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UK imposes visa on Botswana



GABORONE - Botswana nationals will require an entry visa to visit the United Kingdom (UK) with effect from October 14.

According to the press statement from the Ministry for International Relations, the announcement comes in response to the ongoing illegal and irregular migration of Batswana to the UK, including the significant number of asylum applications from Batswana since 2022.

Therefore, the UK government has revoked the ‘visa free status’ and introduced a visitor visa requirement for Batswana planning to visit the UK.

Furthermore, Batswana transiting through the UK, will also require a direct airside transit visa, which similarly comes into effect October 14.

The statement reveals that a six-week transition period that concludes on November 25, will be put in place to facilitate Batswana who hold an Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA) and have already booked their travel to the UK prior to the introduction of the visa requirement.

Nonetheless, the government of Botswana wishes to assure the public that through diplomatic channels, it will continue to engage the UK government on the matter to explore durable solutions mutually beneficial for both countries and their citizens.

The statement urges Batswana travelling to the UK or visiting other countries to continue to adhere to immigration laws and regulations of those countries.

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Graduates during the Aircraft Mechanics Course graduation ceremony at Thebephatshwa Air Base on Friday. The event celebrated 46 aircraft mechanics from Botswana and across SADC countries. Photo: Keetile Bontsibokae

Over 500 ex-mine workers qualify for provident fund

By Booster Mogapi

MOLEPOLOLE - Some 560 Batswana ex-miners who have worked in the South Africa mines are eligible to get a share from the R74 million in the Mine Workers Provident Fund (MWPF). The fund in collaboration with the Ministry of Labour and Home Affairs has disbursed officers who were currently engaging with the community across the country to identity eligible beneficiaries of the funds. The claims only applies to ex-miners who worked in the Coal, Platinum and Gold mines from 1989 to date and were members of the fund. On Saturday and Monday, ex-mine workers and their beneficiaries gathered at Molepolole College of Education (MCE) and Molepolole Sports Complex respectively to confirm their claims with the fund. Speaking in an interview on Monday, the Principal Executive Officer of the fund, Mr France Phagadi said they were expecting to assist 560 beneficiaries in Botswana.

Mr Phagadi said team had so far identified beneficiaries in Good Hope, Kanye and Molepolole where hundreds of people gathered to enquire about the fund. Mr Phagadi said it was unfortunate that many were not in their data base, since they have worked for different mines, which were not part of the fund. Mr Phagadi said the Provident Fund came into effect in 1989 covering specific, hence some were not in the data base either having worked before the fund was launched or for a mine that was not under the fund. He said the team was working hard for all the members of the fund or their beneficiaries to receive their dues. “Our data base show that we have about 180 people to assist in Molepolole but more than 2000 people showed up, and we cannot turn them away, we must assist all of them to put their cases to rest,” he said. Mr Phagadi said the fund to come to Botswana to assist its members after noting that it would be costly and tedious for them to travel to South Africa and the

risks associated with processing a monetary claim. He added they were happy that the Fund members were still alive saying they would invest their money. However, Mr Phagadi said it was sad that some of their members had died. But, he said the beneficiaries would be receive the money. He said all the eligible members of the fund would start to receive their benefits in the coming two weeks. He said the Fund has dispatched two teams of officials who were currently travelling the country, identifying fund members, adding that the process would conclude in Gaborone on Saturday. One of the members who preferred to remain anonymous, said he had worked for the mines from 1989 and left his work in 1996, and was happy to have joined the pensions fund as it was now bearing fruits. Another ex-miner who spoke thanked the fund for coming to Botswana as he almost gave up after experiencing challenges travelling to South Africa to process their claims. **BOPA**

BDF collaborates with SADC states in skills development

By Keetile Bontsibokae

THEBEPHATSHWA - Botswana Defence Force (BDF) has prioritised building and strengthening bilateral relations. This was said by the BDF Air Arm Commander, Major General Hendrick Rakgantswana recently at Thebephatshwa Air Base’s Air Arm Command Technical Training School (TTS) during a Mechanics Course Class of 2025 graduation. He said the BDF was committed to collaborating with SADC states, through training programmes, skills development, and knowledge sharing initiative to drive development, tapping on individual capabilities thereby enhancing regional security. “As we stand at the forefront of modern security challenges, the importance of knowledge and technology cannot be overemphasised,” he said. Maj. Gen. Rakgantswana said the graduates comprised 10 students from Mozambique, two from Namibia, four from Zambia, and six from Botswana Prison Service (BPS) and 24 from BDF. He applauded the graduates for commitment and dedication and unrelenting discipline. “Today, we mark a significant achievement, a triumph of academic excellence and perseverance,” said Maj. Gen. Rakgantswana. He told graduates that aircraft maintenance was the backbone of the air assets that demanded highly skilled professionals who can ensure the safety, reliability, and operational readiness. Maj. Gen. Rakgantswana assured graduates that they have been equipped with the necessary skills and knowledge to excel, and that it was their turn to uphold the highest standards and make a meaningful impact. He also praised instructors and the staff of the TTS for their tireless dedication, guidance and support throughout the course, encouraging them to maintain the same level of tenacity and commitment. “Let me remind you that, the BDF is recognised for its professionalism, which is rooted in its rigorous training initiatives. “As we move forward, we expect you to embody the values of security professionals, fostering bilateral relations between the BDF, BPS and across the SADC region “I urge you to upload the core values of the BDF of Botho, Courage, Loyalty, Discipline, Integrity, Esprit De Corps, and Duty as guiding principles in your careers,” Maj. Gen Rakgantswana encouraged the graduates. For his part, the Commandant Technical of the TTS, Colonel Kago Diraditsile said each time when an aircraft takes off, maintenance personnel would have worked behind the scenes to ensure its safe departure and landing. He said the maintenance personnel included engineers, technicians and mechanics. Col Diraditsile said of the 46 graduates, 11 were in Radar and Communications, 17 in Airframe and Power Plant, while 18 graduated in Avionics and Instruments. He said the course was for a duration of 18 months and upon completion the graduates were engaged in an On Job Training (OJT) process for a duration of three years at different Air Arm Command Squadrons. Col Diraditsile said since 2001 to date, the TTS had graduated more than 500 students from the BDF, allied forces and sister organisations. **BOPA**

Voters demand concrete transformation from winner

By Naomi Leepile

TSABONG - Kgalagadi South is gearing for a by-election, but voter sentiment across the vast, arid district suggests a deep dissatisfaction with the status quo, demanding concrete, transformative action from whoever wins the parliamentary seat. The by-election comes after the passing on of the then sitting Member of Parliament and Minister of Lands and Agriculture, Dr Micus Chimbombi, leaving a vacancy that has galvanised public focus on persistent local challenges. President, Advocate Duma Boko had issued a Writ for the Kgalagadi South Constituency by-election, directing that nomination of candidates should be received on October 23 and that the poll shall be on November 15. Therefore, pitting Mr Tokyo Modise of the Umbrella for Democratic Change (UDC) against Mr Tshephang Brooks (BCP) and Ms Diana Kaartzé of the Botswana Democratic Party



Tshephang Brooks



Diana Kaartzé



Tokyo Modise

(BDP). However, the development had sparked mixed reactions; Tsabong business mogul, Mr Tshipietsile Mothelesi, expressed worry about the short notice, lamenting that residents were not given adequate time to decide. “My biggest expectation is for the candidate to consider building a hospital. Tsabong is a big village that deserves to have a big hospital,” Mothelesi said, noting that most patients were referred to Gaborone, a journey that is both far and expensive for local families.

