

# DailyNews

THE PAPER  
THAT  
INFORMS  
AND  
EDUCATES

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# Botswana, UAE talk ties



NEW YORK - Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr Lemogang Kwapo (second left) and United Arab Emirates Minister of State for International Cooperation, Sheikh Shakhboot bin Nahyan Al Nahyan (third right) and their delegations during a bilateral meeting on Monday. Minister Kwapo said Botswana and UAE were fully committed to enhancing their bilateral relations and expand on existing areas of cooperation. Photo: Yobe Shonga

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# BOU, UNISA implement strategy

By Esther Mmolai

MAUN- Botswana Open University (BOU) and University of South Africa (UNISA) recently hosted a joint two-day regional model symposium as part of implementing their internationalisation strategy and partnership.

The symposium, held in Maun, attracted experts from other universities to discuss reflections on the regional models, exchange experiences on the regional model establishment, operation and keys to success within a specific context.

It involved sharing and interrogation of nine regional models, typical case studies from universities from Botswana, the Caribbean, India, Namibia, South Africa, Turkey, United Kingdom, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Giving an overview of the symposium, Botswana Open University deputy vice chancellor, Student Services, Dr Godson Gatsha said it was conceptualised during the quality audit of University of South Africa Registrars' portfolio, where the need for further benchmarking of University of South Africa's regional model was discussed, in light of a fast changing teaching and learning environment due to several factors.

He mentioned factors such as the impact of the current disruptive technologies, COVID-19 pandemic, which ushered in the new normal, the changing learner profiles, expectations and needs, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) calling for not leaving anyone behind as well as the emergence and demands of the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Industrial Revolutions.

Participants, he said, would learn from sister universities, benchmark and get takeaways that could make a difference in promoting excellence in the academic project of any of the participating universities.

In addition, Dr Gatsha said the forum would enhance quality and credibility of programme offerings and learner support services within a context-bound regional model.

Botswana Open University deputy vice chancellor; Academic Services, Prof. Kgomotso Moahi said the university's regional model had always played a major role in the delivery of open distance learning (ODL) in Botswana.

ODL, she said, was by nature designed to contribute to social and economic development by reaching far and wide, and seeking to address inequalities in access to quality education.

Furthermore, Prof. Moahi said open distance learning in Botswana found a fertile ground as in the country's educational system and practice, the regions

had always played pride of place, both in the way resources were shared and also in the way educational programmes were implemented, using regional representation as a pivotal point.

She noted that to that end, education centres were geographically dispersed across the nation, as regional educational zones, adding that regional directors thus provided leadership and pushed the agenda of the Ministry of Education and Skills Development.

She said the symposium came at a time when major growth had been seen in the fortunes of open distance learning across the globe.

Prof. Moahi said even before COVID-19 struck, with its own rationale for the mandatory use of ODL as an educational route, a report on a 12-country study they had conducted had indicated that 23 million students were studying various courses through ODL.

With such high enrolment figures, she said exploring regional models became an appropriate area of discourse.

Prof. Moahi said there was no doubt that the use of information and communications technology had a lot to do with ODL growth and enhancement.

The COVID-19 emergence, she said, had undoubtedly promoted online learning in many parts of the world, noting that it would be interesting to see how the growth and the related promotion of the 4IR expectations informed the regional models of practice in the ODL institutions across the globe.

Botswana Open University, she said, had increased use of technology in the academic delivery process, adding that the issue at hand, therefore, was to interrogate the impact and implications presented by the use of technology to the current regional model.

Vice principal, Strategy, Risk and Advisory Services from UNISA, Prof. Khehla Ndlovu implored sister universities to provide substantive interventions to address challenges faced by open distance learners.

He said at University of South Africa they experienced challenges such as increased dropout, noting that learners enrolled were unemployed, while some came from disadvantaged families.

Lack of access to technology, he said, disadvantaged learners, especially those from rural areas, where there was no connectivity.

Prof. Ndlovu also called for regional hubs of learning to be configured in a manner that improved learning processes.

The symposium was held under the theme: Refining Regional Models in a Changing Teaching and Learning Academic or University Environment. **BOPA**



Dr Gatsha giving an overview of BOU/UNISA partnership during a two-day regional model symposium in Maun. Photo: Esther Mmolai

## Btv finally goes digital

GABORONE - Botswana will finally switch off from analogue to digital transmission of TV on October 2, a development that will also see the Department of Broadcasting Services introduce three new channels on Botswana Television (Btv) through the use of set top box.

In an interview, deputy permanent secretary; Information and Broadcasting in the Ministry for State President, Mr Oshinka Tsiang said the switch to digital transmission was part of the Geneva 2006 agreement to which Botswana was committed.

"Since then, we have been steadfast on rolling out digital terrestrial transmitters and in total P200 million has been channelled towards the digital migration project, which has been running since 2010," he said.

He said the latest development provided an opportunity to transform the broadcaster by taking advantage of digital technology, hence the introduction of three new channels.

Mr Tsiang said the set top box would see the introduction of the news and current affairs 24-hour channel, which would broadcast kgotla meetings addressed by the President and cabinet ministers, Parliament proceedings and major announcements while the other channel would focus on entertainment including sports, drama and music.

"The set top box will carry other licensed broadcasters to enhance content. It will also



Mr Tsiang

broadcast radio Botswana and RB2 as well as other radio stations," he said.

Mr Tsiang said although viewers would have the option to continue using DSTV to view Btv, they would not enjoy the benefits of all the channels offered by the local broadcaster through the set top box. He also advised on the advantages of the set top box, saying it did not require one to subscribe each month to stay connected.

He said the new channels had prompted the need to ensure availability of resources, which would be managed by including commercial adverts to enable the broadcaster to run with revenue generated from such.

"We have also roped in freelancers to support the broadcaster while the ministry of youth has come on board through NOW TV, which will help with content for entertainment," said Mr Tsiang.

He said having many channels would help support the creative industry, noting the Department of Broadcasting's commitment to the 80/20 principle of playing local content in their broadcasters.

Mr Tsiang explained that the move had also compelled the department to find ways of forming partnerships to see how best channels could be kept alive and interesting in terms of content. "We have created a platform for creativity and this translates to engaging many local creatives," he said, adding that a lot of movement and activity sparked by the development was expected at Mass Media Complex, which housed Btv along with other government media.

Mr Tsiang said time had also come to look at the percentage divide taking into account how much was previously put into the budget given the challenges.

He said more emphasis on budget creation also meant refining the department's marketing strategy and content and emphasised that it should not be about getting money from government, but looking

at sustainability and return on investment to justify the budget.

He noted that rolling out the digital transmission was not a walk in the park, citing resources and finance for public education among the challenges.

"We also had to look at the affordability of set top boxes in certain areas and also ensured that we have service providers who can sell, maintain and service them to ensure continuity," he said. For his part, broadcasting services director, Mr Raymond Tsheko said the three new channels, which coincided with the switch to digital transmission, marked a milestone as the department also unveiled a platform through which the creatives would offer their content.

"It unbundles content so that the local creative industry can take part meaningfully while it also helps us to fulfil our obligation as the department on the third party agreement," he said.

He said broadcasting with one channel often times led to disruption of the agreement, especially during important national announcements, adding, "it was not pleasing for the business community, especially those who have placed commercial adverts".

Mr Tsheko said the aim was to make Btv a platform of choice as more channels would mean more space for content, which had forced them to enhance production capacity so as to bring more ideas and reduce the costs.

As part of the build-up, he said the department had already engaged freelancers in April to have them ready for the new channels and to capacitate operational functions such as camera, lighting and graphics.

"Where there are opportunities to employ people, go for it, especially that there are many people trained in this field," he said.

Set top boxes including an aerial can be purchased from SARONA at 74137387/74344547, BLUE MEL at 72718747/ 76671776 and DATAMIND at 3111811. **BOPA**

# Envisaged economy dependent on education

By **Thato Mosinyi**

NEW YORK - Attainment of a knowledge-based economy is dependent on the effectiveness of the country's investments in education, learning and training.

Minister of Education and Skills Development Dr Douglas Letsholathebe said this during a high-level side event at the global transformation education summit in New York on Monday.

Therefore, he said, 'Botswana will take advantage of the digital literacy and e-learning tools to prepare children and youth for the future of work and ensure digital inclusion through connecting young people to information opportunities'.

Dr Letsholathebe stated that plans were also underway to implement education reforms that would

enhance the quality of education and usher in a new dawn for Botswana.

According to the minister, the introduction of multi pathways at senior secondary school level was among the critical reforms that could enhance government's drive towards a knowledge-based economy. Saying unemployment had become an impediment to the country's transformation, he emphasised the need to create opportunities for young people.

Dr Letsholathebe said the planned introduction of mother tongue in schools would help create the much-needed jobs through developing and translating study material into different languages.

Plans to introduce mother tongue in early childhood learning were at an advanced stage and could be implemented as early as January in some selected areas, he said.

Describing a knowledge-based economy as one of the vital components of modern economies, Dr Letsholathebe said the transformation presented opportunities for scaling up with the current natural and knowledge endowments.

"In addition to the fruits of our investment in education and training, our transformation into a knowledge-based economy requires that we enhance our current proficiencies and build new ones with our current resources," he said. Dr Letsholathebe also touched on the SmartBots Strategy aimed at driving digital transformation across the economy, government and society at large in order to transform Botswana into a

knowledge-based economy.

Minister Letsholathebe said SmartBots would leverage technology and innovation to deliver public services and reform the education system with focus on building the requisite human capital for the envisaged economy.

"SmartBots recognises that the transformation of the public service sector is critical and in this connection, Botswana has adopted a "whole of government" approach to transforming the public sector in order to accelerate digital connectivity and close the

connectivity gap without leaving anyone behind," he said.

Through the strategy, Botswana sought to improve overall competitiveness, economic diversification and to position itself as Africa's digital innovation leader, he said. **BOPA**



Minister Letsholathebe



NEW YORK - President Dr Mokgweetsi Masisi (right) in an exclusive interview with Voice of America's Peter Clotney on Sunday. The President said the US had been a huge supporter of Botswana's development efforts, particularly in the health, education, environment, wildlife management and security spaces. He expressed the wish to deepen and strengthen relations with the country during his tenure. Photo: Yobe Shonga

## Next budget to emphasise growth areas

By **Pako Lebanna**

GABORONE - The 2023/24 budget will focus on potential growth areas as Botswana strives to migrate from middle to high income status.

This was revealed yesterday by Minister of Finance and Economic Development, Ms Peggy Serame during a budget Pitso for general stakeholders held in Gaborone.

She said the budget would include macroeconomic interventions aimed at attaining stability and accelerating growth, which would guide the country towards attaining high income status.

"In order to make strides of migrating from upper-middle to high income country status we should continue to entrench the macro-economic stability measures that are critical for socio-economic development," said Ms Serame. The minister said the budget would put emphasis on digital transformation, fiscal sustainability, sustaining livelihoods, infrastructure development and business

environment reforms.

Ms Serame noted that rising food and fuel prices globally had driven the national inflation rate to 14.6 per cent by last month, far exceeding the Bank of Botswana's 3-6 per cent medium term objective range. Government, she explained, reacted by putting in place measures to cushion households.

They included adjustment of Value Added Tax (VAT) from 14 to 12 per cent and making cooking oil as well as liquid petroleum gas zero-rated for VAT purposes for six months.

"Even though it is expected that these measures will increase the budget deficit slightly, they will however stimulate spending and economic activity especially among low income households," Ms Serame stated.

The minister informed her audience of government's commitment to measures aimed at restocking the government investment account to pre-COVID-19 levels.

She said the measures included revenue maximisation, cost

containment such as reducing the wage bill and rationalisation of some state owned enterprises.

Ms Serame pointed out that the budgetary process took place at a time characterised by rationalisation of ministerial portfolio responsibilities, preparation of National Development Plan (NDP 12), Foot and Mouth Disease outbreak and uncertainty created by the COVID-19 pandemic as well as the Russia-Ukraine conflict.

"All these emerging issues require that we should all work together and ensure that we implement our budget going forward in a way that will not compromise the integrity of our development path with a common understanding and commitment towards achieving the RESET Agenda, Vision 2036 and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)," said Ms Serame.

Held annually since 2010, the Pitso follows publication of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development's budget strategy paper, which contains projections for the next financial year. **BOPA**

## Botswana, UAE discuss relations

By **Thato Mosinyi**

NEW YORK - Botswana and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) are committed to enhancing bilateral relations and expanding existing areas of cooperation, says Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr Lemogang Kwape.

Speaking in an interview following a meeting with his UAE counterpart, Sheikh Shakhboot bin Nahyan Al Nahyan, Dr Kwape said because of the strong ties existing between the two countries, there was a huge potential to extend the scope of bilateral trade and partnerships in various sectors.

Dr Kwape said the two countries attached a lot of importance to their diplomatic relations which were premised on shared values of democracy, mutual respect and understanding as well as continuous pursuit of sustainable development.

Significant progress in enhancing bilateral relations had already been made in the areas of investment promotion missions, mining as well as events hosting and hospitality, he said.

The minister said the two countries relations were further nurtured during Botswana's participation at the Dubai Expo.

The expo created a foundation for Botswana entrepreneurs to trade with their UAE counterparts and establish business partnerships, said Dr Kwape.

He mentioned that a UAE entrepreneur had expressed interest in investing in the Lobatse dairy project. Apart from maintaining a progressive, collegial and friendly disposition over the years, Dr Kwape said the two countries had also enjoyed each other's support at multilateral level.

Prior to meeting the UAE delegation, Dr Kwape had met the American-Jews community and informed them of Botswana's firm belief in the rule of law, self-determination and respect of sovereignty. **BOPA**



Finance ministry permanent secretary Dr Wilfred Mandlebe (left) and Ms Serame during the Budget Pitso for general stakeholders in Gaborone yesterday. Photo: Pheny Moalosi

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# Monganakodu report not ready

By Baleseng Batlotleng

TAUNG - An inception report on the probable cause of water seepage at Monganakodu ward and intervention measures to the challenge are yet to be finalised.

