

# DailyNews

THE PAPER  
THAT  
INFORMS  
AND  
EDUCATES

<https://dailynews.gov.bw>

Friday March 15, 2024 No. 050



# Citrus project first harvest next week

## News

Stigma, discrimination removal key to achieving HIV free generation

Page 2

## Business

Company aims to benefit from initiative

Page 6

## Sport

Lack of funds shatter Dinaletsana World Youth Cup dream

Page 15



Minister of Agriculture, Mr Fidelis Molao addressing the media in Gaborone yesterday on the Selebi Phikwe citrus project first harvest ceremony and #PUSHABW Selebi Phikwe expo. The 1 500 hectare project's first harvest ceremony is set for March 21. The citrus project targets to export fresh citrus to international, regional and local markets. Minister Molao said his ministry played an important role in facilitating access to international markets. Photo: Pheny Moalosi

# We can't wait to hear *your story*

[absa.co.bw](https://absa.co.bw)



Your story matters



# Manake implores women to utilise programmes

By Bonang Masolotatse

GABORONE - Micro entrepreneurs have been encouraged to knock on doors in search of opportunities.

Addressing micro entrepreneurs at a workshop organised by Turning Point on Wednesday, Assistant Minister of Trade and Industry, Ms Beauty Manake said women were the backbone of the micro-enterprise sector and she

implored them to knock on doors of both government and private sector institutions in search of opportunities.

She noted that there were various economic enhancing programmes in the public and private sector and that some were under-utilised due to lack of information by intended beneficiaries.

Ms Manake also urged public officers to sell economic development programmes to the

public.

She said the uptake of some programmes was low because of lack of information. She gave the example of the cooperative societies funding under CEDA, saying it was not utilised.

Ms Manake, therefore, encouraged women entrepreneurs to form cooperative societies and take advantage of the fund.

"No one will take money for cooperatives if you do not take it," the assistant minister said.

She also advised women entrepreneurs to work together to improve their livelihoods and businesses.

The assistant minister said government was unable to employ all job seekers, but that it had created an enabling environment for businesses to thrive.

For her part, former health minister, Professor Sheila Tlou said women's contribution to society was immense.

However, she said issues such as taking care of HIV/AIDS patients and access to funding as well as gender-based violence were some of the challenges facing women in business.

She added that there was need to review all existing laws against gender-based violence to make them more stringent and deterrent.

Prof. Tlou also said there was

a need to come up with policies and programmes to support and equip women in business with the necessary skills.

Deputy permanent secretary in the Ministry of Entrepreneurship, Ms Hellen Chillisa said there were various programmes which women could take advantage of.

She also noted that information to the targeted market was often lacking, adding that there was a need to empower women to take advantage of the programmes and policies.

The workshop organiser, Ms Boitumelo Bolele told the attendees that business growth was not dependent on access to funding alone, but that it needed commitment, dedication and capacity building.

She said the workshop provided an opportunity for the attendees to network and collaborate in future. **BOPA**



Professor Tlou (left) and Ms Manake at the Micro Entrepreneurs workshop organised by Turning Point in Gaborone on Wednesday. Ms Manake encouraged women entrepreneurs to form cooperative societies and take advantage of the cooperative funding offered by CEDA. Photo: Felicity Male

## Countries discuss Biological Weapons Convention implementation

By Moshe Galeragwe

GABORONE - Botswana's strong leadership on the universalisation and implementation of the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), both at a regional and global level has increasingly contributed to the impact of the Convention.

Dr Sylvain Fanielle, Project Coordinator and Legal Officer with the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) said the move has also reinforced the regional security architecture and the country's preparedness to face events of a biological nature.

He was speaking at the Regional Workshop on Universalisation and Effective Implementation of the Biological Weapons Convention in Southern Africa in Gaborone on Tuesday.

He said UNODA was implementing a project specifically designed to support countries from Africa to strengthen their national implementation of the Convention.

He reiterated that UNODA was fully committed to providing the

region with any assistance that it might need to implement the Convention.

He noted that the workshop represented a unique opportunity for member states from the SADC region to learn about the BWC, share experiences, identify challenges and draw lessons learned.

"I am convinced that this event is the inception of a strong and sustainable dynamic to strengthen BWC implementation in Southern Africa and beyond," he said.

He said the COVID-19 pandemic had demonstrated a collective vulnerability in the face of diseases that rapidly cross borders, causing major human, social and economic damage.

"While bringing biosafety and biosecurity to the forefront, the pandemic also painfully foreshadowed what could happen if a disease was deliberately engineered and released," said Dr Fanielle.

He said the Biological Weapons Convention was a fundamental pillar of the international security architecture and more relevant than ever to the non-proliferation

and disarmament regime.

He said the convention constituted a legally binding instrument prohibiting an entire category of weapons of mass destruction.

"Since its entry into force in 1975, the Convention continues to show its relevance and strength as the legally binding instruments effectively prohibiting biological weapons," said Dr Fanielle.

He added that the Convention was going beyond non-proliferation, disarmament and security by promoting science and technology and facilitating capacity-building, assistance and cooperation among states parties.

This he said, contributed to strengthening capacities for early warning, risk reduction and management of health risks, thereby supporting steady progress towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

The workshop attended by delegates from the SADC region is conducted by UNODA in cooperation with Botswana government through the Ministry of Defence and Security. **BOPA**

## Stigma, discrimination removal key to achieving HIV free generation

By Lesedi Thatayamodimo

GABORONE - Removing barriers such as stigma and discrimination remains crucial in achieving an HIV/AIDS free generation by 2030, says the Deputy National Coordinator-Communications, Mr Batlhalefi Leagajang.

Speaking during NAPHA capacitation of Botswana Police Service senior management on HIV, human rights, key populations and law enforcement in Gaborone on Tuesday, Mr Leagajang said human rights barriers such as gender-based violence and harmful gender norms made it difficult to achieve HIV free generation.

He said although Botswana had made commendable progress on integrating human rights and gender into AIDS response programmes and related laws, the recent Botswana AIDS Impact Survey results indicated that several groups such as adolescents and young women, men who have sex with men and female sex workers were still facing a heavy burden of new HIV infections.

He further said people living with HIV and Key Populations often faced multiple overlapping stigmas related to other stigmatised health conditions such as TB and their identity because of the economic background, gender, occupation and or sexuality.

He said a recent study Botswana conducted called the Stigma Index 2.0 showed that people living with HIV experienced a lot more internalised stigma than external stigma often influenced by the unfriendly environment in which they lived.

He further said it was known from research that experiences of discrimination may include physical abuse, denial of health

services, denial or loss of jobs, denial of housing, and arrest or police harassment where specific Key Populations behaviours were criminalised.

Mr Leagajang said stigma and discrimination prevented people from accessing HIV services and also reduced adherence to their ARV medication, often leading to poor physical and mental health.

He further said evidence showed that GBV rates had escalated, including intimate partner violence, sexual violence and abuse of women children and attacks on LGBTQ and sex workers.

"The relationships study of 2013 reported that 70 per cent of the women had experienced GBV at least once in their lifetime, and the prevalence rate was 24 times higher than the number of cases reported to the police over the last year the study was conducted," he said.

He, therefore, said it was important to promote non-discriminatory, safe and enabling environments for people living with HIV, adding that the sensitization of law enforcement officers on the rights of populations, would help in getting Botswana through the last miles of the HIV and AIDS response.

Mr Leagajang explained that the Removing Barriers programme was an initiative driven by NAHPA, supported by the Global Fund, UNAIDS and several other UN Agencies.

The programme employs a community-centred multi-sectoral approach to ensure that communities affected by HIV and TB were not left behind in accessing the much needed health and HIV services to help achieve the national goal of ending AIDS as an epidemic by 2030. **BOPA**

# 'Creatives inclusion in HRDC fair commendable'

By **Thamani Shabani**

FRANCISTOWN - Minister of Education and Skills Development, Dr Douglas Letsholathebe has commended the Human Resource Development Council (HRDC) board and management team for recognising the value of indigenous skills.

Giving a keynote address at this year's three-day HRDC career fair in Francistown yesterday, Dr Letsholathebe said it was commendable that HRDC included the creatives industries through indigenous skills by providing complimentary stalls at the fair.

The minister said HRDC was also planning to do the same in Gaborone to showcase and share indigenous skills with young people in July.

"This shows that the HRDC is fully focused on its mandate because you embrace skills development in all its manifestations," he said.

Dr Letsholathebe, who is also Tati East MP, informed the over 1 000 learners participating at the fair that the Ministry of Communications, Knowledge and Technology had pledged P200 000 worth of Internet access through the Botswana Fibre Network (BOFiNET) to ensure that fair attendees had Wi-Fi access.

"This is done because Internet is essential in this era to facilitate communication and integration and will also assist in the smooth running of the BHRDS," he said.

He added that last year, the education ministry partnered with communications ministry to deliver a successful Makeathon, a two-day challenge event that connected young innovators with different backgrounds to develop Artificial Intelligence solutions for real-life business cases.

"This was a collaborative effort through the Botswana Institute of Technology, Research and Innovation, Botswana Digital and Innovation Hub and the Department of Research Science and Technology, together with UB, BIUST and the Botswana Chamber of Mines, among others," he said.

The initiative, coordinated by HRDC and Botswana, he said showed the rest of the world not only Makeathon's innovative and creative prowess but government's efforts to reach new technological frontiers such as robotics and artificial

intelligence.

"Through such initiatives, HRDC is part of the critical building blocks of transforming Botswana into a knowledge-based economy," he said.

He also informed learners that the education ministry continued to bring ICT to the fore as an enabler and platform for mindset change.

Such a move, he said, was important because it addressed complex and dynamic landscape defined by economic shifts, technological breakthroughs and global uncertainties.

