage could place debt on a steeper trajectory, undermining sustainability and increasing exposure to future shocks.

He said additional risks identified included rising inflation pressures, climate-related disruptions, SOE fiscal risks, weak implementation of public-private partnership projects, supply-chain disruptions, cyber-security threats and volatility in food and energy prices.

To mitigate the risks, he said government planned to strengthen fiscal risk management, enhance policy coordination and accelerate economic diversification anchored on private-sector-led growth.

He said that advancing diversification, deepening private-sector participation and boosting productivity were central to building a more resilient, diversified and sustainable economy.

Mr Gaolathe said sustained medium-term growth would require faster implementation of economy-wide reforms across key sectors, given their potential to lift productivity and competitiveness.

He added that further expenditure measures, including containing the public wage bill, simplifying and better targeting social benefits and improving the governance and operational efficiency of SOEs, were necessary to deepen fiscal discipline.

"To secure long-term fiscal and economic sustainability for Botswana, the path ahead demands discipline, coordination and reform," Mr Gaolathe said.

**BOPA**

## Private sector takes lead in economic transformation

### GABORONE

Government has placed the private sector at the centre of Botswana's economic transformation.

This was said by Vice President and Minister of Finance, Mr Ndaba Gaolathe, delivering the 2026 Budget Speech before Parliament yesterday.

Outlining a reform and investment programme aimed at diversification, export growth and long-term economic resilience, he said government remained steadfast in its resolve to deepen private sector participation as the primary driver of a diversified and export-oriented economy.

He said the strategy focused on improving enterprise competitiveness, accelerating the growth of scalable firms and expanding Botswana's footprint in regional and global markets.

Also, he said a key pillar of the budget was repositioning of agriculture from subsistence production and import dependence to a modern, agro-industrial and export-focused sector.

He said under the Botswana Economic Transformation Programme (BETP), government was implementing 26 transformative agriculture projects spanning crop and livestock production, agro-processing, cold-chain logistics and market access.

Mr Gaolathe also indicated that through clustering models, processing hubs and integrated logistics systems, Botswana aimed to convert its land, water resources and farmer base into competitive exports in meat, horticulture, nutraceuticals and other high-value crops. He cited a BETP agriculture-based cluster project set to make its first confirmed export of Moringa to Germany in February 2026, describing it as a tangible validation of the cluster-based approach and Botswana's ability to meet stringent international standards.

Manufacturing, he said was also being strengthened as the bridge between primary production and exports.

He further said under BETP, government prioritised 22 manufacturing projects focused on assembly-based manufacturing, resource-based heavy industry, clean technologies and precision manufacturing.

"These projects are designed to link agriculture, mining and energy into higher-value goods, retain value domestically, deepen supply chains and create skilled employment."

This shift moves our economy decisively up the value chain and reduces vulnerability to external shocks," he said.

He said significant progress had also been recorded in Special Economic Zones (SEZs) and that government had invested P714 million in land servicing and the construction of four advanced factory units at the Sir Seretse Khama International Airport SEZ.

Additionally, he said a P63 million grain dryer and related facilities were under development at the Pandamatenga SEZ to support agro-industrial value chains.

To support geographically balanced growth, he said the Revised National Investment Strategy (2025-2030) was expected to be completed by March 2026.

He indicated that it would decentralise investment by embedding local economic development approaches, developing district-specific investment profiles and strengthening competitive value chains, with implementation led by the Botswana Investment and Trade Centre (BITC) in partnership with local authorities.

"Investor facilitation reforms will continue through BITC and the Botswana One Stop Service Centre, with measures to simplify permits, licenses, and approvals, and introduce direct issuance of investor visas," he added.

On regional trade, he announced that Botswana completed its National AfCFTA Implementation Strategy in July 2025.

"The strategy positions Botswana to tap into the African market of 1.3 billion people, expanding export opportunities and value-chain integration," he said.

On human capital development, he said Botswana currently spent an average of 7.1 per cent of Gross Domestic Product on education, among the highest levels for upper-middle-income countries in the region. However, he acknowledged that outcomes had lagged behind spending, creating an efficiency gap that constrained growth.

"To address this, government has introduced a new Tertiary Education Financing Policy, a Higher Education Act and a dedicated TVET Act.

These reforms aim to align skills development with labour-market demand, embed digital and green skills and reposition technical and vocational education as a first-choice pathway into employment," he said.

Under healthcare, he said government was shifting toward a stronger primary healthcare model, adding that a major reform program would transform the Central Medical Stores (CMS), with expected savings of 30 to 40 per cent in medical supply expenditure within five years.

Furthermore, he said work was underway on National Health Insurance, with the enabling Bill scheduled to be tabled during the current parliamentary sitting.

Meanwhile, Mr Gaolathe highlighted that infrastructure remained a central enabler.

Under BETP, he said government had prioritised 26 projects across energy, water and transport. "Currently, domestic electricity generation meets only 63 to 70 per cent of demand, with imports costing approximately P3.4 billion annually."

This has prompted the accelerated implementation of the revised Integrated Resource Plan and increased private sector participation in power generation," he said.

Such reforms, he said, represented a decisive shift toward a more productive, inclusive and resilient economy anchored by private investment and modern infrastructure. **BOPA**



# Government modernises land administration systems

The transformation addresses long-standing challenges, including outdated systems, fragmented data, weak inter-agency coordination, and delays in the issuance of Secure Land Titles and their registration under the Deeds Registry.

## GABORONE

It is of recognition that as Government drives economic transformation, getting land administration right is one of the most powerful levers for change in Botswana and the economy at large.

Vice president and finance minister said this during a Budget Speech presentation in Gaborone yesterday.

Mr Gaolathe said it was for this reason that, in the 2026/2027 financial year, Government would commence the modernisation of Botswana's land administration

systems through the Geospatial Information Centre.

"This marks the first phase of a four-year programme to upgrade the Land Information System, strengthen the Integrated Geographic Information System, and enhance governance and project management capacity across the land sector," he said.

The transformation, he said, directly addresses long-standing challenges, including outdated systems, fragmented data, weak inter-agency coordination, and delays in the issuance of Secure Land Titles and their registration under the Deeds Registry. **BOPA**

He stated that the reform was both people centred and transformation-driven.

For citizens, it will mean clearer processes, reduced waiting times, fewer disputes, and timely access to secure land titles enabling families to plan, inherit with certainty, and use land as collateral to access finance," Mr Gaolathe said.

He also noted that for the economy, it would unlock land as a productive asset, accelerate project approvals, improve investment facilitation, and support the shift toward a more diversified, private-sector-led growth model.

However, he mentioned that gov-

# Revenue reforms core to 2026/27 financial plan

## GABORONE

Fiscal consolidation, discipline and the rebuilding of financial buffers are at the core of fiscal strategy for the 2026/2027 financial year as government moves to strengthen debt sustainability and restore economic resilience.

Presenting the 2026 Budget Speech in Gaborone yesterday, Finance minister, Mr Ndaba Gaolathe, emphasised that the approach focused on broadening the revenue base, enhancing tax compliance and improving the efficiency of tax administration, while ensuring that public expenditure is firmly aligned with national priorities and delivers value for money.

Mr Gaolathe said the strategy underscored accountability, results-driven spending and prudent fiscal management as key pillars to advancing Botswana's economic transformation in a manner that was inclusive and sustainable.

He stressed that adequate domestic revenue was essential for effective service delivery and national development.

"Taxation is not a form of punishment, it is a collective investment in our shared development," he said, adding that improving revenue performance was not solely about increasing tax rates, but deploying smarter systems and building institutional capacity for effective revenue mobilisation.

He reaffirmed government commitment to maintaining relatively low tax rates, while acting pragmatically when circumstances demand.

"A well-designed tax policy is fundamental to sustaining a healthy and competitive economy," he noted.

Mr Gaolathe pointed out that the urgency for comprehensive tax reform was highlighted by recent data from the 2025 Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Report, which shows that Botswana's tax-to-GDP ratio declined from 13.8 per cent in 2022 to 13.4 per cent in 2023.

He said it remained below the African average of 16.1 per cent and significantly lower than the Southern African Customs Union (SACU) average of 20.5 per cent.

"These comparatively low levels of domestic revenue mobilisation

clearly demonstrate the need to modernise our core tax systems, address under-taxed activities, strengthen compliance and broaden the tax base," Mr Gaolathe said.

He cited international examples to illustrate what was achievable through sustained reform, saying Morocco, for instance, increased its tax-to-GDP ratio to 28.5 per cent in 2023 through strengthened tax administration, improved compliance, rationalisation of tax exemptions and the digitisation of tax processes.

Mr Gaolathe pointed out that Bo-

**"Taxation is not a form of punishment, it is a collective investment in our shared development."**

tswana had already begun a similar reform journey, saying the Value Added Tax (Amendment) Act of 2025 was a milestone in modernising the country's tax framework and enhancing revenue mobilisation.

He highlighted that the Act introduces VAT on remote services

# Economic slowdown demands structural reforms

## GABORONE

Botswana's economic slowdown is no longer just about diamonds. It is now a story of weak productivity, fragile private-sector growth and an urgent race to diversify before structural cracks widen further.

Presenting the 2026 Budget Speech on Monday, Finance Minister, Mr Ndaba Gaolathe painted a sobering picture of an economy that shrank by 2.8 per cent in 2024 and was expected to remain in negative territory in 2025 and the better part of 2026, with growth projected at minus 0.4 per cent.

While the downturn was triggered by a slump in diamond activity, the minister made it clear that the country's deeper problem lied in the limited strength of its non-mining sectors.

Manufacturing, construction, transport and storage industries that should be absorbing shocks from mining volatility, he said, had instead slowed, weighed down by the country's dependence on government spending financed by diamond revenues.

"Growth is rebounding to 3.1 per cent in 2026, but without structural reforms, the economy will continue operating below potential," he said.

A major red flag, he said was the continued decline in Total Factor Productivity (TFP), a key measure of how efficiently labour and capital were used.

Minister Gaolathe stated that Botswana's TFP fell to minus 1.0 per cent in 2024, reversing earlier modest gains. He said the decline signaled that businesses were producing less value from the same inputs, a trend linked to aging infrastructure, regulatory bottlenecks, weak skills alignment and slow private-sector expansion.

Also, he said poor infrastructure maintenance, in particular, was quietly eroding returns on investment, making it harder for firms to expand competitively.

However, he mentioned that gov-

ernment now would now scale back its direct footprint in the economy and push harder for private-sector-led growth under the Botswana Economic Transformation Programme (BETP).

He said planned interventions included regulatory streamlining, targeted skills development and improved value-chain productivity.

After a period of low inflation, he said price pressures were now resurfacing. He said inflation stood at 3.9 per cent in December 2025, up from 1.7 per cent a year earlier, driven by higher utility tariffs, fuel price adjustments and exchange rate changes that raised the cost of imports.

Nonetheless, he said inflation was expected to temporarily breach the upper limit of the Bank of Botswana's three to six per cent target range in 2026 before easing later in the year.

Minister Gaolathe further stated that the central bank had already raised the Monetary Policy Rate to 3.5 per cent, signalling a cautious stance as it balanced price stability with weak economic growth.

While the financial sector remained stable, the minister said government was increasingly concerned about rising household indebtedness.

Therefore, he said government planned to promote a stronger savings culture and expand financial literacy programmes to reduce long-term vulnerability among citizens.

He added that the Financial Stability Council also flagged climate risks and uneven liquidity distribution in the financial system as emerging pressure points.

"Without faster diversification, improved productivity and a stronger private sector, future downturns in diamonds could have even sharper consequences," he said.

The next phase of reform, the minister suggested, would determine whether Botswana's economy regains momentum or remains stuck in a low-growth cycle. **BOPA**

and mandates electronic invoicing, aligning Botswana with international best practice.

He said implementation was progressing well, supported by extensive stakeholder consultations and ongoing system upgrades.

He said the rollout of electronic invoicing, anticipated in April 2026, was expected to enable real-time transaction monitoring, reduce revenue leakages, strengthen compliance and enhance revenue assurance as part of the broader digital transformation of tax administration.

Mr Gaolathe said as part of a comprehensive multi-year reform agenda, government would table four key pieces of legislation during the current February sitting of Parliament.

He said those include the Value Added Tax Bill (2025), the Income Tax Bill (2025), the Customs Amendment Bill (2025) and a new Tax Administration Bill (2025).

He said the holistic review aims to modernise and harmonise Botswana's tax framework, simplify procedural and administrative provisions and ensure full alignment with the new Tax Administration Act.

Mr Gaolathe further said government also addressed proposals announced in the 2025 Budget Speech, which included a 1.5 per cent increase in corporate income tax and the top bracket of personal income tax.

"After further reflection and consultation, government now proposes a revised top-earner threshold of P400,001 and above per annum, which will attract an additional 2.5 per cent tax. Additional proposals include a three per cent increase in corporate income tax and a reduction of the zero-rated VAT list to raise the effective VAT rate," he said. He said detailed provisions of each Bill would be presented during upcoming parliamentary debates.

Reaffirming commitment to inclusive policymaking, Mr Gaolathe announced plans to convene a Tax Pitsa that would bring together businesses, labour, civil society, technical experts and members of the public.

"This inclusive engagement will help us build a tax system that is fair, efficient and capable of supporting Botswana's long-term development goals," said Mr Gaolathe. **BOPA**



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# DailyBusiness



## Commemorative P50 note in circulation

Tshiamiso Mosetlha  
**PALAPYE**

As of this week, Botswana are carrying a new piece of history in their hands. The Bank of Botswana has officially moved its long-awaited commemorative P50 banknote into general circulation, marking a historic shift from a ceremonial unveiling to a daily reality for shoppers, vendors and savers across the country.

Launched in Palapye by the Governor of the Bank of Botswana, Mr Lesego Moseki, the special edition banknote does more than facilitate trade, it tells the story of transformation.

From the deep earth of the Lucara mine to the sun-drenched tracks of the Paris 2024 Olympics, the new note is a pocket-sized monument to Botswana excellence.

The front of the new note is anchored in the institutions that built the country.

It features the iconic Bank of Botswana building, a symbol of the financial stability the nation has enjoyed since its central bank was established in 1975.

Beside it sits a glimmering tribute to the nation's mineral wealth, Motswedzi, the second-largest diamond ever recovered at the Lucara mine.

It serves as a reminder of the resources that fuelled Botswana's journey from a newly independent state to one of Africa's most respected and stable economies.

While the front honours the cornerstone of the economy, the reverse side belongs to the youth and the future.

Capturing the nation's imagination, the bank has immortalised Botswana's sporting heroes.

Dominating the design is Letsile Tebogo, the sprinter who made history as Botswana's first-ever Olympic gold medallist. He is joined by his 4x400m relay teammates, Bayapo Ndori, Collen Kebinatshipi and Anthony Pesela, whose silver-medal performance in 2024 united the country in celebration.

By placing these athletes on the Pula, the bank recognises that Botswana's integrity is not just found in its foreign exchange reserves, but in the spirit and triumph of its people.

During the launch, Mr Moseki narrated the bank's half-century



Bank of Botswana Governor,  
Mr Lesego Moseki

journey.

"For five decades, Bank of Botswana has stood as the cornerstone of our nation's monetary policy and financial stability. Since 1975, we have been dedicated to maintaining price stability to ensure the soundness of our financial system and supporting sustainable economic growth," he said.

He emphasised that the commemorative

Esther Mmolai  
**TOTENG**

Khoemacau Copper Mine continues to build a robust legacy for current and future generations of Botswana, anchored by a P13 billion capital investment for its major expansion project.