This came to light on Monday during an update meeting for residents of Monganakodu in Taung, near Ramotswa, on the water seepage situation by the technical taskforce from stakeholders.

Lands planning officer from Maletse Landboard, Mr Motshidisi Mafoko said regular updates from the taskforce were important so as to consult with the community to assist with further intervention measures to address the situation.

He said lack of resources, manpower and other logistical challenges hampered their efforts to deliver on their mandate timely.

Mr Mafoko said those charged with identifying a long-lasting solution were working round the clock to meet the target.

He said the taskforce had even extended their area of investigation to establish the root cause of the seepage.

He advised allottees not to undertake any developments in their plots until a solution is found.

Ground water technician from the Department of Water and Sanitation, Mr Phemelo Makoba told residents that the water quality

analysis had primarily ruled out contributions from Water Utilities Corporation infrastructures.

He explained that soil samples from 18 trial pits from Monganakodu and Gamarete wards had been collected and submitted for atterberg analysis at the University of Botswana geotechnical laboratory.

He noted that the study area covered 2147.48ha running from Boatle landfill as the southern boundary, Mafukutswe-Rankepe hills as western boundary, Notwane farms as northern boundary and Notwane River as Eastern boundary.

Mr Makoba said Monganakodu was highly saturated, posing threat of flooding from rains.

He said as part of the remedial measures, 16 boreholes would be drilled throughout the study area and selected ones would be used for dewatering the groundwater system in order to lower the water table.

For his part, South East District Council roads engineer, Mr Steven Tshukudu said efforts had been made in the past to avert water from flowing from its natural pathway and cause extensive damage to property.

He said remedial works had been undertaken and so far at least 1.7 million litres had been drawn from the area and discharged into Taung

River, a tributary of Gaborone Dam.

Mr Tshukudu said an interception drain was also excavated on the western side of the access road in order to intercept the heavy ground water, which was observed after excavation of trial pits, while trying to track the origins of the water.

He said as part of short term intervention measures, shallow drains would be excavated in between residential plots to assist with storm water drainage.

A structural engineer at the Department of Building and Engineering Services, Mr Antony Monthe said they had completed assessment of buildings affected by the seepage and were awaiting a consolidated report compilation.

He said reports that some people were undertaking developments on their plots was disturbing even though some had been awarded building permits, which the taskforce was not mandated to halt.

Maletse Land Board had requested an investigation from Department of Geological Survey in 2013 to assess the cause of the seepage and come up with intervention measures.

Results and observations from the investigation showed that there was ponding in the area of investigation as a result of surface run-off during the rainy season.

The visible ponds in the area had

raised concern among the residents, fearing that if the problem was not addressed at the earliest, it could cause major problems to their lives and property.

Preliminary investigations show that the water comes from underground, with origins from the western side of Taung Industrial Site Access road. **BOPA**



Ministry of Agriculture employee repairing part of the Matsiloje and Dikgathong fence on Monday. Photo: Gaseitsewe Moruakgomo

## More resources needed for cordon fence

By Goweditse Kome

MATSILOJE - Assistant Minister of Agriculture, Mr Molebatsi Molebatsi says although short-term measures were in place to maintain the cordon fence between Matsiloje and Dikgathong Dam, it was time long-term measures were employed.

Speaking during interactions with ministry employees who maintain the fence during his inspection of the fence from Matsiloje to Dikgathong in Zone 6b on Sunday, Mr Molebatsi said one way of achieving long-term solutions was by increasing resources.

He said the purpose of his visit was to familiarise himself with and appreciate the status of the fence and challenges encountered after part of Zone 6b from Tsamaya Extension area was contaminated by Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD).

Mr Molebatsi said more resources, included manpower, tractors, trucks, fences and other machinery were needed to reduce the manual work and to speed up the process.

He said one of the critical issues was security as employees maintaining the fence worked under insecure conditions such as roaming dangerous animals in the likes of elephants.

He said the over arching short-term goal was to curb FMD in the area and to stop cattle from crossing from Zimbabwe into Botswana.

Mr Molebatsi said a long-term solution for the entire country was needed though what was implemented around Tuli Block

would help.

He said it was not sustainable to use over P100 million in maintenance every 10 years, saying the money could be used in one financial year to provide long-term solutions.

Mr Molebatsi urged ministry employees to know the required resources that would enable them to achieve their daily activities.

He said he now had a full appreciation of the damages along the fence and the work that was done on a daily basis to maintain the fence.

For his part, North East District agriculture coordinator, Mr Gwilizani Maposa said the fence from Ramokgwebana to Matsiloje was damaged by people who smuggled such goods as petrol, food and illegal substances.

The fence from Matsiloje to Dikgathong, he said, was mostly damaged by elephants and livestock.

One of the technical assistants maintaining the fence, Mr Mathews Ntwaetsile said they worked every day to repair the fence and that skipping a day would be disastrous.

Mr Ntwaetsile suggested that more rail poles should be used to substitute gum poles.

He noted that elephants broke the rails to enable young ones to cross the fence.

He said there were areas where they used strong wire similar to the one used by Botswana Power Corporation, but that they had to leave some spaces to enable young elephants to cross, because otherwise they would destroy the whole fence, which was on their migratory route. **BOPA**



Water-logged plots at Monganakodu ward in Taung are a common sight. A taskforce set up to establish the probable cause and intervention measures said a report on the matter was still being compiled.

Photo: Baleseng Batlotleng

## Changate residents call for maintenance of border fence

By Goitsemodimo Williams-Madzonga

CHANGATE - Poor maintenance of the border fence has made it easy for criminals from Zimbabwe to steal from Changate, a border village in Nkange constituency.

The sad state of affair, the residents argued, had turned their village into a safe haven for criminals; something they said needed to be attended to forthwith.

They said during a kgotla meeting addressed by Area Member of Parliament, Dr Never Tshabang on Monday, that they losing their cattle to the criminals, who seemed to have taken advantage of the state of the fence to pursue cross-border crime

One of the residents, Mr Daniel Puso said residents' valuables such as vehicles were also stolen.

Mr Puso told the meeting that the situation posed danger to farmers who could be attacked by criminals while tending their livestock.

He suggested that frequent patrols along the border could also be part of the solution to the problem.

Another resident, Ms Eliana Mokoka wanted to know when the promise to turn Nkange Junior Secondary School into a boarding facility would be fulfilled.

Further delays to transform the school, she warned, posed a lot of danger to students who walked over 10 kilometres to reach the school.

"We have had incidents in the

past when some students were attacked by elephants on their way to school," she said.

In his response, Dr Tshabang said the tender for Nkange school hostels had been cancelled.

He hastened to indicate, however, that the funds that were allocated for the project remained intact and that the relevant departments dealing with the tendering process had asked for a period of six months to re-tender.

He has as a result called for residents to stay calm and allow for due process to take place.

The same, Dr Tshabang relayed, goes for the 72-bed Tutume primary hospital project, which had also experienced hiccups at tendering stage. **BOPA**

# SA hails Botswana's move to enhance education

By Esther Mmolai

MAUN - Botswana has been hailed for adopting brilliant initiatives such as the Outcome Based Education (OBE), to advance and enhance the education system.

A member of the Southern Africa Association for Educational Assessment (SAAEA) Executive Committee (EXCO) from South Africa, Dr Mafu Rakometsi said such initiatives were aimed to deliver independent and 21<sup>st</sup> century responsive learners.

Another initiative he said he was impressed with was the Adopt-a-School, which aimed to facilitate private sector and the community participation in the delivery of quality education.

Giving the remarks during the SAAEA EXCO meeting in Maun recently, Dr Rakometsi said the initiatives were a welcome development as they could help to produce competitive learners and enable efficiency and effectiveness in delivering quality education.

He urged SAAEA EXCO members to work as a unit and support each other, adding that every member state should execute assignments diligently and take stewardship seriously. No examination body, he said, should be seen monopolising the space, but promote the spirit of cooperation and not competition so that they could benchmark from each other.

Earlier on, North West regional education director, Ms Veronica Mochotlhi informed the meeting that Botswana was now in transit to a knowledge-based economy.

In order to achieve that, she said the Ministry of Education remained a critical player and catalyst for the transformation.

"We have a critical role in educating and training citizens who in turn contribute to

the growth of our economy," she added.

Ms Mochotlhi also noted that the ministry had developed an Education and Training Sector Strategic Plan (ETSSP) because of the consciousness of the complexity of the issues surrounding education.

The plan, she said, was aimed at facilitating the attainment of improved learning outcomes by addressing issues of access, equity, quality, relevance and accountability across the entire sector.

Ms Mochotlhi also revealed that since January last year, Maun Senior Secondary School pioneered new pre-vocational subjects; Hospitality and Tourism studies.

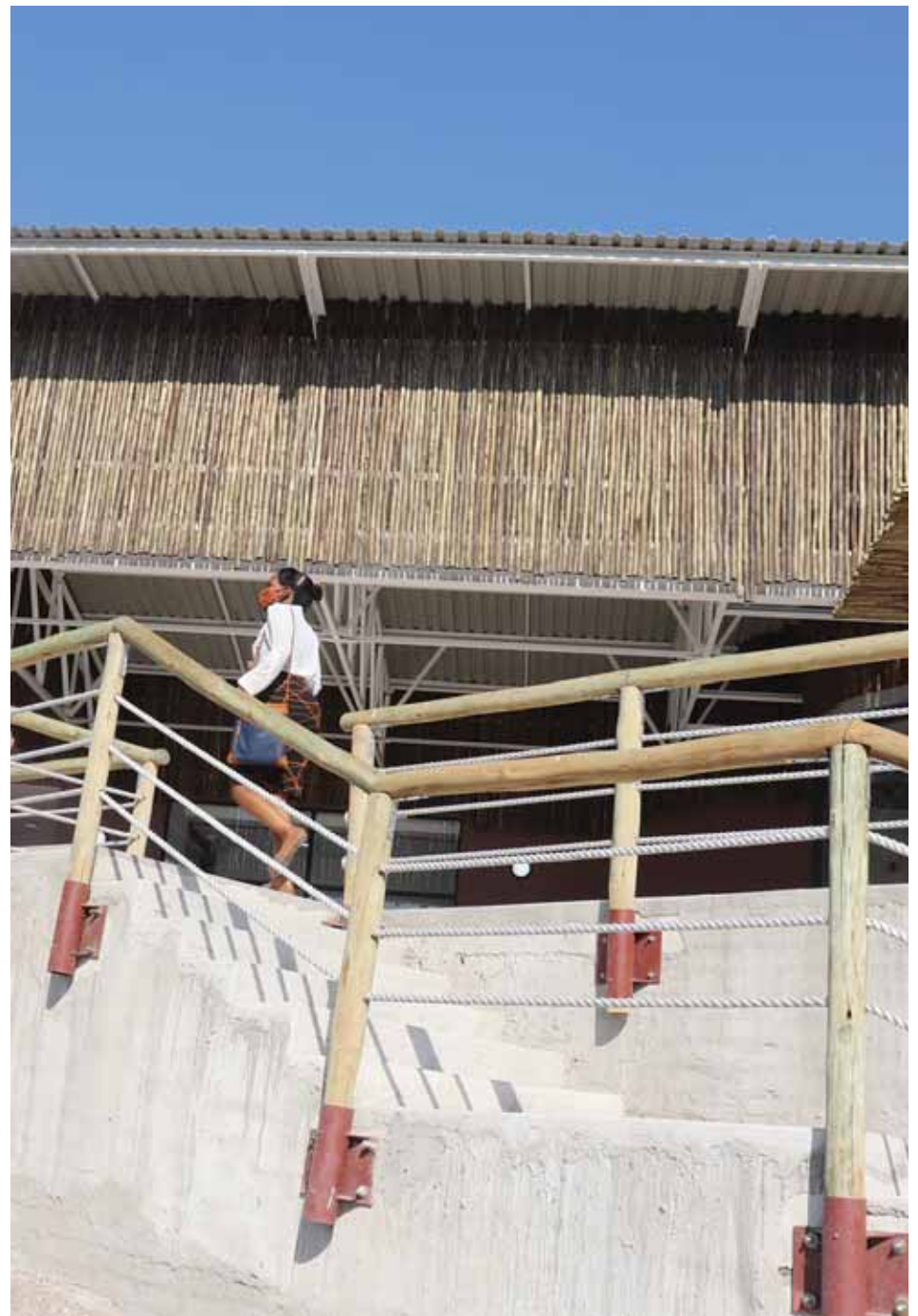
The meeting also learnt that stakeholders should continuously engage in research for the development of up to date policies and interventions in the education systems.

Ms Mochotlhi appreciated the EXCO meeting, saying it was motivating that the forum was alive to that need.

She also shared that the success in the ministry was supported by continued and highly valued input from their primary partners and stakeholders in education.

The private sector in tourism operations, she said not only create employment to the local communities, but have contributed through their social responsibilities by providing education infrastructure such as building of classrooms, as well as adopting schools and engaging in academic programmes.

Ms Mochotlhi also emphasised the need to build more resilience within all education sectors so that it may withstand current and future disasters such as COVID-19 by ensuring uninterrupted business. **BOPA**



Tourism and Hospitality facilities at Maun Senior Secondary School. Ms Mochotlhi said the newly introduced pre-vocational subjects at the school were a move in the right direction to attaining outcome-based education.

## Official advises PWDs to utilise free services

By Esther Mmolai

MAUN - Ngamiland legislators have been urged to mobilise communities to take advantage of services offered by Tshidilo Stimulation Centre.

"You are a critical stem linking us with our clientele, and I appeal to you to disseminate information about our services during your kgotla meetings and other interactions with your electorates," centre manager, Mr Ramoremi Mphothwe appealed thus during a meeting aimed to sensitise the political leadership about services offered by the centre to benefit people with disability.

The centre, he said, worked closely with the ministries of health and education to offer specialised education and rehabilitation services.

The centre offers preschool and stimulation services to persons with disabilities through

physiotherapy, orthopaedic technology, occupational therapy, counselling and social welfare services.

The Mr Mphothwe further noted that the centre also offered vocational training to help persons with disability to be active and acquire skills that would help them decide on their choice of careers.