"To this end, my ministry has prioritised the use of ICT in the delivery of education and training and the SmartBots initiative, is a testament to this undertaking. This initiative is also being rolled out at brigades so that Technical and Vocational Education and Training purposefully stands out as an alternative pathway in the ministry's multiple pathways agenda," he said.

He explained that in order to achieve that, everybody needed to recognise that it was collective responsibility to instill a mindset of possibilities, resilience as well as lifelong learning in the hearts and minds of the learners and children.

He said mindset change was all about making a deliberate shift in thinking patterns and that in education, it meant changing views of learning opportunities including looking positively at TVET as an alternative pathway.

"Furthermore, mindset change

in education entails fostering creativity, nurturing critical thinking, and instilling a love for lifelong learning.

I will further submit that mindset change means looking beyond the skills and jobs you

have always known, as well as the recognition that indigenous skills and other artisanal skills are equally valuable," he said.

In his welcome remarks, Francistown mayor, Mr Godisang Radisigo said year's

fair theme; Mindset Change for New Opportunities in Career and Skills Development, encapsulated the essence of a collective mission.

The career fair which started on Wednesday ends today. **BOPA**



*Institute of Development Management, assistant director Mr Christopher Moiketsi (right) briefing Dr Letsholathebe (right) during a tour of stalls at the Francistown HRDC fair on Wednesday. With him is director of education, northern region, Mr Labane Mokgosi (centre). Dr Letsholathebe commended HRDC board and management team for recognising the value of indigenous skills by showcasing them in the career fair. Photo: Thamani Shabani*

## Play part in country transformation - Molao

By **Portia Rapitsenyane**

MAHALAPYE - Ministry of Agriculture leadership have been implored to play a part in the country's transformation and ensure that Vision 2036 aspiration of a high income economy is achieved.

Addressing the ministry leadership retreat in Mahalapye on Tuesday, Minister of Agriculture, Mr Fidelis Molao said the senior officials should consider themselves important in moving the economy of the country forward.

"It is through agriculture that wealth will be generated, it is through agriculture that jobs will be generated, it is through agriculture that sustainable livelihoods will be attained," he said.

He challenged them to come

up with real and practical action items that were implementable and could be tracked throughout the year.

Minister Molao said the ministry was in the process of rebooting and resetting, emphasising that the latter should not just be theoretical but the ministry leadership should now be at a stage where they were asking themselves and finding quick answers on what they had reset.

Mr Molao emphasised responding to enquiries timeously.

He said 2023/24 had been an eventful year, noting 'we saw the arrival of cattle from Texas, we had the launch of the long awaited Temo Letlotlo programme, a team of officers recently returned from Australia from buying more cattle breeds, reduction in

Artificial Insemination training fees from P6 120 to P500 which is a welcome development'.

Mr Molao pleaded with the ministry leadership to think outside the box, be more proactive and to work as a team.

He said they should consider gender issues when developing policies, projects and programmes.

Ministry permanent secretary, Ms Nancy Chengeta said agriculture was a dynamic field, constantly evolving with technological advancements and changing global trends and also faced with challenges as climate change.

She implored them to keep abreast with the latest developments, in order for the ministry to remain at the forefront of innovation and best practices.

"We cannot achieve any of the

above if we don't plan properly and adhere to our plans, similarly not monitoring and evaluating our performance thereof," she said.

She said the retreat would provide a dedicated space to engage in strategic planning and vision setting for the ministry, noting that they aimed to assess the current state of the agricultural sector, identify emerging challenges and opportunities, and chart a course for the future.

"By developing a clear and compelling vision, we can align our efforts and resources towards common objectives. It goes without saying that, building strong interpersonal relationships among team members is crucial for the success of any organisation," said Ms Chengeta.

**BOPA**

**DailyNews**

**Editors**

Ms Mottalepula Mokgadi  
Tel: 365 3568 Tel: 365 3538  
Email: mottalatsipping@gov.bw

Ms Caroline Thebe  
Tel: 365 3537  
Email: cthebe@gov.bw

**For Adverts Call: 365 3555 / 3587 / 3591 / 3592 / 3593 / 3599**

**Head of Marketing**  
Ms Kelebogile Jaba  
Tel: 365 3604  
Email: kjaba@gov.bw

**Head of Photography**  
Mr Yobe Shonga  
Email: yshonga@gov.bw

**Published by:** Department of Information Services.

Plot 37795 Wellie Seboni Drive.  
Private Bag BR 139 Gaborone.

**Printed by:** Government Printing and Publishing Services

**Online Edition:** <https://dailynews.gov.bw> email: [bopa@gov.bw](mailto:bopa@gov.bw) email: [dailynews@gov.bw](mailto:dailynews@gov.bw)

**Circulation 20 000 per day except Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays.**

**CALL 365 3592 • 365 3591 FOR ADVERTISEMENTS**



# 'Quality education vital for knowledge-based economy'

By Jeremiah Sejabosigo

GABORONE - Government has been asked to improve the quality of education if it wants to achieve target of turning Botswana into a knowledge-based economy.

Member of Parliament (MP) for Maun West, Mr Dumelang Saleshando made the advice on Tuesday when debating the 2024/25 financial year budget proposal for the Ministry of Communications, Knowledge and Technology.

Mr Saleshando said education output in this country was a source of concern. He said the current education levels were not good.

"According to my understanding of things, knowledge-based economy requires you to have a very good quality education. Without good quality education, and we cannot talk about knowledge-based economy.

The recent examination results clearly indicate that our education is not performing well," he said.

Therefore, Mr Saleshando said low education performance had the potential to scupper efforts of developing the country into a knowledge-based economy, asking government to focus on improving the quality of education.

The MP further called for improvements to the technology infrastructure in order to improve efficiency of service delivery, especially in government offices.

He also said improvement of internet connectivity was required for Botswana to successfully turn into a knowledge-based economy.

"The internet connectivity for me is a problem," he said.

Mr Saleshando wanted to know the total amount of money, as percentage of the GDP, used for research in this country.

However, Shoshong MP Mr Aubrey Lesaso, differed with Mr Saleshando about the quality of education. Mr Lesaso stated that the quality of education was good in this country.

"There is good quality education in this country.

University of Botswana is the sixth best university in Africa.

This shows the progress of education in Botswana.

We have the education which can take this country forward," he said.

Mr Lesaso however shared the sentiments that there was need for improvement of ICT infrastructure in this country.

He commended the ministry for increasing funds for research and promising to support local innovation.

He called for the ministry to profile local innovators and help them find markets for their products.

In his debate of the budget, Gaborone North MP, Mr Mpho Balopi wanted to know when the ministry would start licensing of community radio stations.

Mr Balopi said community radio stations played an important role of transmitting information and different cultural practices.

He also asked about progress in addressing the constant crushing of the Government Accounting and Budgeting System (GABS).

He said the constant breakdowns of the systems affected the economy.

Boteti East MP Mr Sethomo Lelatisitswe commended the ministry for committing to improve ICT infrastructure around the country, pointing out that mobile networks and radio connectivity outside major centres needed to be improved.

In response to MPs, Communications, Knowledge and Technology minister Mr Thulagano Segokgo maintained that the education system was of sufficient level.

Mr Segokgo also said the level of ICT in this country was generally good.

He said government services could be accessed by online in many places around the country.

He said the breakdowns of GABS system was caused by a hardware problem.

He said the problem was being addressed and was expected to be over soon.

Mr Segokgo said expenditure on research from government was currently at 0.54 per cent of the GDP. "We have however indicated that we want to increase our expenditure on research to being one percent of the GDP.

Our budget proposal shows that intention," he said.

The budget proposal amounting to over P2.7 billion (P2 705 766 587) was passed by Parliament on Wednesday.

The budget proposal included P977 321 140 estimates for the recurrent budget and P1 728 445 447 estimates for the development budget. **BOPA.**



Mr Saleshando said improvement of internet connectivity was required for Botswana to successfully turn into a knowledge-based economy.

# More funds for ICT infrastructure - Segokgo

By Jeremiah Sejabosigo

GABORONE - Government has set aside substantial funds towards expansion and consolidation of ICT infrastructure and online services in the 2024/25 financial year.

Speaking in Parliament on Tuesday, Communications, Knowledge and Technology minister Mr Thulagano Segokgo described Information Communication Technology (ICT) infrastructure and online services as major economic enablers across different sectors of the economy.

Mr Segokgo was presenting the 2024/25 financial year budget proposals for his ministry, amounting to P2 705 766 587. The budget proposal included P977 321 140 estimates for the recurrent budget and P1 728 445 447 estimates for the development budget.

The minister therefore pointed that the ICT programme would take the second largest share of P736 601 447 or 42.62 percent of the ministry's overall development budget. He said major projects to be financed under the programme included the National ICT Backbone,

Online Services project, Government Data Network Expansion, Government of Botswana Enterprise Architecture (GBEA) and Local Access Network, as well as the International Connectivity project.

Mr Segokgo said the ministry would implement seven new optical fibre links in the 2024/25 financial year, to improve connectivity across the country.

He said those links were the Sherwood-Zanzibar-Platjaan, Two Rivers-Khawa-Hukuntsi-Charles Hill, Metlojane-Jwaneng, Maitengwe-Mapoka-Ramokgwebana, Maitengwe-Manxotai-Nata, Gudigwa-Khwai and Nata-Gweta-Motopi.

He further said the links would be implemented to provide protection on the national ring and services to villages along those routes.

"All these projects managed by

BoFiNet, are strictly implemented through engagement of citizen companies, thus creating wealth and employment for Batswana," he said.

Mr Segokgo added that the ministry would upgrade some segments of the existing national backbone infrastructure network which has aged.

"Through the project, 45 major villages with a population of 2000 or more across all districts of the country would be provided with reliable, high speed internet through this project. This network upgrade will ensure customer experience is enhanced during busy times," he said.

The minister told Parliament that his ministry had adopted a three-pronged approach at the National Backbone Layer, Local Access Layer and the International Layer.