The project aims to increase copper production from 60 000 tonnes per annum (tpa) to 130 000 tpa, more than doubling current output, alongside silver production exceeding four million ounces.

Once completed, the mine will be the largest copper operation in Botswana, contributing six per cent to the national GDP while creating employment opportunities during both construction and operations.

Delivering a keynote address

A commemorative P50 banknote featuring Olympic gold medalist, Letsile Tebogo and the 400m relay team, silver medalists, Bayapo Ndori, Collen Kebinatshipi and Anthony Pesela was launched in Palapye by Bank of Botswana Governor, Mr Lesego Moseki. The special edition banknote does more than facilitate trade, it tells the story of a remarkable transformation.

note would circulate alongside the existing P50 bills, which would not be withdrawn.

"This ensures a smooth transition while the nation celebrates this golden jubilee," he added.

He also noted that the Pula remained a respected currency because of decades of careful management, a legacy he hoped citizens would treat with physical respect as well.

Beyond the symbolism, Mr Moseki encouraged the public to handle such history with care.

"The bank is encouraging

**'It serves as a reminder of the resources that fuelled Botswana's journey from a newly independent state to one of Africa's most respected and stable economies. While the front honours the cornerstone of the economy, the reverse side belongs to the youth and the future.'**

Botswana to adopt better banknote handling habits to ensure the currency remains clean and durable for as long as possible," he said.

Furthermore, he shared several essential tips for the public which included using wallets and purses to prevent banknotes from being damaged or soiled as well as avoid folding or crumpling the notes, as this significantly reduces their lifespan.

Again, he warned that applying tape or writing on the notes destroyed their security features and aesthetic. He also encouraged that the notes be stored in cool and dry places to prevent deterioration.

Meanwhile, as the new notes begin to pass from hand to hand, from the markets of Palapye to the malls of Gaborone, they carry a dual message.

They are a reminder of where Botswana has been for the last 50 years and a fast-paced and golden glimpse of the heights the nation continues to reach.

**BOPA**

## Mine boosts copper industry

Esther Mmolai  
**TOTENG**

at the official ceremony last Friday, Minister of Minerals and Energy, Ms Bogolo Kenewendo, commended the investment, saying the expansion would diversify the mining sector, boost the national economy and improve livelihoods for surrounding communities.

Ms Kenewendo emphasised that rising global copper demand, driven by electrification, renewable energy and data-driven technologies, positioned Botswana's Kalahari Copper Belt as a leading future African producer.

"I am reliably informed that at the peak of construction, it is anticipated that more than 5 500 staff and contractors will be on-site. Once fully commissioned in the second quarter of 2028, the expansion project will support a

permanent workforce of more than 4 000," she added.

The minister highlighted MMG-Khoemacau's long-term vision and revealed that the company had already initiated studies to potentially increase copper output to over 200 000 tpa.

"This will be achieved by optimising their current operational resources and exploring additional deposits within their existing prospecting and mining license areas," she said.

She highlighted the significance of MMG's membership in the International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM), which marked adherence to responsible mining, environmental stewardship and social responsibility.

**Cont...page 8**

### BUSINESS SERVICES

**Zimbabwe**  
expects stronger  
economic ties

**HARARE** - As the Chinese New Year approaches, the economic partnership between China and Zimbabwe is expected to gain fresh momentum as bilateral cooperation continues to expand, a Zimbabwean minister has said. In an interview with *Xinhua* on Saturday during a carnival celebrating the upcoming Chinese New Year in Harare, Minister of Women Affairs, Community, Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) Development Monica Mutsvangwa said "What the Year of the Horse signifies is more vigour, perseverance and that unwavering support. We will always say to China, we are friends indeed and friends always." According to the minister, Zimbabwe's SMEs stand to significantly enhance their competitiveness through increased market access, technology transfer and investment in the new year. *Xinhua*

**Namibia** flags  
oil regulatory  
breach

**WINDHOEK** - Government of Namibia says it has not been notified in advance of a joint announcement by TotalEnergies and Petrobras regarding equity interests in an offshore petroleum exploration license, stressing that such transactions require prior ministerial approval under the country's petroleum legislation. French energy company TotalEnergies and Brazil's state-owned oil firm Petrobras announced on Friday that they had each acquired a 42.5 per cent stake in Namibia's offshore Petroleum Exploration License 104 (PEL 104) exploration license from Maravilla Oil and Gas and Eight Offshore Investments Holdings. PEL 104 is an offshore license located in Namibia's Orange Basin, an area that has attracted increased international attention following a series of offshore oil discoveries in recent years. Namibia's national oil company, Namcor, is also a partner in the license. *Xinhua*

**Madagascar** and  
China reaffirm  
relations

**ANTANANARIVO** - Madagascar's Minister of Foreign Affairs Christine Razanamahasoa on Saturday expressed hope that Madagascar-China relations would be strengthened following the Chinese New celebrations in Madagascar. "In this new year, Madagascar reaffirms its willingness to further strengthen mutual trust, deepen economic cooperation and investment, promote people-to-people exchanges," Razanamahasoa said at an event to celebrate the Chinese New Year, organised by the Embassy of China in Madagascar. Madagascar and China have long enjoyed strong and friendly relations, she said, adding that she hoped bilateral ties will enter a new phase marked by economic cooperation that delivered tangible benefits to the people of both countries. *Xinhua*

# Fiscal austerity inevitable - Gaolathe

## GABORONE

Government's financial situation is critical, with the Government Investment Account (GIA) depleted to unsustainable levels, Vice President and also Minister of Finance, Ndaba Gaolathe said yesterday.

Delivering the budget speech, Mr Gaolathe said the GIA stood at P2.91 billion as of November 2025, a far cry from its 2014 peak of P37.2 billion.

This limits government's ability to finance future deficits.

Mr Gaolathe said Net Financial Assets (NFA) have deteriorated from 40 per cent of GDP in 2008 to -30.1 per cent in 2024, increasing reliance on debt financing. "Sustained fiscal consolidation is needed to restore macro-fiscal stability and sovereign creditworthiness," he said.

Therefore, he said government will implement measures to rebuild financial buffers, enhance shock

absorption, and ensure long-term fiscal sustainability

"This underscores the need for sustained fiscal consolidation through strengthening revenue mobilisation and prudent expenditure containment. Restoring a positive net asset position would not only enhance macro-fiscal stability but would also support sovereign creditworthiness," he said.

The minister said government would continue to implement its fiscal strategy focused on rebuilding financial buffers, enhancing the economy's capacity to absorb shocks, and ensuring long term fiscal and debt sustainability.

He said the measures will be implemented in a disciplined and gradual manner to ensure that public debt, and debt service risks are within prudent and sustainable thresholds. **BOPA**



Minister of Finance, Ndaba Gaolathe said Net Financial Assets had deteriorated from 40 per cent of GDP in 2008 to -30.1 per cent in 2024, increasing reliance on debt financing.

# Mine boosts copper industry

...from page 7

MMG President for Africa Operations, Mr Xia Weiquan, stated that the decision to invest was heavily influenced by Botswana's stable fiscal and regulatory environment and its favourable Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policies.

He explained that the project's success would be measured by the creation of a highly skilled citizen workforce.

To achieve such, he said the mine would continue to collaborate with the University of Botswana and the Botswana International University of Science and Technology. **BOPA**

# BMC turnaround strategy pays off

*Botswana Meat Commission (BMC) is undergoing a turnaround strategy that will revitalise the beef value chain and restore confidence among farmers.*



## Botswana secures market for fresh fruits in 17 destinations

## GABORONE

Botswana's strategic push into global markets is paying dividends, headlined by a staggering 390 per cent surge in citrus exports and the pursuit of several high-profile trade deals, Minister of Finance, Mr Ndaba Gaolathe has said.

Delivering the budget speech yesterday, Minister Gaolathe said Botswana had successfully secured market access for fresh citrus in 17 international destinations, which included the European Union, Canada, the United Arab Emirates, South Africa, Russia and Hong Kong, a milestone reflecting growing global confidence in Botswana's agricultural standards.

He added that the impact expanded access was evident in the numbers.

"Fresh citrus exports increased from 2 790.68 tonnes in the 2024 season to 13 711.53 tonnes in 2025," he said, noting that such growth created significant income and employment opportunities for local producers.

He also said government was currently engaging in targeted trade negotiations with major economies, including the United States, China, India and South Korea, to unlock further markets.

"These efforts aim to broaden access for a diverse range of high-potential agricultural products, supporting economic diversification and food security," he said.

The minister also highlighted progress in the mining sector, indicating that Khoemacau Copper Mine expansion, currently underway, was expected to employ 5 500 people at peak construction.

He said Menzi Battery Metals had completed

demonstration milestones and was nearing completion of its definitive feasibility study.

Again, he said implementation of the National Mineral Resource Exploration, Exploitation and Value Chain Development Strategy was currently in progress.

He further said to transform Botswana into a regional energy hub, government had commissioned a feasibility study to unbundle and corporatise Botswana Power Corporation (BPC) assets with a goal to improve electricity affordability and increase private-sector participation.

"The National Integrated Resource Plan has been revised upward to deliver an additional 1.5 gigawatts of renewable energy by early 2027," he said.

Key power projects, he said included Mmamabula Coal Fired Plant where the first 150MW of the 600MW project was expected by December 2026, a 100MW plant in Jwaneng scheduled for March 2026 while the 400MW Isang solar project had been fast-tracked for 2026 implementation.

"Priority will remain on rehabilitating the Morupule B Power Station to meet base-load requirements," he added.

The minister said tourism remained a vital driver of private investment.

In the 2025/2026 financial year, he said, government facilitated five new tourism sites in Ngamiland and Makgadikgadi National Park, attracting P362 million in capital.

Additionally, he said fast-tracking of 11 lease renewals for 27 lodges in Ngamiland had unlocked an estimated P800 million in investment while safeguarding 1 500 jobs.

Under the Botswana Economic Transition Plan (BETP), he said 21 high-impact tourism projects were in the pipeline. **BOPA**

## GABORONE

Government's efforts to revive the Botswana Meat Commission (BMC) are yielding results, with P698 million in arrears paid to farmers and significant operational gains achieved.

Delivering the budget speech yesterday, Vice President and Finance Minister Ndaba Gaolathe said BMC's Lobatse plant throughput rose to 22 per cent while revenue jumped 31 per cent to P1.04 billion year-on-year basis.

Mr Gaolathe attributed this to a far-reaching turnaround strategy, with investments in value-added products, a revitalised tannery and new abattoirs in Gaborone and Tsabong.

"These developments will generate sustainable jobs, revitalise rural economies and position BMC as a commercially sustainable, export-oriented enterprise," he said.

Mr Gaolathe urged urgent resolution of the Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD) situation to safeguard gains.

Talking about commitments made in last year's budget speech regarding the scaling up of production at the Botswana Vaccine Institute (BVI), he said the institution continued to serve as a cornerstone of the national animal health system and a key exporter of vaccines across the region, he added.

As foreshadowed last year, government had moved beyond intent to implementation, Mr Gaolathe said, adding that to address ageing infrastructure and unlock additional capacity, a new Blending and Filling Laboratory was currently under development and was expected to be completed in the 2026/2027 financial year.

The investment, he said would increase production capacity, ensure full compliance with good manufacturing practices, and enable the diversification of vaccine products thereby positioning BVI to strengthen regional supply chains and contribute meaningfully to export-led growth.

Furthermore, government is laying a firm foundation for long-term, agriculture-led industrialisation and inclusive job creation, with the National Agricultural Research and

Development Institute (NARDI) playing a pivotal role.

Mr Gaolathe said NARDI was advancing national seed self-sufficiency through the development of locally adapted Open Pollinated Variety seeds, aimed at addressing persistent shortages of high-quality seed, improving yields for smallholder farmers, and reducing reliance on costly imports.

He said that during the 2026/2027 financial year, government would upgrade NARDI's laboratories towards accreditation, expand testing capabilities and modernise the seed processing plant. "These strategic investments are expected to strengthen the national seed system, generate revenue and create employment," said Mr Gaolathe.

Complementing these efforts, he said were high-impact, technology-driven initiatives, including organic fertiliser demonstrations and drone-assisted crop nutrition.

Collectively, these interventions underscore a clear national direction of transforming SOEs into disciplined, high-performing institutions; deepening value addition, export competitiveness and accelerating job creation.

Mr Gaolathe stated that State-Owned Enterprises (SOEs) were central to Botswana's transformation journey, with the potential to drive growth in strategic sectors, create jobs, expand infrastructure and secure essential services for citizens. However, the persistent reliance on government financing presents substantial fiscal risks, underscoring the urgent need for structural reforms to strengthen governance, improve operational efficiency and ensure long-term financial sustainability.

Mr Gaolathe said recognising their national importance, government was implementing a comprehensive SOE transformation agenda anchored in a new governance and ownership framework.

He said the framework was designed to formalise oversight, align mandates with national development priorities, and shift SOEs toward disciplined capital allocation, higher productivity, and improved service delivery. **BOPA**

# CHOPPIES

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CHOPPIES  
BIG BIRTHDAY  
BONANZA

## Choppies Handover Big Birthday Bonanza Prizes

Three months after making a life changing revelation of gifting one of its lucky customers with a new two bedroomed house Choppies finally delivered on its promise and handed Mr Montisetsi Lekote the keys to his new home situated in the leafy suburbs of Block 6 in Gaborone.

In his welcome remarks at the Spark Capital Hall in Commerce Park on Friday 6th February Choppies Group CEO Mr Ramachandran Ottapathu applauded all partners for the continued support which made it possible for his company to change the lives of many Batswana. Mr Ram as he is fondly called said they received more than 6.3million entries. He said he was proud of the track record of Choppies which had changed the retail landscape locally and had managed to engage among others people with disabilities, youth and integrated with local farmers. He said the success of the life changing competition started 22 years ago with only one bakkie on offer to ten and millions of Pula's in cash and vouchers. He said Choppies intended to innovate and make change and appealed to all stakeholders to join hands and make the dream a reality.

For his part Gaborone City Mayor Mr Oarabile Motlaleng said all those who won worked tirelessly to reach a point where they were at the moment. He said it was God's will and those who won were a chosen few who were lucky. He appealed to all the winners to be strong and formidable with their gifts. He said the winners should be strong against resistance and ill-fated temptations. Mayor Motlaleng applauded Choppies staff and encouraged them to celebrate what their company was doing to the lives of ordinary citizens. He appealed to Choppies management to partner with local authorities so they take care of its customers.

Guest speaker and also Member of Parliament for Gamalete Mr Boniface Mabeo said for the past 22 years since the inception of the bonanza Choppies had been a beckoning light for Batswana. He said Choppies had been involved in countless

development programmes among them the housing appeal initiative. Mr Mabeo said the bonanza was just part and parcel of the many corporate social responsibility efforts and that Choppies continues to employ and render business opportunities to many youth and Batswana from all walks of life. He said against tough economic strains Choppies had managed to grow the bonanza in leaps and bounds. He said the past competitions had produced aspiring farmers and some had ventured into other business opportunities and changed lives. Mabeo said the political leadership put in place measures for the improvement of people's lives and that Choppies had set the bar too high.

Choppies Group Chairman Mr Uttum Corea said the bonanza was a proud moment for his company every year. He said the handover of the grand prize opened a new chapter every year and Choppies was proud to be part of the journey. He said their loyal suppliers were making Choppies vision a reality and impacted many people's lives. Mr Corea paid homage to Choppies Group CEO Mr Ram for his visionary leadership and personal commitment to the success of the company. He also applauded founding shareholders of Choppies Group.