The programmes offered include agriculture, dress making, leather works and weaving.

The centre recently acquired a mobile rehabilitation truck to help in taking services to all corners of the district for the benefit of all citizens.

Mr Mphothwe explained that they were working towards bridging the gap in service provision, adding that soon, they would embark on outreach activities across the district.

The mobile truck offers services such

as orthopaedics, physiotherapy and school readiness assessment and counselling service through trained staff from different professions.

During the outreach, Mr Mphothwe said they would also conduct some assessments to see who could be enrolled, adding that they would be working closely with social workers and health officials. The clinic, he said, would help to follow many of their clients to their respective villages.

On the issue of funding, Mr Mphothwe noted that the centre received quarterly subvention from the government through the health ministry, adding that since funding was inadequate, they were open to assistance from other stakeholders.

The centre, he said, had also benefited from the North West District Council in the past and expressed hope that they would continue receiving support. **BOPA**

## Monkeypox report false

By Lesedi Thatayamodimo

GABORONE - The Ministry of Health has dismissed media reports that there had been a monkeypox case in Molepolole.

Ministry spokesperson, Dr Christopher Nyanga stated in an interview on Monday that if such was the case, the ministry would alert public members and make them aware of precautionary measures put in place to contain the disease.

Dr Nyanga warned the media against publishing unconfirmed statements as they could cause unnecessary confusion and panic. **BOPA**

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**JAHRA GOVERNORATE** - A worker maintaining power lines in Kuwait. The country relies on fuel oil and natural gas for the bulk of its electricity supplies. Across the Middle East the potential of renewable energy remains largely undeveloped. Yet the region has unlimited sunshine and in many areas great potential for the development of wind farms. Kuwait has a formal target of producing 15 per cent of its electricity from renewable sources by 2030. . Photo: Xinhua

# Chobe trust doing well

By Keamogetse Letsholo

**KASANE** - Chobe Enclave Community Trust (CECT) is doing well, despite stagnant financial flow experienced at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic.

CECT accountant, Ms Chaza Sinvula, revealed during the CECT annual general meeting over the weekend that the organisation accumulated revenue through hunting quotas, photography tourism and rentals in 2021.

Ms Sinvula said the total income for the year under review was P9 million with P5.5 million expenditure and P3.5 million profit, adding that the profit would be equally divided amongst five villages owning the CECT.

Meanwhile, the value of CECT stood at over P37 million as at December 31, 2021, according to Mr Clive Zimunya of Alliant CPA Associates.

When presenting an audit

report for the trust, he said its equity value, among the diverse investment portfolios, was P37 342 235 for the period ending December 2021.

Mr Zimunya said according to their audit opinion, the financial statements reflected transparency and were compliant to the International Financial Reporting Standard for Small and Medium-sized Entities.

He said the audit was conducted in accordance with International Standards on Auditing and other independent requirements applicable to performing audits of auditor's responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements of Botswana.

CECT manager, Mr Moses Sinchembe, called for the need to diversify or consider non-tourism income generating projects as over-reliance on tourism related means could be problematic in the future. **BOPA**

# Bolivia president rebuffs IMF economic proposals

**LA PAZ** - Bolivia president, Luis Arce, on Friday declined recommendations from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) aimed at redirecting the country's economy.

"Our economic, social, communitary and productive model is sovereign and continues to show success in reducing social and economic inequalities," Arce posted on social media.

"That is why we do not accept the proposals of the #IMF, which would be detrimental to the people, especially the working class," Arce added.

In a report released recently, the IMF recommended Bolivia to reassess the exchange rate between its national currency and the US dollar, which remained the same since 2011, and government subsidies of fuel and certain economic sectors.

Bolivian minister of economy and public finance, Marcelo Montenegro, said the IMF's recommendations regarding subsidies were contradictory and

the government had no plans to follow them.

He dismissed the IMF's formulas as outdated, saying they were applied in past decades by neoliberal governments, but are no longer viable today, especially in Bolivia.

The stable exchange rate is due to the national currency's strength, said Montenegro, stressing that each country must formulate and apply its own economic and financial policy in a sovereign manner, unfettered by the IMF. **Xinhua**

# Canada faces bumpy road to realise inflation target

**OTTAWA** - Although the Bank of Canada has been the most aggressive rate-hiker in 2022, reaching an inflation target of 2 per cent remains onerous.

"Getting inflation all the way back to two per cent will take some time. We also know there could be bumps along the way," said Carolyn Rogers, Senior Deputy Governor of the Bank of Canada.

The Bank has delivered both the largest cumulative rate hike, 300 bps in 2022, and the highest policy rate, 3.25 per cent, but it won't stop or suspend rate hikes while inflation continues to rise across goods and services.

Inflation won't come down overnight. Monetary policy works like a chain reaction or sequence of events, which takes time.

According to Rogers, changes to the Bank's policy rate affect different households and sectors of the economy differently and at different speeds.

The housing market is one sector where higher rates are felt immediately, but it takes longer for interest rates to bring down price growth on things not directly tied to borrowing, she said.

The recent declines in gasoline and other commodity prices have helped to lower headline inflation from its peak in June.

However, the core inflation, which excludes food and energy,

continued to rise.

TD Bank Economist Ksenia Bushmeneva said the past surge in goods prices and healthy wage gains have passed through to service prices.

"Services prices are stickier. They lag goods' prices in that they take longer to rise, but once they begin to accelerate, they can continue to increase even in an economic downturn. This raises the risk of a longer period of high inflation despite slowing growth,"

Bushmeneva said.

Rising wages are also adding more fuel to core inflation.

Even as the labor market cooled further in August, wage growth continued to accelerate, with average hourly wages up 5.4 per cent from a year ago, he said.

BMO Chief Economist Douglas Porter said the core inflation has flared to 6.6 per cent year on year from just 2.8 per cent a year ago.

A weaker currency could further fuel consumer goods and imported

food prices. "The sag in the loonie threatens to aggravate an already problematic inflation backdrop," Porter said.

The steady stream of fiscal support measures flowing from both the provincial and federal levels would, on balance, nudge the risks of higher rates a bit further upward, he added.

Last week, the federal government announced a targeted support package totaling more than US\$6 billion. **Xinhua**



President Arce



**HASBAYA** - Lebanese coins being sold in south Lebanon. The Lebanese pound on Monday sank to a historic low against the US dollar on the parallel market as the country continued to suffer from a steep financial crisis and political deadlock. According to economist Mounir Younes, Lebanese merchants recently increased their imports ahead of the rise in the customs dollar rate. Photo: Xinhua

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# Pilikwe eulogises Kgosi Tshekedi Khama

By **Kabo Keaketswe**

**PILIKWE** - If it was possible for the dead to hear, Kgosi Tshekedi Khama would have been smiling from his grave following eulogies by many on Saturday.

The domestic visionary and global statesman that was Tshekedi Khama, the man was praised highly about his legacy at the 117th anniversary of his birth in Pilikwe, a village he founded.

Growing up, a lot of controversial stories were said about him, while the good he did was seldom said until the commemoration of his life. One of

the speakers, Dr Jeff Ramsay said Kgosi Tshekedi was a visionary leader who concerning education, in his written document, affirmed his intention to construct Moeng College, which would integrate academic and vocational subjects with an emphasis on agricultural training.

It was said that he also proposed that priority be given to the accelerated construction of a Bechuanaland Protectorate Maternity Hospital and Training Centre for nurses. To promote livestock development, Dr Ramsay said Tshekedi advocated that in addition to a commercial

abattoir, a canning and frozen factory be established to facilitate beef exports.

In terms of horticulture, it was said that Tshekedi advocated the piloting of irrigated agriculture in the Nata region. For mining development, Dr Ramsay noted that the visionary leader advocated that Bechuanaland nationalised its mineral wealth, while further imposing strict production timelines on companies that held mineral leases.

"In addition to the deficit in skilled local manpower, to be addressed by vocational training, Tshekedi recognised inadequate

transport infrastructure as a key constraint. To overcome this, he attached a detailed appendix in support of his view that the railway should also be nationalised. Tractor-trailers could also be purchased to provide public transport for produce, linking to railheads," said Dr Ramsay.

Concerning transport, it is said that Tshekedi's dream project, which also appeared in "The Case of Bechuanaland" was the revival of efforts to construct a Trans-Kgalagadi railway, which would link from Palapye to Walvis Bay via the then already existing rail spur at Gobabis.

It seems the man achieved a lot during his abbreviated life against immense odds, therefore, many believed his life should be an inspiration to build on his legacy. Professor Mutjinde Otjitambi, paramount chief of Ovaherero from Namibia also highly praised Tshekedi Khama that he was an intelligent leader.

A great man as perceived by many, Prof Otjitambi said Kgosi Tshekedi played an indefatigable role being against South West Africa becoming part of South Africa.

He said Tshekedi had long realised that Botswana being a landlocked country, her foreign trade route through racist South Africa and to be at the mercy of the Boers, would be in jeopardy.

"He had it in mind that, if, one day, South West Africa became free and independent, the better option for Botswana's foreign trade route would be a railway from Francistown to Walvis Bay. What a foresight. I know that there is a dry dock in Walvis Bay for Botswana goods, but reinforcing Tshekedi's initial idea of a Francistown-Walvis Bay railroad to facilitate improved export and import of goods by Botswana," he said.

The paramount chief said Tshekedi distinguished himself as the first Pan-Africanist ever, long before the later generation of the Pan-African Movement, the likes of Dr Kwame Nkrumah, Dr Jomo Kenyatta, Dr Kamuzu Hastings Banda among others.

He however highlighted that when finally Namibia was liberated, and for the last 32 years of independence, no credit had been given to Kgosi Tshekedi Khama for his role in Namibia's struggle for Independence. "I therefore humbly propose to the Botswana political leadership to consider renaming the Botswana Dry Dock in Walvis Bay after Kgosi Tshekedi Khama to honour and appreciate his role to solicit the support from the United Nations to prevent the annexation of Namibia, Swaziland and Basutoland by the Union of South Africa," he said.

Kgosi Gasebalwe Seretse of Pilikwe was also excited about learning that Tshekedi was a great man, adding Tshekedi's life should inspire people to build on his legacy and not to forget it. **BOPA**



*Pilikwe residents marching during the commemoration of the life of Kgosi Tshekedi Khama and the village's 70th anniversary recently.*

Photo: Kabo Keaketswe

## Police probe suicide, attempted suicide

By **Khumile Moekejo**

**KANYE** - Kanye police are investigating an incident in which the body of a 40-year-old man of Mafhikana ward in Kanye was found hanging from a tree on Sunday.

In an interview, Kanye police station commander Superintendent Mmoloki Mogale said they received a missing person report the same day, and a search team which was dispatched found the body hanging from a tree behind Ketlogetswe primary school in Mafhikana ward.

"It is reported that he was last seen on September 14, but was only reported missing on September 18 after the family could not establish his whereabouts.

The search party later found the decomposed body hanging from a tree behind Ketlogetswe primary school," he said.

He said post-mortem was conducted on the scene and the decomposed body was handed to the family to be buried the following day, while police investigations into the matter continue.

"Since the body was already decomposed, we engaged pathologists to conduct post-mortem at the scene before handing it over to the family for burial on Monday.

We did not find any suicide note and our investigations are ongoing to establish if there was any foul play," he noted.

In another incident, Supt. Mogale said a 26-year-old man was currently recovering at Seventh Day Adventist Hospital following an attempted suicide in the wee hours of Monday.

"We received a report that the

man had sent a message to his family members that he wanted to commit suicide and the police went to his rented house in Sebege ward, where they found him looking sickly with packets of pills next to him," he explained.

He said since the man was suspected to have overdosed on the pills, he was rushed to the hospital for medical attention while counselling would also be arranged for him.

He said the man was alone at the time of the incident hence they were yet to establish what transpired. **BOPA**



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26. Date of first appointment
27. Present post, salary grade and date of appointment thereto.

**IMPORTANT:**

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**Applicants who meet the above requirements should apply to:**

The Permanent Secretary  
Ministry of Communications, Knowledge and Technology  
P/Bag 00414 Gaborone

**Physical address:** Ministry of Communications, Knowledge and Technology (Westgate Mall).

For any enquiries contact Recruitment & Selection division at 3625545, 3625525, 3625524, 3625517, 3625522 and 3612031.

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## Ba Malwelwe batla abelwa ditsha di le 513

### Ka Booster Mogapi

MALWELWE - Modulasetilo wa lekgotla la kabo-ditsha la Kweneng Rre Kgang Kgang o tlhalositse botlhokwa jwa go dirisa lefatshe ka fa go tshwanetseng.

O buile se ka Mosupologo jaaka fa ba ne ba simolola letsholo la go abela baikopedi ba le 516 ditsha dile 513 kwa motseng wa Malwelwe mo kgaolong ya Letlhakeng/Lephephe. Kabo ditsha e, e solofetswe go wela ka Labotlhano.

A re go dirisa lefatshe tiriso e moikopedi a le abetsweng yone go botlhokwa fela thata ka go hema dikomano le diphaphang mo setshabeng.

Rre Kgang o ne a supa fa ba ikemiseditse go aba ditshwa di le 11 000 mo kgaolong ya Kweneng ka bophara mme are seo se raya gore baikopedi ka bontsi ba tla nna le sebaka sa go abelwa ditsha.

A re seo se araba selemo sa Batswana jaaka ba ne ba supa fa go tsaya lebaka gore ba abelwe ditsha gore le bone ba kgone go ikagela.

O ne a ba gakolola gore setsha ke boswa jo bogolo fela thata mme a ba kopa gore ba emise go rekisa ditsha tsa bone bogolo jang ka lefatshe le sa oketsege mme palo ya batho yone e gola.

Modulasetilo o ne gape a ba lemotsha fa lefasthe le ba le abelwang le sena ditlamelo jaaka metsi le motlakase mme seo se raya gore ba ya go ema ba letile gore dilo tseo di tsene mo thulaganyong ya gore di isiwe koo.

Rre Kgang a re ba none pelo ka mathe ka letsatsi lengwe puso e tla ntsha madi gore ditlamelo di ba atamele.