He said a local hospital would spare residents time and the burden of travelling long distances to seek for medical services elsewhere as well as easing congestions in cities and town hospitals. Furthermore, travelling long distances may lead to complications for an issue that could have been otherwise easily resolved at an early stage. In addition, he said there was an urgent need to open the long-awaited small stock abattoir and focus on developing the local stadium, airstrip, and roads

infrastructure. As for the farming community, demands were existential. Chairperson of the Molopo Small Stock Marketing Cooperative Mr Leo Tumaletse emphasised that water shortage was the most pressing issue affecting the region’s dominant small stock industry. He also pointed that poor communal grazing management and the increasing problem of bush encroachment, which reduces grazing pastures and directly contributes to rural poverty. Additionally, he said the

incoming MP should focus on tourism, leveraging the region’s natural resources to attract investors. Traditional leadership is equally vocal about accountability; Kgosi Piet Manyoro of Khawa said his primary expectation was that the incoming MP should visit villages more often and hold regular kgotla meetings. “People need to know their representative for them to express their views and opinions,” the chief remarked, stressing the need for better communication and visibility. The critical state of education also looms large in the electoral debate, Ms Lesedi Motlatsi, a Khuis resident, decried the persistently poor academic results in the region, demanding a candidate who could enforce real change. Her specific proposal addresses structural issues at the largest local educational institution. She argued that managing a unified school spanning both levels was excessively difficult, which she said contributed to the poor outcomes. **BOPA**

NDP 12 draft plan marks start of planning journey

By **Thato Mosinyi**

GABORONE - The presentation the National Development Plan 12 to Parliament on Monday, marks

Minister warns against sale of alcohol to underage

By **Esther Mmolai**

MAUN - The sale of alcohol to underage persons is a criminal activity and residents of Maun have been implored to report such incidents to relevant authorities.

The call was made by the Minister of Trade and Entrepreneurship, Mr Tiroeane Ntsima on Monday when responding to concerns raised by residents during a consultative meeting on the Liquor Amendment Bill.

“I equally agree with you that stringent measures should be taken upon such traders who sell drugs and alcohol to children and I also urge you to report any illegal activities to the law enforcement authority to ensure your children are not exposed to such environments,” Mr Ntsima said.

The minister revealed that the law exists to safeguard the health and welfare of children, hence selling alcohol to them was prohibited and there was a restriction barring the location of liquor outlets close to schools.

He said it was disturbing that some people traded illegally while some among the licenced were not compliant to the law, resulting in children having easy access to alcohol in their communities.

Mr Ntsima also urged members of the public to intervene and help address the problem of drug and substance abuse, and advised liquor outlets to fully comply with the regulations governing trading in alcohol as stipulated in their licenses. He highlighted that the envisaged liquor bill proposes to increase penalties in order to increase compliance with the Act.

“It was clear that with the current law, people keep on violating it because the fines are easily affordable and we believe that increased penalties can be effective at increasing compliance.”

Residents also learnt that the new bill also seeks to reduce the distance of 500 metres to 250 metres between alcohol outlets and schools as well as to ensure outlets playing music were sound proof to avoid noise pollution.

Mr Ntsima also revealed that

a defining moment in the national planning journey.

The plan represents a deliberate and necessary shift from a government led model to one that

is sector-based and private sector-driven, while founded on robust partnerships across government, business, civil society and communities, says Speaker of the National Assembly, Mr Dithapelo Keorapetse.

Addressing Members of Parliament during the official opening of the NDP 12 Parliamentary Seminar on Tuesday, Mr Keorapetse indicated that such paradigm shift challenged legislators to think differently and to take bold action in creating employment, empowering the youth, boosting productivity, and harnessing technology to drive sustainable transformation.

“NDP 12 is more than a document, it is a strategic roadmap guiding national development, growth and prosperity for the next four and a half years.

“The draft represents the culmination of extensive consultations involving citizens, civil society, the private sector and Members of Parliament,” he said.

He said it incorporated vital inputs from districts and local authorities, ensuring that it reflects the diverse voices of our nation.

Mr Keorapetse highlighted that the country’s development planning heritage was both

distinguished and instructive citing that the journey began in 1965 with the Transitional Plan for Social and Economic Development (TPSED), which evolved in 1968 into the first National Development Plan.

“Since then, we have successively implemented NDPs 2 through 11, culminating in the Second Transitional National Plan,” he said.

This systematic approach, he said has been instrumental in Botswana’s remarkable transformation from one of the poorest nations at Independence to an upper-middle-income country since the development plans consistently provide government with strategic direction and identified priority projects for national advancement.

Mr Keorapetse said NDP 12 underscored the imperative of resilience underpinned on building an economy capable of adapting to climate change, diversify sustainably and deliver inclusive growth that benefits every Motswana, regardless of their circumstances or location.

He further urged legislators to reflect on their responsibilities in process of development process, indicating the need to acknowledge the critical and multifaceted roles

that Parliament played in driving national development.

“As lawmaker, we are entrusted with crafting and amending legislation that shapes policies addressing poverty reduction, gender equality, environmental protection and other pressing national imperatives,” he said.

He noted that Parliament should also provide oversight through rigorous scrutiny of government actions and expenditures, including budget approvals.

“We need to ensure transparency, accountability and value for money in the execution of development plans,” he said. Through approving national budgets and taxation measures, Mr Keorapetse said Parliament directly influenced the direction of government spending and hold the executive accountable for prudent resource allocation.

He stated that Parliament constitutional functions was to empower citizens, uphold human rights and reinforce the rule of law, all of which were essential pillars of sustainable development.

It was against this background that Mr Keorapetse called on Parliamentarians to approach ongoing special Parliament session with a profound sense of purpose and measured optimism. **BOPA**



Sir Seretse Khama Junior Secondary School learners sitting for their Junior Certificate Examination (JCE) in Gaborone yesterday. According to the Ministry of Child Welfare and Basic Education, a total of 48 298 registered candidates will sit for the JCE this year. The examination, which started yesterday, will end on October 31. Photo: Gothusang Lesego

Borrowing reveals banks, microlenders preferences

By **Bonang Masolotatse**

GABORONE - Household borrowing patterns reveal distinct preferences between financial institutions. Commercial banks predominantly lend to public service employees, while micro-lenders tend to extend credit to private sector employees.

This was revealed by the Bank of Botswana’s household indebtedness survey report for the year 2024/25, released recently.

According to the report, which estimates household debt to be at P68.6 billion, having increased from P61 billion from the previous year, P59.6 billion is owed to commercial banks, P8.5 billion to micro-lender loans, and P509 million to hire purchase loans.

The bank says the distribution of household loans by micro-lenders and banks shows a complex interplay of employment sector, demography and borrower

dynamics.

“The survey shows that public servants continue to dominate commercial bank credit, supported by scheme loans and deduction-from-source arrangements,” the report states.

The report notes that micro-lender loans are heavily concentrated in private sector employees at 82 per cent, while most bank loans tend to be towards government sector employees at 64 per cent.

“For micro-lenders, it is found that they lend mostly to private sector employees with generally lower average loans by income and gender compared to banks.”

This, the report states, could be underlaid by the existing deduction-from-source mechanism, which found that the majority of household loans are scheme loans, suggesting some level of secure repayment mechanism.

Additionally, the public sector is a relatively more formalised structure that easily meets the lending requirements for commercial banks.

The Bank of Botswana report says that these employment dynamics, combined with gender patterns where males dominate micro-lender credit compared to a relatively gender-balanced bank credit, highlight distinct borrower patterns and varying borrower access.

It says the higher male representation among micro-lenders suggests that males are more inclined to seek micro-lender loans, possibly due to less strict credit standards, while banks serve a broader, more gender-balanced government sector clientele with generally similar employment dynamics.