In his acceptance speech grand prize winner Mr Lekote said he wasn't aware of the grand prize but only saw Hilux bakkies and Suzuki Matshelonyana bakkies. He said when the competition closed he was sad that he did not win the P1 000 grocery voucher which was all he wanted. He said he was grateful of the new home which was a God given gift.

Wame Keitshokile, Isakue Mawano, Dorothy Williams, Patrick Montsho, Kago Maokisa, Masimba Ndagurwa, Fono Kealeboga, Tiro Nkago, Lesego Motshereganyi and Lolly Haake drove home with brand new Suzuki bakkies while Kabotho Golebaone, Kelebogile Masocha, Peggy Mokabadi and Botlhe Lerothodi won Toyota Hilux vans.



Opening Prayer



Media personality **Kedi Lezozo Molosiwa** discharging MC duties during the handover ceremony



Royal Presence: The Bonanza was graced by the presence of royalty, **Kgosi Mosadi Seboko** of Bailete, **Kgosi Kgari Sechele** of Bakwena and **Kgosi Malope** of Bangwaketse



Choppies Group CEO **Mr Ram** delivering the opening remarks



Gaborone City Mayor **Mr Oarabile Motlaleng** delivering his speech at the event



Guest Speaker and MP for Gamalete **Mr Boniface Mabeo** with the keynote address



Choppies Group Chief Operating Officer **Mr Koos Pieterse** handing Suzuki bakkies keys to **Wame Keitshokile**



**Mayor Motlaleng** handing keys to another Suzuki Matshelonyana winner **Lolly Haake**



**Kgosi Malope** handing Toyota Hilux keys to one of the four lucky winners **Kelebogile Masocha**



**Kgosi Kgari** handing keys to a Hilux bakkie winner **Peggy Mokabati**



An elated **Botlhe Lerothodi** receiving her Hilux bakkie keys



Video testimonies from previous winners of the bonanza



Grand prize winner **Lekote** and wife with invited dignitaries



CEO **Mr Ram** admiring the grand award



Man of the moment **Lekote** in his acceptance address



All the winners cutting the Bonanza cake



Choppies Group Chairman **Uttum Corea** giving closing remarks



Toasting moment with the prize winners



Entertainment by local muso **Thato Tladi**

# FaR Property invests P25 million in Sese Shopping Centre

Kehumile Moekejo  
SESE

In yet another Public Private Partnership (PPP) model, FaR Property has collaborated with Sese Village Development Committee (VDC) to develop a P25 million commercial centre under a 25-year lease agreement.

Sitting on a 9 273sqm piece of land, the property is expected to house a supermarket, a hardware store, retail shops and a post office, among other facilities.

Speaking at the ground-breaking ceremony on Friday, FaR Property director, Mr Ramachandran Ottapathu noted that once complete in approximately seven months, the project would not only provide convenience for Sese residents and those in the peripheries, but would also create the much-needed jobs to the local communities. He noted that some jobs would be created during the construction phase, while the development would also stimulate economic activity in the informal sector.

He noted that the investment was in line with their commitment to delivering value to the communities around Botswana. "We view this as a long-term investment in the

economic and social development of Sese village. Today's ceremony signifies not only the commencement of construction, but also our confidence in the future of this community and our commitment to delivering developments of enduring value," he said.

Mabutsane District Council deputy chairperson, Mr Obakeng Melome explained that for a journey that started two years ago, the delay was attributed to the lease processing for the construction to finally commence. He said the partnership resonated with his council's commitment to bringing services closer to the people and supporting the communities to be empowered. "This project will create employment, stimulate the local economy and improve service delivery in Sese and surroundings," he noted.

Subsequently, he urged all stakeholders to work together to ensure that the project was delivered within time and scope.

The District Commissioner for Mabutsane, Mr Dick Kalantle described the ground-breaking as a dream come true for the district leadership and the community, considering Sese's growing population. "The biggest concern was that Sese has a large population but does not have a supermarket," he said.

He called for all parties to the agreement to ensure that they did their part of the contractual obligation. He also urged public officers to effectively play their role of facilitating the project to ensure mutual benefit for the parties involved. Furthermore, Mr Kalantle appealed to residents to



FaR Property director, Mr Ramachandran Ottapathu (right) and other dignitaries during the groundbreaking ceremony for the construction of Sese commercial centre on Friday. The project, which is expected to be complete by September, is a partnership between FaR Property and Sese VDC. Photo: Kehumile Moekejo

be committed and work diligently in various jobs and roles offered.

In his welcome remarks, Kgosi Justice Motlhalane said he was elated to witness the

commencement of a project that had been in the offing for the past two years.

He said the development of a commercial centre was testament

that the village had grown in leaps and bounds. He also appreciated the job opportunities that would be created throughout all processes, both directly and indirectly. **BOPA**

## Council finalises property tax valuation

Gontle Merafhe  
GABORONE

Gaborone City Council (GCC) has completed the property tax valuation exercise which it has been conducting and is in the process of making the ensuing valuation report accessible to property owners.

In an interview, city valuer, Mr Nyathie Mafoko the objective of the valuation exercise was to improve property owners' compliance to the requirement to pay rates for their properties, thereby enhancing the city council's revenue generation capacity.

Mr Mafoko said the valuation report for property tax encompassed all properties within the council's jurisdiction save for those that would have been left out for various reasons including through human error.

He stated that once the report was made available, property owners would know the value of their properties and the rates or taxes due to be paid and would

be expected to commence making payments forthwith.

"We will share the valuation report in the media so that property owners can see and appreciate the value of their properties and the rates they are expected to pay," he said.

Mr Mafoko said the main challenge they encountered during the valuation exercise was

residents' ignorance regarding the obligation to pay rates.

"Some people knew nothing about rates; others were reluctant to embrace the issue as they complained of poor service delivery on the part of the city council. Complaints included failure in garbage collection and other services," he noted.

"But we did our best to sensitise them that paying rates would help improve council service delivery because then it would have the revenue needed to fix roads, improve garbage collection and the rest of the services it provides," Mr Mafoko said.

He, for instance, stated that with improved rates payments, GCC would be able to address the lack of proper roads in Gaborone North, a situation which residents of the area

complained bitterly about.

Mr Mafoko said revenue from property tax would also go towards street lighting, explaining that there was urgent need to illuminate the streets of Gaborone.

Talking about measures in place for those who would resist complying, Mr

Mafoko said such individuals would be subjected to legal processes including prosecution.

The city valuer also said valuing of property would be carried out every five years, with interim valuations being carried out every two years.

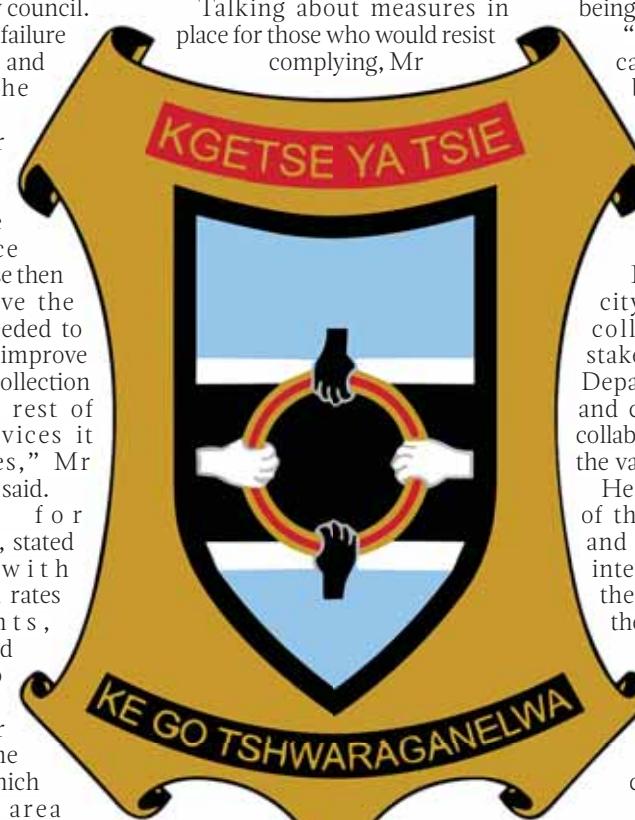
"Some valuations will be carried out as and when it becomes necessary. For example, when a property owner submits an application for change of land use, a valuation will duly be conducted," he explained.

Mr Mafoko said the city council would work in collaboration with critical stakeholders among them the Department of Deeds Registry and conveyancers, saying such collaborative effort would enhance the valuation process.

He said currently the databases of the Gaborone City Council and Deeds Registry were not inter-connected, which made the collaboration manual and therefore tedious.

He noted therefore that they would push for inter-connectedness so that both institutions would better serve their customers. **BOPA**

**"The objective of the exercise was to improve compliance to the requirement to pay rates to enhance the city council's revenue generation capacity."**



# Dikgang

PAMPIRI YA THUTO LE DIKTSISO



Banni ba Nokaneng ba le kwa phuthegong ya kgotla ka therisanyo ya kgotla ya molao-motheo e e neng e buisiwa ke Tona wa lephata la papadi le dikgwebo, Rre Tiroeaone Ntsima ka Labone. Ba gakolotse gore puso e dire tshekatsheko ya molao-motheo pele e ka simolodisa kgotla ya molao-motheo. Senepe: Kedirebofe Pelontle

## Ba Nokaneng ba re puso e dire tshekatsheko ya molao-motheo pele

Kedirebofe Pelontle  
**NOKANENG**

Bontsi jwa banni  
ba Nokaneng ba  
gakolotse gore puso e  
dire tshekatsheko ya  
molao-motheo pele e  
ka simolodisa kgotla ya  
molao-motheo.

B a buile seo mo phuthegong e  
Be neng e buisiwa ke Tona wa  
lephata la papadi le dikgwebo Rre  
Tiroeaone Ntsima ka Labone.

Mongwe wa banni, Rre Lathang  
Molonda o ne a gatelela bothlhokwa  
jwa go simolola ka paakanyo ya  
molao-motheo, a re sengwe se  
se tshwanetseng sa akarediwa  
mo paakanyong eo ke go fokotsa

dithata tsa ga tautona.

A re go eteletsa pele paakanyo  
ya molao-motheo go ka dira gore  
baatlhodi ba ba tlaa tlhophiwang ba  
kgotla ya molao-motheo ba kgone  
go ikemela.

O bille gape a re go bothlhokwa  
gore puso e tsibogele mathata a  
apereng banni ba kgaolo eo jaaka go  
tlhoka ditiro ga banana le letlhoko  
la ditirelo tse di faphegileg jaaka  
tsa botsogo.

Monni yo mongwe, Mme  
Andreas Kandjou o ne a re molao-  
motheo o na le diphatlha tse di  
bayang Batswana ka fa mosing, ka  
jalo puso e simolole ka go baakanya  
one pele.

Rre Papadi Batati ene o ne a  
re o amogela mogopolo wa go  
simolodisa ga kgotla ya molao-  
motheo, a re ba solo fela fa e ka  
thusa ka tekatekanyo ya merafe le  
tekatekanyo ya go phatlalatsa ga

ditlhabololo mo lefatsheng.

Rre Batati o ne a re banni ba  
motse wa Nokaneng le kgaolo  
ya Okavango ka bophara ba  
tshelela mo lehumeng ka go sena  
ditlhabololo tse di rileng ebile  
temo-thuo e ba ikaegileg ka yone  
e sa ba tswele mosola ka ntlha ya  
tshenyo ya diphologolo tsa naga.

E rile a ba ema pele, Tona  
Ntsima a tlhalosa fa kgotla ya  
molao-motheo e godisa serodumo  
sa puso ya batho ka batho ka e  
sireletsatse ditshwanelo.

Rre Ntsima a re tiro ya kgotla  
eo e tlaa akaretsa go sireletsatse le go  
ranola molao-motheo.

A re go simolodisa ga kgotla ya  
molao-motheo pele ga tshekatsheko  
ya molao-motheo go bothlhokwa  
thata ka kgotla a tlaa kaela tshekats-  
sheko eo e bo e thusa go rarabolola  
diphologanyo tse di ka nnang teng  
fa tshekatsheko e dirwa. **BOPA**

## A re adimaneng didirisiwa - Peloetletse

Portia Rapitsenyan  
**PALAPYE**

Mokwaledi mogolo wa ga Tautona  
Mme Emma Peloetletse o kopile  
badirelapuso go dirisana mmogo  
le go adimana ditsompelo tse ba  
nang le tsone di tshwana le dikoloi  
go isa ditirelo kwa setshabeng.

Mme Peloetletse o ne a bua  
jalo kwa bokopanong jwa gagwe  
le badirelapuso ba kgaolo ya  
Palapye le metse e e mabapi ka  
Labotlhano.

A re fa badirelapuso ba ka  
tshwaragana, ba ka isa ditirelo tsa  
maemo a ntlha kwa setshabeng  
e bile ba na le bokgoni jwa go  
ka dira go feta jaaka ba dira mo  
nakong eno.

A re ga gona nako e ditsompelo  
tsa puso di kileng tsa lekana, le  
mo dingwageng tse di fetileg,  
mme go tswa bogologolo maduo  
a ntse a tswa ka ntlha ya tirisanyo  
mmogo le go ikemisetsa go dirisa  
bonnyennyane jo bo leng teng ka

botswerego thusa setshabeng.

Mme Peloetletse o ne a supa fa kgotla  
go thusa Batswana ka bonokopila  
le ka botswere, a supa fa se  
e tlaab e le sesupo sa gore ba  
ikiteile sehuba.

Mo go tse dingwe o ne a lebogela  
badirelapuso go bo e le badiri ba  
nnete ka ba ne ba tshwara go  
fetoga ga puso ka bonokopila le  
ka manontlhetho.

O ne a akgolela badirelapuso  
le bogogi jwa bone go tshegetsa  
maitlamo a go direla setshabeng  
ka botswere ka dinako tsotlh, a re  
maitlamo le maikemisetsa ao a ne  
a itshupa morago ga go fetoga ga  
puso ka 2024.

Mme Peloetletse a re go  
tshegetsa maitlamo moo go ka  
dira fela ke modirelapuso yo o  
ikiteile sehuba gore o tlaa direla  
puso ya letsatsi.

A re tiro e ya go amogela  
puso e ntsha e ne e ka sekha ya  
kgonagala ntleng le tshwaragano  
ya badirelapuso botlh lefatshe  
leno ka bophara. **BOPA**

Mo go tse dingwe Mme  
Peloetletse o ne a supa fa kgotla  
go thusa Batswana ka bonokopila  
le ka botswere, a supa fa se  
e tlaab e le sesupo sa gore ba  
ikiteile sehuba.

A re ba supile fa bontsi jwa  
badirelapuso ba sa tsene ka nako  
mo ditirong e bile ba sa supa fa seo  
se le molato. A re fa ba dira jalo,  
baeteledepele ba bone ga ba ba  
lemtshe fa seo se sa siama.

Fa a tsibogela tshwaelo ya  
gore badirelapuso ba tlhoka go  
akaretsa mo tekodisong ka  
mogopolo wa tshimolodiso ya  
kgotla ya molao-motheo, Mme  
Peloetletse o ne a supa fa tona  
wa ofisi ya ga Tautona Rre Moeti  
Mohwasa a tlaa nna le lenaneo la  
go tla go lekodisa badirelapuso ka  
kgang eo.

A re go lebega Batswana ba  
ise ba tlhaloanyo mo go kalo ka  
kgotla eo, mme a supa fa go le  
botlhokwa gore thuto ka kgotla  
ya molao-motheo e goroge kwa  
go botlh.