E rile a fa sekai, a supa fa gona le batho bangwe ba e ereng ba sena go abelwa masimo ba kope go phunya didiba mo teng , mme e re morago ba tlatse leruo mo kgaolong eo mme seo se kgotlele tikologo ka jalo a kopa baikopedi go hema diemo tseo.

“Go tshwana le mekgatho ya barui ka jaana ba dirisa lefatshe la morafe mme ke ba kopa gore ba ele tlhoko tiriso ya lefatshe gore kgothego ya lone e seka ya le bolaya ka go lekanyetsa palo ya dikgomo le dihutshane.”

Rre Kgang o ne a tlatse ka gore

go boloka lefatshe go botlhokwa fela thata ka jaana ka go fa bana sebaka sa go le dirisa.

Modulasetilo a re ba setse ba beile ditsha kwa metseng ya Mantshwabisi le Serinane a supa fa botlhe ba ba neng ba kopile

ditsha koo ba beilwe e bile dingwe di setse. “Re ya go tswela gape beke e tlang re baya ditsha kwaa motseng wa Salajwe”.

Rre Maipoko Ramotswakwa a re o tletse boitumelo ka a sa bolo go leta gore a bone setsha

se e leng sa gagwe. A re o sale a kopile peo ya setsha ka ngwaga wa 2013.

Mme Ntlogelang Magono a re le ene o sale a kopile setsha ka 2013 mme jaanong wa go nna le sebaka sa go ikagela ntlo ya

gagwe.

Kgosi Bokau Tobe o lebogile lekgotla la kabo-ditsha go araba selemo sa morafe wa gagwe a re se ke tsela nngwe ya go oketse ditlhabololo mo motseng wa Malwelwe. **BOPA**



Batho batsweletse ka go dirisa Molelwane wa Matsiloje morago ga go tswalwa ngwaga tswalwa ngwaga ka ntata ya bolwetse jwa COVID-19. Senepe: Thamani Shabani

## Banni ba ngongorega ka koporase ya metsi

### Ka Onkarabile Moeng

MMAPHASHALALA - Banni ba Mmaphashalala le Dovedale ba ngongoregile ka tlhalelo ya metsi. Ba re bontsi jwa malwapa a kgaoletswe metsi ntateng ya dikoloto tse di kwa godimo.

Ba buile se fa mopalamente waMahalapye Botlhaba, Rre Yandani Boko a ne a ba lekotse ka Labotlhano.

Modulasetilo wa komiti ya ditlhabololo tsa motse

wa Mmaphashalala, Mme Keakantse Christopher a re go tlhoka go tsenyediwa metsi mo ditsheng tse disha go dia ditlhabololo.

Mo go tse dingwe, a re ba lephata la kabo ditsha ba diega go baa baikopedi.

A re ba sokola go latela ditlamelo kwa Mahalapye.

Mme Christopher o kaile fa mantlwana a boiteketo kwa sekoleng se se botlana a sa bereke sentle, a supa fa se se ka babalela botsogo jwa baithuti le

bodiredi jwa sekole.

Fa a akagela, Rre Michael Koontse le ene o supile lephata la kabo ditsha ka monwana, a re le ba tlovisa ditshono tse dintsi.

A re banana ga ba fiwe ditsha, mme kgwebo tse gotweng ba di tlhame ka madi a lephata la banana (YDF) di batla gore a bo ba na le ditsha.

Banni gape ba kopile gore ba okelediwe baoki, ba re ba babedi ba ba leng teng ga ba a lekana, le gore go hirwe beng gae fa go na le ditiro mo motseng, e seng go tsiwa ba ba tswang ko ntle.

Kwa Dovedale, banni ba ne ba lebogela motlakase kwa sekoleng sa bone, le gore o tla a tsenngwa le kwa kokelwaneng.

Ba kaile fa ba na le letlhoko la koloi kwa kokelwaneng, ntlo ya badisa dikago le ofisi ya ga mogokgo kwa sekoleng.

Ba re ga se botlhe ba ba kgonang go gkela metsi mo malwapeng, mme e bile bontsi jwa malwapa bo kgaoletswe metsi ka jalo se se bakile tshokolo e ntsi.

Fa Mme Keeme Molebatsi ene a ngongoregile gore ba-na-le bogole ga ba fiwe ditlamelo tse di

ba lebaganeng, mme a kopa gore go nne le baboipelego gore batho ka bontsi ba kgone go thusiwa sentle leka nako.

Barui ba motse oo ba ne ba lela ka setlhare sa mogau, se ba reng se ba feleditse leruo, mme ba kopa thuso go se agelela.

Banni supile fa go na le bana ba ba nang le letlhoko le lentsi ko sekoleng, jaaka ba se na kapari ya sekole, le dijo. **BOPA**



Rre Boko

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# Lekgotla le rotloediwa go tswakanya bojanala

## Ka Keamogetse Letsholo

KASANE - Lekgotla la Chobe Enclave Conservation Trust (CECT) le rotloeditswe go kabakanya le go atolasa kgwebo ya bojanala. Se se builwe ke motshwarelela mothusa mokwaledi mo lephateng la tikologo le bojanala, Rre Boatametse Modukanele kwa phuthengong ya ngwaga le ngwaga ya lekgotla leo kwa Parakarungu ka mafelo a beke.

A re segajaja sa COVID-19 se supile gore bojanala ka nosi bo ka se tshetse itsholelo go ya go ileng, ka jalo lekgotla la CECT le le itsegeng ka go dira sentle le tshwanetse go akanya gore kwa ntle ga bojanala le ka dira madi jang.

A re CECT e seka ya ikganelela fela mo Chobe West, mme le leke go tsena mo kgwebong ya dikago mo mafelong a mangwe mo lefatsheng leno.

A re tsela e nngwe e CECT e ka dirang madi ka yone ke go ikagela di ofisi tse dikgolwane tse di nang le fa go ka tshwarelwang diphuthego teng, go hirisetsa ba ba nang le di diphuthego le dithuto seka dipuisanyo.

A re lekgotla gape le ka ikopanya le bagwebi ba batona mo lefatsheng leno kana ba thusa bagwebi ba Chobe West go dira dikgwebo le bagwebi ba batona a re ka seo CECT ba ka roba sengwe go na le go ikaega fela ka madi a letsomo.

Rre Modukanele a re Chobe

go na le matlo a a gwebang ka boroko a le mmalwa mme e le CECT e ka lebelela letlhoko le madirelo ao a a nang le lone jaaka dijo, nama, merogo le tse dingwe.

Ka jalo lekgotla le ka rotloetsa banni ba Chobe ka dithuto le tsotlhe tse ba di tlhokang gore ba kgone go gweba le mafelo ao ka dilo tseo.

A re ka go dira jalo CECT e tlaabo e dira gore batho ba kgaolo ka bontsi ba bone ditiro, le go akola bojana.

Mo go tsa letsomo, Rre Modukanele a re lekgotla la CECT le leke gore diphologolo tsa lone tsa letsomo di rekwe ke beng gae mme ga go sena bape ke gone le rekisitse ba ba tswang kwa ntle.

O ba kopile gape go thusa beng gae go tsena dithutuntsho tsa letsomo.

A re go ba ruthuntsha go tla bo go sa ree gore batla neelwa go tsoma mme go tlaabo go ba fa sebaka sa gore ba ka tsoma gongwe le gongwe kwa ba tlaabong ba nnile lesego teng.

Rre Modukanele yo gape eleng mogokaganyi wa Community Based Natural Resources Management (CBNRM) o lebogile ba ba ntseng ba tsamaisa CECT go bo ba ne ba ithaopile go tsamaisa dithoto tsa morafe. O kopile morafe go nna ka nako tsotlhe ba gakolola lekgotla ka jaana lekgotla ele ya morafe.

A re lekgotla le reetse komiti ya badirela puso ya bogakolodi

ka jaana tiro ya bone ele go bona gore tse ba di dirang e le lekgotla ga di ba be e ka fa mosing. E re ka tiro ya komiti ya CECT e ya bokhutlong, modulasetilo wa TAC, Mme Nobuhle Mbusi o

boleletse morafe fa thulaganyo ya ditlhopho tsa komiti e ntsha di setse di simolotse, mme e tlaa re Lwetse a tlhola masome a mabedi le bobedi, TAC e ikgaoganye le metse e metlhano

ya Chobe Enclave go simolola tiro ya ditlhopho.

O ba kopile go tlhopha baemedi ba ba tlaa berekang sentle le badiredi ga mmogo le morafe. **BOPA**



Rre Modukanele o rotloeditse banni ba Chobe Enclave go kabakanya dikgwebo jaaka go gweba ka dijo. A re ka go dira jalo CECT e tlaabo e gata mmogo le Revised Tourism Policy e maikaelelo a yone e leng go atolosa bojanala le go tlhomamisa gore Batswana ba nna le seabe.



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## MINISTER OF LANDS AND CONSTRUCTION OF GOOD HOPE SCHEME PHASE 2.2- CON



The Minister of Lands and Water Affairs Hon Dr. Kefentse Mzwinila recently performed a groundbreaking for the Goodhope Sub-District Water Supply Scheme Phase 2.2- Contract 2 in Mabule. The Honourable Minister was joined by the Honourable Member of Parliament for GoodHope-Mabule and Minister of Transport and Public Works Mr Eric Molale.

**Dr. Mzwinila says through the project, Water Utilities Corporation (WUC) is upgrading the water supply, storage, and distribution systems of Goodhope Sub-District Villages.**

# GOOD HOPE SUB-DISTRICT WATER SUPPLY CONTRACT 2. CONTRACT 2 IN MABULE

He says the initial Water Infrastructural Developments started with Masama-Mmamashia 100km, Mmamashia expansion, Lobatse Water Supply Master Plan, Lobatse Mogojogojo bottleneck while Goodhope Sub-District water supply scheme phase 2.2 Contract 2, is a relay of the ongoing projects to further transmit water into the sub district.



Kgosi Morota Tiro of Mabule giving welcoming remarks.



Representative from Tianyan Construction Group, G&M Building Services Joint Venture Mr Kelly Monnatshipi with Project Updates.



Hon Minister Dr Kefentse Mzwinila with a keynote address.



Goodhope-Mabule constituency MP Hon. Eric M. Molale giving vote of thanks.

Currently Goodhope and its surrounding villages of Pitsane, Bethele and Dinatshana receive water from Gaborone scheme.

Dr. Mzwinila said the present water supply infrastructure and storage facilities are inadequate and shall be augmented under this contract to meet the projected 20-year design horizon up to 2042. This sentiment was shared by Kgosi Tiro Morota of Mabule who said their area has been experiencing water shortages and expressed hope that this project will close the supply deficit.

According to the Honourable Minister Dr. Mzwinila, the demand for the villages under Contract 2.2 is 1.755 million Litres/day and WUC is meeting only 0.864 million litres/day leaving a deficit of 0.891Million Litres/day.

The said villages which will benefit from the project are Rakhuna, Ramatlabama, Papatlo, Borobadilepe, Hebron, Pihitswana, Ditlharapa, Mokatako, Phitshane-Molopo, Leporung, Dikhukhung, Mmakgori, Tshidilamolomo, Mabule, Sekhutlhane and related localities. There are related localities that will be interlinked with some of the main villages.

**17%** coming from up to 44 local Boreholes.

The water supplied in the area comes from Lobatse, which is supplied from Gaborone Dam, Molatedi Dam and NSC Trunk Main. These sources have been providing only 78% of the entire Lobatse Service Centre daily supply and Nnywane Dam providing

5% and the balance of 17% coming from up to 44 local boreholes. The ongoing Lobatse Master Plan is anticipated to close the deficit currently faced in this area.

The P549, 699,654.79 value amount project has been awarded to Tianyan Construction Group in joint venture with G&M Building Services and is an 18-month project which started on 24 May 2022 and is expected to finish on 23 November 2023.

**The Scope of works includes.**

- The Goodhope Sub-District Water Supply Scheme Phase 2.2 - Contract 2 project involves the upgrading of the existing water supply scheme through construction of new gravity mains from the connection point at Potlokwe Hill to Phitshane Molopo Pumpstation.
- The project also entails the construction of pumping main from Phitsane Molopo to the rest of the villages and erection of elevated tanks of the respective villages to receive water.
- This infrastructure includes a pumping station, tanks whose cumulative effect is to meet the overall water supply for the area.



Hon Dr. Mzwinila (Middle), PS in the Ministry Dr. Kekgonne Baipoledi (Left) and Acting Deputy District Commissioner Ms Peggie Kutlase (Right) heading towards the ground breaking spot.



Hon Dr. Kefentse Mzwinila and Hon Eric Mothibi Molale.

# ClassifiedAds

## ACCOMMODATION

**LAVENDER GUEST HOUSE**  
Gaborone. Secure, breakfast, wifi  
P360.00.3102344/76826816

**PHOMOLONG HOTEL**  
**MOGODITSHANE** from P300.00  
per night. Secure parking,  
3971579, 71312782, 73095757.

**MAUN INDEPENDENCE**  
**ACCOMMODATION** special!!!  
Fully serviced, DSTV, Free WIFI  
Room + Breakfast -Standard  
P600/ Night Executive P800/  
Night. Tel: 6865509/ 73857545,  
reservations@dolarlodge.co.bw.

**JWANENG HOUSE TO** let  
72666795/ 71569657/ 73587081

## BUSINESS SERVICES

**OWNER OF PLOT 11880,**  
Mosweu ward, Bobonong,  
wishes to change land use from  
commercial (Guest house to  
shopping complex). Objections to  
be forwarded to Bobirwa Physical  
Planning office within 14 days of  
this notice publication. Contact:  
75320707

**OLD NALEDI 440sqm** P330  
000 Rasesa 1500sqm P180 000  
71610967

**ATISIA 16 HCT P280 000.**  
Mochudi 17Hct P 220 000.  
71610967.

**LANDBOARD TRANSFER**  
**VALUATION** for property  
transfers, selling, insurance, bank  
loans, GENVAS, LAMVAS, CEDA,  
BURS 3114300 / 71479532 MREAC,  
MREIB www.solomonrealestate.  
co.bw

## FARM WORKERS

**FARM WORKER REQUIRED** in  
Makaleng to look after livestock.  
P O Box 343, Makaleng. Call:  
Galetwaelwe Rannyai 71620921/  
72585493

**FARM WORKER WANTED** at  
Makuta, Georginah Mogomotsi's  
farm. Contacts: 78002932/  
74734472

**HERDBOY WANTED AT** Satau.  
contact Moffat Kachana 74564973

**THREE FARM WORKERS** wanted  
at Box 100 Sowa Town, Dukwi  
Farms, Kenalemang Nfana  
71499434

**TWO FARM WORKERS** wanted  
at Maiphithwane Lands, Serowe.  
Call: 72991843/74554234.

**FARM WORKER WANTED** to look  
after cattle and goats, piggery,  
crop farming, poultry and market  
gardening. Minimum 5 years  
experience with references. Apply  
to P O Box 601928 Gaborone.