He said successful implementation of projects covering the layers would go a long way in achieving universal service and coverage as well as improving Botswana's connectivity to the rest of the world.

Mr Segokgo further said the ministry deployed optical fibre to essential facilities such as schools, police stations, business districts, hospitals in Mahalapye, Molepolole, Tlokweng, Kanye and Orapa during this financial year.

He said the projects were at more than 95 percent completion and scheduled to complete before the end of this financial year. He further said the Sebina-Nshakashokwe-Tutume optical fibre link was complete whereas the Takatokwane-Morwamosu was anticipated to be completed this month.

"The Oodi-Machaneng link will be completed in October, 2024," he said.

Mr Segokgo said mobile coverage in Botswana was now 100 per cent of all gazetted settlements, while mobile subscriptions were at over 200 per cent of population.

He said the current population coverage of mobile broadband

internet of 4G stood was 92 per cent. "To enhance this commendable achievement, the remaining settlements will be provided with mobile broadband services (4G) in the financial year 2024/25.

In major settlements, 50 new sites providing 5G mobile broadband services will be installed through the Universal Access and Services Fund," he said.

The minister further said his ministry was actively engaged in migrating critical services to the new Digital Delta Data Centre.

He said the Digital Delta Data Centre was an internationally accredited facility owned by BoFiNet. He said the migration would address the perennial 'system down' problem the public was frequently experiencing.

He also said a robust Sovereign Cloud infrastructure to be called GovCloud would be implemented.

Furthermore, he said implementation of the National Cybersecurity Strategy was continuing.

He said that was crucial to protect Batswana, businesses and the government when transacting online. Mr Segokgo further said the ministry would review existing ICT policies, legal and regulatory instruments and also develop new policies and laws, to align with current and anticipated global trends.

He said that would include the review of the Electronic Transaction and Communication Act of 2014 to cover Online Services, development of the new Frequency Spectrum Policy, and the drafting of cybersecurity law.

Furthermore, he said there would be a feasibility study on the introduction of national roaming.

"If implemented, national roaming should lead to reduced pressure on mobile internet tariffs.

The self-service SIM Card Registration System, which was recently completed, will be launched in April 2024," he said.

**BOPA**

# Ministry to up leads on growing economy

By Mmoniemang Motsamai

GABORONE - Ministry of Foreign Affairs will continue working more pertaining to following up on increasing leads to grow the economy, seeking opportunities for Botswana, and positioning Botswana as a respected and influential player in global affairs.

This was said Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr Lemogang Kwapo when presenting the ministry's budget proposals for 2024/25 in Parliament on Wednesday.

To this end, Dr Kwapo said the ministry would be guided in the undertaking by the three strategic objectives within its purview such as improving global engagements, increasing Foreign Direct Investment and increasing the Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibitions.

Also, he said the ministry continued to invest in efforts to strengthen cultural, social, political, and economic ties with

Botswana diaspora.

Dr Kwapo said the ministry was currently developing a comprehensive Diaspora Engagement Policy in order to strengthen dialogue and opportunities for Botswana in the diaspora, through collaboration, partnership and community-development.

Furthermore, he said the ministry, with the support of International Organisation for Migration, undertook a Diaspora Mapping Exercise to generate the much-needed data on the number of Botswana living abroad.

The exercise, he said, aimed to provide a database of Botswana's occupational knowledge, skills, aspirations and experiences living outside Botswana.

"The global Botswana diaspora is a source of strength to our growth and prosperity, and I wish to encourage them to participate in this exercise and engage in the country's development agenda. This must become a great international

effort, and it will demand a new spirit of collaboration between the government of Botswana and the Botswana Diaspora," he said.

Dr Kwapo also affirmed that the ministry remained resolute in telling the success stories of Botswana and popularising her foreign policy objectives to ensure that the country's image and reputation remained of high ranking.

He said during the financial year under review, the ministry was instrumental in promoting Botswana's image abroad as a respected and influential player on the bilateral, regional and global platforms.

In this respect, he said, emphasis was on Botswana's positive image and reputation as a country that was committed to democratic values, rule of law, respect for human rights, multilateralism and sustainable development that left no one behind.

Crucially, the minister said, some outreach activities were achieved to market Botswana as a key destination of choice for tourism, international meetings, foreign direct investment, as well as a place of opportunities, peace and prosperity.

Of particular note, he said, during the year under review, the ministry promoted the first Europe Botswana Business Forum (EBBF), which was hosted on the margins of the Global Expo Botswana in October 2023, an initiative that aimed at promoting investment and creating partnerships between the business communities.

"The ministry also facilitated the Facets 2023 Conference initiated by the Botswana Embassy in Brussels and the Antwerp World Diamond Centre (AWDC) in 2022."

The conference, Dr Kwapo said, presented a platform for dialogue

between governments, miners, midstream traders and retailers in the diamond industry to play a pivotal role in fostering sustainable economic growth and prosperity.

He said Botswana's participation at the high level international meetings was used to tell Botswana's story of using diamonds for development.

To this end, he said, Botswana had realised a significant milestone as she hosts the Kimberley Process Secretariat and continued to hold some of the key leadership roles in various global structures such as, the country's continued role of Chair of Landlocked and Least Developing countries among others.

Dr Kwapo also apprised Parliament that in the previous budget, the ministry managed to carry out ongoing construction and refurbishment of the ministry properties in Botswana and across

the various missions abroad at an initial cost of over P215.5 million with an additional funding provided to facilitate purchase of Chancery building in Japan.

"Permission to purchase the property has since been granted by the Japanese government and procurement will be closed before the end of this financial year," he said. Parliament also learnt that the Addis Ababa, Ethiopia project was complete and handed over and it was under defects liability period.

Dr Kwapo said procurement of furniture and equipment for the building, including ICT equipment was in progress.

For the financial year 2024/2025, he proposed the sum of P855.5 million. Out of this total amount, P767.87 million is for recurrent expenditure, while P87.6 million is for development expenditure. **BOPA**

## Serame updates Parliament on GABS

GABORONE - The performance of the Government Accounting and Budgeting System (GABS) has been sub-optimal since August 11, 2023 and that has negatively affected the execution of financial transactions, especially payment to suppliers, Minister of Finance, Ms Peggy Serame has told Parliament.

She pointed out some measures taken to ensure continuity of government business as weekly monitoring of the status of outstanding invoices in order to minimise any possible adverse effects on suppliers and the business community in general.

Ms Serame said for the past five years, the ministry engaged only one 100 per cent citizen owned company, SIL Botswana (Pty) Ltd to provide support and maintain the system.

The current contract, she said commenced in June 2023 and would run until May 2025 adding that as per the contract, the company provided six on-site consultants (personnel) who would be stationed at the office of the Accountant General (GABS Support Office) and the Directorate of Public Service Management.

With the current system, the house learnt that it was not possible to conduct an age analysis of pending payments mainly because some processes for payments such as submission of invoices were done outside the system.

Ms Serame revealed that it was planned that the discrepancy of unenabled age analysis of payments would be addressed during the upgrade of the system, which was planned to commence in April and be completed by March 2025.

She said as at March 7, 14 727 supplier invoices valued at over P1 344 580 270.42 billion were recorded as outstanding at ministries and departments.

The records also showed that from April 1, 2023 to March 7, the ministry had cumulatively processed and paid over P1 million suppliers at an amount of over P82 billion.

Ms Serame further noted that GABS had performed relatively

well since its implementation in 2004 citing that the system had been rolled out and was currently being used in all government ministries and departments throughout the country and all Botswana Foreign Missions abroad.

Despite the assumptions that GABS was regularly down, she assured the house that the system as a solution, was a solid system and was not solely the cause of the current challenges.

The main challenge, she said had been the infrastructure on which GABS was running on adding that her ministry in collaboration with the Ministry of Communications, Knowledge and Technology had been doing everything possible to optimise the system.

To this end, she said two servers (Oracle Super cluster SPARC M7-8) had been acquired and configured to host GABS, therefore it was expected that the system would be operating at full capacity from the new environment at the end of April.

Prior to August 11, 2023 when GABS performed at optimal level, Ms Serame noted that it was generally performing at 94 per cent uptime between January 1, 2022 and July 31, 2023 as it was down for a cumulative of 33 days as indicated in the records.

The performance and reliability of any automated system, she said depended on several factors such as its configuration, the network (bandwidth) it ran on, the environment on which it was hosted and the hardware used to provide the service.

She said it was important to verify the real cause before attributing a problem to the system since it may likely come up with an inappropriate remedy.

Ms Serame was answering a question from Member of Parliament for Serowe North, Mr Baratiwa Mathoothe who had asked her to inform the house why the system was regularly down.

He wanted to know the company responsible for GABS and the total number of pending payments for the last six months. **BOPA**



Dr Kwapo said the ministry had facilitated the Facets 2023 Conference initiated by the Botswana Embassy in Brussels and the Antwerp World Diamond Centre in 2022.

## Parliament approves P855.5m foreign affairs ministry budget

By Mmoniemang Motsamai

GABORONE - Parliament has approved Ministry of Foreign Affairs' budget for financial year 2024/2025 totalling P855.5 million as presented by Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr Lemogang Kwapo on Wednesday.

Out of this total amount, P767.8 million is for recurrent expenditure, while P87.6 million is for development expenditure

Dr Kwapo said under the requested development budget of P87.6 million, the purchase of chancery building in Japan would cost P6 million and that the funds were requested to conclude the purchase process, and also include refurbishment of the currently rented property.

He said the construction of chancery building and diplomatic apartments in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia had been budgeted for P3.6 million and renovation and refurbishment of the ministry office building, which included building of new extension joining Block-A and Block-B building would cost of P13.9 million.

Dr Kwapo said renovation of properties in Washington DC had been budgeted at P4.4 million,

renovation of residential properties in Windhoek, Namibia budgeted P1.3 million as well as renovation of the Chancery building at Brussels, Belgium at a cost of P10.6 million while the purchase of official residence of high commission in Kenya would cost P30 million.