With regard to the use or purpose of household loans, the 2024/25 survey results show that 56 per cent

of unsecured loans are channeled towards what households classify as other personal uses.

This includes, but is not limited to, motor vehicle maintenance, house renovations, marriage and funeral expenses, acquisition of residential plots and second-hand cars, as well as debt reconciliation.

Additionally, it was found that 18 per cent of unsecured loans go towards consumer goods, including furniture and other household items, while 15 per cent and 11 per cent are used on farming projects and education and health expenses, respectively.

Despite the increase in household indebtedness, the Bank of Botswana states that the local proportions remain significantly lower than regional counterparts, with the latest data from South Africa and Mauritius showing ratios of 33.7 per cent in December 2024 and 37.7 per cent in June 2024, respectively. **BOPA**

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Collaboration with stakeholders key - official

By Ketshepile More

GABORONE - Collaboration with professional bodies remains critical in coordinating quality assurance across Botswana’s education and training sector.

This was said by Botswana Qualifications Authority (BQA) acting deputy chief executive officer, Mr Ofentse Disang, at the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between BQA and the Law Society of Botswana (LSB) recently.

Mr Disang said BQA was committed to working with organisations like the LSB to ensure that qualifications remained relevant, credible and impactful.

“This partnership exemplifies our shared responsibility to prepare professionals who are not only qualified on paper but who are also capable, ethical and ready to serve society,” he said.

He added that professional bodies such as the LSB, were

indispensable and played a critical role in setting and upholding the standards of their professions.

“They promote best practices, ensure ethical conduct and hold members accountable. Their involvement is vital to building a qualifications system that is credible and trusted by both the public and industry,” he said.

He indicated that the collaboration would focus on several key areas including aligning regulatory frameworks with professional realities.

“The Law Society’s insight into the needs of the legal profession will help ensure that qualifications in the legal field are relevant, future-focused, and responsive to both national and global trends,” he said.

Again, he said professional standards and codes of practice would inform curriculum design, assessment practices and professional competencies as well as strengthen BQA’s systems with both academic rigor and

professional relevance.

Furthermore, he said collaboration with the LSB in offering training, certification and continuous professional development would ensure that legal practitioners remained competent and current to create structured pathways for lifelong learning.

“Alignment of efforts enhances transparency, accountability and credibility in the qualifications landscape, providing the public with assurance that professionals, especially in critical fields like law, meet high standards of competence and ethics,” he said.

He also said the MoU symbolised the power of collaboration, adding that working together fostered a qualifications system that was coherent, inclusive, dynamic and innovative.

“Professional bodies are drivers of innovation and excellence and enable stakeholders to collectively address challenges and harness opportunities for the economy and society,” he said.

For his part, LSB chairperson, Mr Lesedi Moahi, described the MoU as a milestone since the parties had been working independently despite needing to be hand-in-hand to ensure that

only deserving people practiced law.

“As the law society, we play the legislative role of lawyers and we need to ensure that the people who petition for admission are deserving, not half-baked. This starts with the educational background and quality assurance of their schooling,” Mr Moahi said.

He emphasised the LSB’s role in being roped in early when an institution planned to offer a law programme in Botswana.

“This involvement allows the LSB to have direct input into the curriculum to establish if it meets the needs of the market, ultimately benefiting the public whom these lawyers will serve,” he added.

BQA board secretary, Ms Thato Outlule said some of the key areas of the MoU included aligning legal qualifications with the National Credit and Qualifications Framework (NCQF), joint efforts in quality assurance audits and validation processes, collaboration in research and policy development for legal education, regular data sharing and information for planning and decision-making as well as mutual efforts to benchmark local qualifications and standards with

regional and international best practices.

Ms Outlule added that the MoU’s obligations reflected a mutual commitment to quality assurance.

“For the Law Society of Botswana, this includes maintaining high ethical and governance standards, participating in national reviews, and upholding standards of entry, training, and ongoing professional development. For BQA, we commit to recognizing and supporting the Law Society of Botswana as a valued partner, offering technical support, sharing policy insights, and ensuring that legal qualifications reflect both national relevance and global competitiveness,” Ms Outlule said.

She added that the partnership was a shared vision for professional excellence, public trust and national development, with BQA viewing professional bodies not merely as stakeholders but as co-creators of quality.

“By formalising this partnership, we reaffirm our belief that quality assurance is most effective when it is collaborative, inclusive and anchored in industry realities,” she said. **BOPA**



Law Society of Botswana chairperson, Mr Lesedi Moahi (left) and Botswana Qualification Authority acting deputy CEO, Mr Ofentse Disang during the two organisations’ Memorandum of Understanding signing in Gaborone recently. Mr Disang said processional bodies such as the Law Society of Botswana played a critical role in setting and upholding professional standards, promoting best practices, ensuring ethical conduct and holding members accountable to the highest levels of integrity and competence. Photo: Gaseitsiwe Moruakgomo

Residents decry shortage of medical supplies

By Keamogetse Setilo

SEROWE - While government has been working round the clock to address critical shortage of medical supplies countrywide, some Batswana still experience shortage of supplies.

In a kgotla meeting addressed by Member of Parliament for Serowe West, Mr Onalepelo Kedikilwe in Marobela Ward in Serowe recently, Metsimasweu Village Development Committee chairperson, Mr Moses Monthe also decried the shortage saying most clinics were without medication.

As a result, he said patients were compelled to buy supplies for themselves, with some prices

being exorbitantly high, adding that those who did not have the means, would be affected.

He also requested for Sekgoma Clinic to operate on weekends, saying that would ease the burden on the already strained Sekgoma Memorial Hospital emergency unit.

For his part, Mr Kedikilwe, expressed regret that the nation was experiencing such difficult times, noting that government strived to provide medication to meet all patients’ requirements, but was confronted with the significant challenge of tough economic conditions, with limited financial resources, which he linked to critical resource shortages across the board and postponed project

completions.

He however assured the residents that things would normalise once the economy recovered.

Mr Kedikilwe also urged the residents to acquaint themselves with the newly enacted laws.

He also encouraged them to familiarise themselves with forestry regulations, since people frequently neglect these issues out of ignorance, emphasising that the laws existed to protect both the community and their resources.

“We have regulations regarding the introduction of foreign tree species into our nation to safeguard our natural resources. You cannot simply bring seeds or seedlings from other countries and plant them without first consulting forestry experts to prevent the consequences of introducing invasive tree species that could disrupt the ecosystem.

There was an instance where an individual sowed a seed of an exotic variety, only to discover that it was an invasive species; relentless in every way, it destroyed all vegetation nearby, and regardless of how much they attempted to cut it down or burn it, it would proliferate in even larger quantities,” he said.

He also noted that regulations, like requiring a permit to harvest mopane worm, were established to protect the country’s resources, saying without appropriate laws and guidance, individuals might become greedy and excessively harvest the delicate worm, resulting in its eventual extinction.

The MP urged the citizens to comply with the laws and protect their country’s resources so that future generations could also gain from them. **BOPA**

‘Maximise available opportunities’

By Relief Lephutshi

MANYANA - Youth in Manyana is grappling not only with school dropouts but also high unemployment and low literacy rates.

The concern was raised by Acting Director at the University of Botswana’s Careers and Counselling Centre, Mr Selebaleng Mmapatsi during an engagement event with the out-of-school youths in Manyana recently.

He however highlighted the village’s rich cultural diversity and the unexplored talents of its youth, saying they could use those to empower themselves.

He said the University of Botswana organised the engagement activity through the invitation of the village’s youth

committee to address the rising concerns surrounding the youths.