## Ipapatse Fa Leletsa

659 6315 | 625 0353 | 533 0379 | 297 8237  
261 0480 | 241 3402 | 365 3500



## Go phatlalatsa melemo go bonya - Mmolotsi

Goweditwe Kome

**THEMASHANGA**

Tona wa tikologo le bojanala Rre  
Wynter Mmolotsi a re badiri  
bangwe ba lephata la botsogo ga  
ba akofele go fa setshaba ditirelo.

E rile a buisa phuthegong ya kgotla  
kwa Themashanga bosheng, Rre  
Mmolotsi o boletse fa ditirelo  
di tshwana le ya go aba dipilisi  
le melemo di koafadiwa ke  
thulaganyo e e motsopodia ya go  
amogela le go kwadisa dipilisi le  
melemo.

Rre Mmolotsi o boletse gore  
le fa gone melemo e tlhaela  
mo dikokeleng, sengwe se se  
bakang seemo seo ke boitse  
jwa bodiredi go ka e phatlalatsa  
le dikokelo lefatshe ka bophara.

O ne a tlhalosa fa mo bosheng  
a ne a etela dikokelwana tsa  
Francistown le Masunga mme a  
fitlhela melemo e e gorogileng mo  
malatsing a se kae pele ga loeto  
la gagwe e ise e simolole go fiwa  
balwetse mme go tlhalosiwa fa e  
santse e kwadisiwa.

Tona o ne a tlhomamisetsa  
banni fa puso e ikemiseditse go  
rarabolola seemo se se aparenteng  
lefatshe leno sa tlhaelo ya melemo.

A re nngwe ya dikgato tse di  
tserweng ke go reka ka tlhamalalo  
kwa go ba ba dirang melemo, seo  
e le maiteko a go emisa tshenyo  
e e neng e diragala fa go rekwa  
go dirisiwa dikompone kgotsa  
bangwe ba ba ikemetseng.

“Ka tsela e e ntseng jalo, puso e  
ne ya re mo go sekasekeng ya leka  
go ithulaganya mme ya ikopanya le  
bao ba e leng gore ba dira dipilisi le  
melemo go reka ka tlhamalalo mo  
go bone go sa dirisiwe ope fa gare  
go e rekela melemo,” ga rialo Rre  
Mmolotsi.

O ne a re se se tlaa tokafatsa  
go isa ditlamelo tsa botsogo kwa  
setshabeng ka thulaganyo e e ya  
go tsenya seemo sa botsogo mo

tseleng.

“Go nale thulaganyo e nngwe  
e e dirwang ke mafatshe jaaka  
Namibia, Botswana le Zimbabwe,  
ya gore fa lefatshe le lengwe le  
sants le emetse melemo e ba e  
rekileng go goroga, le ka adima  
melemo mo go le lengwe mme la  
e busa fa ya lone e goroga,” o ne a  
tlhalosa jalo, a supa fa se se thusa  
mafatshe go bipana lethoko.

Fa a ama tsa itsholelo, Rre  
Mmolotsi o ne a supa fa go tlhoka  
go tsibogela go kabakanya itsholelo  
ka nako go bakile seemo sa nako  
eno sa kwelo-tlase ya itsholelo.

A re ka nako ya fa itsholelo e  
ikaegile ka theko ya teemane,  
lefatshe le ka bo le ne la batla  
metswedi e mengwe ya madi, a re  
seo se ka bo se dirile gore itsholelo  
e itshetlele botoka.

E rile a mo kgwa dikgaba, monni  
Rre Thomas Maripe a batla go  
itse fa go nale dikgato dipe tse di  
tseetsweng badiredi ba botsogo  
ba ba boitse mo tirong ya go  
phatlalatsa dipilisi le melemo mo  
dikokeleng.

Rre Mbakiso Nkanga ene o  
ne a kopa tona go re a tlhalose  
gore National Health Insurance  
e tsamaya fa kae, a supa fa e ka  
thusa balwetse go akola ditirelo tsa  
botsogo tse di lopang madimadi.

Ba bangwe ba ne ba kopa gore  
dikgato tse di maleba di tsewe  
kgatlhanong le bao ba ba sa  
direleng puso sentle ka go sa isa  
ditlamelo tsa botsogo kwa bathong  
ka nako.

Le mororo Tona Mmolotsi a ne  
a etetse motse wa Themashanga  
go bau ka mogopolo wa tshimolodiso  
ya kgotla ya molao-motheo,  
banni ba ne ba sekha ba bau sepe ka  
setlhogo seo, mme boemong jwa  
go dira jalo, ba ne ba ganelela mo  
dikgannyeng tse di farologanyeng  
tse di amang matshelo a bone a  
tsatsi le letsatsi. **BOPA**



Kgosi Bapaphi Thaba wa Themashanga (molemeng), Tona wa tikologo le  
bojanala, Rre Wynter Mmolotsi (fa gare) le mokhanselara wa Themashanga,  
Rre Kudzani Tobokwani ba le kwa phuthegong ya kgotla bosheng. Rre  
Mmolotsi a re ditirelo di tshwana le ya go aba dipilisi le melemo di koafadiwa  
ke thulaganyo e e motsopodia ya go amogela le go kwadisa dipilisi le melemo  
pele di ka abelwa balwetse. Senepe: Goweditwe Kome

# ConCourt to address marginalised groups challenges - Moswaane

Kedirebofe Pelontle  
**GUMARE**

**The establishment of Constitutional Court will help address challenges and gaps faced by marginalised groups.**

Assistant Minister of Local Government and Traditional Affairs Mr Ignatius Moswaane said this during Constitutional Court consultations in Gumare on Tuesday.

Mr Moswaane observed that some marginalised tribal groups such as Wayeyi who have advocated and successfully won some court cases for recognition as a tribe still faced limitations regardless of court orders in their possession. He therefore said a Constitutional Court was the answer to their challenges where such injustices would be fairly judged.

The assistant minister said government was still committed to do a comprehensive constitutional review but establishing a Constitutional Court prior was advantageous to Batswana since they would have a platform to take any grievances pertaining to failure to implement recommendations from the constitutional review once the exercise was completed.

Mr Moswaane said as an independent court, the Constitutional Court was a platform for members of the public

to challenge government whenever they felt they were being unduly treated.

When commenting, Nokaneng tribal leader Kgosi Kebonyetsala Fish said the Wayeyi and their advocacy body the Kamanakao Association rallied behind the Constitutional Court as a matter of urgency.

Kgosi Fish emphasised that the Wayeyi had been lobbying for recognition as a tribe years before independence and had challenged the status quo before the courts of law from as early as the 1920s in the neighbouring South Africa before Botswana had magistrates courts.

Kgosi Fish said post-independence the Wayeyi had successfully won some cases at the High Courts but the outcomes were partially implemented, citing recognition as a tribe which however did not entail being included in the Constitution.

A resident of Jao Mr Agobakwe Sarefo said he too supported the introduction of the Constitutional Court with the hope that it would solve the long-standing issues of the recognition of marginalised groups across the country.

Mr Sarefo said the nation should consider the benefits of the Constitutional Court over political differences.

Gumare resident, Ms Saywa Mmusi said their initial expectation was for government to do a comprehensive constitutional review first.

Another Gumare resident, Mr Kelebogile Samokwena suggested that government should do a comprehensive constitutional review first prior to establishing a Constitutional Court. **BOPA**



Attendants during Constitutional Court consultation meeting in Gumare recently. Assistant Minister of Local Government and Traditional Affairs, Mr Ignatius Moswaane said the establishment of Constitutional Court would help address challenges and gaps faced by marginalised groups. Photo: Kedirebofe Pelontle

## ‘Sensitise community before setting up Constitutional Court’

**Goitsemodimo Williams-Madzonga**  
**TUTUME**

Government should pause the ongoing consultations on the Constitutional Court and instead sensitise the public about the court and the good expected to be derived out of it. The sentiments were shared by residents of Tutume and nearby villages on Wednesday when Minister of Labour and Home Affairs Major General Pius Mokgware consulted with them on the proposal to establish a Constitutional Court.

Former Tutume Sub District Council chairman Mr Ishmael Mokgethi noted that residents were not against the establishment of the Constitutional Court, however, many of them lacked understanding

of how the court would benefit the nation. He proposed that government should first have laid the groundwork by educating the public on the institution and its importance before seeking their views on whether or not it should be established.

Mr Mokgethi further asked whether the infrastructure was already available to house this new court, taking into consideration the fact that the economy was ailing and there was so much uncertainty on the flow of finances.

He added that although government reports had set aside P275 million for the project, one wondered if it was appropriate to implement the project at this time when the country was struggling financially.

As for one Mr Isaac Kgata from Maitengwe, said the review of the

Constitution should precede the establishment of the Constitutional Court.

Mr Kgata said the Constitution itself had so many thorny issues that needed to be addressed, amongst which he cited the restructuring of tribal territories and the recognition of certain tribes ahead of others. For his part, Minister Mokgware explained that the Constitutional Court was a specialised independent court which was going to help address issues of human rights violations.

He appealed to residents not to think that government was prioritising setting up the court ahead of everything else. Maj. Gen Mokgware said establishing the ConCourt was one of government's promises to build a new Botswana which valued and respected human rights. **BOPA**

## Residents weigh ConCourt against urgent social needs

**We do not oppose the constitutional court, we simply request that the government enhance the health sector, which requires immediate attention**

**Relief Lephutshi**  
**JWANENG**

Residents of Jwaneng have shared their concerns regarding the formation of a constitutional court, raising a fear that inmates on death row might contest their sentences as the government advocates for human rights.

Residents raised their concerns during a kgotla meeting addressed by the Minister of Labour and Home Affairs, Major General Pius Mokgware in Jwaneng recently.

Mr Ogotlotse Motshegare inquired why the executions for those on death row have not yet occurred, insisting that the nation should maintain the death penalty.

He cautioned the government against the abolition of the death penalty, which he said was historically practiced, noting that in the past condemned individuals

were disposed of in locations such as "Logaga la ga Kobokwe" in Molepolole and Pharing Gorge in Kanye. Mr Motshegare said some of these inmates were cast into rivers to be devoured by crocodiles, while others fell prey to wild animals like lions in Nhabe.

Mr Motshegare also expressed concern about lack of attention to cattle theft cases which had contributed to the current economic decline. "Today, with the outcry over Foot and Mouth Disease, cattle rustlers may increase the virus's spread due to weak laws," he remarked.

"We do not oppose the constitutional court, we simply request that the government enhance the health sector, which requires immediate attention," stated a resident Mr Phenyo Tlhapi, further asserting that the establishment of the constitutional court can be postponed. In his remarks, Mr

Amos Jahana recognised that the constitutional court was crucial for constitutional review.

He pointed out the existence of ethnic disparities, mentioning that some ethnic groups in Botswana faced marginalisation, and therefore ethnic security was vital.

He also highlighted the significance of having an indigenous constitution instead of depending on an imported one. Furthermore, Mr Jahana acknowledged that proposed court would enable Batswana to challenge violations of their rights with greater ease. He called on everyone to make use of their right to express their views during the review.

Residents additionally expressed concerns regarding employment matters. Many voiced that companies hired by Debswana mine frequently brought in employees from their former operations, adding that such job opportunities should

benefit residents of Jwaneng and surrounding areas. In his opening remarks, Kgosi Segale Letshele of Jwaneng encouraged residents to pay attention to the national dialogue on the Constitutional Court.

He pointed out that the nation has had two pre-existing courts: The High Court and the Court of Appeal (COA) as the highest judicial authorities.

He mentioned that while these courts have previously addressed legal issues, cases like that of Ms Unity Dow—which contested laws that favoured men and disadvantaged women in similar situations, demonstrated persistent discrimination.

"This legislation that she successfully challenged was deemed discriminatory," he stated adding that the ConCourt would be better placed to assist those who did not have the means to challenge the law. **BOPA**



Mr Ignatius Moswaane

## 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 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 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 Person	Estate Number	Date of Meeting	Time	Master
DANICIOUS NKAU	ESHFT-001068-25	15-04-26	0900HRS	SARM 1

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 05<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2026  
MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

## NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETINGS

Administration of Estates Act

[Cap.31:01]

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Name of Deceased Person	Estate Number	Date of Meeting	Time	Master
GASEFELE SEBONA	ESHFT-000278-24	13-05-26	0900HRS	SARM

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 26<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2026  
MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

## NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETINGS

Administration of Estates Act [Cap.31:01]

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that 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	Person Estate Number	Date of Meeting	Time	Master
Agnes Rasengwatshe	ESHFT-000737-2	20-05-26	09000hrs	SARM

DATED AT MAUN THIS 27<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JANUARY 2025  
MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

## 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 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 Francistown High Court on the date and time specified opposite the names of their deceased relatives for the 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	Master
ANDREW NKWEYAGAE	ESHFT-001085-25	05-05-26	0900HRS	SARM

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 22<sup>ND</sup> DAY OF JANUARY 2026  
MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

## 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 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 Francistown High Court on the date and time specified opposite the names of their deceased relatives for the 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	Master
Botshelo Nwako	ESHFT-000667-24	07/04/26	0900HRS	SARM1

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 4<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY 2026  
MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

## 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 administration of Estates Act(Cap :33:01), heirs and next of kin of the deceased and all person 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 andto discuss any other business relating to their deceased relative.

Name of Deceased Person	EstateNumber	Date Of Meeting	Time	Master
LUCKY JANI	ESHFT -001541-25	02-04-25	0900hrs	SARM

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 19<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF DECEMBER 2025  
MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

## NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETINGS

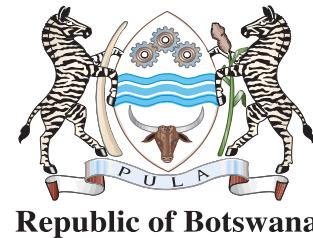
ADMINISTRATION OF Estates Act

[Cap 31:01]

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that by virtue of section 31 of the 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 Francistown High Court on the date and time specified opposite the names of their deceased relatives for the 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	Master
TSHEGOFATSO G. MATSHAMBANE AND HILL MATSHAMBANE	ESHFT-001503-25	14-04-26	0900HRS	SARM 1

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 05<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY 2026  
MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT



Republic of Botswana

## PUBLIC NOTICE

The Government of Botswana recognises the importance of a free, independent, and ethical media as the backbone of democracy and as such seeks to solidify those commitments by establishing a legal framework that fosters press freedom, journalistic integrity, and responsible reporting and information dissemination. As such, the Government appointed a Task Team/Force in March, 2025 to review and reform existing media laws and such other laws that may adversely impact on media freedom, ensuring they uphold press freedom, access to information, and accountability.

Following its appointment, the Task Team has since submitted the Media Legislative Review Report and the Draft Media Bill. Consequently, the Government wishes to consult the general public/nation further on the Draft Media Bill and its pronouncement especially on the establishment of the Media Regulatory Council in Botswana, setting out its governance, membership, functions and funding model to ensure sustainability. The proposed framework combines self-regulation within a statutory framework, to safeguard media freedom of expression while maintaining accountability, respect for human rights and ethical standards to eliminate inaccurate reporting and violation of other persons rights across both traditional and digital media.

You may access the **Draft Media Bill** at <https://dailynews.gov.bw/dailynews.pdf> or visit the **Office of the District Commissioner** in your jurisdictions, **MISA Botswana and Editors Forum Offices**. Furthermore, you are requested to submit your comments through the following platforms:-

- Email/Electronic:** to [bgmotsamai@gov.bw](mailto:bgmotsamai@gov.bw) and [gubanabotlhe@gov.bw](mailto:gubanabotlhe@gov.bw)
- Post Mail:** Ministry for State President, Defence & Security. Private Bag 001, Government Enclave. Gaborone.
- Physical Address:** Hand Delivery Submissions to Ministry for State President, Defence & Security. Finance House Building. Khama Crescent Street. Gaborone West Ext. 9. Government Enclave.