Other development projects include renovations at New York chancery, renovation of state guest house II at a cost of P4 million each. Dr Kwapo said the ministry's recurrent budget for the financial year 2024/25 would cover its personal emoluments at a cost of P356.8 million, which represented 46.47 per cent of the budget.

"The ministry's personal emoluments budget goes to payment of basic salaries, foreign service and medical allowances, and remuneration for locally recruited staff in the respective diplomatic missions abroad," he said. He said part of the recurrent budget would also be used to finance operational expenses at a cost of P371.2 million of which the bulk of it would be used towards payment of property rentals and rates for chanceries, residences at diplomatic missions, travel and transportation costs, maintenance and running expenses, including

promotional activities.

Dr Kwapo said the ministry would further require diplomatic missions to intensify trade, investment and tourism promotion activities in order to attract Foreign Direct Investment and contribute to the economic diversification agenda. When responding to MPs debates, Dr Kwapo said Botswana would continue to cultivate a strong international visibility that had earned the country's stripes to grow its relations with other countries.

To this end, he said Botswana's presence at some international meetings had led to increased contacts and would lead to the growth of the economy.

Responding to the criticisms raised by some MPs about assisting with vehicles during funeral of the late Namibia President Dr Hage Geingob, he said Botswana was a friend to all and where possible, the country would continue to assist other countries in need.

When answering a question regarding how he capacitated citizens living along borders of neighbouring countries, Dr Kwapo also said the ministry would strive to take its services to the people. **BOPA**



# Masisi to open cold storage facility

By Keith Ketji

SHERWOOD - President Dr Mokgweetsi Masisi is scheduled to officially open a state-of-the-art vegetable storage facility, with an investment value of P70 million today.

Located at Jan-Pierre Roos' Seleka Ranch in Sherwood in the Central District, the cutting-edge vegetable storage facility is poised to boost agricultural efficiency and profitability.

The facility offers secure cold storage solutions for horticultural produce and citrus fruits, promising enhanced efficiency and profitability for farmers.

It is also poised to transform farming operations to ensure optimal profits while at the same time minimising risks.

The official opening of the storage facility by President Masisi will be held under the theme, Preserving Prosperity: Empowering Farmers, Ensuring Food Security for Botswana.

In an interview, owner of the facility and a renowned farmer, Mr Roos, emphasised the importance of having a cutting-edge storage facility on the farm.

He said the facility's role in extending the shelf life of produce, thereby preventing losses and decay in vegetable produce.

Mr Roos said construction of the facility commenced mid-last year and was completed the same year.

"The facility, equipped with highly sophisticated computer systems, also serves to deter pests, rodents, and potential theft," he said.

Mr Roos highlighted the perishable nature of vegetables and the need to preserve their freshness post-harvest.

Through precise control of temperatures, humidity, ventilation besides other variables, the cold storage facility maintains the quality of vegetables for an extended period of six to nine months.

Mr Roos is the proprietor of two farm blocks, Kijane Ranch and Seleka Farm, both located in Sherwood and operating under the popular brand name, JP Roos Vegetables.

The farms specialise in the production of premium-quality vegetables, catering for a variety



Mr Roos said the facility was not only equipped with highly sophisticated computer systems but also served to deter pests, rodents and potential theft thereby preventing losses and decay in vegetable produce. Photo: Ogooplong Kgomoethata

of customers in the market.

The storage facility, he noted, contributes to price stabilisation by carrying over produce from periods of high production to periods of low production.

He said the cold storage was the most effective space for

bulk handling perishable goods, especially fruits and vegetables, between production and marketing.

"Most fruits and vegetables have a very limited shelf life after harvest especially at normal harvesting temperatures and

therefore postharvest cooling rapidly removes field heat from vegetables," he noted.

He further indicated that efficient storage technologies efficiently preserved the quality and freshness of the stored vegetables.

He underlined the importance of post-harvest cooling in swiftly extracting field heat from freshly harvested crops before shipment or processing, noting its critical role in preserving the quality of perishable commodities.

He reiterated that the quality of produce upon entry into storage remained consistent upon retrieval.

Mr Roos highlighted the facility's specialised partitions which had been designed to aid farmers in storing surplus produce to prevent losses. He emphasised the importance of continuous monitoring through a 24-hour computer system for optimal preservation.

He explained that the storage facility comprised two large units for onions and another eight for potatoes, each uniquely designed to regulate air differently for optimal preservation.

He emphasised the need for separate storage for onions and potatoes given their distinct requirements and that they could not be stored together in the same unit or room.

Regarding the storage facility's capacity, Mr Roos stated that it required 80 to 100 hectares to reach full capacity.

He noted that other farmers interested in using the infrastructure would be permitted access for a fee, with pricing still under consideration as they worked out the best modalities. **BOPA**

# Company aims to benefit from initiative

By Esther Mmolai

MAUN - The property valuation exercise that Gaborone City Council is conducting will enhance its revenue generation efforts through property tax collection for all rateable properties in the city.

Speaking in an interview on Monday, Gaborone City Council senior estate manager, Mr Nyathie Mafoko said the data collection currently being undertaken would be followed by valuation of properties for purposes of determining the rates to be paid by property owners.

He said they were looking to value over 84 000 plots as per statistics from the last national housing and population census.

Mr Mafoko said while council would be valuing all plots, there would be exceptions on property tax payments as no rates would be levied on churches, schools, civic and community plots and government facilities such as public libraries.

He explained that the city council has sectioned the city into three zones and had engaged three citizen-owned companies for the exercise which he said started in December and would run for six months.

Mr Mafoko appealed to Gaborone residents and property

owners to cooperate with those conducting the data collection, saying representatives of the three companies had registered incidents of resistance from people, with some prohibiting them from entering their properties for security reasons.

He said another challenge was that some landlords did not reside in Gaborone and their properties were occupied by tenants whose assistance to data collectors was limited.

Mr Mafoko explained that gaps identified in the data collected at the end of the exercise would be filled with assistance and collaboration with the Deeds Registry office.

On the positives, he said, people had started paying their rates and service levy in good numbers since the city council embarked on the exercise.

A resident of Extension 25 in Broadhurst, Mr Tsaone Mathame, said with valuation technicians assessing properties on the outside only, it was likely that the exercise would fail to deliver the correct value of properties.

He complained that basing the valuation of a residential property on the living room, the kitchen and the built structure was insufficient in terms of determining its correct value. **BOPA**



Some of the products manufactured by Zekethubojwa Company in Shakawe. The company has recently expanded its operations by commissioning a facility for manufacturing of cleaning products. Photo: Esther Mmolai

# Wilderness Safari promotes spirit of innovation

By Esther Mmolai

MAUN - Okavango Wilderness Safari (OWS) has been applauded for promoting entrepreneurship and innovation among Batswana through the inaugural Wilderness Local Expo 2024

The expo was appreciated for being a transformative initiative that would be an inspiration to many as it would create and nurture entrepreneurship in Ngamiland.

Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Entrepreneurship, Mr Kabelo Ebineng, said this at the Expo on Wednesday.

The expo brought together producers and suppliers in areas of clothing, art and craft, beverages, cleaning chemicals, fresh produce and upholstery.

Mr Ebineng said this resonated well with his ministry's mandate of value chain development. The ministry was also a product of the Reset Agenda and their primary occupation was to help build businesses and an entrepreneurial ecosystem that would enable businesses to emerge, grow and export.

He said he was pleased to witness the locally made products being exhibited saying that symbolised the dedication and creativity displayed by local suppliers who serve as the backbone of the economy and the driving force behind the community's prosperity.

"In today's rapidly changing world, entrepreneurship has become more than just a career choice, it is a way of life and it is about daring to dream, taking risks and turning those dreams into reality through hard work and determination," he added.

Mr Ebineng said his ministry recognized the vital role that local producers and suppliers played in driving economic growth and fostering community resilience.

By supporting the businesses, he said, they would not only stimulate economic activity but contribute to the preservation of the cultural heritage and the sustainability of the environment.

He acknowledged that individuals and companies participated at the expo underscored the vibrancy and diversity of the local business ecosystem citing that one of the defining characteristics of entrepreneurship was the ability to adapt and thrive in any environment.

However, he urged participants to be part of the export led Botswana economy, adding that they should take up the value chain opportunities that were presented at the expo.

"Leave here with a business idea, work on it and you can even go ahead and build cooperatives to increase production using technology to improve efficiency and productivity," he said.

OWS Managing Director, Mr Joe Matome, said the expo was aligned to the national call of action - mind-set change.

He said his company was committed to empower and support local businesses by procuring products hence they decided to bring them under one roof to have a taste of what they could offer them.

At OWS, they had a huge market as they operated many camps in the Okavango Delta hence they wanted to invest more in sourcing goods and services locally to empower businesses.

paid more than P1.3 billion in sourcing goods and services locally and appealed to businesses which did not show up to come forth and forge connections with the company.

"Through this expo we are looking at ways to partner with local suppliers and other stakeholders in an effort towards promoting value chain development in the tourism industry," he added.

OWS board chairman, Mr Kabelo Binns, concurred that through the event, they were adjusting to the government mind-set change initiative.

The company was ready and open for business as they intended

to empower and support local businesses by procuring products.

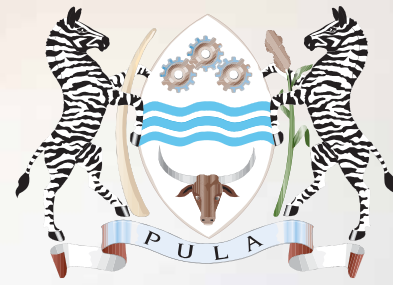
The event, he said, was a long term commitment to inspire a movement towards more citizen participation in the procurement side of the industry.