**FARM WORKERS WANTED** in  
Metsibothoko responsible for  
chicken, men & women farm  
owner Onkabetse Chikono  
71861101

**EXPERIENCED FARM WORKER**  
needed, Apply Elvis Nchoko Box  
662 Molepolole.

**INTEGRATED EXPERIENCED**  
**FARM** worker required. Apply-  
Maeletso Kuwudzerema, Box 224,  
Molepolole.

**FARM WORKER WANTED** in  
Letlhakane .Kindly contact :  
71698580 / 76750482

**SEKWANE FARM.WANTED** farm  
worker.Male between 30-45  
years.Drivers license advantage.  
Tel: 3960311

**FARMWORKER WANTED** :  
**MOGONONO** lands. Apply Mr  
Sekgwa Box 3083 Molepolole

**FARM WORKERS WANTED** at  
Tiloane farm in Bokaa. Clarah  
Dube P.O Box 47189 Gaborone  
cell 77648274

**HERDBOY WANTED** AT Polokwe  
cattlepost. Please contact Edward  
Nkutlwang at 72339827 or  
73008979 or email: enkutlwang@  
gmail.com.P.O.Box 908, Moshupa.  
Closing date 07-10-2022.

## MISCELLANEOUS

**BRICK MOULDING MACHINE** 2y  
engine,2.5 diesel engine,ML320  
benz for sale.Toyota avensis for  
stripping.Contact 71663468

## NEIGHBOUR CONSULTATION

**NEIGHBOUR OF PLOT 11365.**  
Tlokweng Mafithakgosi are  
informed that we are changing  
use from residential to multifamily  
residential. Any queries call  
Tlokweng Admin Authority.

**OWNER OF PLOT 3437** Tatisiding  
informs neighbours that I am  
changing land use from residential  
to civic & community (Day Care).  
Any objections contact Physical  
Planning office on 2431136

**OWNER OF PLOT 68** Mmatshumo  
informs neighbors that I am  
changing land use from residential  
to commercial Guesthouse.  
Any objections contact Physical  
Planning office on 2978278

**OWNER OF PLOT 5868** at Tawana  
Extension, Letlhakane informs my  
neighbours that I am changing  
land use from civic & community  
to multi-family residential. Any  
objections contact Physical  
Planning office on 2978278

## VACANCIES

**A NEW HAIR** saloon located in  
the Village mall-(New mall, at  
Magokotswane- Molepolole)  
is looking for the following:  
Beauticians, Barbers, Hairdressers.  
The mall will open soon. If  
interested contact: 76127971.

**GUEST HOUSE IN** Lerala seeking  
the following: Assistance  
manager, qualifications: Diploma  
in Hotel management and  
catering/ business management/  
marketing with at least 2  
years experience. Supervisor:  
Housekeeping with atleast two  
years experience kitchen hand  
with atleast years in catering.  
Eastgate Guesthouse Box 238  
Lerala Email tinasethina@gmail.  
com

**COMPANY REGISTRATION @**  
**P250** construction company @  
P8500 supplies company @ P8500  
74489943/ 73272574

**INDUSTRIAL PLANT MACHINIST**  
needed.Relevant diploma,10  
years experience in Steel  
Production plant.Apply-Steelbase  
Box 1009,Gaborone

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

CASE NO. CVHGB-000134-20

In the matter between:

**HOUNARABLR JUSTICE LEKORWE**

**CONSOLIDATED STEEL INDUSTRIES (PTY) LTD**  
t/a GRS BOTSWANA (PTY) LTD

Plaintiff

and

**PIZMOND INVESTMENTS (PTY) LTD**  
**MOSHE STYLE**  
**ADOLF EUGENE BARKHUIZEN**

1st Defendant  
2nd Defendant  
3rd Defendant

### NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

**BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT** pursuant to the Judgment granted by the above Honourable Court the following property will be sold by **DEPUTY SHERIFF OMPHMETSE PETER KAISARA** by public auction to the highest bidder as follows:

**DATE OF SALE:** 10th October 2022  
**VENUE:** Broadhurst Police Station  
**TIME:** 10:30 am  
**TERMS OF SALE:** Cash or bank guaranteed cheques

**PROPERTY TO BE SOLD:** 34 Whirlbirds, 22 Allububbles, 2 Office Desks, 6 Chairs, Reception Desk, 2 Chairs, 2x HP Computers, HP CPU and Phillips Monitor, Sonitec Plasm, TV Stand, DSTV Decoder, 3 Piece Sofas, Samsung Fridge, Samsung Microwave, Washing Machine, Queen Bed, 2x Double Beds

**DATED AT GABORONE ON THIS 7TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2022**

**Deputy Sheriff Ompmetse kaisara**

Tel: 3973799/72195113

c/o **RAHIM KHAN & COMPANY**

Plaintiff's Attorneys

Office # 1, Plot 50362

P O Box 1884, Gaborone

Tel. No. 3188988/9

Fax No. 3188951/990

E-mail: [gnanyaro@rahimkhan.co.bw](mailto:gnanyaro@rahimkhan.co.bw)

[GAN/sm/CON12/0003]



## Request for Proposals

### Development of a Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Plant at BITRI Headquarters in Gaborone, Botswana (Open International)

Botswana Institute for Technology Research and Innovation (BITRI) is a parastatal under the Ministry of Communications, Knowledge and Technology, established in 2012, to conduct needs-based research and development in focused areas. The Mandate of BITRI is to identify, develop and/or adapt appropriate technology solutions that provide sustainable innovative solutions through co-creation and collaboration in line with national priorities and needs of Botswana.

Botswana Institute for Technology Research and Innovation (BITRI) invites companies and/or joint ventures to submit proposals to be considered for the design, financing, construction, operation and maintenance of a solar PV plant at BITRI Headquarters under leasing agreement for a period of 10 years. Local companies must be registered with PPADB.

The full copy of the Request for Proposal is accessible on the BITRI website under "Tenders"

#### Closing Date

Responses should be received by BITRI no later than **1600hrs CAT on Friday 14th October 2022**. BITRI shall reject any responses submitted late.

The Senior Researcher – Energy can be contacted at telephone number **(+267) 360 7509** or [erakgati@bitri.co.bw](mailto:erakgati@bitri.co.bw) for further clarification.

#### APPLICATION FOR LOST DEED OF DONATION TRANSFER

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the undersigned intends to apply for a certified copy of Deed of Donation Transfer No. 590/2016 dated 7<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2016, made in favour of **ONNEILE PHADI-KAMODI** in respect of:

**CERTAIN:** piece of land being a ¼ (quarter) Undivided Share in Portion 125, (a Portion of Portion 85) of the Farm Senthane No. 18-K0; in the South East Administration District; 8.7865ha (Eight Point Seven Eight Six Five Hectares);  
**SITUATE:**  
**MEASURING:**  
**AS WILL MORE**  
**FULLY APPEAR:** From Diagram D.S.M. No. 1622/2009 Surveyed in August, 2009 by Land Surveyor Ma Li Rong and approved by the Director of Surveys and Mapping on **26th Day of November 2009**;

**WHICH PROPERTY:** is held under Certificate of Registered Title of Undivided Share No. 1394/2014 dated 28<sup>th</sup> JULY 2014 made in favour of **ISMAEL NDESARIO URIO**;

**SUBJECT TO:** the conditions and reservations contained in the aforesaid of Deed of Donation Transfer.  
Any person having objection to the issue of such copies is hereby required to lodge the same in writing with the Registrar of Deeds, Private Bag 0020, Gaborone within three (3) weeks from the last publication of this notice.

**DATED at MOGODITSHANE** on this 9th Day of September 2022.

**KAMUSHINDA LEGAL CONSULTANTS**, Applicants' Attorneys, Lot 169, Nkoyaphiri, Mogoditshane  
**P O Box 45084, Gaborone**

## NOTICE

Avani Gaborone Casino will be changing its Casino Chips. All old Gaborone Sun Chips can be redeemed at Avani Gaborone Casino, at 4727 Chuma Drive, Gaborone until 28 September 2022 during operating hours. After this date, NO old Chips will be accepted for play and/or redeemed.

### ADVERTISEMENT OF THE FIRST AND FINAL LIQUIDATION ACCOUNT

ESHFT-000014-22  
 IN THE ESTATE of the late HILDAH BAKWALI MATIHA who died at NYANGABGWE REFERAL HOSPITAL, FRANCISTOWN, DISTRICT, in the Republic of Botswana, on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of JANUARY 2022 in terms of section 61 of Administration of Estates Act.

The First and Final Liquidation and Distribution Account in the Estates will lie open for inspection at the office of the Masters of the High Court at Francistown for a period of the first publication hereof.

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

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 15 DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2022

Stephen Matiha  
 P O Box 286  
 TUTUME

AND TO: Registrar & Master  
 Francistown

### NOTICE TO BEBTORS AND CREDITORS

Masters reference: ESHGB-000177/15

IN THE ESTATE of the late VICTOR W.M. NCUBE who died at Ledumang Plot 16040, Gaborone on the 6<sup>th</sup> of May 2015

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

Dated at Gaborone on this 21<sup>st</sup> Day of September 2022

The Executor  
 Colet Ncube  
 P O Box 1858 Gaborone  
 Cell: 71691072

### INTENTION TO CHANGE MARRIAGE PROPERTY REGIME

(In terms of Section 8 (1) (f) of Married Persons Property Act, CAP 29:03)

1. TAKE NOTICE that MRS. TSHEPO PETJE (nee ONNENG ) and MR. TUMELO MOGOTSI PETJE, married out of community of property to each other on the 25<sup>th</sup> April 2013, in Gaborone in Botswana, will approach the High Court of Botswana after the third publication of this notice, for leave to change the property regime applying to their marriage from out of community property to in community of property.
2. Any person, creditor or debtor, who may have an interest in the assets and/ or liabilities of the parties estate, should they have objections to the parties changing their property regime, are to inform the Applicants' Attorneys **KEBONYEMODISA LAW OFFICE**, at the below stated address upon receipt of this notice, or make representations before the High Court of Botswana once the contemplated application is lodged.
3. The address at which to send notification is **KEBONYEMODISA LAW OFFICE, PLOT 2463, TSHEKEDI CRESCENT, EXTENSION 9, GABORONE, P O BOX 21196, BONTLENG. TEL: 3971192, CELL: 72212860; Email: kebonymodisalaw@gmail.com or modisa@Kebonyemodisalawoffice.co.w.**

DATED AT GABORONE THIS 22 DAY OF AUGUST 2022.

### NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

Master's Reference: ESHGB 000085/19

IN THE ESTATE of the late MONTLE BEAUTY RANYERE who died at Bokamoso Private Hospital, Mmopane, Kweneng District, Botswana on the 24th March 2019.

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

DATED at ..... on this ..... day of ..... 2022

The Execut  
 Monnye Khabenyana Ranyere  
 P O Box 301829  
 Tlokweng Tel: 74724720

H/W KAPEKO

IN THE MAGISTRATE'S COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF LOBATSE

HELD AT LOBATSE

CASE NO: CCMLB 0000123-20

In the matter between:

MONEYWISE BOTSWANA PROPRIETARY LIMITED

(MAHALAPYE BRANCH)

Plaintiff

And

KENEILWE TSHEKO

Defendant

### SUBSTITUTED SERVICE

Before His worship Senior Magistrate – Kaveri kapeko on the 16th August 2022.

UPON HEARING: Attorney A. M Adom for Judgment Creditor and so appearance for the Judgment debtor and having read the documents filed of record.

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. The applicant is hereby authorized to effect service of the summons for civil imprisonment against the Defendant under Case No: CCMLB-000123-20 by way of substituted service.
2. The Applicant is directed to effect service of such summons for civil imprisonment upon the Defendant via the Defendant's personal electronic mail address kentsheko@gmail.com, by application of the conformed version of the surnames in the government gazette and Daily News.
3. The Respondent is called upon to appear on 18th October 2022, to show cause why a decree for civil imprisonment should not be entered against him for period of 90 Days.

DATED AT GABORONE THIS 19th DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2022

BY ORDER OF THE COURT

ADOM & BOTHA ATTORNEYS, PLOT 61127, GROUND FLOOR, MEDSWANA BUILDING, GABORONE P.O. BOX 27, LOBATSE – TELEPHONE NO. 398 5256 (Ref: MMH/25/19/MAA/ppl)

GO  
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- > Promotion runs from **2nd Sep 2022 to 30th Jan 2023**

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# Skating breaks societal prejudice

WINDHOEK -Skating is empowering children living with disabilities to realise their full potential as well as improve inclusion while helping to reduce stigma and increase self-confidence in adolescents living in Namibia's capital.

Through Skate Aid, an international non-profit making organisation, young boys and girls from the Namibia Institute of Special Education are breaking societal prejudice and transforming community attitudes, shifting negative perceptions against persons with disabilities.

For Thomas, a learner, growing up with a disability has been very challenging, but skating has given him confidence and value. He no longer feels inferior and discriminated against.

"When we are skating, it does not matter if you are blind, deaf, rich or poor, black or white, we are all just the same.

We speak the same language and follow the same rules on the court. I am happy to be a part of this team," he said.

The 12-year-old says skating has not only changed his life but it has given him a purpose where he is excited about his future which he hopes will include the sport.