**The Deadline for the submissions is the 10<sup>th</sup> February 2026.**



# Classified Ads

REAL ESTATE | JOBS | FOR SALE | WANTED | SERVICES | LEGALS

## BUSINESS SERVICES

**BOREHOLE DRILLING** AT low rates. We are in Tsabong and Morwamosu areas. 76274598/5921684

## FARM WORKERS

**FARM WORKER WANTED** . Call 77451031

**PULA SMART (PTY)** Ltd Gakuto Farm Box 40773 Gakuto, Farm workers with experience to plant Cassura, Safflower. Contact 74427617..

**MAGGIE LETLHOGONOLO BOUSQUET** Box 31 Motokwe Ditschukudu Land. Contact 77329438.

**FEMALE FARM WORKER** wanted at Mahibitshwane lands. Call Tselayabotlhe Tlou. 71630523

**WANTED FARM WORKER** Matshelagabedi Box 34 Francistown Cain Phumulani 76005526

**FARM WORKER WANTED** at Ditsladi farm Box 703 F/TOWN Stewart J Nekati Cell 72890011

**FARM WORKER WANTED** at Pilikwe (Rasesolo). Apply to Mrs B.G. Bagwasi at P O Box 20155 Gaborone Botswana

**KE LE GABATSHEPHE KOOBOKILE** ke bata modisa wa dikgomlo le dipudi ko Bobonong. Mogala 7767468

**FARM WORKERS NEEDED** in Manyana, Boswelakgosi. Mabe M Phale 72701203

**FARM WORKER NEEDED** - Farm worker needed at Morabane in the Kweneng District about 60km from Molepolole. Apply at P O Box 211362 Bontleng Gaborone. Contact Allan 72252198

**FARM WORKER WANTED** to work at our farm in the South-east district. Duties: general farm maintenance, animal care, planting, harvesting and machinery operation. Must be physically fit to work outdoors in all weather. Apply to P O Box 77 Mochudi or mmolokinjamela@gmail.com Closing date: 05/03/2026

**J'S EXOTIC GARDEN** is looking for a farm manager and 2 farm workers in Selepa Francistown Judith Matenje 71444003.

**FARM WORKER WANTED** at Nthane, Mosu. P O Box 101, Lethakne. Cell:74538483

**FARM WORKER WANTED** at Dikgonye lands for livestock and working in the field. Must have driver's licence. No alcohol driving. Contact 71556279 Box 402618 Gaborone.

**FARM WORKER WANTED** in Mabutswe. Call 71867075.

**KE BATLA MODISA** ko Kumakwane 75339014.

**WANTED 3 FARM WORKERS** at Lethakane la MMadinare contact Ellen Lekwapa Cell No: 70206340

**2 FARM WORKERS** wanted at Naledi farms. Apply to Box 1023 Jwaneng

**FARM WORKER WANTED** in Lentsweletau. Cell: 73297502

**FARM WORKER/HERDBOY** wanted at Thakadiawa Farms-Tonota contact Mathlhogojane Mogorosi 71330670 Box 505201 Gaborone

**5 FARM WORKERS** wanted, Lenkwanwa Farms, 74339698, Ishmael Seabelo P O Box 3 Sikwane.

**FARM WORKER WANTED** at Hippo part, preferable male aged 20 years and above, able to read and write, with driver's licence could be an added advantage. Apply to Hippo Part Farm, Box 3359 Gaborone, Botswana. Closing date 19/02/26.

**WANTED IN MOCHUDI:** 3 Farm workers for integrated farming. work experience/ training in small stock and/ or horticulture an advantage. Apply to: The Farmer., P O Box 2, Mochudi or call 72289425

**FARM WORKER WANTED** @ La Eagle Gardens 73493001 starting on the 15th February 2026, aged between 30-40 yrs.

**FARM WORKER, AGAMOGAE (Pty) Ltd** Box 92 Kanye. 75786468

**FARM WORKER WANTED** at Gakgatla. Contact 73580559

**LOOKING FOR A** herdboy, farm located in Mahalapye. Call on: 76297644

**FARM WORKERS (2)** Edison Phatsimo Box 136 Kalfontein 72380815

**FARM WORKER.** Thapelo Nelson Radimo, Sebokwane farms 71820058

**URGENTLY LOOKING FOR** a herdboy and farm worker at munga in the area of kavimba village contact : 71309839 /75368241

## 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 **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 Francistown High Court** on the date and time specified opposite the names of their deceased relatives for the 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	Master
NKUPIWA SEOSHENYENG	ESHFT-000688-24	15-04-26	0900HRS	SARM 1

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 05<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY 2026

MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

## 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 **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 Francistown High Court** on the date and time specified opposite the names of their deceased relatives for the 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	Master
BILLY BROWN NTOBEDZI	ESHFT-001216-25	14-04-26	0900HRS	SARM

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 05<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY 2026

MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

## NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETING

ADMINISTRATION OF ESTATES ACT (Cap. 31:01)

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that by virtue of section 31 of **Administration of Estate Act (Cap. 31:01)** heirs and next of kin of the deceased and all persons having claims against the below 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 relative 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	Master
Gaofswepelo Lebogang	ESHFT - 00316-23	11-02-2026	0900Hrs	SARM

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 11<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF NOVEMBER 2025

MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

## IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA HELD AT FRANCISTOWN ESHFT 000195-22

### FIRST AND FINAL DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT

**IN THE ESTATE** of the late WANANO BASHI NOAH - ESHFT 000195-22 who died at GWETA PRIMARY HOSPITAL, GWETA, CENTRAL TUTUME DISTRICT on the 28<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2022 First and Final Liquidation and Distribution Account in the above Estate will lie open for inspection at the Chambers of the Assistant Registrar and Master of the High Court Francistown for period of Twenty- one (21) days from the date of the second publications thereof.

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 4<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY 2026

TABUYA OLESENG	AND TO: Master of the High Court
EXECUTOR DATIVE	Private Bag F13
P O BOX 166	Francistown
GWETA	

## 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 **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 Francistown High Court** on the date and time specified opposite the names of their deceased relatives for the 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	Master
NEO MOATSWI	ESHFT-001436-25	05-05-26	0900HRS	SARM

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 22<sup>ND</sup> DAY OF JANUARY 2026

MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

## 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 **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 Francistown High Court** on the date and time specified opposite the names of their deceased relatives for the 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	Master
TSHENOLO A. MPHATHIWA	ESHFT-000741-24	15-04-26	0900HRS	SARM 1

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 05<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY 2026

MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

## FIRST AND FINAL LIQUIDATION AND DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT

ESHGB - 000275 -24

**IN THE ESTATE OF THE LATE SINQOBILE MAGENGA** who died at Avenues Clinic, Harare, Zimbabwe on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of September 2022.

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

Any objection to the Estate Account may be lodged the Master

DATED at.....on the..... day of .....2026

Executrix
Christine Moyo
Plot 50209, Block 5 GABORONE
71887155 / 72296450

## VACANCY EXISTS: For a Multi-level Systems Analyst

**Qualifications:** A Graduate with requisite qualifications in Multi-level systems Development

**Experience:** Atleast five years post qualification experience in the field.  
**Special skills:** self-driven person with leadership and people skills, Competency in developing binary and infinity systems, ability to develop and supervise multi-level officers

Apply to: **DYNALAB BOTSWANA (PTY) LTD**  
**C/O Private Bag Box 84**  
**Gaborone**

Interested and qualified candidates should forward their CV's for consideration not later than **28th Feb 2026**

## IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA HELD AT FRANCISTOWN ESHFT:000036-25

### FIRST AND FINAL DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT

**IN THE ESTATE** of the late MONYADI JOHN, ESHFT:000036-25 who died at TUTUME HOSPITAL, TUTUME DISTRICT on the 14<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2024.

NOTICE IS HEREBY First and Final Liquidation and Distribution Account in the above Estate will lie open for inspection at the Chambers of the Assistant Registrar and Master of the High Court Francistown for period of twenty-one (21) days from the date of the second publications thereof.

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 30<sup>TH</sup> OF JANUARY 2026

ALFED JOHN	AND TO: MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT
EXECUTOR DATIVE	PRIVATE BAG F13
PRIVATE BAG 18, SOWA	FRANCISTOWN

## 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 **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 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 Person	Estate Number	Date Of Meeting	Time
1. MARIAM MOBEANA	ESHMN-000054-25	04/03/2026	0900 HRS

DATED AT MAUN THIS 20<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JANUARY 2026

MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

## LOST DEED OF TRANSFER

NOTICE is hereby given that we intend applying for a certified copy of Deed of Transfer No. 465/1996 dated 24<sup>th</sup> June 1996 in favour of BULEMBU INVESTMENTS PROPRIETARY LIMITED, in respect of:

CERTAIN: piece of land being Lot 2960, Selebi-Phikwe (Portion of Lot 3261, Selebi-Phikwe);  
 SITUATE: in the Selebi-Phikwe Administrative District;  
 MEASURING: 749 m<sup>2</sup> (Seven Hundred and Forty Nine Square Metres);

**FARM WORKER**, PHENYO Letsapa, Box 6061 Gaborone 76001841  
**HERDBOY** **WANTED**, **GASETHEBE** Cattlepost. Contact number 72487715.

**FARM WORKER WANTED** at Moralane/Mhate farms. Contact Mr Motingwa 71491515.  
**2 FARM LABOURERS** URGENTLY wanted at Lecheng/Mmadinonyana. Apply to Goodmen Resources (Pty) Ltd. Box 11338, Palapye 77357286

**FARM WORKER WANTED** Tlokweng, 72204777.

**2 HERD BOYS WANTED** at Nata. Isaac Thlabano. Box 11452 Francistown 73177404

**FARM WORKER WANTED** near Sebina. Jimmy James Toteng. Box 780 Gaborone 73461137

**FARM WORKER WANTED** at Tutume, Shathani M. Mbaakanyi. Box 45573 Gaborone 71319066

**FARM WORKER WANTED** at Tatisiding. Brothers Network (Pty) Ltd. Box 71343470 Francistown 71343470

#### FIRST AND FINAL LIQUIDATION AND DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT ESHGB-00014/24

**IN THE ESTATE OF THE LATE MOTSAMAI TIRO** who died at Scottish Livingstone hospital, Molepolole Kweneng district on the **20<sup>th</sup> day of December 2023**.

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

Any objection to the Estate Account may be lodged the Master

DATED at.....  
On the.....day  
of.....2026

**The Executor**  
Joel Tiro  
P O Box 1330  
MOLEPOLOLE  
71657720

#### NEIGHBOUR CONSULTATION

**RONALD BATSIKE** IS changing landuse of plot 23961 Mogoditshane. All neighbours concerned may contact Mogoditshane council physical planning office 3166646 or consultant 72607815

#### NEIGHBOUR CONSULTATION

**CHANGE OF LAND use:** owner of Tribal Grant NO: 812KP in Mokatse, Modipane, Kutlwano Mulale would like to change land use from integrated farm to mixed use. For any objections, contact Kgatleng district council, physical planning office on 5773512, within fourteen (14) days of this publication

**OWNER OF PLOT 19083** Gaborone intends to change land use from residential to civic community. All neighbours are informed. Any objection contact 73904439 or Gaborone physical planning office 3657494 within 14 days of this publication

**THE OWNER OF** residential tribal Lot 3510, in Rasesa, intends to subdivide and change land use to multi residential. Any objections, please notify the physical planning department, Kgatleng district council on 5773512, within 14 days of this publication

**THE OWNER OF** residential tribal Lot 3510, in Rasesa, intends to subdivide and change land use to multi residential. Any objections, please notify the physical planning department, Kgatleng district council on 5773512, within 14 days of this publication

**OWNER OF PLOT 818** Extension 2 intends to change land use from mixed use to multi residential. Any queries or objections should contact GCC Physical Planning Department at 3953779 within 14 days.

#### NOTICE OF INTENTION TO CHANGE MARRIAGE PROPERTY REGIME (In terms of Section 8 (1) (f) of Married Persons Property Act, 2014)

1. **TSHEPO OFENTSE** and **OFENTSE MOCHANKANA** married in community of property on the **26<sup>th</sup> July, 2019** at Francistown, wish to change their property regime to out of community of property.
2. The parties intend to apply to the High Court of Botswana after **three (3) consecutive publications** of this statutory notice.
3. Any **person, creditor or debtor**, who may have an interest in the assets and/or liabilities of the parties' estate, should they have **objections** to the parties changing their property regime, are to inform the parties' Attorneys, **NSALA LAW CHAMBERS**, before the **expiration of the said 3 consecutive publications**, or make representations before the High Court of Botswana once the contemplated application is lodged.

**DATED AT PALAPYE ON THIS 21<sup>ST</sup> DAY OF JANUARY 2026.**

Nsala Law Chambers | Makwapa Complex, above Choppies | Unit 3 Palapye

**3<sup>RD</sup> PUBLICATION**

#### 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 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 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 Person	Estate Number	Date of Meeting	Time	Master
Morgan Willie	ESHFT-000116-23	13-05-26	0900HRS	SARM

**DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 26<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2026**

**MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT**

#### 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 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 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 Person	Estate Number	Date of Meeting	Time	Master
BOTSANG MOLEFE	ESHFT-000608-25	08-04-26	0900HRS	SARM 1

**DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 04<sup>RD</sup> FEBRUARY 2026**

**MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT**

#### 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 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 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 Person	Estate Number	Date of Meeting	Time	Master
MAGDALENE BAFANA	ESHFT-000428-23	14-04-26	0900hrs	SARM1

**DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 05<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY 2026**

**MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT**

#### 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 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 Francistown High Court on the date and time specified opposite the names of their deceased relatives for the 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	Master
TEBALO RANTSEO	ESHFT-000769-25	06/05/2026	0900HRS	DRM

**DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 22<sup>ND</sup> DAY OF JANUARY 2026**

**MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT**

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Gaborone 365 3500



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DailyNewsbw

## FINAL LIQUIDATION AND DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT

IN THE ESTATE of the late JAVID ABDUL RASHID KHAN who died at Phase 2 Plot 18520, Gaborone, Gaborone District, Republic of Botswana on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

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

Any objection to the Estate Account may be lodged with the Master within the 21 days stated above  
**DATED AT GABORONE THIS 06<sup>TH</sup> DAY FEBRUARY 2026**

**S.khan**  
LAW

Executrix Dative Samina Wasim Malik  
 C/O S.Khan Law, Plot 2851 South Ring Road,  
 P.O Box 72, Gaborone Tel: 393 3443/ 76 770 427

## NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

Master's reference: ESHGB 000206/ 22

IN THE ESTATE of the late PITLAGANO DUBE AND SLAVE DUBE who both died at Nyangabwe Referral Hospital, Francistown, Francistown District Botswana on the 30<sup>th</sup> November 2017 and 4<sup>th</sup> day of May 2004 respectively.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN the debtors and creditors in the above Estate are hereby required to pay their debts and file claims whatever nature with the undersigned thirty (30) days after the publication hereof.