"We at Wilderness are certainly committed and ambitious to make a meaningful impact. The opportunities are phenomenal, and it is upon us all to help shape them into being. We intend to host the expo annually and we believe that it will grow bigger and better," he added.

Mr Binns said they had already been working to enhance their local procurement. **BOPA**



Mr Ebineng (second left) said the ministry recognised the vital role that local producers and suppliers played in driving economic growth and fostering community resilience. Photo: Esther Mmolai



REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA

**WITH A CHANGED MINDSET, WE CAN MOVE MOUNTAINS.**

Our mindset shapes our journey. With the Selebi Phikwe Citrus Project we embrace change, resilience, and the power of possibility. Together, let's redefine what's possible!

#SelebiPhikweCitrusProject#FirstHarvest

The Selebi Phikwe Citrus First Harvest Ceremony will be officiated by **His Excellency Dr. E.K. Masisi** on the **21<sup>st</sup> March 2024** at 6am. Watch live on Btv.



#AkolaBotswana#PushaBW  
www.gobotswana.com



# SPAR

# DIANTSHA

## KA WEEKEND

**BUY ALL FOR 322<sup>95</sup>**  
 WITH Rewards CARD  
 Save P34  
 As good as the best for less

Long Grain Parboiled Rice 10 kg +  
 All Gold Tomato Sauce 700 ml +  
 Crosse & Blackwell Mayonnaise 750 g +  
 SPAR Sunflower Oil 2 litre +  
 SPAR Super Maize Meal 12.5 kg +  
 Farm Foods or SaveMor Macaroni 3 kg

Tastic Parboiled Rice Assorted 2 kg

**27<sup>95</sup>** each  
 WITH Rewards CARD  
 Save P2

White Star Super Maize Meal 5kg

**41<sup>95</sup>** each  
 WITH Rewards CARD  
 Save P3

**WHITE STAR**  
 SUPER MAIZE MEAL  
 THE CLEVER CHOICE  
 MOVE TO THE TASTE

5 kg

SPAR REFINED WHITE SUGAR

SPAR White or Brown Sugar 5 kg

**58<sup>95</sup>** each  
 WITH Rewards CARD  
 Save P3  
 As good as the best for less

SPAR Sunflower Oil 2 litre

**41<sup>95</sup>** each  
 WITH Rewards CARD  
 Save P3  
 As good as the best for less

Claver Bliss Double Cream Yoghurt Assorted 500 g

**17<sup>95</sup>** each  
 WITH Rewards CARD  
 Save P1

Pro-Wash Hand Washing Powder Assorted 2 kg

**29<sup>95</sup>** each  
 WITH Rewards CARD  
 Save P3

SPAR Toilet Tissue 2 Ply 9s

**48<sup>95</sup>** per pack  
 WITH Rewards CARD  
 Save P1  
 As good as the best for less

**tops!** BIG SAVINGS

Samuel Gelstons Whiskey & Apple Spritz Soda 6 x 275 ml

**109<sup>95</sup>** each

**369<sup>95</sup>** each

Tullamore Dew Irish Whiskey 750 ml



Sadler's Peaky Blinder Irish Whiskey 750 ml

**282<sup>95</sup>** each



Specials only available at TOPS at SPAR stores from 14 March 2024 up to and including 16 March 2024.

Not For Persons Under The Age Of 18.

Gift someone with our new **Gift Card**

My SPAR My BOTSWANA

My SPAR My BOTSWANA



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

SPAR Rewards deals: Maximum 10 per customer. While stocks last.

My SPAR My BOTSWANA

Specials only available at SPAR and SUPERSPAR stores from 14 March 2024 up to and including 17 March 2024, while stocks last. We reserve the right to limit quantities. Prices include VAT, E&OE.

# Weekend Freshtival

## Fresh Selection

Pictures used for advertising purposes only

 <p>SPAR Country Value Mushrooms 220 g</p> <p><b>19<sup>95</sup></b> per punnet</p> <p>As good as the best for less</p>	 <p>Carrots 1 kg</p> <p><b>12<sup>95</sup></b> per pack</p>	 <p>Sweet Plums 750 g</p> <p><b>16<sup>95</sup></b> per pack</p>
 <p>SPAR Freshline Green Pears 1.5 kg</p> <p><b>17<sup>95</sup></b> per pack</p> <p>As good as the best for less</p>	 <p>Banana's Pre-Pack 700 g</p> <p><b>12<sup>95</sup></b> per pack</p>	 <p>Green Pepper 4's</p> <p><b>12<sup>95</sup></b> per pack</p>

## Bakers Selection

Pictures used for advertising purposes only

 <p>Cream Cakes Assorted</p> <p><b>44<sup>75</sup></b> each</p>	 <p>Sweet Buns 6's</p> <p><b>15<sup>95</sup></b> per pack</p>
--	--

## Fresh Made Easy

Pictures used for advertising purposes only

 <p>Pizza Slices Assorted PLUS Pepsi Soft Drink 330 ml</p> <p><b>BUY BOTH FOR 15<sup>00</sup></b> per combo</p>	 <p>Battered Hake &amp; Chips</p> <p><b>BUY BOTH FOR 29<sup>95</sup></b> per combo</p>	 <p>x1 Assorted Wrap PLUS Pepsi Carbonated Soft Drink 330 ml</p> <p><b>BUY BOTH FOR 28<sup>95</sup></b> per combo</p>
--	--	--

## Butchers Best

Pictures used for advertising purposes only

 <p>Whole Fresh Chicken (Buy 3 kg or more and save 5%)</p> <p><b>49<sup>95</sup></b> per kg</p>	 <p>Beef Mince 500 g PLUS SPAR Macaroni or Spaghetti 500 g</p> <p><b>BUY BOTH FOR 46<sup>95</sup></b> per combo</p>	 <p>Beef Burger Patties 400 g PLUS x4 Bread Rolls</p> <p><b>BUY BOTH FOR 34<sup>95</sup></b> per combo</p>
--	---	---



# DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION SERVICES



**Department of Information Services under the Ministry for State President, offers the following services:**

Advertising, Kutlwano sales, Sale of President's portraits, DailyNews & Kutlwano advertising Payments & enquiries, DailyNews distribution, Sales of Digital Photographs, Media coverage, CD, Album and Book reviews, General interviews.

1. Marketing: DailyNews Print and Online advertising, Kutlwano sales & advertising, Sale of President's portraits, DailyNews & Kutlwano advertising Payments & enquiries, DailyNews distribution - **3653555/3653587/3653591/3653592/3653593/3653599/3653620**
2. Digital photographs - Orelebe Monnaapula: **3653611**
3. DailyNews Editorial content queries & enquiries - Thebeyame Ramoroka: **3653505**, Motlalepula Mokgadi: **3653568**, Caroline Thebe: **3653538**
4. Kutlwano Editorial content queries & enquiries - Sereki Mpitse - **3653595**: Kesentse Ketumile - **3653664**
5. Media Coverage and Related interview enquiries - Kamogelo Matlala: **3653525**
6. Supplies, company profiles, tender enquiries - **3653625/3653627/3653628**
7. Human Resources enquiries - **3653636/3653637**
8. Public Relations - Kelemogile Ntshole : **3653530**

For all other Services Kindly Call Switchboard to get Assistance on **3653500/3653536**



# 2024 TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS NATIONAL ROADSHOW

TOP TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS COMING TO A PLACE NEAR YOU



PLACE	DATE
Maun	8 <sup>th</sup> -10 April
Shakawe	12 <sup>th</sup> - 13 <sup>th</sup> April
Kasane	12 <sup>th</sup> April
Gantsi	15 <sup>th</sup> April
Nata	15 <sup>th</sup> April
Tutume	16 <sup>th</sup> April
Kang	17 <sup>th</sup> April
Masunga	17 <sup>th</sup> April
Francistown	18 <sup>th</sup> -20 April
Tsabong	19 <sup>th</sup> April
Jwaneng	22 <sup>nd</sup> April
Letlhakane	22 <sup>nd</sup> – 23 <sup>rd</sup> April
Kanye	23- 24 <sup>th</sup> April
Serowe	24 <sup>th</sup> – 25 <sup>th</sup> April
Lobatse	25 <sup>th</sup> April
Molepolole	26 <sup>th</sup> -27 <sup>th</sup> April
Bobonong	27 <sup>th</sup> April
Mahalapye	29 <sup>th</sup> -30 <sup>th</sup> April
Selibe Phikwe	29 <sup>th</sup> – 30 <sup>th</sup> April
Palapye	2 <sup>nd</sup> - 3 <sup>rd</sup> May

*“Promoting a seamless partnership in Tertiary education”*



# ClassifiedAds

## BUSINESS SERVICES

**CARPORTS, ALL DESIGNS**  
73 343 501.

**WINNING BUSINESS PLANS,**  
Tender Preparation. 74 402 828

**LETSHEGO LOANS FINANCIAL**  
Agent. Loans for Government employees, parastatals. Call/ App 71 674 909

## FARM WORKERS

**FARM WORKER WANTED** in Nshakazhogwe. Contact Mr Matebu 71 266 317 / 72 270 655.

**TWO MALE FARM WORKERS** wanted at Letsopa Farm in Bobonong. One should have STD 7 certificate and two years experience in Farm work. The other should have 2 years experience in Gardening.