He emphasised that the institution’s outreach efforts aimed to serve the Manyana community and fulfill its mandate of community service, through career guidance and counselling, underscoring their responsibility to help in community development.

The Village Extension Team chairperson for Manyana Mr Petros Mosomane, encouraged the youth to stay focused saying that education was key to unlocking opportunities.

He acknowledged that, as an educator, he understood the challenges they faced in completing their academic journeys.

“Your circumstances do not define your destiny,” he said, urging them to recognise that their

potential for greatness was not determined by the hurdles they encountered.

Mr Mosomane encouraged them to seize available opportunities, whether through formal or informal education, while also highlighting the potential obstacles they might face along the way.

He urged them to believe in themselves and support one another. A youth representative, Mr Letlotlo Mothei said the engagement was a good step in helping his peers deal with educational and unemployment struggles they faced.

Mr Mothei, whose academic journey went as far as Form 3, said his interest was in entrepreneurship.

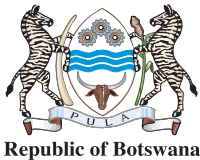
“The Local Authority Enterprise (LEA) efforts are promising and

encouraging,” he said adding that LEA personnel stated that they assisted people venturing into businesses from the start through to production and identifying the market platforms.

He said the youth could benefit more from LEA through mentorship from professionals on how to run the business without going through a formal school set up.

Furthermore, he encouraged the youth to consider informal education and not give up on learning as life today required one to have education achievements.

Some of the stakeholders who showcased at the event were Botswana Open University, Department of Technical and Vocational Education and Training, University of Botswana and LEA. **BOPA**



MINISTRY FOR STATE PRESIDENT

Department of Broadcasting Services

NOTICE OF BEST EVALUATED BIDDER

TITLE OF THE TENDER A TENDER FOR THE PRODUCTION OF TELEVISION KIDS SHOW SERIES UNDER A DBS TV PRODUCTION CONSULTANCY PROJECT: TENDER NO. SP/DBS/025/23-24.

This Bidders are hereby informed that the evaluation and adjudication process of the above mentioned tender have been concluded and the details of the Best Evaluated Bidder are listed below. It is the intention of the Department to place a contract with the bidder named below.

Name of the Procuring Entity	Department of Broadcasting Services	Tender Amount
Name of the Best Evaluated Bidder	Visual Poem Studios (Pty) Ltd	P7, 042, 046.00

This was a direct procurement method.

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Ministry for State President

Tel: 365 3000
Fax: 365 3347



DEPARTMENT OF BROADCASTING SERVICES
Private Bag 0060 Gaborone
Mass Media Complex

MINISTRY FOR STATE PRESIDENT

Department of Broadcasting Services

NOTICE OF TECHNICAL STAGE ADJUDICATION

TITLE OF THE TENDER: A SERVICE CONTRACT FOR THE PROVISION OF NON-EXCLUSIVE BROADCASTING RIGHT THE BOTSWANA PREMIER LEAGUE FOR A PERIOD OF THREE (3) YEARS.

This Name of the Procuring Entity	Department of Broadcasting Services
Tender Reference Number	SP/DBS/004/2025-2026
Method of Procurement	Direct Appointment Method

The public is hereby informed that the technical evaluation and adjudication process of the above-mentioned tender has been concluded and the details of the Best technical evaluated bidders are listed below.

Bidder Number	Bidder Name	Technical Score
1	Botswana Football League (Pty) Ltd	100%

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Botswana Meat Commission CEO, Ms Kesolofetse Tibe announced that they were implementing a new system to directly purchase live cattle from Ngamiland farmers at P16 per kilogramme and assume full responsibility for the quarantine process. Photo: Esther Mmolai

BMC buys live cattle from farmers

By Esther Mmolai

MAUN - The Botswana Meat Commission (BMC) is implementing a new system to directly purchase live cattle from Ngamiland farmers at P16 per kilogramme and assume full responsibility for the quarantine process.

This was revealed by BMC chief executive officer, Ms Kesolofetse Tibe in an interview following a meeting with farmers’ association representatives in Maun recently. This, she said aimed at addressing long-standing concerns about the current quarantine system.

Ms Tibe said, effective immediately, the BMC would buy live-weight cattle and handle all aspects of the quarantine until slaughter.

“This means farmers will no longer incur costs for caring for the animals during the quarantine period. Farmers will receive their payment within three days.

“The BMC will collect animals

from designated collection points and transport them to the quarantine facility. This expands on a measure introduced in 2022, when the abattoir began covering transport costs to relieve farmers of that financial burden,” she said.

She added that the new system, including the introduction of an e-wallet card capable of receiving up to P500 000, was scheduled to be officially launched on October 24 at the Makalamabedi quarantine facility, with an actual demonstration for farmers on October 25. She said BMC livestock procurement staff would visit the district to inform and sensitise the farming community about the change.

Ms Tibe said she was hopeful that the arrangement would bring positive results by incentivising supply to the BMC and allow the Maun abattoir to slaughter seven days a week and match the Lobatse schedule.

“The shift comes as a direct response to farmers’ pleas. They had previously complained that the existing quarantine system was unworkable, presented significant challenges in caring for the animals, and could lead to cattle loss for the BMC. Farmers had explicitly proposed that the abattoir buy animals directly and manage the quarantine requirements,” she added.

She further indicated that the quarantine system was originally implemented in Ngamiland to facilitate the Commodity Based Trade approach, with the intention of managing cattle at the facility

until they were ready for slaughter. Nonetheless, she said BMC was actively working to secure lucrative new markets.

Currently, she said a significant portion of Ngamiland beef was sold locally, with the international market being less active.

Ms Tibe did, however, appreciate that the abattoir had received a new order from Lebanon.

She indicated that efforts were also underway to tap into more profitable markets, including ongoing discussions with the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Furthermore, she said BMC was also in the process of ensuring the Maun abattoir was accredited for Halal slaughter.

“This is to target the United Arab Emirates (UAE) market, which requires a pneumatic slaughter system. The necessary machine has been installed and is awaiting audit to ensure compliance and certification,” she said.

For his part, Maun plat manager, Mr Ishmael Ramorula underscore the urgency of the change owing to the plant’s recent performance.

Mr Ramorula stated that this year, the plant had performed dismally poor in terms of procuring animals compared to last year, where BMC slaughtered only 595 cattle, which translated to 113.05 tonnes of beef.

He noted that the majority of farmers were reluctant to sell cattle, citing that the quarantine system was not working for them and had requested the abattoir to buy live cattle directly and take responsibility for the quarantine processes. **BOPA**

Farmers divided over BMC price

By Esther Mmolai

GABORONE - Farmers in Ngamiland have expressed mixed feelings over the Botswana Meat Commission (BMC) Direct Cattle Purchase programme.

In an interview on Monday following BMC’s announcement of the plan, some argued that the P16 per kg price was too low while others said it would motivate farmers to sell more cattle to the abattoir.

Those against the P16 per kg said it would paralyse the beef industry and called for a better price.

“We appreciate the efforts made to buy live cattle from us but the rate is too low because we thought the price will remain the same as buying Cold Dressed Mass (CDM) at P38 per kg. BMC has been unlawfully buying cattle from farmers. The abattoir has been paying for the carcass only while other products such as intestines were not catered for hence we called for buying of live weight cattle so that we reap good returns,” said Mr Simon Bojosi.

He said they expected the BMC to engage farmers before setting the price instead of imposing their price on the farming community

BMC is mandated to promote the interests of the livestock producing industry, by buying and slaughtering cattle as per the BMC act but that is not the case as the abattoir rope farmers by purchasing carcass, Mr Bojosi said.