**DATED at Gaborone on this 04<sup>th</sup> day of February 2026**

The Executor | Phillip Slave  
 P O Box 402664 Gaborone  
 Cell: 71 590 558 / 71 398 080

The Executor | Tamoziba Silver  
 P O Box 553 Mogoditshane  
 Cell: 72 213 282 / 76 138 031

AHLE SUNNAT WA-JAMAAT OF BOTSWANA SHAH KHALID MASJID is urgently looking for an Arabic/Islamic Studies Teacher/Iman (Priest) for SHAH KHALID MASJID (MOSQUE) who will be responsible for teaching the following:

### Islamic Studies, which covers the following elements:

- Tawheed (Unity of Allah)
- Basic Beliefs of Islam
- Morals and Ethics
- History (The Seerah and the lives of notable personalities from Islamic History e.g., Allah's Prophets and the companions of the Prophet Muhammad, salAllahu 'alayhi wa sallam)
- Essential Practices (Fiqh of 'ibaadah)

### 1. Qur'aanic Studies, which covers the following elements:

- Qur'aanic recitation and tajweed (rules of its recitation)
- Hifdh (Memorization)
- Understanding its meanings (through a basic approach to the tafseer of the verses studied, making it relevant for their lives today and in the future)

### 2. Arabic, which aims to help pupils attain proficiency in the following elements:

- listening, speaking and understanding
- reading
- writing

**Closing Date :** 28 February 2026  
**Contact :** The President  
 P. O. Box 331, GABORONE



## VACANCY: MINISTER – DRC MAUN, BOTSWANA

The Maun Congregation of the Dutch Reformed Church (DRC) in Botswana invites suitably qualified and experienced candidates to apply for the position of Minister.

The Maun congregation is a young and growing faith community with approximately 70 active members, drawn from diverse denominational backgrounds. Over the past few years, the congregation has experienced significant growth and continues to strengthen its presence within the wider community. The position is offered on a five-year tenure.

### MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

#### Educational Qualifications:

- A Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree, including at least two (2) years of Greek and Hebrew, and
- A Bachelor of Theology (B.Th.) degree from a university training ministers for the Dutch Reformed Church, or
- A Licentiate in Theology (Lic.Th.) diploma from a university training ministers for the Dutch Reformed Church.

#### ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

- Must be bilingual in Afrikaans and English
- A minimum of two (2) years' experience as a Minister within the Dutch Reformed Church

#### DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

In accordance with the Church Order of the Dutch Reformed Church in Botswana, the successful candidate will be responsible for, among others:

- Preaching the Word of God
- Administering the Sacraments, including performing formal ministerial duties
- Leading church services in both Afrikaans and English
- Providing Christian teaching in cooperation with elders and congregation members
- Exercising pastoral care, with particular emphasis on home visitation
- Working collaboratively with the Church Council
- Striving to expand the Kingdom of God within the congregation and the wider community
- Serving as Chairperson of the Church Council
- Managing, organizing, and governing the congregation together with the Elders and Deacons.

Applicants can submit their applications together with CV for attention:

Fred Camphor, email to [dremaun@gmail.com](mailto:dremaun@gmail.com)

Enquiries can be directed to;

Amanda Visser (+267) 71 730 237 or Fred Camphor at (+267) 77 624 854

**Closing date:** Within 14 days of date of this advert.

**VACANCY: RHINO STEEL ROLLING MILLS (PTY) LTD**, located in Ramotswe Station Industrial, is seeking experienced candidates for the following positions:

### Plant Manager – Steel Operations

The successful candidate will be responsible for managing day-to-day steel plant operations, including scrap processing, steel melting, billet casting, rolling mill production, quality control, and dispatch, under the overall direction of senior management. The role involves coordinating daily production activities, improving operational efficiency and productivity, motivating and supervising plant personnel, ensuring consistent product quality, and supporting skills development through on-the-job training. The Plant Manager will promote a strong health and safety culture across the operation. Candidates should have seven to ten years' relevant steel plant experience with practical knowledge of production, quality, and maintenance coordination. This is an experience-based role; formal qualifications are an advantage but not mandatory.

### Mill Straightening Machine Operator

The role is responsible for setting, adjusting, and operating the straightening machine to correct warpage and curvature developed during rolling of various steel profiles. The position requires preparation and fitting of profile-specific straightening rolls, the ability to work independently without supervision, and providing on-the-job training to shop-floor personnel. Applicants should have a minimum of seven years' experience operating straightening machines in a rolling mill environment, with technical knowledge of roll settings for different profiles.

Applications should be submitted in confidence to **The Director, Rhino Steel Rolling Mills (Pty) Ltd, P.O. Box 3028, Gaborone, Botswana.**

**NACONDA**

Farm Laborers needed  
 in various farms  
 around the country

### Duties

- General upkeep of the farm, horticulture and rainy season ploughing.
- Plant, fertilize, cultivate, spray, irrigate and harvest crops
- Feed and tend livestock and poultry
- Participate in other farm related activities

### Requirements

- \* Basic farm Knowledge
- \* Should have a proven experience as a Farm Labourer
- \* Good communication skills

Suitable candidate should apply to:  
**Anaconda Farms Pty Ltd**  
 P O Box 70587  
 Gaborone, Botswana  
 Cell: +267 73521064

**Closing Date:**  
 24<sup>th</sup> February 2026

## GITA BOTSWANA PTY LTD T/A GARNISH CAFÉ

Indian Vegetarian Food,Chef Wanted  
 We Are Looking For An 2 Indian Vegetarian Food Chef In Our Operations, The Applicant Must Have The Following:

- Certificate/Diploma
- A Minimum Of 10 Years Experience
- Must Have Worked In Recognized Restaurant/Companies
- Must Be Capable Of Preparing Various Types Of Indian Food Dishes:
  - Jain,Gujarati,Rajasthani,Punjabi And South Indian Dishes
  - All Kind Of Indian Food Namkin Snacks And Sweets
- Minimum 1 Year Experience Required For Following:
  - HR,Accounts,Cashier,Driver
  - Helper For Food Counter,Kitchen Helper,Cleaner,Food Packing Helper
  - Roti, Naan,Paratha Maker
  - Pizza,Burger,Sandwich,Pasta Maker
  - All Indian Chat Dishes Like Pani Puri , Papdi Chat Etc..
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- Send Applications To :  
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 : Physical address plot no. 10032,broadhurst industrial , total filling station,Gaborone.
- Mobile no : +267 7530 0811 (whatsapp message only)
- Or Send Via Email : [garnishcafe.gaborone@gmail.com](mailto:garnishcafe.gaborone@gmail.com)
- Closing Date For Application Is 26<sup>th</sup> February 2026.

Power China International Co is seeking for highly qualified candidates for the following positions to take responsibilities in Energy Projects:-

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#### Job requirements

The candidate should be familiar with the foreign photovoltaic project market  
 Should have experience in large-scale photovoltaic projects with a capacity of over 500MW  
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 Having worked for overseas projects in Energy Projects with its process will be an advantage  
 Be familiar with the entire project management process.  
 Bachelor's degree or above, majoring in New Energy Science  
 More than 5 years of working experience in overseas new energy photovoltaic projects;

### Procurement Manager

#### Job requirements

The candidate must have prior experience in projects led by international company  
 Be responsible with procurement process of the entire company  
 Strong skills and knowledge in proficient in procurement business, with excellent abilities in supplier development, control and negotiations  
 Having worked for overseas projects in Energy Projects with its process will be an advantage  
 Should have good communication skills and cost awareness  
 Bachelor's degree or above, majoring in Procurement Management or related courses  
 More than 5 years of working experience in overseas new energy photovoltaic projects;

### Quality Manager

#### Job requirements

The candidate should have work experience in large-scale photovoltaic projects with a capacity of over 200MW  
 Having worked for overseas projects in Energy Projects with its process will be an advantage  
 Diploma or above, majoring in Quality Management systems  
 More than 5 years of working experience in overseas new energy projects;

### Construction Manager

#### Job requirements

Candidate should have experience on site management at a large-scale photovoltaic project with a capacity of over 200MW in construction of the energy projects.  
 Having worked for overseas projects in Energy Projects with its process will be an advantage  
 Should have knowledge with foreign photovoltaic project market (such as China, Africa, etc.)  
 Bachelor's degree or above, majoring in mechanical or electrical automation;  
 More than 10 years of working experience, including over 5 years of experience in overseas new energy photovoltaic projects;

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## VACANCY POSITION: MISSIONARY (YOUTH & MEN'S MINISTRIES – DRC MAUN, BOTSWANA

The Church is prayerfully seeking a committed and spiritually grounded Missionary to serve the congregation, with a particular focus on Youth and Men's Ministries, in obedience to the Great Commission and for the extension of the Kingdom of God.

The Maun congregation is a young and growing faith community with approximately 70 active members, drawn from diverse denominational backgrounds. Over the past few years, the congregation has experienced significant growth and continues to strengthen its presence within the wider community. The position is offered on a five-year tenure.

### PURPOSE OF THE ROLE

The Missionary will work in cooperation with the Minister, Elders, Deacons, and believers to provide spiritual leadership, pastoral care, teaching, and missionary outreach, nurturing spiritual growth and strengthening the life of the congregation.

### MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

#### Educational Qualifications:

##### Study forwards:

- A Bachelor of Theology (B.Th.) degree from a university or
- A Licentiate in Theology (Lic.Th.) diploma from a university training ministers for the Dutch Reformed Church.

##### ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

- Must be bilingual in Afrikaans and English
- A minimum of two (2) years' experience as a Missionary and have a proven track record as a Missionary in Youth and Men's Ministries
- Certified career coach and hold a TEFL diploma.

### KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

#### The Missionary will be responsible for, but not limited to, the following duties:

- Leading and coordinating the Youth Ministry and Men's Ministry
- Leading and nurturing the Prayer Ministry for Youth and Men
- Leading and supporting worship services, including preaching and teaching as assigned
- Conducting and coordinating missionary work and outreach activities
- Teaching church doctrine and Christian living in cooperation with the Elders and believers
- Exercising pastoral care for Youth and Men, providing spiritual guidance, counseling, and support
- Encouraging spiritual maturity and discipleship, striving for the extension of the Kingdom of God
- Participating in the governance, organisation, leadership, and management of the congregation together with the Minister, Elders, and Deacons
- Supporting church programmes, activities, and initiatives as directed by church leadership

### WORKING RELATIONSHIPS

The Missionary will work closely with the Minister, Elders, Deacons, and the wider congregation to ensure unity, spiritual growth, and effective ministry.

### Applicants can submit their applications together with CV for attention:

Fred Camphor, email to [dremaun@gmail.com](mailto:dremaun@gmail.com)

Enquiries can be directed to;

Amanda Visser (+267) 71730237 or Fred Camphor at (+267) 77624854

Closing date: Within 14 days of date of this advert.



## VACANCY | FINANCE MANAGER

### QUALIFICATIONS:

ACCA, ACA, CA, CIMA OR BICA

### EXPERIENCE:

- The person should have a minimum of 2 years post qualification Experience as a Finance Manager.
- 5 years' experience in Auditing will be an added advantage.

### KEY PERFORMANCE:

1. Preparation of budgets.
2. Preparation of monthly Management reports and Annual audited accounts.
3. Implementation of adequate internal controls to enhance the performance of the company.
4. Actively involved in credit sales and debt collection and timely payments to suppliers, Management of cash flow.
5. Preparation of staff remuneration.
6. Liaise with government regulatory bodies, banks, auditors etc.

### COMPETENCIES REQUIRED:

Excellent organizational and planning skills, Strong communication and interpersonal skills, experience in Microsoft office, ACCPAC Accounting and Ulti sales.

If you meet the above requirements send your detailed applications and updated CV and certificates before 27<sup>th</sup> February 2026 to:

Group Human Resources Manager

**The World Group of Companies**

Private Bag 00479, Gaborone, Botswana

Tel: +267 3916195 Fax: +3916196

Or

[recruitment5652@gmail.com](mailto:recruitment5652@gmail.com)

[hr.north@theworldgroup.co.bw](mailto:hr.north@theworldgroup.co.bw)

## MASTER DRILLING is looking for Position: Assembler / Cutter

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The Leading Hand Raisebore Assembler and Cutter is responsible for general surface and underground assembler/cutter work for the project. Including, the installation, repairs and maintenance on fixed and mobile equipment, work and the operation of associated mobile equipment. Based at Khoemacau Zone 5.

### Responsibilities may include but are not limited to:

- Building products on the assembly line according to drawings, instructions, or schematics.
- Following established safety and efficiency procedures to ensure that operations run smoothly.
- Inspecting assembled products for any faults or defects.
- Loading product pieces slated for assembly onto the line and packing assembled products into boxes for storage.
- Stopping the assembly line and halting production if machinery fails or a major defect is detected.
- Maintaining a record of mechanical repairs and adjustments.
- Reporting incidents, faulty operations, or product imperfections on the assembly line to management.
- From sketch and providing material, create and cut pattern for shoes
- Partner with sample makers to ensure integrity of the pattern
- Position could temporarily, on occasion, support other design colleagues as needed
- Responsible for operating the auto cutter machine including aligning product in the machine and operating the cutter correctly to ensure product is cut cleanly along cut lines, making necessary adjustments to the machinery
- Ensure all paperwork is updated and handed in (Commissioning list, breakdown list, -maintenance and repair procedure)
- Adheres to all aspects of on-the-job safety pertaining to safety on the job.
- Performs any other necessary activities for the effective completion of work

### Job Requirements:

- Certificate as Cutter Assembler
- Certificate in Safety
- Overhead Crane Operator
- Computer Literate
- Speak, read, and write – English
- Medically fit to work on surface and in an underground environment
- Ability to pass a police clearance
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Apply to: Email: [annekek@masterdrilling.com](mailto:annekek@masterdrilling.com)

The HR Manager  
P O Box 118, Gaborone

Closing date: 23 February 2026

## NEIGHBOUR CONSULTATION

**OWNER OF PLOT** 594 Sefhare village wishes to build double storey house and erect a boundary wall. Any objections contact Mahalapye district council planning unit on 4713323 within fourteen (14) days of publication of this notice

**I JACOB KETSHOTSWEEEMANG** of a ploughing field in Maun, Shashe Ward wish to change land use of my plot from agricultural use of my plot from agricultural to mixed use, residential and civic and community in alignment with Maun development plan 2021- 2041, any objection please contact 72276441 or 6860241 within 14 days.

**OWNER OF PLOT** 5305 Masetlheng Tlokweng wishes to change land use to multi-res. Contact 71648215

**TEBOGO MATLHODI IS** Changing landuse of plot 1374 Bokaa from residential to multi residential. All those concerned may contact Mochudi council physical planning office 5773519 or 72607815

**BONTHOTSE GOLOPILWE PLOT** owner of the plot in Mmatshumo wish to change landuse from residential to civic and community for any objection contact Boteti District Council Physical Planning on 2900331 or 71576965 within 14 days from date of publication.