"Skating is a beautiful thing, when I see all these kids, we practice together and every time we teach each other and for those that do not understand they are learning sign language just so that we can communicate.

I am happy," he said.

Thomas has been a part of the skaters since a skate park was built inside the Namibia Institute of Special Education in 2018 and he is at the park almost every day except on weekends when he rests. The Namibia Institute of Special Education consists of three schools, including the school for the visually impaired, the school for the hearing impaired, and the school for the cognitive impaired.

Children from these three schools make use of the park, which is also open to the public.

Through the skate park, these children have managed to find acceptance.

Love and hope make them strive to be the best in their everyday life and possibly change their circumstances of being overlooked and not always prioritized.

Sixteen-year-old Kamaya has not only learned how to skate, but he has also learned sign language which he says is a bonus because now he is able to communicate with his fellow teammates.

"When I first started skating, I struggled to communicate because I did not know any sign language but I made it a point to learn, and now I can greet.

I would like to say that I know the basics.

It is a good thing because I do not just skate with my teammates, now we can talk stories," he said.

Kamaya is now a pro skater and can do different tricks which he is now trying to teach the younger less skilled teammates.

According to Michael Kagola, a skate aid volunteer and coach, the skaters consist of a variety of age groups ranging from ages 8 to 19 who are not only from the Namibia Institute of Special Education but also from the surrounding communities.

Karola, who is a teacher by profession, believes that skateboarding is helping mold these children into better individuals and also teaching them the values of teamwork while allowing children to understand that their talent and abilities can be developed through effort and consistency.

"We work with children from all walks of life including the hearing, visual and cognitive impaired.

We want to empower and instill values in them which will better their lives.

Skateboarding will teach them that you always get up when you fall.

Just like when you are learning a trick, you fall but always get up.

It will teach them how to overcome failure," Kagola said.

The children are facing tough situations where most of them come from impoverished backgrounds, Kagola said.

"We want to empower kids, get them off the street and deter them from roaming around, we want

them to use their free time doing something productive instead of having them engage in bad behavior," he said.

"It is funny how a piece of concrete and some skateboards can change people's lives and

build confidence and drive," Kagola said.

Although skating is not yet recognized as a professional sport in Namibia, these children already feel like winners as they practice and perfect their skills.

"We hope that one day the sport will be recognised professionally but for now we will just use it the best way we can, that is to give these kids a skating board and empower them," Kagola said. *Xinhua*



NEW YORK - A visitor at the Hall des Lumières, a permanent centre for immersive digital art experiences, during a press preview in the United States recently. The centre is scheduled to open to the public on Wednesday. Photo: Xinhua

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# Hurricane Fiona heads toward Puerto Rico

WASHINGTON - Fiona has become a hurricane, with sustained winds of 130 km per hour, as it heads toward Puerto Rico, according to the latest public advisory issued by the US Hurricane Center on Sunday.

Hurricane conditions are expected across portions of Puerto Rico on Sunday, with heavy rains likely to produce life-threatening flash floods and urban flooding.

Fiona is forecast to continue to strengthen after moving away from the US territory. President Joe Biden has declared an emergency in Puerto Rico on Sunday morning as Fiona is approaching the island. *Xinhua*



WASHINGTON DC - Fiona has become a hurricane, with sustained winds of 130 km per hour, as it heads toward Puerto Rico, according to the latest public advisory issued by the US Hurricane Center on Sunday. Photo: Xinhua

## Israel to start production at disputed gas field

JERUSALEM - Israel announced Monday it will start to produce natural gas from a disputed Mediterranean maritime field "as soon as possible," despite US-brokered border demarcation talks between Israel and Lebanon.

"The production of gas from the Karish rig will commence without delay, as soon as it is possible," Israeli Prime Minister Yair Lapid's office said in a statement, adding the production "is not connected to the negotiations."

Israel claimed that the Karish field is located within its economic zone while Lebanon claims in disputed waters.

According to a report on Israel's state-owned Kan TV news, the negotiations have entered their "final stages" in the past few days.

"Israel believes that it is both possible and necessary to reach an agreement on a maritime line between Lebanon and Israel, in a manner that will serve the interests of the citizens of both countries," the Prime Minister's Office said. Such an agreement will be "greatly beneficial and strengthen regional stability," it added. *Xinhua*



Lapid

## China, Russia hold new strategic security consultation

FUZHOU - Yang Jiechi, a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, Monday co-chaired the 17th Round of Strategic Security Consultation between China and Russia.

The two also met with Nikolai Patrushev, secretary of the Security Council of the Russian Federation, in east China's Fujian Province.

They agreed to continue to make positive use of the consultation

mechanism, implement the consensus reached by the two heads of state during the SCO Samarkand Summit, and enhance mutual trust.

They also agreed to support each other in taking the development path in line with their conditions, jointly safeguard global strategic stability, and continuously consolidate and enrich the content of the comprehensive strategic partnership of coordination between the two countries. Yang, also director of the Office of the

Foreign Affairs Commission of the CPC Central Committee, said under the strategic guidance of the two heads of state, China-Russia relations have maintained a strong development momentum in recent years.

He said that the two countries have continued to deepen strategic coordination and firmly supported each other on issues involving each other's core interests and major concerns. He added their cooperation in various fields has grown.

The two countries have jointly upheld the international system with the United Nations as the core and the international order based on international law.

They also safeguarded global fairness and justice, and set a model of relations between major countries with mutual respect, peaceful coexistence, and win-win cooperation for the global community, said Yang.

China is willing to work with Russia to fully implement the consensus reached by the two heads of state to continue deepening political mutual trust and strategic coordination to build a more secure and stable external environment for the development of the two countries, said Yang.

He added China is ready to contribute more to safeguarding the common interests of the two countries and world security and stability.

Patrushev said Russia adheres to the one-China principle and firmly supports the measures taken by the Chinese government to safeguard the sovereignty and territorial integrity concerning the Taiwan question.

Russia is willing to maintain close strategic communication with China, deepen pragmatic cooperation in various fields and further strengthen coordination and cooperation in international organizations. *Xinhua*

## IMF reviews Argentina debt relief

BUENOS AIRES - Technical staff of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on Monday approved the second review of the organization's debt relief agreement with Argentina, paving the way for the country to access some US\$3.9 billion in the coming weeks, the IMF said.

"IMF staff and the Argentine authorities have reached staff-level agreement on the second review under Argentina's 30-month EFF (Extended Fund Facility) arrangement," the agency said in a press release.

The approval corresponds to the government's fulfillment of quantitative program targets in the second quarter, the IMF said, adding "most ... were met."

The agreement is subject to the approval of the IMF Executive Board, which is expected to meet in the coming weeks. "Once the

review is complete, Argentina would have access to around 3.9 billion U.S. dollars," the IMF said.

"Recent decisive policy actions aimed at correcting earlier setbacks are helping to restore confidence and strengthen macroeconomic stability, including by rebuilding international reserves," it added.

IMF staff and Argentine authorities agreed that key objectives established at approval of the arrangement, including those related to the primary fiscal deficit and net international reserves, will remain unchanged through 2023.

"Resolute policy implementation remains essential to entrench macroeconomic stability and begin to address Argentina's deep-rooted challenges, notably high and

persistent inflation," said the IMF.

In March, Argentina and the IMF signed a debt relief agreement to help the country meet its obligations on US\$44.5 billion in debt, amid tense exchange rate instability and capital outflows.

The debt was contracted in mid-2018 by the previous government. Among the macroeconomic targets contemplated in the EFF agreement is reducing the primary deficit to 2.5 percent of gross domestic product (GDP) in 2022 and to 1.9 percent in 2023. It also calls for "a continued reduction in monetary financing of the fiscal deficit, which will be capped at 0.8 percent of GDP this year (below the 1 percent of GDP target) and limited to 0.6 percent of GDP in 2023," according to the IMF. *Xinhua*

# Zim anti-corruption body handles over 1 000 cases

HARARE - The Zimbabwe Anti-Corruption Commission (ZACC), an independent commission created to combat corruption and crime, said it was handling over 1 000 cases as it intensifies its war against corruption.

The ZACC chairperson, Loice Matanda-Moyo told *Xinhua* that more than 300 cases had been handed over for prosecution between 2019 and 2021, and the commission had come up with various strategies aimed not only at prosecuting offenders, but also ensuring that corruption did not take place.

“When we were constituted as a commission in 2019, corruption was so endemic in Zimbabwe that it had become a culture, almost a way of life for all Zimbabweans and institutionalized,” she said.

Matanda-Moyo said corruption cut across different classes of society, from ordinary bus drivers to shop-floor workers and top government and company officials.

“From the statistics of cases reported to the commission in 2021, a total of 711 cases were reported against public officials, representing 59 per cent of the total complaints received,” she said.

Transparency International Zimbabwe, the local chapter of international watchdog Transparency International (TI), convened an anti-corruption conference in May 2022 which found that bribery was rampant in the country and existed within most public institutions.

It said corruption had permeated both public and private spheres affecting economic performance of the country and limiting the full enjoyment of human rights by citizens.

According to TI’s Corruption

Perception Index, Zimbabwe scored a lowly 23 out of 100 against the regional average of 34 out of 100.

She added that Zimbabwe Anti-Corruption Commission had worked out a five-year plan involving three strategic programs: investigations for prosecution; investigations for asset recovery; and prevention of corruption.

“Under prevention of corruption, the commission conducts compliance checks and systems reviews in both public and private sectors to ensure that systems and controls that ensure good corporate practices are put in the organizations.”

The ZACC was also ensuring the implementation of policies which enhanced transparency, honesty, integrity, and financial discipline and that recommendations from the Auditor-General’s Office were implemented.

“The ZACC is also encouraging the introduction of technology to limit human interface, ultimately minimizing the solicitation of bribes,” she said.

The third strategy was public education, which made the public aware of the dangers of corruption and how to resist and report the crime.

In terms of its collaboration strategy, ZACC is a member of the Globe Network and SADC Anti-Corruption Committee and other similar bodies where they collaborate in terms of information sharing and capacity building.

The ZACC has also received training in cyber security training under the SADC pilot training program and has signed MoU with other agencies in the region in a bid to improve its capacity to conduct complex investigations.

*Xinhua*



Korosi



Jonas



Guterres

## UN highlights world’s to-do list to save global goals

UNITED NATIONS - The United Nations secretary general and the president of the 77<sup>th</sup> session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) on Monday joined world leaders and goodwill ambassadors in a global call to rescue the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and get back on track to building a better world that ‘leaves no one behind’.

With time running out on the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals, and against the backdrop of calls for bold solutions to solve the world’s deepening challenges in this year’s United Nations General Debate, which opens Tuesday, Secretary General Antonio Guterres convened the third Sustainable Development Goal Moment to urgently spur stronger commitments to ensure successful Sustainable Development Goals implementation.

“The world has a long ‘to do’ list,” Guterres told world leaders, asking for more finance and investment from the public and private sectors, to meet growing needs.

Acknowledging the current ‘moment of great peril’ for the world, characterised by conflicts, climate catastrophe, division, unemployment, massive displacement and other challenges, the secretary-general said that although ‘it was tempting’ to put long-term priorities to the side, development could not wait.

“The education of our children cannot wait. Dignified jobs cannot wait.

Full equality for women and girls cannot wait.

Comprehensive healthcare, meaningful climate action, biodiversity protection, these cannot be left for tomorrow,” he underscored, highlighting that across all these areas, young people and future generations are demanding action.

“We cannot let them down. This is a definitive moment.

The perils we face are no match for a world united.

Let’s get our world back on track,” the United Nations chief stressed.

The United Nations General Assembly president, Csaba Korosi, echoed Guterres’ words

and said that it is timely and more necessary than ever to ‘re-dedicate ourselves to the Sustainable Development Goals’ as the world falls behind.

“The pandemic was a postcard from the future, a bleak future of interlocking global crises.

One that we want to avoid and that we can avoid.

We must now regain the speed lost to the pandemic and to our inaction. Solutions are at hand,” he said.

Korosi added that it is time to ‘get serious’ about saving the world, with all pleasant and unpleasant consequences that this entails, and asked United Nations member states to deliver on promises made.

Holding a placard of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals at the podium, Prime Minister of Barbados and United Nations Environment Champion of the Earth, Mia Motley, said that ‘a world that is driven by a climate crisis cannot provide a sustainable future for us.

Are we so arrogant to believe that there will be no failed societies and no extinct species, as history shows us otherwise?”

Motley urged young people to lead a revolution to ‘change our habits to end plastic pollution and waste,’ and ‘hold the leaders’ feet to the fire’ to make the world a better place to live in.

Amanda Gorman, a poet, activist and supporter of

United Nations Independent Children’s Emergency Fund, shared one of her inspiring pieces about leaders’ accountability and ending poverty.

Meanwhile, Sustainable Development Goal advocates and K-pop superstars, the BLACKPINK, appeared in a video message inviting the world to take specific actions to tackle climate change and boost sustainable development.

Priyanka Chopra Jonas, United Nations Independent Children’s Emergency Fund goodwill ambassador, hosted the event.

She reminded the room that time is running out, ‘as we are nearly halfway to the 2030 deadline’ to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

“We all deserve a just, safe, and healthy world to live in.

The present and the future

is on your hands,” she told the General Assembly.

According to the Sustainable Development Goals report 2022, the confluence of crises, the COVID-19 pandemic, climate change and the Ukraine crisis are creating ‘spin-off impacts’ on food security, health, education, the environment, peace and security.

The combined crises could lead to an additional 75 million to 95 million people living in extreme poverty in 2022.

The world also faces a global education crisis with an estimated 147 million children missing more than half of their in-person instruction over the past two years.

Additionally, women and girls remain disproportionately affected by the socioeconomic fallout of the pandemic, grappling with an increase in unpaid care work and domestic violence.

Countries have taken action to advance the Sustainable Development Goals and tackle the multiple crises by strengthening social protection, developing sustainable policies, and expanding essential services.

According to the report, while countries have taken steps to keep the promise of the Sustainable Development Goals, the severity and scale of the world’s challenges call for an urgent and collective response as set out in Our Common Agenda, which was launched by the secretary-general in 2021 and seeks to rescue the Sustainable Development Goals through stronger international cooperation and reinvigorated multilateralism.