He said buying live weight cattle at P16 per kg, would not address their concerns because doing so

would still render cattle farming less profitable.

Instead, he said BMC could have consulted farmers, to allow them to come up with suggestions regarding the pricing.

He said pastoral farming was an important vehicle of economic growth for the Ngamiland region and as such their hope was on on BMC to ensure cattle access to rewarding markets.

He also called for implementation of the Control of Livestock Industry Act which regulated the purchase, sale and trade of livestock through licensing and permits system.

Another farmer, Mr Gilson Saleshando said he did not accept the rate because it failed to reflect BMC’s role of protecting the interests of the livestock producing industry.

Mr Saleshando was concerned that the majority of the farmers were not familiar with the BMC Act hence the commission’s management was making some decisions without their input.

This, he said showed that the commission was not neccessarily targeting to enhance the beef industry.

On the other hand, some farmers welcomed the new purchase approach, saying farmers would have options to sell live weight or sell through the CDM model as it was the case.

Mr Killer Ledimo hailed the model of buying live weight cattle it would ensure adequate supply of animals to the abattoir.

“BMC is the only entity that supports cattle producers and if

it shuts down due to shortage of supply, that will be a draw back because there will be no market for us. We do accept the new rate even though some deem too low but we should appreciate that the abattoir has relieved us of the financial burden of transporting the animals and caring for them while at the quarantine facility,” he said. **BOPA**



A self-taught sculptor, Mr Kudzi Mutambirwa (right) and co-worker, Mr Oboifeng Sebifo working on a sculpture depicting a miner in Maun recently. Mr Mutambirwa, who inherited the craft from his father, a renowned wood carver from Francistown, creates artworks inspired by cultural activities, events and heritage of his community. The art pieces, displayed at Maun New Mall have become popular tourist attractions. The sculptures range from garden ornaments to birds and animals, priced between P10,000 and P100,000 depending on size. Photo: Felicity Male

Banni ba kopa go bewa ditsha

Ka Portia Rapitsenyane

PALAPYE - Banni ba metse ya Pilikwe le Mhalapitsa ba supile matshwenyego ka ditirelo di tshwana le tsa go bewa ditsha le letlhoko la metsi ba supa fa di sa ba jese diwelang.

Ba re go na le dingwaga ba sa bewe ditsha mo metseng ya bone mme ba kabo ditsha ba sa ba lekodise gore bothata ke eng e bile ba kgona go nna malatsi mangwe ba sena metsi mme go sena tlhaloso epe.

Ba supile matshwenyego a kwa diphutheng tsa kgotla tse di neng di buisiwa ke mopalamente wa Tswapong South, Dr Kesitegile Gobotswang.

Banni ba supile fa ditirelo tse di le botlhokwa mo matshelong a bone mme ntleng ga tsone ba sa tshele sentle ka di ba paledisa dilo di le dintsi.

Ene e rile go le pele Kgosi Gasebalwe Seretse wa Pilikwe a supa fa motse wa gagwe o sale o bewa ditsha dingwaga tse lesome tse di fetileng mme ba nyoretswe go bewa ditsha ka banni ba le bantsi ba sena ditsha bogolo jang tsa bonno.

A re ba sale ba beilwe ditsha labofelo ka ngwaga wa 2015 mme go sa beweng ditsha mo go kgona go dira gore motse wa bone o seka wa gola e bile go baka dikgotlhang mo metseng ka batho ba felela ba nna ba le bantsi mo motseng o le mongwe.

Kgosi Seretse o ne gape a kopa puso go bona gore banni ba motse wa Mhalapitsa ba ka thusiwa jang jaaka kgang ya bogosi jwa motse wa bone e santse e le kwa kgotla tshekelong.

A re kgang ya bogosi jwa Mhalapitsa e a ba imela ka ba lekile ka tsotlhe tse ba ka di kgonang go thusa go e rarabolola mme e sa kgone go wela.

O tlhalositse fa banni ba sale ba tlhophile leina, la romelwa mme ga felela go na le mongwe yo o supileng fa bogosi e le jwa gagwe ka jalo, kgang ya felela e le kwa makgotla tshekelong.

O ne a supa fa mo nakong eno banni ba thusiwa ke

mothusi wa gagwe e bong Kgosi Johane Rakumako mme fa a seo go nna dingalo gore ba thusege.

A re ba kopa tona yo o maleba go ba lekodisa ka kgang e gore e tsamaya kae le go ba fa thuso e e tsepameng ba santse ba emetse kgang ya bogosi go rarabololwa.

O ne gape a kopa mopalamente wa bone go ba lekodisa ka lenaneo la temo letlotlo le a supileng fa ba ise ba utlwe tekodiso ka lone mme go supafala fa dipula di setse di le gaufi.

Mo kgannyeng ya go bewa ga ditsha, Dr Gobotswang o ne a supa fa a tla a ntsha mogopolo kwa palamenteng wa gore ditsamaiso tsa lekgotla la kabo ditsha di fetolwe mme ditirelo tsotlhe di nne gone kwa lekgotleng leo go na le gore ditirelo tse di fiwang Batswana di bonwe kwa maphateng a mangwe.

Fa a akgela mo kgannyeng ya lenaneo la Temo Letlotlo, o ne a kopa banni go ipaakanyetsa temo ka go somarela dipeo tse ba nang le tsone ka puso e ise e supe gore e tla a thusa balemi ka dipeo mo nakong eno ntswa nako e setse e ile. **BOPA**

Kgosi Tshipe o bolotsa letsema

Ka Kefilwe Selotlegeng

MAHALAPYE - Motshwarelela kgosi yo mogolwane wa Mahalapye, Kgosi Tshipe Tshipe o boloditse letsema kwa kgotleng kgolo ya Mahalapye ka Tshipi.

Go bolotsa letsema go dirwa ngwaga le ngwaga ka letsatsi la Tshipi, la ntlha kgwedi ya Phalane kwa kgotleng kgolo ya GaMmangwato kwa Serowe, morago go dirwe kwa dikgotleng tse dingwe.

Kgosi Tshipe o supile fa go bolotsa letsema e le ngwao e e supang bokao jo bogolo ka jaana kgosi o abo a bulela paka ya temo, go rebola morafe gore o ka lema.

O rotloeditse morafe go ipaakanyetsa temo, ka go rema masimo a a medileng ditlhare.

A re pele paka ya temo e ne e baakanyetswa go ntshiwa dibeela,



Banni ba Mhalapitsa ba le kwa phuthengong e e neng e buisiwa ke Mopalapente wa Tswapong South, Dr Kesitegile Gobotswang bosheng. Banni ba Pilikwe le Mhalapitsa ba supile matshwenyego ka ditirelo di tshwana le tsa go bewa ditsha le letlhoko la metsi ba re ga di ba jese diwelang.

Senepe: Portia Rapitsenyane

Dikgwebo potlana di thusa go aga itsholelo ya Selebi Phikwe

Ka Gaboselwe Olesitse

SELEBI PHIKWE - Mothusa mokwaledi wa khansele ya toropo ya Selebi Phikwe Rre Scotch Matsaunyana o tlhalositse fa dikgwebo potlana di na le seabe se setona mo itsholelong ya lefatshe.

Rre Matsaunyana a re seo, se itshupile morago ga go tswalwa ga moepo wa BCL ka nako e mongwe le mongwe a neng a tletse boithobogo, mme bomme

le borre ba dikgwebo tse di potlana ba ne ba ema ka dinao go tlhomamisa gore itsholelo ya toropo ga e phutlhamame.