**FARM WORKER WANTED** at Tutale contact Situ Sebako Box 145 Tshesebe cell 75 671 248

**KE BATLA MODISA** ko morakeng wa makadibeng. Leletsa 72 465 279

**HEADBOY WORKER WANTED** in Kumaga. Boteti District. Call Phillimon Gaokongwe. 71 281 570

**FARM WORKER WANTED.** apply to tiny phuu. P.O Box 119 palapye

**FARM WORKER WANTED** at Tamasane. Contact: Box 10042 Palapye 71 230 909

**FARM LABOURER WANTED** in Dikabeya. Call 72 586 458.

**FARM WORKERS WANTED** by Voltron Group (Pty) Ltd. Call: 71 668 758.

**FARM WORKER WANTED** by Organic Acres (Pty) Ltd. Call 71 668 758

**MALE AND FEMALE Farm Workers** needed at Mmapoo lands near Bobonong. P O BOX 946 Selibe Phikwe. Call 77 946 894

**FARM WORKERS WANTED** by Thato Pinkie Chalira. 77 955 828

**FARM WORKERS WANTED,** Apply to M. Martha Tangane, P O Box 1932 Mahalapye farm situated at Ngwanatsele

**KE BATLA MODISA** wa mme (herdgirl) go disa dikgomo kwa Dikwididi. Contact: 71 316 198 (T.Maruping) P.O.Box 10195 Gaborone

**FARM WORKER WANTED :** MOKOLODI farm. Apply : Ms B. Phage, Box 358, Mogoditshane.

**HERD BOY ADVERT** position available for herdboy in Kubukwane. The incumbent will be responsible for general farm work-patrolling fences, erecting and maintenance of kraal and looking after animals (goats, sheep, cattle) Send your application to: P O Box AD63ACJ, Gaborone 72 777 506 Closing date: 5<sup>th</sup> April 2024

**FARM WORKER WANTED** by Mrs L. Tlhomelang at Moriane. Apply to : P O Box 2438 Gaborone. Closing date : 28/03/2024

**FARM WORKERS WANTED** by Molebatsi Call: 71 668 758

**EMERALD GROUP OF COMPANIES** is looking for farm workers. Apply to P O Box 4257 Gaborone

## NEIGHBOUR CONSULTATION

**MOGOGI RATSHONKA** of Plot No: 8173 at Palapye Extension 9 wishes to change land-use from residential to Multi-residential. Any objections should be forwarded to Palapye Administrative Authority, Physical Planning.

**OWNER OF PLOT 3846** Nshakazhogwe ward Masunga, would like to inform neighbours of an intention to change land use from residential to multi-residential. For any objections, please contact North East District Council Physical Planning Office on telephone no: 248 9444 within fourteen days of this publication

**RAWAT MANUFACTURING PTY LTD,** owner of intergrade farm at Polokabatho lands in Maun proposed change of land use from integrated farm to mixed use (integrated farm and industrial). Any enquiries contact Maun Physical Planning Department or Clients Private Physical Planner on 72 505 759

### NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

Master's Reference: ESHGB-000078/23

**IN THE ESTATE** of the late **Mothusi Glendon Mompoti and Itseng Prisca Mompoti** who died at Lesoko Farm, Palapye, Palapye District, Botswana on the 4<sup>th</sup> December, 2012 and Bokamoso Private Hospital, Mmopane, Kweneng District, Botswana on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of March 2022 respectively.

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

**DATED at ...on this..... day of..... 2024.**

Executrix

Tshegofatso O. A. Mompoti

P O Box 642 **MOGODITSHANE CELL: 76611180/75230568**

### Application for a certified copy of Lost Tittle Deed

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned intends to apply for a certified copy of deed No. TL1591/2014 dated 30<sup>th</sup> October 2014, made in favour of **KELESITSE MMAETSHO CHOKWE** in respect of

**Certain** : piece of land being Tribal Lot 5787 Mochudi  
**Situated** : at Mochudi in the BAKGATLA TRIBAL TIRITORY  
**Measuring** : 1542m<sup>2</sup> (One Thousand Five Hundred and Forty Two Square Metres)  
**HELD UNDER** : Deed No. TL1591/2014 dated the 30 day of October, 2014 made in favour of **KELESITSE MMAETSHO CHOKWE**

All persons having objection to the issue of such copy are hereby required to lodge the same, in writing, with the registrar of deeds, private Bag 0020, Gaborone **within (3) weeks** of publication of this notice hereof.

**Dated at Gaborone this 5<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2024**

**KELESITSE MMAETSHO CHOKWE**

### APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFIED COPY OF LOST DEED

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the undersigned intends to apply for a certified copy of Deed No. TG409/2015 dated 19th day of November 2015, made in favor of Patricia Ratang Yane in respect of Tribal Grant 1237 -KP.

**CERTAIN:** Grant No. 1237-KP

**SITUATE:** Diphiring, Bakgatla Tribal Territory,

**MEASURING:** 3.2307Ha (Three Point Two Three Zero Seven Hectares)

All objections to the issuance of such copy are hereby required to lodge same, in writing, with the Registrar of Deeds, Gaborone, within three (3) weeks from the date of publication of this notice.

**Dingake LAW PARTNERS,** Motheo Court, 26 Bray Street, Peolwane Block 7, Plot 60592, Gaborone, P O Box BR 53770 Gaborone. Telephone No. 3190938

### SITUATION VACANT: FARM WORKERS WANTED AT MAOTO MABEDI FARM

**How to Apply:**

Applicants with more than 2 years' experience should send their applications with a detailed CV and certified copies of their academic qualifications to:

**The Office Manager, Maoto Mabedi Farm (Pty) Ltd, P.O. Box 403200, Gaborone, Tel: 3181285.** Applications to be sent via email are to be sent to; **reception@estateconstruction.co.bw.** on Or before the 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2024



## A O BATLA GO DIRA MADI?

Reka **Kutlwano** ka tlhwathwa ee kwa tlase go e rekisa.

**Go itse go feta fa, leletsa:**

**365 3592 | 365 3587**  
**365 3591 | 365 3593**  
**365 3599 | 241 3403**

### Integrated Mechanical Services is seeking a highly experienced and skilled Electrical, Controls and Automation Site Manager 10+ Experience in the below:

- Electrical design, installation.
- HVAC controls design.
- Building management systems (BMS).
- Proficient in HVAC controls design, electrical design, panel design, and wiring.
- Design BMS systems according to specifications, including network design and topology.
- Proficient Distech PLCs and EC-GfxProgram software.
- Automated HVAC plant operations for optimal performance.
- Develop graphical HMI for HVAC BMS graphics for system visualization.
- Proficient in Niagara/Tridium platform, and software Management
- Tendering, claims, and procurement processes for multiple projects.
- Oversee multiple projects simultaneously, ensuring timely completion and quality.
- Troubleshoot and resolving faults
- Worked with Chillers (Trane, Carrier, York)
- Proficient in network design for BACnet, MODbus,
- Integrating Power-meters, Water-meter, Freezers and other Third-party systems
- Proficient in BACnet and Modbus network protocols
- Collaborate closely with clients, making decisions, solving problems, and providing innovative solutions.

- Propose electrical, controls and network designs and solutions for both new installations and upgrades to existing systems.
- Work independently, manage teams effectively, and maintain open communication with clients.
- Strong troubleshooting skills and ability to resolve faults in electrical, automated HVAC controls, Chillers and VRF networks.
- Excellent project management abilities, including multitasking and decision-making.
- Exceptional communication skills and ability to collaborate effectively with clients and team members.
- Familiarity with industry software such as Distech PLCs Gfx software, Niagara/Tridium platform.
- Strong problem-solving skills and ability to think critically in challenging situations.
- Programming of Distech controllers.

#### Requirements:

- Advanced diploma in controls and electrical engineering.
- Extensive experience (10+ years) in electrical design, installation, and HVAC systems.
- Proficiency in BMS design, PLC selection, and HVAC controls.
- Certified Niagara & Distech control system integrator

**To apply, please send your resume and cover letter to P.O Box 445 Gaborone, with the subject line "Electrical & Controls Site Manager Application. We look forward to hearing from you!**

ACCESS



FROM ONLINE PLATFORMS

<https://dailynews.gov.bw>  
& facebook: DailyNews.BW



Call us for more info  
365 3500

Visit our website  
<https://dailynews.gov.bw>



**NEIGHBOUR CONSULTATION**

**A-ONE CONCRETE** Products (Pty) Ltd of Lot No:205 at Letlhakane, Phase 2 wishes to change land-use from Commercial to Industry. Any objections should be forwarded to Letlhakane Administrative Authority, Physical Planning.

**PLOT 8713 LOCATED** at Tsabong (Borakanelo ward) would like to change from residential to multi residential plot. For enquiries contact Kgotsane 71379844 or Tsabong Council.

**SPRINGFORTH PTY LTD**, Owner of plot 63727 Block8 notifies other developers at this communal mall that they intend to pave and fence shared parking. All developers concerned may contact estate office at GCC or call 72 607 815 for clarity.

**CHANGE OF LANDUSE.** I Dineo Chorua of plot 6496 Marumo ward Thamaga, would like to change landuse from commercial to residential use. Any objections please contact Mogoditshane - Thamaga Sub District Council at 3105615 or James at 71708051 within fourteen (14) days of this publication.

**OWNER OF PLOT 132** Selokwana, Tlokweng wishes to regularize a boundary wall. For any objections contact Tlokweng District Council on Telephone : 392 8355 within fourteen (14) days of this publication.

**I OWNER OF PLOT 82209** Gaborone North, propose to develop a boundary wall. For any objection contact Gaborone physical planning Department 365 7500 within 14 days of this advert.

**OWNER OF PLOT 11958** Phase Four Selibe Phikwe, intends to change land use from single to multi-family residential. For queries, contact physical planning unit 261 0570

**PROPERTIES**

**PLOT FOR SALE** in Phase II 450 SM<sup>2</sup> 2 1/2 walled. Electric fence- No brokers or agents. Direct sale. 71 202 002.

**VACANCIES**

**DIESEL PLANT FITTER** required with Certificate in Hydraulics and Pneumatics Course and Motor mechanic with class 1 diesel plant fitting experience on engine, gearbox, overhauls maintenance plus 5 years experience. Apply: Clemsar Transmissions t/a cleaboat investments Plot 1093 Tlokweng industrial email: clemsartransmissions@gmail.com

**3 PRE SCHOOL** teachers. Certificate in ECE, permission to teach a must. Springdales English Medium School. Box M297 Kanye. Location: Tsantsabane Ntlhanthe

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

ESHFT - 000245 - 22

**FIRST AND FINAL LIQUIDATION AND DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT**

**IN THE ESTATE** of the late **HANNAH DAMAN - ESHFT -000245 - 22** - who died at Serorome Ward, Plot No. 21866, Palapye, Palapye District on the 19th March, 2018.