**THE OWNER OF** tribal lot 9, Nata, hereby informs the public of the intent to construct a road junction along the A33. Should you have objections or concerns, please contact us at Phone 75548071/71327935

## VACANCIES

**ST ARNOLD'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL** has vacancies for teachers, Upper classes. Apply to: The Manager, P O Box 428 Tonota. +26774041834 Due date: 28/02/26

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**TAILOR/ FASHION DESIGNER** wanted. Eccentric Style Loft seeks skilled, creative tailor. send CV: [enquiries@eslbw.com](mailto:enquiries@eslbw.com)

**HORTICULTURELIST WANTED** - Semolake Contact 75028240

**LUNGU SAFARIS** IS seeking a French translator with strong tourism marketing background, must deliver accurate translations, adapt content for travel audiences. Experience in hospitality & product marketing is a plus. Email Applications to [lungusafaritours@yahoo.com](mailto:lungusafaritours@yahoo.com) or contact 73801115

**IT & SYSTEMS** administrator required at Generators@Botswana to manage servers, networks, data backups business applications. Applicants must hold a Degree/ Diploma in Computer Sciences, Business Management/ IT with 8+ years experience in generator operations an technical services. Send cv to [admin@generators.co.bw](mailto:admin@generators.co.bw). Closing date 18/02/26

## NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETINGS

### Administration of Estates Act [Cap.31:01]

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that 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	Person Estate Number	Date of Meeting	Time	Master
Agnes Rasengwatshe	ESHFT-000737-2	20-05-26	0900hrs	SARM

DATED AT MAUN THIS 27<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JANUARY 2025

MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

### FIRST AND FINAL LIQUIDATION AND DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT - ESHGB-000350/22

In the estate of the Late **STEVEN NTUTUNYANE SORINYANE** who died In Transit, Gaborone, Gaborone District, Botswana on the 4th day of November 2021.

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

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

The Executrix  
KAGO TERESA KEFHITLWE  
P O Box 428 KANYE Cell: 71210253

### 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 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 Francistown High Court on the date and time specified opposite the names of their deceased relatives for the 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	Master
KAGISO LEKHUTILE	ESHFT-000073-26	15/04/26	0900HRS	SARM 1

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 05TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2026

MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

# Molapowabojang welcomes ConCourt as game changer

By Thandy Tebogo  
MOLAPOWABOJANG

Excitement was running high in Molapowabojang as residents welcome the establishment of the Constitutional Court, describing it as a long-awaited development promised to address lingering legal and community issues.

The announcement was met with optimism as villagers expressed eagerness to see the court become operational and deliver justice that is accessible, fair and responsive to local needs. Residents hailed the move as a significant step in the right direction.

Addressing residents last Thursday, Minister of Labour and Home Affairs, Major General Pius Mokgware, explained that the Constitutional Court would

bring transformative changes for Batswana, particularly by incorporating customary law.

Maj. General Mokgware said such integration was a game-changer for traditional practices and community governance, bridging the gap between customary law and modern legal frameworks. The current Constitution, he noted, left significant gaps, especially regarding inheritance laws.

He further explained that the court would be staffed by experts capable of handling complex matters, including inheritance disputes and human rights violations.

He also underscored the court's role in prioritising employee welfare during company liquidations and levelling the playing field for marginalised communities to ensure that justice was both accessible and

cost-effective.

Sharing perspective on the development, Mr Itumeleng Tiroyaone expressed relief, noting that the court could prevent the loss of personal funds to exorbitant legal fees in land disputes. Ms Boitumelo Ntoko welcomed the restoration of traditional authorities' powers, stating that it would restore pride and autonomy to local communities.

Mr Keabaka Kebohe shared his hopes that the court would finally resolve a long-standing personal case. On the other hand, while Mr Kabelo Masilonyane raised concerns regarding funding and healthcare, he appreciated the Health Ministry's increased budget allocation.

Meanwhile, Kgosi Kedirile Letshabo welcomed the confirmation that the Constitutional Court would not abolish the death penalty. **BOPA**



Minister of Labour and Home Affairs, Major General Pius Mokgware (right) addressing Molapowabojang residents recently on the establishment of the Constitutional Court. Residents expressed eagerness to see the court become operational and deliver justice that was accessible, fair and responsive to citizen's needs. Photo: Thandy Tebogo

## Tshere commits to transparency for ConCourt establishment

Chendzimu Manyepedza  
SEFHOPHE

Minister of Communications and Innovation, Mr David Tshere, has pledged transparency as government moves forward with the landmark 2025 Constitutional Amendment Bill.

Addressing a recent kgotla meeting in Sefhophe, Minister Tshere responded to local concerns by promising that the path toward establishing a dedicated Constitutional Court would be paved with inclusive communication and timely

updates.

"This commitment to openness aims to foster trust," the minister told the residents and acknowledged that for a Constitutional Court to be truly legitimate, it must first be understood by the people it served.

Earlier, the atmosphere in Sefhophe was one of cautious hesitation rather than outright endorsement. Residents called for comprehensive public education, arguing that while the Bill represented a significant shift in the nation's democratic architecture, many felt that they lacked the tools to interpret the

proposed changes.

One resident, Mr Morgan Pilediwa emphasised the need for civic empowerment, noting that a Constitutional Court can only bolster the rights of Batswana if the average citizen understood its mechanics.

"Lack of awareness shows a critical gap," Mr Pilediwa stated, echoing a sentiment shared by many attendees.

He argued that the current consultation phase was premature, adding, 'you cannot consult the public until you have first enlightened them.'

Another resident, Mr Loeto Parati acknowledged the court as a cornerstone of democracy but questioned the timing of such a major transition.

He cautioned that government might be 'focusing on the gavel when it should be focusing on the plow,' suggesting that resources might be better directed toward fluctuating economic stability and pressing needs in healthcare and education.

Mr Parati warned that rushing the process could lead to uninformed choices that inadvertently damaged democratic values.

Financial transparency was also a key talking point. Mr Rebaphuti Somolekae called for a transparent breakdown of the potential costs associated with the new institution and its long-term impact on the country's financial health.

Adding to the call for consistency, Mr Mogogi Gabonnelewe challenged proponents of the Bill to articulate the necessity of the court.

As the kgotla concluded, the consensus among residents was that they were not ready to move forward until they were certain they were walking on solid and well-explained ground. **BOPA**

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Applications should be posted to the following address:

**Human Resources Department  
DDT College of Medicine  
P O Box 70587, Gaborone**

**Email:** [hr@ddtcollegeofmedicine.com](mailto:hr@ddtcollegeofmedicine.com)

Correspondence will be given to shortlisted candidates

**Closing date: 24<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

Follow the link below for more information: <https://www.ddtcollegeofmedicine.com/job.html>

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# BENEFICIARY ASSESSMENT NOTICE



## CALL FOR BENEFICIARIES - DEATH BENEFITS CLAIMS

In line with the provisions of the Retirement Funds Act (2022) (the Act) which require retirement funds administrators to trace beneficiaries of death claims, NMG Administrators Botswana is currently assessing beneficiaries for deceased members of the Botswana Public Officers Pension Fund listed below. Therefore, all possible beneficiaries/dependants should liaise with the Administrator. This is to ensure that all beneficiaries or dependants are known and considered by the Trustees in apportioning the Death Benefits in pursuit of their fiduciary responsibility.

Kindly contact NMG Administrators Botswana within 14 days from the date of this Publication.

MEMBER NAME	EXIT DATE	STATUS	MEMBER NAME	EXIT DATE	STATUS	MEMBER NAME	EXIT DATE	STATUS
Kefilwe Amos	02/12/2025	Active	Brutus Koka	29/11/2025	Active	Lentswe Morolong	23/05/2025	Active
Mmakeng Baituti	02/10/2025	Active	Mosotho Kweemane	14/01/2026	Pensioner	Oagile Mosokwane	06/11/2025	Active
Bonako Batsile	03/07/2025	Active	Neo Kwena	06/12/2025	Active	Tshadi Motlhabane	16/05/2025	Active
Thuso Botshabelo	01/09/2025	Active	Moabi Mabe	02/08/2025	Active	Mogae Motswasele	23/01/2026	Pensioner
Welmah Chongwe	19/02/2025	Active	Rebolokeng Mafoko	23/05/2025	Active	Elizabeth Nkumba	04/06/2025	Active
Mompati Ikaneng	27/04/2025	Active	Kenaope Masebeke	23/12/2025	Pensioner	Isaiah Otsetswe Motsamai	16/10/2024	Active
Nastaly Kapara	23/10/2025	Active	Lefela Matabane	09/08/2024	Active	Thatayaone Rabasimane	26/05/2025	Deferred
Tsholofelo Keineetse	29/07/2025	Active	Peter Matolela	04/04/2021	Deferred	Segale Senyarelo	07/08/2025	Active
Margaret Keletsi	26/01/2026	Pensioner	Neo Matori	08/03/2025	Active	Tshwaraganang Tlhapisang	07/12/2024	Active
Gaone Kemmifele	06/08/2025	Active	Godiramang Mmopelwa	04/11/2025	Active	Mojwadi Tomeletso	26/08/2025	Active
Ookame Khuwa	26/08/2023	Deferred	Matlho Modise	15/01/2014	Deferred	Sinki Tshose	25/08/2025	Active

Please contact NMG Administrators Botswana at: +267 318 6820/ 241 2562/ 588 1236/ 686 0597 or Toll Free: 0800 600 177

Finding a better way

# Mogwera: Female trailblazer in workers rights

Booster Mogapi  
MOLEPOLOLE

Many women have challenged patriarchal structures, advocating for gender equality and women's rights.

These individuals have worked to dismantle social, political and economic systems that perpetuate male dominance, living behind lasting impact on society.

Women in trade unions have equally challenged patriarchal structures, advocating gender equality and social justice, often pushing for changes in

workplace policies and laws.

They have worked to address the gender pay gap, formalise informal work and secure family-friendly policies through collective bargaining, social dialogue and legal action.

While women's leadership within unions remains underrepresented, they continue to play a vital role in promoting equality and challenging gender-based discrimination.

Among the many women who raised their arm in trade union leadership is Masego Mogwera.

She stood as a woman among many, strong and firm and raised the altar of leadership that challenged the status quo.

Armed with nothing else but her brains, the chief shop steward worked herself up through the ladder into the top leadership of Botswana Public Employees Union (BOPEU) from 1996 until 2024 when she retired from active unionism, proving to the world that women are capable of leading big organisations.

In an interview, the former president of BOPEU, one of the largest trade Unions in Botswana boasting membership of over 36 000 said it takes bravery and confidence for one to lead such

a big organisation.

She said it took an arm and leg for her to stand tall among women and men, solidifying her capacity and ability to lead.

"Women should know that being in leadership comes with an epiboly of challenges especially from men who often feel uncomfortable being led by a woman," she said.

Ms Mogwera said nothing is given on a silver platter especially for those like her, who were born without a silver spoon. One has to prove beyond measure and show the world what they are capable of.

In a society where men have always been given an upper hand in leadership and women relegated to following the lead, it becomes challenging for women to rise under such circumstances.

Nevertheless, her circumstances may be different, her association with BOPEU is rooted on a formidable foundation, dating back to the days when it was an association, the Botswana Civil Servants Association (BCSA).

To be specific, Mogwera joined BOPEU, the then BCSA in 1996 while based in Moelpole, when she served as its vice secretary.

She fully attest to the formation of BOPEU, from its embryonic days to becoming what it is today, "a Union of Choice."

Ms Mogwera shared how the union used to suffer challenging situations emanating from among others scarce resources which, forcing members to dig into their pockets to finance union activities.

Back then, Ms Mogwera said being a trade unionist was solely born out of passion and the inherent desire to serve other public servants, while on the other hand not comprising your work.

She said in 2007, the association BCSA was unionised to become BOPEU, followed by the amended of the constitution in 2008. Some of the assignments of the transformation era involving her input was to review the logo.

At the core of the review of the union constitution, was the aspect of women empowerment. The consensus was the position of second deputy president be reserved for women members. The individual who gets elected to it will also become the chairperson of the women council.

The amendment of the union's constitution was followed by the Maun conference, where she was elected the vice-president of BOPEU, a position she held for two terms until 2015, subsequently contesting for first deputy president position.

Her ascend to the epitome of BOPEU happened in 2018, making history as the first woman



Ms Mogwera

to hold such a position and lead a large organisation such as BOPEU.

Before then, Mogwera said led BOFEPUSU in 2010, an era which saw public servants failing to agree terms with government, resulting in the 2011 public service strike, dubbed the mother of all strikes.

Quizzed on what it takes to be a trade union leader, Mogwera said "trade unionism is not a small thing, it needs one to be selfless and volunteer your life to the Union."

"It is calling. Leadership is a calling. It is not about self. I compare it to pastoralism. It is no longer about you", she said.

Ms Mogwera said one has to be level-headed, confront challenges and deal with all obstacles laid before them.

She said the most challenging part of woman in leadership was creating a balance between family and the union. As a single mother she had to strike a balance between family time and union assignments, at times finding herself at dire-straits.

As a union leader, Ms Mogwera said one must be bold and jealously guard union members who have entrusted her with the leadership and have their confidence in her to deliver as per the mandate.

Ms Mogwera describe herself as one of the few women who have managed to assume leadership positions, breaking the male dominance stereotype. However, she pity the lack of support that other women who were eager to vie for leadership positions were subjected to.

"Sometimes men will intimidate women leaders through false proposals of love so that they can use that as a tool to destroy her. My advice to women attaining higher position of responsibility is that they should not fall into the trap of falling in love with their subordinates or anyone from the membership as that is a dangerous trap," she said.

Furthermore, she said men tend to intimidate women in leadership as they believe that they have invaded their territory, a situation she was subjected. "They tried and failed as I was strong enough to stand my ground and stamp my authority," she said.

Mogwera said it was unfortunate that some men would view a woman as less competent and not intelligent enough to lead. "There are many stories of bravery and competency that proves women are capable," she said.

"During my tenure as BOPEU

leader (2019-2021), I went through turbulence, at the hands of men, but because I knew my innocence, I fought to the end and those men fell," she added.

Ms Mogwera implored women in leadership to sail the ship to the shore, never to surrender, but fight until the end.

Mogwera's reign at the helm of BOPEU was subjected to court battles, but she fought and persevered to complete her term in office. "In 2021 after I won the elections, I made a declaration that I will retire at the end of my term in 2024," she said.

A woman with a never give up mentality, Mogwera joined public service holding a certificate in Bee Keeping. Currently, she holds a Masters in Public Relations.

She went on to undertake other short courses to enhance her career and be relevant in her field of trade unionism and understanding the language of labour relations.

She said her journey in trade unionism was a basket full of excitement, challenges and sad moments. Mogwera believes in decision that we made through consensus, where everyone was given a say.

While the voice of the majority reigns supreme in many cases, Ms Mogwera said in an idle situation, the minority must equally be given a platform.

The "Iron Lady," as many called her during her tenure at the helm of BOPEU said it was unfortunate to observe that women were not supporting their peers.

She said women should stand together and fight any form of evil aimed at frustrating their efforts to occupy power positions.

Besides the trials and tribulations she was subjected to, Mogwera her journey through BOPEU structure which included the presidency was a marvel, most importantly as the union gave her a chance to prove her worth.

"I rose from fame to famous and many young women and men looked up to me as a role model and I continue to provide mentorship for all," she said.

Mogwera was also impressed by the growth that BOPEU has experienced over the years. Even though still vulnerable to tensions, Ms Mogwera said the internal wars of the union were manageable.

She was also happy to be leaving at a time when BOPEU is on the verge of receiving their license for its first insurance company. BOPA



Ms Masego Mogwera during Seriti Estate groundbreaking ceremony in Mmopane in 2023.



# Sekgwa clarifies appointment of new queen

The new Queen's reign is not a replacement of the now former Miss Universe Botswana 2025, Lillian Andries. It is rather a direct appointment for the new titleholder to represent Botswana at the upcoming Miss Universe global competition.

Benita Magopane  
**GABORONE**

If for any reason the winner is unable to fulfil her duties, the first runner-up will take her place" is a standard clause in most beauty pageant contracts worldwide.