Rre Matsaunyana o ne a bua se ka Labone mo phuthengong ya kgotla e e neng e buisiwa ke mopalamente wa kgaolo ya Selebi Phikwe West Rre Reuben Kaizer kwa kgotleng ya Kagiso.

A re e re ntswa dikgwebo potlana di thusa thata mo go ageng itsholelo, go na le molao le ditsamaiso tse di tshwanetseng

go salwa morago.

Rre Matsaunyana o tlhalositse fa khansele e na le maikarabelo a go tlhomamisa gore toropo e nna mo seemong se se kgatlhisang go ka ngoka bagwebi go tla go gweba mo go yone le ditiro di bo di ka nna teng.

O tlhalositse fa ditlhwatlhwa tsa ditiesetso tsa go gweba di le kwa tlase mme e bile le ba ba filweng sebaka sa go direla kwa mapalamelong a dikoloi tsa setshaba go na le lemme le ba le lopiwang se e le tsela ya gore le bone ba nne le seabe mo go tlhabololeng toropo ya bone.

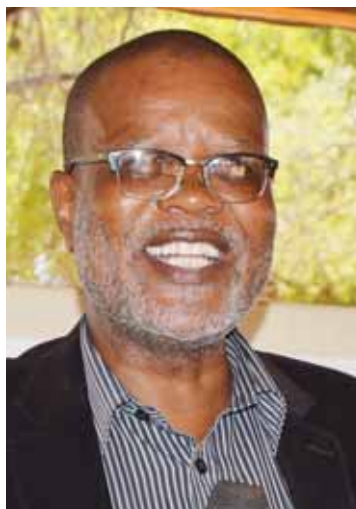
Rre Matsaunyana o ne a bua se jaaka a ne a tsibogela dingongorego tse di neng di tswa mo morafeng fa ba ne ba ipelaetsa fa khansele e sa dirisane le bone sentle e bile madi a ba a lopiwang a le mantsi go tsamaisa dikgwebo tsa bone.

E rile a tswa la gagwe mopalamente Rre Kaizer o ne a lekodisa morafe fa go na le melao mengwe e e fetisitsweng kwa palamenteng.

O tlhalositse fa mongwe wa molao o o fetisitsweng e le o o itebagantseng le tsa pereko ya bana ba ba kwa tlase ka dingwaga mme o atolosa ditsetlana dingwe tse di ntseng di le teng mo molaong oo.

O ne a tlhagisa setshaba go ela tlhoko ditiro tse ba di neelang bana gore ba seka ba iphitlhela ba gotlha gotlhana le molao.

O ne a re palamente e ne ya tshwanelwa ke go fetisa molao o ka lepotlapotla ka jalo go ne go sena nako ya go ya go tsaya maikutlo kwa setshabeng. **BOPA**



Kgosi Tshipe Tshipe

go na le meila ebile go dumelwa gore dibeela dika kgoreletsa pula gona.

Kgosi Tshipe o kopile batsadi go ruta banana ngwao gammogo le go ba rotloetsa go tsena mo

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NEIGHBOUR CONSULTATION

CHARLESHILL DISTRICT COUNCIL owner of Farm 184-MJ situated in Xanagas, Ghanzi District, informs the public of proposed change of land use from agriculture to mixedland use. For any objection to the proposal, contact Charleshill District Council- Physical Planning Unit, on Telephone nos: 650 2057/ 73 082 410 within 14 days of advert.

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CHANGE OF
LAND-USE

Kopano Mukono owner of plot legally referred to as **Lot 11870 at Disaneng**, Maun wishes to notify the public of her intention to change land-use from Residential to Multi residential.

In case of any queries, please contact North West District Council, Physical Planning Department at Telephone No. **686 0241** or the Plot owner at **72654665** within **14 days of publication of this notice.**

AKHEEL JINABHAI & ASSOCIATES MCL

DRIVING SUCCESS THROUGH LEGAL STRATEGY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned intends applying for a certified copy of Mortgage Bond No. 2204/2008 dated the 11th day of **August 2008** passed by **SAMUEL TSHIRELETSO** made in favour of **BBS BANK LIMITED** in respect of the below mentioned property, namely;

CERTAIN: piece of Land being Lot 5356 Lobatse;
SITUATE: in Lobatse Extension 22;
MEASURING: 540 m² (Five Hundred and Forty Square Metres);
WHICH PROPERTY: is held under Deed of Fixed Period State Grant No. 2349/2001 dated the 11th day of **September 2001** made in favour of Samuel Tshireletso;
SUBJECT TO: all such conditions as the aforesaid Deed will more fully point out;

All **persons objecting** to the issue of such copy are hereby requested to **lodge such objection in writing** with the Registrar of Deeds, Private Bag 0020, Gaborone **within 3 (Three) weeks** from the last publication of this notice.

DATED AT GABORONE ON THIS 2ND DAY OF OCTOBER 2025

AJA House, Unit 2, Matante Mews
Plot 54373 CBD, Gaborone
P.O. Box 20575, Gaborone Botswana
Plot 17396 Boseja Ward Maun, Botswana

Tel: (+267) 316 3125 Fax: (+267) 316 3124
Email: info@aja.co.bw
Web: www.aja.co.bw

Partner Akheel Jinabhai
Consultant Partner: Mark McKee | Obrien Brindl (F.I.Abb)
Associates: | Juwairiyah Maher | Khaleel Khan | Lesedi Kgakololo | Gerasta Major | Letika Nkolonyane | Ame Rindo

LOST MORTGAGE BOND

NOTICE FOR A CERTIFIED COPY OF LOST DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the undersigned intends to apply for a certified copy Of **Deed NO: 50/2013** dated **15th day of January 2013** made in favour of Rocky Kagiso Ramalefo

In respect of:

CERTAIN : Piece of land being PORTION 319, A PORTION OF PORTION 311- KO, OF PORTION 184 OF PORTION 12 (A PORTION OF PORTION 11) OF THE FARM CROCODILE POOLS NO 15-KO
SITUATE : IN THE SOUTHEAST ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT
MEASURING : 4,0015 Ha (FOUR COMMA ZERO ZERO ONE FIVE HECTARES HELD UNDER:DEED OF TRANSFER NO 50/2013

All persons having objection to the issue of such copy are hereby required to lodge the same in writing with Register of Deeds, **PRIVATE BAG 0020 GABORONE** within **three (3) weeks** of the last publication of this notice hereof.