**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 12TH DAY OF MARCH 2024.**

Executor Dative: Barongwa Mmagase Daman  
P O Box 103, Palapye.

**AND TO:** Master Of the high court  
Private Bag F13.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 Acts (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
MOREETSI MOLELEKENG	ESHFT-000284-23	12-06-24	1100HRS

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS ..... DAY OF MARCH 2024

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
1. KELEBILE KESEKILE	ESHFT-000109-24	13-05-2024	1130 HRS

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 12TH DAY OF MARCH 2022

MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT



**AUTO BOOST**  
**ELECTRICAL DIAGNOSTIC TECHNICIAN**  
**&**  
**WORKSHOP MANAGER REQUIRED**

**REQUIREMENTS:**

- Degree in Electrical Engineering
- Know how to wire aftermarket ECUs
- 5 year Experience
- Vehicle Tuning Knowledge
- Able to work in a fast paced workshop
- Tech savvy

Please email all CVs to [auto.boost.bots@gmail.com](mailto:auto.boost.bots@gmail.com)  
Plot 14417, Eland House, G-West Industrial, Gaborone, Botswana  
Deadline 31st March 2024

**FIRST AND FINAL LIQUIDATION AND DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT**

Master's Ref: ESHGB-0000298/22

**IN THE ESTATE** of the late **MMANTSEBE C. GAOLEKWE** who died at Athlone Hospital, Lobatse, Botswana on the 13<sup>th</sup> January 2015.

**THE FIRST AND 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.

Dated at.....on the.....day of.....2024

The Executor  
**Martin Tina Pheko**  
P.O Box 231 AES, Gaborone, Cell: 72133559

**FIRST AND FINAL LIQUIDATION AND DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT**

Master's Ref: ESHGB -000006/19

**IN THE ESTATE** of the Late **MAANOGA KWEREPE & GAEROLWE MESHO KWEREPE** who both died on the **09<sup>th</sup> June 2007**, Maun Hospital, Maun, Ngamiland District, Botswana and **16<sup>th</sup> February 2018** at Letsholathebe II Memorial Hospital, Maun, Ngamiland District, Botswana respectively.

**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.

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

DATED at \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2024.

The Executor | **Raymond Moemedi Kwerepe**  
P O Box 710 Gaborone | Tel: 75 298 759 / 76 112 094



**ANKIT GEMS BOTSWANA PTY LTD**

Buy from us, Be Assured

www.ankitgems.com

**DIAMOND COMPANY HIRING**

Suitable candidates with experience in the diamond industry are invited to join a diamond cutting and polishing factory, seeking driven, creative and results oriented individuals to fill in the below positions.

- POSITION** : **DIAMOND POLISHERS** with 3 years' experience
- POSITION** : **DIAMOND CHECKER AND TRAINER** with 5 years' experience

**COMPETENCIES**

- Excellent interpersonal skills
- Teamwork
- Cooperation and Compliance with instructors
- Results oriented
- Hard working
- Trustworthy

Interested candidates are advised to send their curriculum vitae with an application letter and traceable references to the below address before **16<sup>th</sup> March 2024** to [hr.ankitbotswana@gmail.com](mailto:hr.ankitbotswana@gmail.com)

**Plot 54374**, Unit 3, Block B, **Grand Union Buildings**,  
Central Business District Gaborone, Botswana  
**P.O. Box 2205 Aad**, Gaborone, Botswana | **Tel. +267 391 0216 / 391 021**



Eastern Gate Primary is a Christian school that is guided by the Adventist Philosophy of Education and our mission is to develop learners holistically. We are currently looking for suitable candidates for the following positions:

**Class Teachers**

- Minimum qualification of a degree in Education with basic specialization in Primary school teacher training.
- Minimum Primary School teaching experience of 3 years in an English Medium school.
- Should have a sound Christian background
- Should be able to offer Extra Curricular Activities
- Should have strong Christian background.

All Applications should be submitted before 29/3/24.

**Send your CVs to:**

[easterngateprimary@ega.adventist.africa](mailto:easterngateprimary@ega.adventist.africa)

Call: **+267 75122149** for more details.

**ADS 463 0447 • 241 3403 • 625 0353**



**Grab a Copy at the following Information Services Offices**

Bobonong 2619292 / Francistown 2413403 / Hukuntsi 6510262  
/ Kasane 6250353 / Letlhakane 2978237 / Letlhakeng 5943156  
/ Palapye 4920348 / Selibe-Phikwe 2610480 / Serowe 4630447



## NACB, NACSA resuscitate agreement

By Ketshepile More

GABORONE - The National Arts Council of Botswana (NACB) is renewing bilateral agreements in order to effectively implement them and strengthen the creative industry.

In February, the NACB and National Arts Council of South Africa (NACSA) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to enhance the cultural sector in both countries.

In an interview, Obenne Mbaakanyi, the NACB Director of Creative and Cultural Sector Development, emphasised the importance of implementing these bilateral frameworks.

Mbaakanyi mentioned that besides South Africa, Zambia and Namibia were also countries of interest for potential partnerships. However, due to the existence of bilateral frameworks with South Africa, NACSA was contacted for exploring various collaboration opportunities.

The MoU with NACSA includes several objectives, such as research collaboration, given South Africa's strength in the area. The aim is to exchange research papers to enrich cultural knowledge.

Notably, Botswana and South Africa share a common language and heritage, and the MoU aims to deepen ties and embrace the diversity between the two countries. Mbaakanyi highlighted the significance of celebrating these diversities and fostering mutual inspiration.

Mbaakanyi said with South Africa's more substantial budget, the MoU presented opportunities for Botswana to benefit from collaborative projects. For instance, she said, the agreement allowed for skills support exchanges and artistic residencies, leveraging South Africa's experience and established art festivals to attract international attention.

Further, she said, the partnership between the NACB and NACSA through the MoU signifies a step towards enhancing cultural exchange, collaboration, and growth within the creative sectors of both countries. The cultural tourism is also another aspect, and Mbaakanyi said with South Africa being strong in the region in that sector, they were looking into partnerships and collaborations, which they need in order for them to benefit Botswana.

"When we talk about tourism demographics, a lot of people come to South Africa and naturally they come to Botswana. So they should be able to pick out what is unique in Botswana and South Africa," she explained. She added that they were partnering in such spaces and create opportunities to celebrate diversities and yet partner in critical areas such as art spaces. She also said this



Mbaakanyi

would be an inspiration to Botswana artistes to understand different perspective as to how South Africa do their art.

Furthermore, Mbaakanyi said they were also looking into recognising art from grassroots levels at schools.

"Having an understanding of these will also assist us in making things better, as well as engaging with a position paper to our Ministry of Education and Skills Development by signing an MoU to further enhance art in our education system, nurturing it from primary level to secondary. And also ensure that the ecosystem of art is developed in a way that it will be sustainable for the artists," Mbaakanyi said adding that it was critical to work on a solid foundation for commercialisation for the community to be able to engage and interact at that level.

Batswana artistes have long complained about not having to stage or be booked for music festivals in South Africa, whilst South Africa's acts immensely enjoy that in Botswana.

Mbaakanyi said another aspect, which the NACB were looking into for Batswana to be able to have festivals and host in South Africa as well.

Therefore, she said they needed to find a way to bring the two together 'especially in the promotion of music.

Additionally, Mbaakanyi said whilst in South Africa for the signing ceremony, they appreciated the dynamics the NACSA goes through, which she said inspired them especially with regards to grants.

"South Africa is already in the digital space and we are still talking Fourth

Industrial Revolution (4IR).

And when we look at the National Transformation Strategy of Botswana towards 2036, we are looking at making the creative sector become a big economic engine and see it run by the private sector with support from government," she said.

Mbaakanyi said they also met with the Tshwane Choral Group, who are part of the legacy programme of NACSA and appreciated how they work as a choir.

She said the choir was interested in meeting with the choral association in Botswana and see how they could partner with a choir in Botswana.

Issues of capacity building were also discussed for the two countries. Botswana is rich in the cultural component compared to South Africa especially speaking of Tswana culture.

And Botswana has also developed in authenticity without any outside influence.

Therefore, Mbaakanyi said Botswana also could inspire South Africa and help them get in touch with their roots and resuscitate their culture and values to have a standpoint of building pride and monetising culture. Moreover, Mbaakanyi said the film industry was

one aspect which they strive to develop with collaborations, partnerships and promotions.

South Africa's film production is huge, they are already on big live stream channels like Netflix and also have their own channels.

Mbaakanyi said they were looking

*'the MoU aims to deepen ties and embrace the diversity between the two countries'*

into Botswana film industry needs to and establish where they could partner with Botswana its stories exposure.

She said Botswana's untold stories need to be shared and unpacked. "There is so much greatness in our stories

that we have not shared.

It is about unpacking them and creating a wholesale of stories, art and culture that our people can take advantage of and monetise, also backing it up with research," she said. She said these are the various dialogues they had with the South Africans on issues of knowledge sharing where the two could have workshops and share the knowledge, challenges. **BOPA**

# Hogs, UB Rhinos clash in epic final

By **Thato Mosinyi**

GABORONE - Rugby's two heavyweights, Gaborone Hogs and UB Rhinos will go toe to toe during a pre-season knockout tournament final on Saturday.

The stage has been set for a colossal battle between two of rugby's greatest rivals and Wharic Park is set to transform into a battlefield as two old forces fight beyond their historic best with the hope of claiming rugby supremacy with bragging rights also at stake.