The annual Sustainable Development Goal Moment aims to provide a snapshot of progress, highlight actions that show change is possible, and advance the transformations needed to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

It was created by the political declaration adopted at the first Sustainable Development Goal Summit in 2019, which mandated the United Nations secretary-general to convene the event as part of every high-level week of the General Assembly from 2020 to 2030. *Xinhua*



Matanda-Moyo

# Britain holds state funeral for Queen Elizabeth II

LONDON - Britain held a state funeral for Queen Elizabeth II, the country's longest-reigning monarch, at Westminster Abbey on Monday. The funeral was attended

by a host of world leaders, royalty and other dignitaries. Queen Elizabeth II died on September 8, aged 96, at Balmoral in Scotland after a 70-year reign.

Her eldest son, Charles, succeeded the throne. The funeral followed a national mourning period that began on September 9, which saw hundreds of thousands of people laying flowers at royal palaces across Britain and queuing for hours to see the late Queen lying in state at Westminster Hall.

"Here, where Queen Elizabeth was married and crowned, we gather from across the nation, from the Commonwealth, and from the nations of the world, to mourn our loss, to remember her long life of selfless service ..." said David Hoyle, dean of the Westminster Abbey, who led the funeral service broadcast live.

A two-minute national silence was observed in remembrance of the late Queen at the end of the state funeral. Following the service at Westminster Abbey, the Queen's coffin will be taken to Windsor Castle where she will be buried together with her husband Prince Philip, who died last year at 99. *Xinhua*

## Ramaphosa cancels UN General Assembly trip

JOHANNESBURG - South African President Cyril Ramaphosa has canceled his planned address at the UN General Assembly in New York and will return home after attending British Queen Elizabeth's funeral on Monday to deal with nationwide blackouts.

South Africa continues to endure long hours without electricity due to the breakdown of five generating units, the power utility Electricity Supply Commission (Eskom) in South Africa said here on Monday.

The country is currently at load shedding level six, meaning that the power utility must remove 6 000 megawatts of power from the grid.

During this stage, the country can go without electricity for up to at least six to eight hours per day.

Eskom said the country lost about 7 210 MW due to planned maintenance and 16 597 MW of capacity was lost to breakdowns. "The system has been under pressure over the past week.

This has caused us to run our reserves -- our diesel and our dams - very hard and we are now in a situation where we urgently need to replenish these reserves in order to maintain an adequate safety buffer as we are required to do by the grid code," said Eskom Chief Operating Officer Jan Oberholzer at a press briefing on Sunday.

The South African Chamber of

Commerce and Industry (SACCI) President Mtho Xulu told Xinhua that the load shedding is negatively affecting business and economic growth.

The country is recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic and the load-shedding would make it difficult to recover, he said.

He said that "our estimate is that load shedding is costing the South African economy US\$41.2 per stage."

Xulu said unreliable energy supply made it difficult to convince investors that the country is the best investment destination, adding that Eskom should tell the nation what the real problem is, whether there have the capacity and skill to solve it, and their solution.

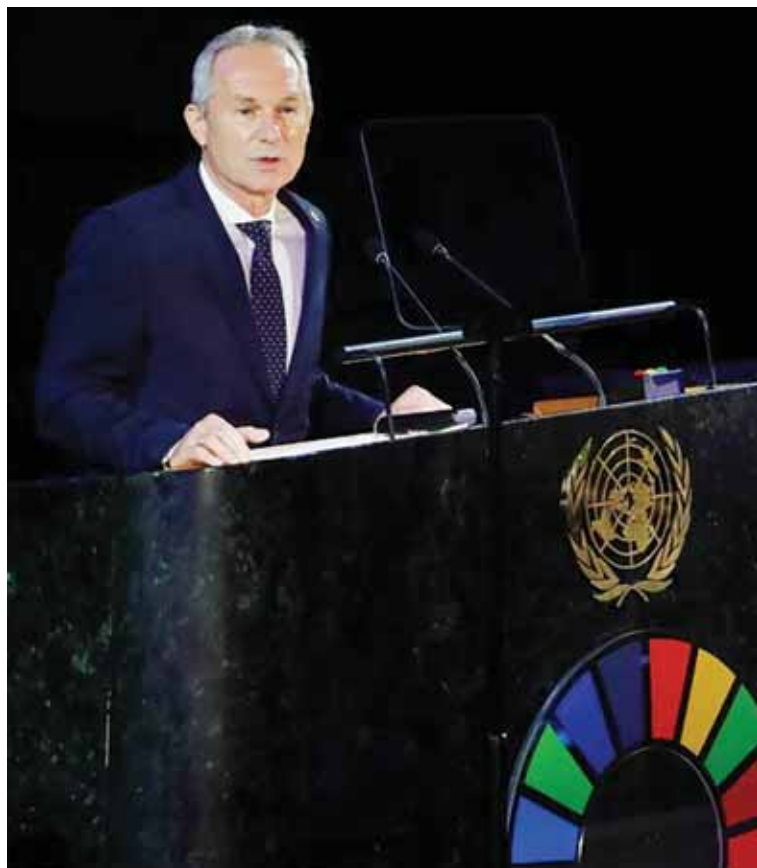
Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu) said the government was eroding the little confidence citizens had regarding its leadership due to the current Stage 6 of nationwide rolling blackouts.

The trade union said the government has poorly addressed the issue and called on the president to find a permanent solution to the crisis.

The Democratic Alliance (DA) has reiterated its call for President Ramaphosa and the government to account for the energy response plan, saying Eskom was not entirely to blame for the country's power crisis. *Xinhua*



LONDON - The procession following the coffin of Queen Elizabeth II in central London, Britain, on Monday. Britain held a state funeral for Queen Elizabeth II, the country's longest-reigning monarch, at Westminster Abbey on Monday, attended by a host of world leaders, royalty and other dignitaries. Photo: Xinhua



NEW YORK - Csaba Korosi, president of the 77th session of the United Nations General Assembly addressing the third Sustainable Development Goals Moment, a high-level meeting that serves to place an annual spotlight on the SDGs, at the UN headquarters on Monday. Photo: Xinhua

## Russian, French ministers discuss Ukraine's nuclear power plant safety

MOSCOW - Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov called for an immediate cessation of shelling in the area of Ukraine's Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant (NPP) during a telephone call with French Foreign Affairs Minister Catherine Colonna on Monday.

Lavrov and Colonna discussed the situation in Ukraine, with a

particular focus on the importance of ensuring the safety of the Zaporizhzhia NPP, the Russian Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

"Lavrov noted that the Kiev regime continued to use Western supplied weapons to hit civilian objects and infrastructure facilities, including the

Zaporizhzhia NPP, adding that this increased the risk of a nuclear catastrophe," it said.

"The Russian side emphasised the need for an immediate and complete cessation of shelling" in the area of the plant, and called for an investigation into the deliberate strikes targeting this facility, the ministry added. *Xinhua*

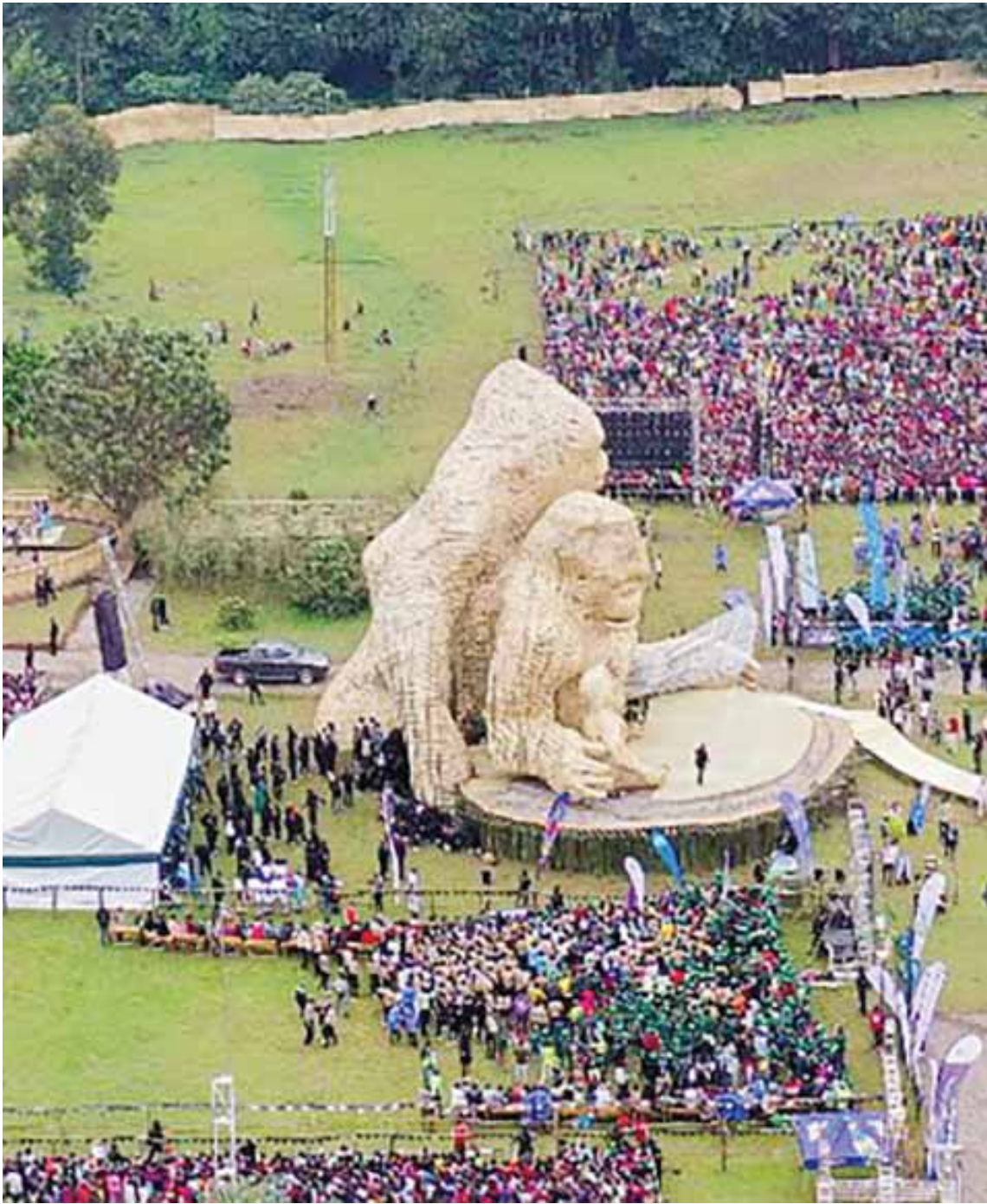
## Ukraine's agricultural exports reach 3.9 million tonnes

KIEV - Ukraine's agricultural exports under a key grain deal reached 3.9 million tonnes, the Ukrainian Sea Ports Authority said Monday. So far, a total of 169 ships have left Ukraine's Black Sea ports for countries in Asia, Europe and Africa under the deal signed

in July in Türkiye. On Monday alone, four ships loaded with more than 178 000 tonnes of foodstuffs departed from the ports of Odesa and Pivdenny. On July 22, Ukraine and Russia separately signed a deal with Türkiye and the United Nations in Istanbul to resume

food and fertilizer shipments from Ukrainian ports to international markets via the Black Sea.

On August 1, the first cargo vessel carrying grain after the breakout of the Russia-Ukraine conflict left Odesa for the port of Tripoli in Lebanon. *Xinhua*



**KIGALI - A baby gorilla naming ceremony in Musanze, Rwanda. Rwanda gave names to 20 baby gorillas born over the last 12 months in an annual gorilla conservation event held at the foothills of the volcanoes mountains in the Northern Province. The annual baby gorilla naming ceremony, commonly known as Kwita Izina, was held for the 18<sup>th</sup> time. The highly anticipated event was presided over by First Lady Jeannette Kagame. Photo: Xinhua**

# Zim gets tough on procurement officials

**HARARE -** The Zimbabwean government said Monday it would take stern measures against public officials found complicit in overpricing supply contracts and other procurement malpractices.

This follows revelations of rampant overpricing of government supply contracts, with two local firms recently quoting the Parliament of Zimbabwe highly inflated prices for the supply of laptops and desktops.

Treasury immediately cancelled the tender and ordered the blacklisting of the two companies from future government supply contracts. Speaking at a press conference Monday, Finance and Economic Development Minister Mthuli Ncube said in another case, a two kilogram packet of chicken was claimed to be worth US\$30 when the maximum market prices was US\$6.

“We have seen a bag of cement being priced at an equivalent of US\$18 on some construction projects.

Such, ladies and gentlemen, is the extent of overpricing which is rendering the government budget inadequate and our position as government is that this is not acceptable,” Ncube said.

He said all existing contracts will now be subjected to a value for money audit before payments are made.

“The value for money process will now result in punitive measures being taken against any government officials found to be complicit to overpricing and procurement malpractices while suppliers will be blacklisted and excluded from future supply contracts,” he said.

The government, Ncube added, would enforce strict adherence to the value for money audit process and embed it into the procurement cycle for all goods and services.

This was because it had been noted that government ministries, departments and agencies were not exercising due diligence, especially regarding the value for money in terms of pricing.

“They have merely been following procurement rules without due regard to established value for money practices already enshrined in the procurement laws of the country.

Tenders have been awarded without due regard to price checks on the basis that prices have passed a competitive bidding process,” he said. Meanwhile, Ncube said while government supply contracts had been undergoing a validation exercise, Treasury had continued to pay up on those that met the value for money criteria.

The government last month suspended all payments to its contractors as part of measures to curb inflation as most of them were quoting using parallel market rates. *Xinhua*

# Nineteen die in Nigeria road accident

**ABUJA -** At least 19 people were killed and eight others seriously injured in a road accident involving three vehicles in Nigeria’s capital city of Abuja on Sunday, traffic police said.

The tragedy happened as two buses collided with a truck along the Yangoji-Gwagwalada road on the outskirts of Abuja, said Dauda Biu, acting national head of the Federal Road Safety

Corps, who briefed reporters during a visit to the site.