DATED AT GABORONE ON THIS 03RD DAY OF OCTOBER 2025

APPLICANT

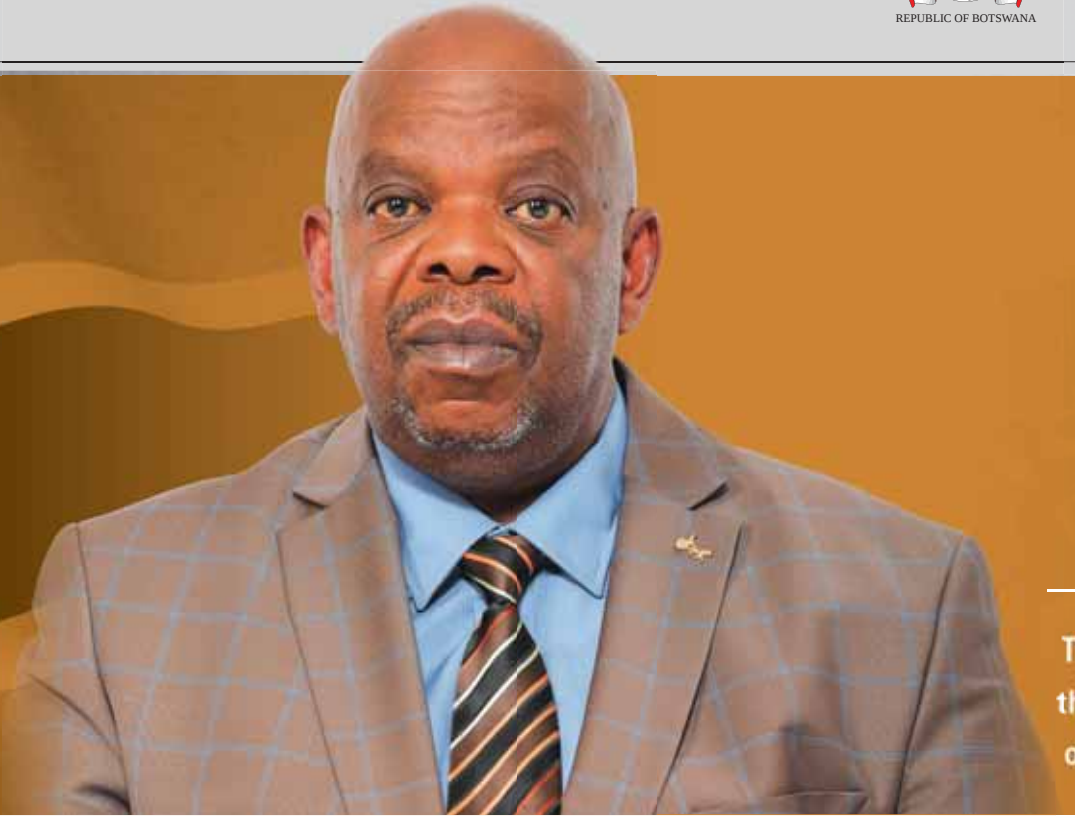
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4TH MEETING OF THE
5TH NTLO YA DIKGOSI

The Chairperson of Ntlo ya Dikgosi, Kgosi Malope II informs the General Public of the Official Opening of the 4th Meeting of the 5th Ntlo ya Dikgosi which will be held on Monday 20th October 2025, Ntlo ya Dikgosi Chamber, Gaborone

KGOSI MALOPE II
CHAIRPERSON OF NTLO YA DIKGOSI

FIRST WEEK



NYD OFFICIAL OPENING :
📅 20 October 2025
🕒 10:00hrs
📍 NyD Chamber

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2025 (BILL NO.14 OF 2025)
📅 21-24 October 2025
🕒 09:30hrs-1600hrs
📍 NyD Chamber

SECOND WEEK

HOUSE BUSINESS
📅 27-31 October 2025
🕒 0930hrs-1600hrs
📍 NyD Chamber

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Lebone La Tsosoloso cultural event aims to revive and restore Basotho culture in both Botswana and Lesotho, while also celebrating 200 years of Basotho existence. Photo: Thandy Tebogo

Lebone La Tsosoloso serves as blueprint

By Thandy Tebogo

TLHARESELEELE - Member of Parliament for Good Hope/Mmathethe Dr Edwin Dikoloti has implored Basotho to serve as ambassadors of peace and represent the values that Basotho identifies with.

Dr Dikoloti made a plea during Lebone La Tsosoloso cultural event celebration held at Tlhareseleele in

Good Hope District on Friday.

At the event, Lesotho High Commissioner to Botswana Ntsime Jafeta and his delegation presented Lebone La Tsosoloso or the National Revival Torch to Basotho residing in Botswana.

Launched by King Letsie III in 2023, Lebone La Tsosoloso mission is to unify Basotho beyond Lesotho's borders.

As such, Dr Dikoloti stated that

Lebone La Tsosoloso should serve as a blueprint for tolerance, self-restraint and discipline in the fight against crime and ill behaviour.

Also, he noted that the event symbolised Basotho's readiness for action and triumph over adversity, noting that it was also an act of spiritual guidance.

Dr Dikoloti, also the acting Minister of Lands and Agriculture said he was in support of the

Basotho's determined commitment of shaping a child well-grounded in their cultural values and customs, building a united nation as well as a nation determined to face the challenges ahead of them.

Culture, he said was a fundamental pillar in education and acted as a light in shaping the future as well as a nation's life journey captured in its values, traditions and aspirations.

He indicated that his intention in the five years as an area Member Parliament was to promote culture as an instrument to boost economic growth.

He said it was crucial to establish ways in which Botswana and Lesotho could strengthen the existing working relations beyond cultural exchanges to include ways of creating wealth, and establishing business partnerships. "Let the torch revive our businesses, peace and unity in our homes," he said.

Dr Dikoloti also indicated that as Botswana was faced with high unemployment rate, it was essential to find ways in which the youth in Botswana could find employment opportunities in Lesotho, and also establish what the youth from Lesotho could learn locally.

Lebone La Tsosoloso day, he said should be included in the national tourism calendar of events.

High Commissioner Jafeta stated that Lebone La Tsosoloso was not only intended to revive the culture of Basotho but signified the rebirth and to inculcate the spirit of reflection and introspection.

He emphasised that it was a strategic way of fostering unity and peace amongst Basotho wherever they resided.

The aim, he said was to follow on the footsteps of their forefathers and toe the line that King Moshoeshoe had laid.

Jafeta said the torch would strengthen the existing working relations between Botswana and Lesotho.

Batswana and Basotho he said, were united by various aspects, citing language as one particular aspect as much as the torch event that distinguished them from other nations.

The aim of the event was to revive and restore the culture of Basotho in Botswana and Lesotho and to also celebrate 200 years of the existence of Basotho tribe. **BOPA**

Kike festival highlights history of Ntlhantlhe

By Relief Lephutshi

NTLHANTLHE - The forefathers of Balete and Bangwaketse have established a foundation of a long-standing relationship between the two communities.

Kgosi Mosadi of Balete said this at the inaugural Kike Cultural Migration Festival on Friday, and highlighted how Kike was originally part of the Bangwaketse territory under Kgosi Bathoen I.

The festival was held under the theme: Modi wa ko re go tswang and highlighted the history of Ntlhantlhe community in the Southern Region of Ngwaketse.

She revealed that the two dikgosi, Balete and Bangwaketse, agreed following negotiations to designate Kike as a grazing area for Balete, thereby moving Bangwaketse further west to Ntlhantlhe.

Kgosi Mosadi emphasised that celebrations like Kike Migration Cultural Festival promoted community cohesion and fostered positive relationships between tribes.

She further urged that the cultural festival should go an extra mile and incorporate cultural exchanges of both Balete and Bangwaketse.

Chief Executive Officer at Botswana Tourism Organisation (BTO) Keitumetse Setlang in relating the festival to tourism,

said tourism does not refer only to the fauna rather to anything that could be done or placed for people to behold. Setlang said as tourism was being diversified world-wide and locally, it had come to attention that culture had been left behind.

"As we communed to find out what could be lacking in the aspect of culture", she said and added that United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) research findings reflected that

music, native foods, dress, dance, culture, arts and others generated billions of dollars in the tourism sector world-wide.

Setlang said when BTO looked amongst the local tourism activities, it had been found that such activities were worth millions of Pula. She said it implied that the local tourism activities were viable.

Regarding the southern region, especially the migration of Bangwaketse from Kike to Ntlhantlhe, she said, the



Residents taking part in activities during the inaugural Kike Cultural Migration Festival in Ntlhantlhe recently. The event was held to highlight the history of the Ntlhantlhe. Photo: Relief Lephutshi

Tebogo, Kebinatshipi qualify for new meet

By Anastacia Sibanda

GABORONE - Olympic 200m champion, Letsile Tebogo and 400m World Athletics champion, Collen Kebinatshipi have qualified for the newly introduced meet dubbed the World Athletics Ultimate Championship.