Both Hogs and Rhinos have a longstanding rivalry, seen as the most intense in rugby and has often produced classic clashes of physical power up against panache and flair.

Hence the finals are poised to be a battle of scintillating attack against ruthless defence with each side capable of both.

The UB Rhinos are synonymous with playing entertaining and free-flowing rugby, while the Hogs only care about one thing, which is winning.

UB Rhinos are well aware of their underdog status going into the final and are bracing themselves for an epic game against the Hogs who will be hoping to continue their supremacy.

As defending champions, Hogs are banking on their forwards delivering success again, gambling that their squad depth will come off the bench to see them home.

By their lofty standards, Hogs have offered dominate performances leading to he finals with a 39-15 win against BIUST in the quarterfinals followed by another hard fought victory against the BDF Cheetahs in the semi-finals.

With the semi-final victories now a thing of the past, Hogs will start the Saturday game as hot favourites following an unbeaten streak and the patronage of the home fans fully behind them.

Nonetheless, Rhinos would be looking forward to cause a major upset and redeem themselves following their last years' 24-12 defeat in the semi-finals to the same opponents.

Rhinos are cognisant of the prospect to face a star-studded Hogs team boosting international players in the likes of Kitso Matija, Brandon Vanzyl, Roberto Phobe and Koketso Galetshetse, among others.

Meanwhile, the Botswana Rugby Union (BRU) development manager, Zee Khumalo indicated that the union was committed to delivering a seamless final in preparation of the coming season.

"This is still pre-season where teams are still trying out combinations, but as the organisers, all is in place heading to the knockout finals and we are hoping to deliver a great spectacle to all rugby fans," Khumalo said.

Khumalo indicated that he was hopeful for the league to start in a fortnight. **BOPA**



The Hogs (in blue) will go toe to toe with UB Rhinos during a pre-season knockout tournament at Wharic Park on Saturday.

## Lack of funds shatter Dinaletsana World Youth Cup dream

By **Moshe Galeragwe**

GABORONE - Owing to financial constraints, the Botswana Netball Association (BONA) U-21 national team (Dinaletsana) has failed to partake in the 2025 Netball World Youth Cup Africa region qualifiers.

The qualifiers will be held in Pretoria, South Africa from March 17 to 23. The Netball World Youth Cup will be held in

Gibraltar on September 19-28, 2025.

Speaking to BOPA, BONA president Malebo Raditladi-Nkgakile said despite selecting a formidable provisional team of 20 players from which the finals squad of 15 players was to be selected, their plan was frustrated by lack of funds.

She said camping expenses and expenditure associated with taking the team to the qualifiers

was estimated to cost over P500 000.

Raditladi-Nkgakile said BONA was primarily dependent on the annual funding of P250 000 from the Botswana National Sports Commission (BNSC), but unfortunately the qualifiers were slotted at the end of the financial year at a time when their coffers were drained.

Following the suspension of sporting events due to the

COVID-19 pandemic in the past equally affecting the Netball World Youth Cup, which was scheduled to take place in Suva, Fiji, (December 2-11, 2021), the team was hopeful of making a comeback appearance on the regional and international arena only to be hampered by lack of funds.

Raditladi-Nkgakile said last year, BONA hosted a successful Africa Netball Cup, which was a challenge as the country was given the rights to host the event on the 11<sup>th</sup> hour, which exhausted their coffers and denting their chances of securing funds within a limited time for the U-21 team.

"Usually, the Africa region qualifiers are held during winter between the months of June and July. Unfortunately this year they have been moved to March, making it difficult for us as we are yet to receive funding for the new financial year from the BNSC," she said.

After selection of the provisional squad on February 17, the team was expected to have its maiden training camp on the weekend of February 24-25, in Gaborone.

The team was to assemble on March 4 for fitness tests and assessments before going into the final camp, which was to run from March 5-13, only for the plan to be aborted due to lack of funds. **BOPA**

## Flag hoisting significant

By **Anastacia Sibanda**

ACCRA - The blue, black and white flag is amongst the 54 hoisted at the African Games village at the University of Ghana to signify Botswana's participation at the 54<sup>th</sup> games held in Accra, Ghana.

Botswana made its maiden appearance at the African Games in 1991 in Cairo, Egypt and the country has continued to leave a mark and increase its medal haul at the games.

Team Botswana chef de mission, Shadrack Kapeko said the hoisting of participating countries flags signified respect and unity amongst participating countries.

He said raising the Botswana

flag by the organisers was to acknowledge the country's presence at the games.

He said their participation in the games reminded them of the country's legends who previously participated at the games.

He added that he was proud that the number of codes, athletes and number of medals won were gradually increasing.

Botswana won its first bronze medal at the Cairo Games in 1991 in boxing. In 1995, the country also won one bronze medal in Harare, Zimbabwe and they improved their performance in 1999 in Johannesburg, South Africa, where they won three silver and two bronze medals.

In 2003 in Abuja, Nigeria, the country won four gold, one silver

and six medals before improving their performance even further in Algiers, Algeria in 2007 where they registered six gold, two silver and five bronze medals.

In Maputo, Mozambique, in 2011 local athletes amassed 16 medals comprising of two gold, five silver and nine bronze medals.

Fifteen medals were won in Brazzaville, Congo, in 2015 consisting of three gold, three silver and nine bronze medals.

The last games were held in Rabat, Morocco in 2019 and Botswana won five gold medals, three silver and six bronze.

In total, the country has won 76 medals from the African Games comprising of 20 gold, 17 silver and 39 bronze medals. **BOPA**

CALL 365 3587 • 365 3593 FOR ADVERTISEMENTS

## Boxers ready to defend titles

By Anastacia Sibanda

ACCRA - As boxers take to the ring from today at the ongoing 2024 African Games edition, all eyes will be on the 2019 African Games' champions, Keamogetse Kenosi and Rajab Mahommed to see if they will defend their titles. In 2019 in Morocco, Kenosi defeated Marine Camara from Mali 5-0 in the 57kg featherweight, while Otukile also won 5-0 against Kenyan Hassan Shaffi Bakari in the 52kg flyweight.

The 2024 edition is a different game and the two boxers are aware that they will be targeted by all boxers, who happen to be in the boxing ring with them. Equally, they are not resting on their laurels, and Kenosi said her aim was to defend her title.

She said she was aware of her opponents; one of them was Marcelat Sakobi, to whom she lost 4-1 during the Olympic qualifiers in the women's 57kg quarterfinals "Before that I had defeated her twice and she should not make a mistake of taking that 4-1 results to the games, because she would be in trouble.

Look, during the Olympic qualifiers I was not fit, but this time all I can say is 'bring it on,'" she said.

Mahommed, on the other hand, said he had been working very hard at training.

He said he was aware that all the boxers he was bound to come up against would have a single aim, to defeat him.

"They studied my strategy before, hence I have not been doing very well, but let these Games begin.

They are going to sweat and I can assure you that I am going to defend my championship," he said. The team's captain George Molwantwa said 'it's all systems go' for Team Botswana, adding that they had prepared

very well during their two-week training camp in Zambia.

"I think we have been preparing very well. We have been in camp since January, so the time is now to execute what we have been doing for the past

few months," he said.

"My mission is to finish in the finals, and looking at our preparations, I am confident of a medal," he said.

The team coach Thebe Setlalekgosi said the squad was

a mixture of experience and new blood, with some making their debut in the Games.

He said Mmoloki Sekwaibe and Phekie Bele were youngsters who had aggression and determination to succeed; hence

he wanted to give them exposure to prepare them for future competitions. Botswana will be represented by Mahommed, Molwantwa, Kobamelo Molatlhegi, Mmoloki Sekwaibe, Kenosi and Phekie Bele. **BOPA**



Mohammed



Kenosi



**LOOKING TO ADVANCE YOUR CAREER?**  
Seize Your Success! ENROLL in our ACCREDITED Certificate and Short Courses - Where Excellence Meets Accreditation for a Future That Shines!



**CERTIFICATE COURSES WE OFFER:**

- Certificate V in Law
- Certificate V in Logistics & Transport Management
- Certificate V in Hospitality Management
- Certificate V in Early Childhood Education
- Certificate V in Project Management
- Certificate V in Business Management
- Certificate V in Marketing
- Certificate V in Tourism
- Certificate V in Health & Safety
- Certificate V in Entrepreneurship
- Certificate V in Human Resources Management
- Certificate V in Business Accounting
- Certificate V in Public Administration
- Certificate III in Information Technology
- Certificate V in Secretarial Studies
- Certificate V in Fashion Design

**SHORT COURSES WE OFFER:**

- Occupational Health & Safety
- Cutting and Tailoring
- Barbering
- Hair Perming
- Blow drying & Blow Waving
- Hair Locking
- Microsoft Suite
- Social Media Marketing
- Stress Management
- Basic Motor Vehicle Maintenance Service
- Basic Auto Body Spray Painting
- Basic Automotive Electronics
- Intro to electronic Ignition & Fuel Injection System
- Basic Welding Fundamentals
- Dress Making-Free Hand
- Dress Making- Overlocking & Embroidery
- Facial Skin Care Treatment
- Make Up Application
- Body Massage
- Sculpture Nails
- Data Science- An Introduction
- Cyber Security
- Financial Accounting
- Training of Trainers

✓ Day & Evening classes available

✓ Weekend classes available

**GABORONE MAIN MALL CAMPUS**  
PLOT 689, EXTENSION 2  
CALL: +267 3163075 / +267 74316425

**FRANCISTOWN CAMPUS**  
CALL: +267 2412068 / +267 7121950  
PLOT 26929 ,GERALD ESTATE.

**MAUN CAMPUS:**  
CALL: +267 6800870 / +267 72583167 / +267 76917913  
NATLEE CENTRE, AIRPORT.

 @gipsbotswana  
[www.gips.ac.bw](http://www.gips.ac.bw)