The three vehicles collided on motion and burst into flames, Biu said, attributing the fatal accident to overspeed and wrongful overtaking, which eventually resulted in loss of control.

The identities of the victims were unknown, as they burned beyond recognition and could

not be preserved, according to the official.

“The 19 corpses were trapped, but extricated by rescue operatives,” he explained, noting that the police had launched an investigation into the incident.

He warned motorists against violating road safety guidelines and other road users, particularly commuters, to always caution commercial vehicle drivers

against peeding.

Deadly road accidents are frequently reported in Nigeria, often caused by overloading, bad road conditions, and reckless driving. *Xinhua*

# 23 women killed in pile up in northern Zambia

**LUSAKA -** Twenty-three women were killed while 35 others were injured in a road accident in the early hours of Monday in Nsama District in Zambia’s Northern Province, the country’s road transport and safety agency said Monday.

The accident, which involved a light truck that was carrying 58 women from the United Church of Zambia (UCZ) who was travelling back from a conference, occurred when the truck overturned while descending a hill.

Alinani Msisya, the acting Chief Executive Officer of the Road Transport and Safety Agency (RTSA), said the accident occurred when the driver of the light truck lost control and overturned as it was descending the hill.

“The agency has dispatched a team of officers to investigate the cause of the road traffic crash to ensure that such incidences are mitigated,” he said in a statement.

The full accident investigation report will be made available to the public in due course, he added.

Zambian President Hakainde Hichilema expressed sadness on the death of the accident victims.

“We are saddened to hear the tragic news.

We send our message of condolences and prayers to the church and the affected families. We also wish the injured a quick recovery,” he said in a statement.

Deadly road accidents are frequently reported in Zambia, often caused by the poor state of roads, reckless driving, and some instances of overloading. *Xinhua*

# Iran to import nine million-cubic metre Russian gas daily

**TEHRAN -** The Iranian Oil Ministry said on Monday the country would soon purchase nine million cubic metres of gas per day from Russia through Azerbaijan, the semi-official Fars news agency reported.

The ministry announced the plan in a report providing details of a US\$40-billion deal between the National Iranian Oil Company and Russia’s state-owned gas producer Gazprom reached in July.

The ministry added it will soon receive six million cubic meters per day of gas from Russia under a swap deal to export them in LNG (liquefied natural gas) to

other countries from southern Iran.

The deal also includes the completion of gas pipelines from Iran to Pakistan and Oman and finishing a number of liquefied natural gas production projects in the country.

The ministry’s news service Shana has reported that the development of Iran’s Kish and North Pars gas fields, as well as six oilfields, boosting pressure in the South Pars Gas Field, completion of LNG projects, swap of gas and petroleum products and construction of gas transfer pipelines are some of the deal’s highlights. *Xinhua*



## DJ Fresh motivates artistes

By Kehumile Moekejo

KANYE - South Africa based radio personality and entrepreneur, Thato Sikwane, has called on artists to build a robust industry, which will ensure less talent import from across borders.

He underscored the need for the creatives to have plans and be clear about what they wanted to achieve.

Sikwane, famously known as DJ Fresh, said this in Kanye during a roadshow intended to empower creatives.

His company, Big Dawg Productions, is undertaking the project in collaboration with the Department of Broadcasting Services and other industry stakeholders.

DJ Fresh urged attendants to seize the opportunity to optimise their talents.

He also encouraged them to build their own culture and not be obsessed with other countries' culture.

"The government is intentional about empowering artists, especially in the wake of COVID-19 effects, which had an effect on the creative industry. Therefore, this is a massive empowerment drive and we are working with other stakeholders in the industry to ensure that creatives packaged their talents and skills for the market," he said.

He said in order to grow, artists needed to first build a network and market from their



Botswana Entertainment Promoters Association president, Gilbert Seagile (left), DJ Fresh (centre) and BOMU president, Phemelo Lesokwane during the official launch of the national roadshow in Kanye. Photos: Thuso Kgakatsi

surroundings, which would assist in growing their brands.

Even though he encouraged them to network with existing people in their industry, he underscored the need to be unique and work towards filling a niche in the market.

"As a creative, you should strive to be unique and stand out and not imitate those we look up to. One mistake we make as creatives is to be like existing

artists but instead, we need to take them as inspiration which fuels us to do our own thing," DJ Fresh.

Additionally, he advised them to consider collaborations with other artists to enhance their talents and package their products for the international market.

DJ Fresh further said personal branding, through attributes such as timeliness and integrity, was an integral part of the creative

industry. He said artists should always position themselves well for opportunities that might arise. However, he said such positioning should also add value to their clients.

He urged attendants to take advantage of social media to showcase their talents.

"You should take advantage of the internet and social media because truly the internet is a game changer for this industry.

When we started back in the days we did not have such a privilege but we made sure we worked hard for people to know us," he noted.

Kanye-based vocalist, Amantle 'Mimi' Moumakwa said as an upcoming artist, the workshop was an eye-opener for her and many others who aspired to learn the ropes in the industry.

She said it was important for artists to have knowledge of the industry and how to use their talents to make an impact in their lives.

"It is important to have first-hand information on the industry, including memberships of bodies such as BOMU and others, as well as issues of royalties," she said.

She said they needed DJ Fresh's motivation since most young people had neglected their talents owing to various factors, including lack of funds for recording.

Another artist, Emmanuel Bodigelo, stage name EMK, commended DJ Fresh and other stakeholders for availing a networking opportunity for artists in different ramifications of the industry.

He said the platform was a welcome development that encouraged them to be self-reliant and work together to grow the industry.

"I am motivated to produce good quality music which will help build and grow my brand as an artist," he said. **BOPA**

## Dance team rehearses for square dance competition



BEIJING - Members of a dance troupe at the cultural centre in China. Li and her teammates are rehearsing for an upcoming square dance competition. Photo: Xinhua

BEIJING- Decked up in fancy attires, Li Fengwei and her teammates are rehearsing for an upcoming square dance competition.

Li, 60, is a member of a dance troupe at a cultural centre in Beijing's Xicheng District.

Established in 2003, the team comprises more than 40 enthusiastic square dancers with an average age of over 62.

"We started from zero basics and everyone had different physical conditions and levels but we persevered with our love and passion for dance," said Li, who joined the team after retirement. In addition to dancing, Zhao Huijie, 59, a member of the dance troupe, has taught herself basic editing skills so that she can arrange better music for their square dances.

Her teammate Kong Hangyu has regained a healthy physique since she began dancing.

As the instructor of the dance troupe, Yue Xiaodong is delighted to see the positive impact square dancing has had

on the lives of these elderly dancers. "Square dancing has created great value for themselves and helped them receive recognition," he said. Featuring a strong sense of empathy and engagement, square dancing has received widespread public attention in China.

Yuan Liang, an official with the Beijing cultural center, said that there are currently more than 4,000 square dance groups in Beijing, and their choreography and costumes feature local characteristics.

Chinese square dancers have performed in countries such as France, New Zealand and the United States over the past years. "Square dance differs from other professional dance genres as it can incorporate moves from any other dance style.

It is not only a grassroots cultural activity that comes from people's daily lives but also closely linked with Chinese traditional culture," Yue said. **Xinhua**

# Southern cycling challenge next month

By Ketshepile More

GABORONE - The much anticipated Southern Epic Cycling Challenge was launched in Gaborone on Monday.

Formerly known as Kgosi Malope Cycling challenge, Southern Epic, the road race will be held in Kanye next month.

The last edition of the then Kgosi Malope Cycling was in 2020 and it now returns under the new name.

Absa Bank Botswana, High Commission of India, Ministry of Youth, Gender, Sport and Culture as well as KBL are some of the partners of the cycling event.

Absa corporate banking director Lesley Bradley, said they were encouraged by the previous work done for community development.

"It is important to acknowledge that this challenge not only brought together cyclists, but also raised funds to support the development of an important historical site," she said.

She said the organisers illustrated that it was possible and beneficial to leverage popular sporting events with raising awareness and much needed funds for impactful community programmes. She therefore encouraged the organisers to diligently continue their journey of developing opportunities especially for the youth.

Bradley said as a bank, they recognise and appreciate the importance that sport plays in communities they operate in, and assured their support where possible.

"We remain committed to playing a meaningful role in communities in which we work in.

It is a responsibility that we take very seriously as we understand that the long-term sustainability of any community is dependent on the combined efforts of us all," she said.

Furthermore, Bradley said through Southern Epic cycling challenge, opportunities would be

made available for entrepreneurs in the area preparing to welcome the participants of the challenge. She said the event will have an impactful economic boost to the local community.

Team Swift Cycling club comes in as technical partners, and technical director David Lebelelo noted that the race will be run as per the rules and regulations governing cycling races.

"We are here to provide the technical aspects of a race and ensure that they are adhered to as per Botswana Cycling Association (BCA) standards," Lebelelo said.

He mentioned that the prize money for the race is P100 000, with the race categories of Elite, Under23, Vets, Juniors, Youth and Masters. The race distances range from 120km, 60km as well

as 30km which will be an open fun ride.

Southern Epic Cycling challenge logistics manager Utlwanang Gasennelwe said this event seeks to promote sport tourism in Southern district as well as help boost the economy of the district. He said they aim to instill the spirit of self-reliance and community service among the district residents. He said

in the past they helped in the renovation of the Royal cemetery - Mmalekwa graveside, but said this year they have added more for charity. Therefore, he said all proceeds will go to charity.

Some of the donation from this race event, will go towards early childhood development in Southern district, and the identified village being Sekhutlwane. **BOPA**



Kanye Administrative Authority sub-council chairperson, Samson Ramaphoi (left), Southern Epic Cycling Challenge deputy chairperson, Tiroyaone Khuto (second left), India High Commissioner, Dr Rajesh Ranjan (second right) and Bradley during the epic challenge press briefing in Gaborone on Monday. Khuto said the race would be held in Kanye next month. Proceeds from the race will be used for charity in early childhood development. Photo: Pheny Moalosi

## USSA rugby 7s tourney kicks-off

By Marvin Motlhabane

GABORONE - Botswana Tertiary Students Sports Association (BOTESSA) will send two rugby teams to the University Sport Association South Africa (USSA) Rugby 7s tournament scheduled for Kimberly, South Africa,

from Friday. The three-day tournament will be held at Sol Plaatje University.

Vice secretary of BOTESSA, Botho Thobega, said they partnered with Botswana Rugby Union to select match fit players across Botswana universities.

She also noted that selected players had been participating

in league games and were fit to battle for the title.

The team will face Rhodes University and WSU while the men will battle UCT, Rhodes University and NWU.

The vice secretary said the tourney was a result of the bilateral proposals that the two countries made to the International University Sports Federation (FISU) to host development programmes on rugby and marathon running.

Thobega noted that both

countries had been given about P65 000 each by FISU to host the rugby and marathon programmes.

She said Botswana would organise a marathon race in Maun next month while South Africa has organised the rugby tournament. Thobega said USSA would also send their athletes to partake in the marathon.

She said prior to the games there would be a training workshop for BOTESSA rugby officials facilitated by Rugby South Africa. **BOPA**

## Golf challenge enhances OLDM ideals - Maoketsa

By Thandy Tebogo

ORAPA - Orapa Diamond golf challenge (ODGC) is a clear indication that Orapa Letlhakane and Damtshaa Mines (OLDM) are driving the pillar of happy people.

The general manager of OLDM, Mogakolodi Maoketsa, said this on Sunday during the golf challenge.

He said Debswana's aim and purpose was to make life brilliant.

He said they had set aside some money for corporate social investment, but that it could never be enough looking at the challenges they had in either sport or community development.

He said the golf challenge

would go a long way in supporting aspirations of making life brilliant in communities, adding that proceeds made through the challenge would be used in community and sport development.

Maoketsa also said the three-day golf challenge had been exciting because there were a lot of activities supporting the event.

He cited the business exposition, golf clinic for juniors and the golfers festival, saying they catered for everyone.

He also said the aim was to make Orapa a great place to work in and visit.

President of Botswana Golf Union, Modiri Phuthogo, said their interest was in developing the youth and ensure that all

facilities were in good condition.

He applauded Orapa Golf Club for engaging juniors to caddy for them, saying he was confident they would be playing golf in the coming years.

The golf challenge was sponsored by Botswana Insurance Holdings Limited (BIHL).

Walter Seokemong of Orapa Golf Club scooped position one in the professionals division.

Edwin Madigele, also of Orapa Golf Club, emerged the champion in the man's division and walked away with P40 000 while 15-year-old Maru Chokwe from Gaborone Club was the champion in the ladies division and won herself P30 000, both sponsored by DeBeers. **BOPA**



Thobega

## Coach happy with performance

By Anastacia Sibanda

GABORONE - Botswana Boxing Association (BOBA) national team coach, Thebe Setlalekgosi, was impressed by his charges' performance at the just-ended Africa Boxing Confederation (AFBC) Championships in Mozambique.

Botswana sent a team of nine boxers, who won six medals; one gold, two silver and three bronze. Keamogetse Kenosi won gold, Aratwa Kesemang and George Molwantwa won silver, while Kobamelo Molatlhegi, Lethabo Modukanele and Phekie Bele won bronze medals.

Setlalekgosi called for more

resources to be channelled to the team for it to qualify for the next Olympics. He said boxers, who competed at the championships, carried hope for the country.

"There is a lot of potential in these athletes, and all what I am saying is that the authorities should support them, to bring results to the country," he said.

He said the women pugilists outdid themselves given that they managed to outclass their male colleagues in the medals tally. The team captain, Lethabo Modukanele said even though there were a few hiccups before they left for Mozambique, they managed to reach their medal target. She said the athletes were

mentally fatigued going into the tournament, given that they had a busy season, adding however that despite the challenges, they represented the country with pride.

"Some of our more experienced athletes did not do well, but it is part of the game," she said. **BOPA**



The boxing team, which represented Botswana at the just ended African Boxing Championships, at a welcome ceremony in Gaborone on Monday. The team amassed six medals. Photo: Gothusang Lesego



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