The inaugural event, which will be held in Budapest, Hungary from September 11-13, 2026, will offer a record-setting prize pot of US\$10 million, the largest ever offered in a single track and field event.

According to World Athletics, every athlete lining up in Budapest will be financially rewarded for their performance, with the ultimate champion in each event taking home the top prize of US\$150 000.

World Athletics also anticipates that new partnerships and enhanced promotional rights will unlock greater financial opportunities for the stars and the sport.

According to World Athletics, the fast-paced three-day competition will feature only top-ranked or only the 'best of the best' athletes.

Automatic qualifiers will include 26 Olympic champions from Paris 2024, 26 World Champions from this year's World Athletics Championships in Tokyo and 25 Diamond League winners from the 2026 season.

Other athletes will qualify based on their performance in 2026 via the World Rankings qualification system.

In an interview, Botswana

Athletics Association acting president, Oabona Theetso said the introduction of the World Athletics Ultimate Championship was a step in the right direction for the sport.

Theetso commended World Athletics for being athletic-centric, noting that such focus was demonstrated by the large injection of money into the prize pool.

He added that the competition was a challenge for the local athletes given that it was a new meet.

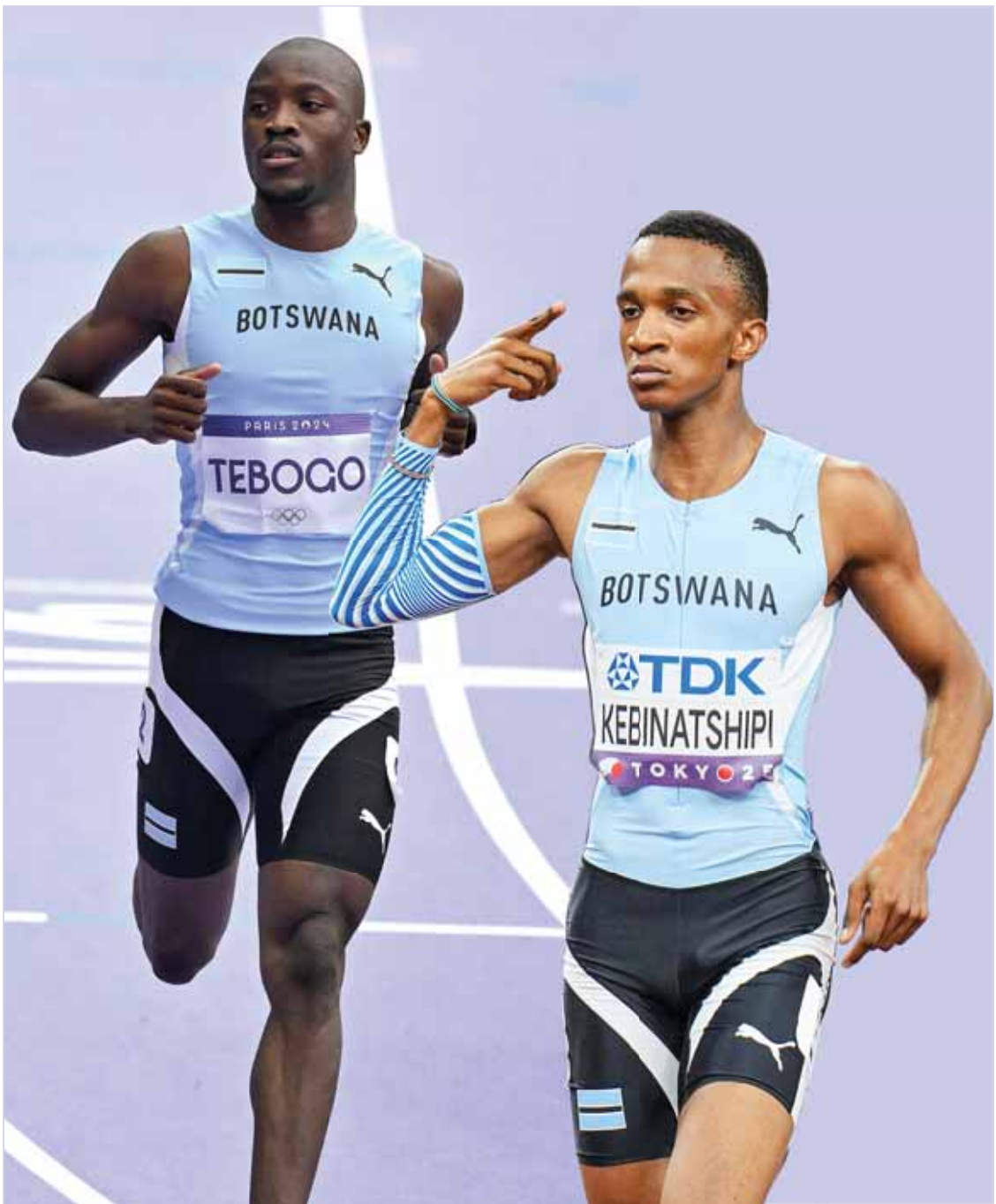
"It is new. It is the best of the best, so when you compete against the best, it is a new challenge to our athletes," he said.

He said while only Tebogo and Kebinatshipi were the only runners who had qualified so far, he was optimistic that other local athletes would qualify for Ultimate Championship since the World Rankings qualification system based on the best performers of 2026 also provided another path for qualification.

The World Relays scheduled for Gaborone in May next year will also be a key qualification event for the relays.

However, Theetso said he was disappointed that the 4x400 metres relays were not included in the World Athletics Ultimate Championship's three-day schedule.

"We would have loved for our 4x400m relay team to be a part of it. However, we take solace in that the Mixed 4x100m relay and Mixed 4x400m relay events are part of the programme," Theetso said. **BOPA**



Letsile Tebogo

Collen Kebinatshipi

Bowling president hails SRR for support

By Kehumile Moekejo

JWANENG - Botswana Bowling Association president, Kitso Robert has applauded SRR Civil and Structural Engineers for its contribution toward developing bowling in the last three years.

In addition to the sponsorship toward the annual SRR Bowling Tournament, he noted that the company had also sponsored accommodation for two bowlers who were scheduled

to participate at the Champion of Champions in Australia. "They do not only sponsor this tournament, they sponsor bowling in many ways.

They sponsored accommodation for our two bowlers who were supposed to go to Australia for the Champion of Champions but unfortunately we did not raise enough money to send them to Australia, but they did their part in sponsoring us," he said at the end of the third edition of the SRR

Bowling Open Tournament held in Jwaneng over the weekend.

The tournament, sponsored by SRR to the tune of P100 000, attracted 20 teams from Botswana, South Africa and Zimbabwe.

Robert said this was the biggest partnership bowling had ever had and applauded SRR for its contribution.

SRR managing director, Kganetso Saubi said they were committed to developing the sport, and recommitted to long-

term partnership with Botswana Bowling Association.

"Even though we had anticipated our journey to end, I am pleased to let you know that we shall continue to be partners in the long run," he said.

Meanwhile, team Now or Never was named the champion of this year's tournament and walked away with P12,000 after garnering 47 points and 67 shots.

Spotted Dogs and Shining Stars got P8,000 and P6,000

respectively with 41 points, 32 shots and 39 points, 14 shots, while No Fear was awarded P4,000 for obtaining fourth position with 37 points, 10 shots.

Jwaneng Bowling Club chairperson, Regent Reid commended bowlers for their commitment, particularly those who came from South Africa and Zimbabwe for their commitment to the sport. Such tournaments, he said were intended to hone their skills and unite them in the spirit of sportsmanship. **BOPA**