Yet Dabilo Moses's recent appointment as Miss Universe Botswana 2026 recently, is not necessarily a reflection of that clause. Miss Universe Botswana Director Sesafeleng Sekgwa clarified in an interview, just two days after Moses's coronation. According to Sekgwa, the new Queen's reign is not a replacement of the now former Miss Universe Botswana 2025, Lillian Andries. It is rather a direct appointment for the titleholder to represent Botswana at the upcoming Miss Universe global competition scheduled for November 2026 in Puerto Rico. Sekgwa said the decision was meant to accommodate the organisation's new format, which, according to a press release issued on January 14, will require titleholders to reign for at least 10 months prior to their participation on the Miss Universe international stage.

While Miss Universe Botswana has in recent months been an organisation at the centre of controversy, Sekgwa explained that the new format formed part of a broader reputation management strategy that would also hold titleholders more accountable.

During the 10-month tenure, Sekgwa explained, titleholders would have time to engage in community service, bond with citizens, and receive advanced training in areas such as public speaking, while also honing their leadership skills.

He further explained that for years, Miss Universe Botswana titleholders, once sworn in, have not had sufficient time to

prepare for the international stage, placing immense pressure on the organisation to resource their journey within a limited timeframe, as the pageant operates as an entrepreneurship largely dependent on sponsorships.

Moreover, Sekgwa emphasised that without direct appointment this year, Miss Universe Botswana would be forced to forfeit the competition and restart the process in 2027 to align with the new format.

The new format follows the announcement of Andries's dethronement last year December 24, of which via a press release issued on the same date, the organisation accuses Andries of allegedly failing to attend multiple high-profile official engagements.

The beauty queen is also cited for improperly involving external third parties, including government officials and politicians in attempts to interfere with and pressure the organisation's internal decision-making processes.

Sekgwa said he preferred not to dwell on the matter as Andries was no longer associated with the brand. On why he saw Moses as the best candidate for the Miss Universe crown, Sekgwa said the decision was logical, given that she was already the first princess, and that it was within his right and duty as national director to identify and appoint a competitive representative.

"It is not personal. Dabilo's appointment is in the best interest of the brand and of the country. That is the most important thing," said Sekgwa, adding that Wangu Modise would assume the position of first princess. He noted that had Moses declined the appointment, another contestant would have been considered.

Addressing public backlash from those who felt alienated by the appointment of a titleholder without a traditional pageantry



Dabilo Moses

## Lekwete Captain rebrands to mark new chapter

Keetile Bontsibokae  
**MOLEPOLOLE**

Masaka Masaka, formerly known as Lekwete Captain in the entertainment industry has rebranded to LeCap to mark a new chapter in his musical journey.

The Afro-pop sensation said the change was necessary to clear up confusion among fans and

strengthen his brand identity. The name Lekwete Captain often led to mix-ups, with some calling him Captain Lekwete or confusing him with Captain Dira, the music kingpin behind the hit Matalanyane.

"People were asking, 'Who is this Captain? Is he Captain Dira? The name was also too long and costly for merchandise and I shortened it to LeCap, 'Le' from Lekwete

and 'Cap' from Captain," he said. LeCap's love for music began in Francistown at the Spiritual Healing Church, encouraged by his sister Barulaganye Masaka.

His talent shone early in junior school, where he formed a boys' choir. By 2005, he was a DJ, entertaining at weddings, birthdays, and bars.

*Cont... page 22*

# Lekwete Captain rebrands to mark new chapter

... from page 21

In 2008, LeCap's career took off when he met Kitso Machauza of Nice Cut Productions, who became his longtime producer alongside Molly Matiba.

A year later, he formed the house-kwasa crew



Masaka Masaka aka LeCap

Mactivators, releasing their debut album Number Number in 2010.

Though the group eventually split, LeCap pressed on, later co-founding Makwete Music Group with Tshepo Adam and Tshepo Gouwe. Their hit Sthandwa captivated audiences nationwide before the group disbanded in 2015.

LeCap went solo, releasing his first

album, Re Mono Fela in 2016, which earned nominations at the Botswana Music Union (BOMU) Awards.

The album also attracted international attention, especially in South Africa.

He followed up with the single Delete in 2017 and the acclaimed album Turn Around in 2019, which expanded his reach to Lesotho.

The COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 disrupted his momentum, but LeCap adapted by launching the Producer Challenge with Machauza and the Nice Cut Productions team.

He continued releasing albums, including Mmadiphunkgi, Ga Ke Dumele, Letheka, Lala Mhantjana, a tribute to Kgosi Maburu, Khumbul'ekhaya, Mosadimogolo wa Moloi Remix, and Puo Phaa.

LeCap has collaborated with local and international artists, including DJ Bang (Kedi, Thohonolofatsa), Elle Mwana ka Chokwe from Namibia (Sphononol), and South Africa's Dr Nel

(Thandiwe). His singles Gopo Lame, Ka Moithatela, and Ndipe Rudo further cemented his reputation.

In 2025, LeCap returned with his latest album, Ke Nako, featuring a lineup of renowned musicians from Botswana and beyond. The album is already enjoying success on both local and international stages. **BOPA**

“People were asking, ‘Who is this Captain? Is he Captain Dira? The name was also too long and costly for merchandise and I shortened it to LeCap, ‘Le’ from Lekwete and ‘Cap’ from Captain,”

## China devises action plan to revitalise theatrical arts

### BEIJING

Chinese authorities have revealed an action plan to promote the inheritance and development of theatrical arts over the next three years, starting from 2026.

According to the plan, efforts will be made to invigorate innovation and creativity in theatre, significantly improve the quality of productions, and produce a new batch of outstanding theatrical works.

The plan aims to expand the ranks of theatre professionals, with a steady emergence of leading young talent. It also emphasises the establishment of a sound mechanism to support, guide and coordinate theatrical creation, along with a marked improvement in the industry ecosystem.

The action plan specifies measures such as supporting the development of theatre troupes, enhancing the effectiveness of production evaluation and funding support, strengthening the inheritance of theatrical arts, and promoting its public outreach.

The plan was jointly issued by the Publicity Department of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, and the China Federation of Literary and Art Circles. **Xinhua**

## Cairo welcomes Year of the Horse with cultural fusion

### CAIRO

Cairo's Swiss Club hosted celebrations on Sunday for the 2026 Chinese Spring Festival, welcoming the Year of the Horse with food, art and performances that drew nearly 1 000 Egyptians and more than 200 Chinese residents.

Organised by the Bayt Al-Hekma Cultural Group, the event blended Chinese and Egyptian traditions through interactive cultural stations, where visitors tried calligraphy, paper-cutting and lantern-making.

Food stalls offered traditional Chinese New Year dishes. Students studying Chinese performed folk music and short theatrical pieces, adding to the festive atmosphere. Chairperson of Bayt Al-Hekma, Ahmed al-Saeed, said the gathering was “a living dialogue between two great civilisations,” calling it a chance for Egyptians to express their appreciation for Chinese culture.

Vice chairperson of the Egypt-China Friendship Association, Ali El-Hefny, said he was pleased to celebrate with the Chinese community in Egypt and highlighted the long-standing people-to-people ties between the two countries, dating back to the Silk Road.

For some attendees, the festival offered

hands-on cultural exposure. Haneen El-Sayed, a Chinese language student said the event helped her better understand Chinese holiday traditions, including gift-giving, festive foods and seasonal activities. **Xinhua**



**CAIRO** - Attendants at the 2026 Chinese Spring Festival celebration in Egypt on Sunday. Cairo's Swiss Club hosted celebrations, welcoming the Year of the Horse with food, art and performances. Photo: Xinhua

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**Closing Date: 24th February 2026**

*Only shortlisted candidate will be contacted*





World Athletics Relays Gaborone 26 CEO, Moses Bantsi (right) and ticketing committee chairperson, Naledi Lemogang during a media briefing in Gaborone on Thursday. To keep the event exclusive and secure, Lemogang said tickets would be issued digitally via email, SMS and QR codes. Photo: Phenyo Moalosi

## Tickets sales to begin as world relays date nears

Boago Moletsane  
GABORONE

**The wait for the World Athletics Relays is nearly over. The National Stadium and the University of Botswana's refurbished tracks stand ready, not just as venues, but as the stage for a historic first, the first time the relays will touch African soil.**

The rhythmic thump of sprinting spikes will become the heartbeat of the country's capital city as the new surface undergoes its inaugural showcase on May 2 when the 4x100m mixed relay debuts at 2:05pm.

For Botswana, this will be both a weekend of races and declaration of intent.

With the world's fastest athletes descending in Gaborone, the nation is set to prove that its infrastructure is as world-class as the athletes it produces.

The stage is set. The centrepiece of the event, the National Stadium, has undergone rigorous facelift to ensure that it meets the uncompromising standards of World Athletics.

Alongside it, the University of Botswana warm-up track has been upgraded to provide the elite environment required for the

world's best to prepare.

"We had to ensure that every lane and every light was up to international standard.

The delay in finalising details was a matter of due diligence, we are building a legacy that will last long after the final baton is passed," World Athletics Relays Gaborone 26 chief executive officer, Moses Bantsi told a recent press conference.

Bantsi added that early bird or explosive tickets will be available from February 16-22, followed by official sales on February 23.

On one hand, the atmosphere in Gaborone is impenetrable with anticipation for a line-up that will feature the track and field's crème de la crème.

Meanwhile, to manage the massive global demand, the organising committee has introduced a tiered and digital-first ticketing system.

The premium stand customers, the Southern Stand at the finishing line, will part with \$170, which is about P2 251 on day one, day two the ticket costs \$200 (P2 468).

Those who will be cheering at the Grandstand North with a clear view of the final lap of the 100m termed the Gold Stand will pay on day one \$120 (approximately P1 598), while day two they will pay onwards, \$150 (about P1 986).

The general stand cost \$25 (about P331) and \$35 (about P463) on day one and day two respectively.

For children under 13 years, \$15 (about P198) prices will be the same for day one and two.

In efforts to keep the event exclusive and secure, Ticketing Committee chairperson, Naledi Lemogang indicated that paper tickets were a thing of the past as fans will retrieve their entries digitally via email, SMS and QR codes.

"This is about putting Botswana at the forefront of the sporting industry. We are creating a seamless, modern experience for every fan," Lemogang said.

As the countdown continues, Botswana are discouraged from waiting, given that there is no reserved allocation for them.

They will be competing with fans

from London to Los Angeles for not just the tickets, but a front row seat to history as Botswana welcomes the world. BOPA



MILAN - Sweden's Mira Jungaker (centre) evading two France players during their women's preliminary round Group B match at the Milan-Cortina 2026 Winter Olympics. Photo: Xinhua

## Sweden reaches quarterfinals in women ice hockey at Winter Olympics

MILAN

Sweden won its third straight game to book a berth in the last eight of the women's ice hockey competition on Sunday, while the Czech Republic recorded its first victory at the Milan-Cortina 2026 Olympic Winter Games.

In Group B, Sweden defeated Olympic debutant France 4-0 to clinch a spot in the quarterfinals.

The Swedes asserted control early with a three-goal first period, featuring strikes from Thea Johansson, Sara Hjalmarsson and Hanna Thuvik, before Lisa Johansson added the fourth in the second period.

Sweden's cohesive play and sharp finishing underlined its status as

## The Mares in camp for COSAFA

Anastacia Sibanda  
GABORONE

The senior women national team, The Mares has reported for camp on Sunday to prepare for the COSAFA women's championships.

This 13th edition will be held in Polokwane, South Africa from February 18 to March 1 and The Mares are in Group B with eSwatini, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Their opening match will be against Zambia at Seshego Stadium on February 19, and for their next clash they will face eSwatini at Old Peter Mokaba Stadium on February 22 then face Zimbabwe at Old Peter Mokaba Stadium on February 24.

After displaying a great fight at WAFCON, they are expected to do better in this edition.

Head coach Alex Malete said in an interview that 33 players had reported for camp on Sunday except Lesego Moeng and Mokgabo Thanda, who would join the team on Wednesday.

Malete said South Africa-based Refilwe Tholakelo and Sedilame Bosija would join them on Friday.

He said they considered young players from the junior national

team whom they had been monitoring for sometime.

"Remember, we only have a week to prepare for a tournament that will demand so much from us," he said.

Malete said there is notable absence of Esalenna Galekhuthe who was recovering from an injury.

He said the main challenge was that during the first part of their camp, they would be preparing for their return leg against Cameroon. BOPA



The Mares head coach Alex Malete

one of the leading contenders in the women's event, while France faces an uphill battle as only the top three teams in the group progress to the last eight. Sweden has long been a competitive force in women's ice hockey at Olympic level, having made regular appearances since the sport was introduced to the Winter Games in 1998.

The Nordic side reached the pinnacle of its Olympic campaign at Turin 2006, where it captured a historic silver medal, and has since remained a consistent quarterfinal contender.

Tereza Pistekova and Natalie Mlynkova found the net in the opening period, and goaltender Klara Peslarova stood tall to preserve the shutout.

The result marked an important step forward for the Czech Republic after earlier setbacks in the group, and added valuable points as the teams vie for favorable positioning heading into the quarterfinals. Xinhua

performance, the team is widely regarded as a podium contender.

"The chances are big, but we are trying to focus on the group stage," said Johansson of the team's medal hopes. "We can't think too far ahead." In Group A play at the Milano Rho Ice Hockey Arena, the Czech Republic beat Finland 2-0.

The Nordic side reached the

pinnacle of its Olympic campaign at Turin 2006, where it captured a historic silver medal, and has since remained a consistent quarterfinal

contender.

At Milan-Cortina 2026, Sweden

fielded a balanced roster combining experienced international players and emerging talent.

With a strong group-stage



# Daily Sport



**Ticket Prices**  
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 (approximately BWP 2468)





Marea Modutlwa has made history by becoming the first woman to lead the Botswana Bowling Association. Photos: Gaseitsiwe Moruakgomo

## Modutlwa sets ambitious targets for Botswana bowling

Baleseng Batlotleng  
**GABORONE**

Former national team bowler, Marea Modutlwa has made history by becoming the first woman to lead the Botswana Bowling Association during its elective congress held in Gaborone on Saturday.

After leading the association for over 15 years across multiple terms, outgoing President Kitso Robert stepped down and two candidates, Modutlwa and Ookeditse Lekang raised their hands to fill his shoes.

Lekang was disqualified to

contest as he is currently serving as chairperson of the Gaborone club.

The constitution dictates that one cannot serve in both club and national team committees simultaneously.

Modutlwa, a seasoned sport administrator who has served bowls in multiple portfolios was elected the new president of the association for the next four years. She highlighted key strategic areas during her reign, which would assist in propelling bowls to new heights.

“Our roadmap and vision as the new committee is to continue on

the path as bowling had done very well in the past. We emphasise on the need to promote youth, women and stakeholder participation to promote bowling,” she said.

Modutlwa served as executive secretary, then as director of bowls, competition secretary and lately as vice president developing the required competencies in sport organisation management.

Modutlwa started playing bowling in 2013 and was called for national team assignments in 2017 until she retired from international assignments.

She emphasised the need to strengthen grassroots and youth

development programmes.

“Some of our youth are from the Re Ba Bona Ha grassroots development programme while some were developed at club level such as Edwin Nyoka and Peo Ramodise who became national champions at a tender age, we want to build on that legacy,” she added.

She said they would focus on creating opportunities for young players and build structures for women empowerment to upskill women on leadership roles and positions.

“The other area of focus would be the constitution. We want

to make sure our it is certified with Registrar of Societies so we form the right committees that are operational on the ground through the constitution,” she said.

She said the committee would call a strategic retreat to review the old strategy and align it to the new Botswana National Sport Commission strategy and they were also looking at collaborating with World Bowls to promote short mat bowls in Botswana.

Other committee members are Lesedi Mafoko as treasurer and Bolele Boima was elected executive secretary. BOPA



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