

# BOTSWANA Daily News

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# Fund warns of volatile pension market

Lorato Gaofise  
GABORONE



Botswana Public Officers Pension Fund (BPOPF) has warned that a fragile global economy and mounting pressure in the country's diamond sector are creating a more complex and volatile environment for managing pension assets, even as the fund maintains a strong financial position.

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Botswana Public Officers Pension Fund acting CEO, Ms Kwenantle Otukile updating the media on the current status and performance of the pension fund in Gaborone on Friday. She highlighted positive growth and good progression of the company's financial portfolio. Photo: Washa Bofelwang

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# Mohwasa encourages community to play role in security efforts

Goweditswe Kome  
**MOROKA**

Batswana have been encouraged to fight for their protection not just through words, but by being seen to actively participate in security efforts.

Speaking during a Crime Prevention Symposium held in Moroka recently, Minister for State President, Defence and Security, Mr Moeti Mohwasa, said citizens should be able to move freely and sleep peacefully without the fear of being attacked in their homes at night.

Minister Mohwasa emphasised that every activity across the country must be carried out without the looming threat of criminal activity.

"In 2024, the President stated that he envisions a crime-free Botswana where people can walk from Mogoditshane to Gaborone using their cellphones without

fear of them being snatched," he said.

He noted, however, that the community currently lived in fear of both law-breaking foreigners and local youth.

Mr Mohwasa highlighted that the crime situation was being exacerbated by rampant drug abuse.

He lamented that some parents were aware of local drug dealers but failed to report them to the authorities.

While security agents were available to assist, the minister acknowledged that their numbers were insufficient.

Thus, he urged the community to join forces with the police to bridge the gap.

He also indicated that government was faced with logistical hurdles including financial challenges, leading to shortage of working equipment.

He added that police housing

remained inadequate. "Even when officers are dedicated to their work, their morale is often lowered by poor accommodation," he noted.

On one hand, the minister advised the public to cease the illegal cross-border trade of petrol and other commodities to Zimbabwe.

He warned that such activities deprived both countries of essential tax revenue that could otherwise be used for development.

For his part, Tshesebe Station Commander, Superintendent Mthusi Phadi, outlined a goal to reduce corporate targeted offences by 10 per cent in his policing area.

The crimes, Supt Phadi said included burglary, store breaking, housebreaking, rape, theft from dwellings, defilement, murder, motor vehicle theft and robbery.

He observed that crime patterns in the North East region differed from those in the south, as criminals tend to specialise in specific items, such as televisions, jewelry or clothing.

He added that relating to illegal border jumping records, the Tshesebe Police Station registered 2 406 and 3 809 cases in 2024 and 2025 respectively while in 2026 to date, they recorded 812 cases.

He noted that many of the illegal immigrants were being housed and employed by Batswana on farms and in homes without valid work permits.

Furthermore, he warned about fire hazards, saying "some houses have been turned into warehouses for petrol stored in 20-litre plastic containers. Be warned of a potential inferno."

In 2024, he said 16 cases were recorded involving illegal

transport of 12 420 litres of petrol to Zimbabwe. Last year, he said 25 people were intercepted with 1 950 litres of fuel.

Event coordinator, Mr Kgosietsile Malanga stated that the symposium aimed to evaluate crime levels in the RAMOJAKGA area which included Ramokgwebana, Moroka, Jackalas I and Kgari.

In his welcome remarks, Kgosi George Moroka requested for the establishment of a police and Special Support Group office in his village to facilitate easier patrols.

He noted that crime was rampant and that the village was frequently used as a transit point to Zimbabwe because the border fence was dilapidated.

To address the issue, Kgosi Moroka suggested that an electric fence be erected along the border to deter illegal jumpers and stray animals. **BOPA**

# Nation marches for epilepsy awareness

Ketshepile More  
**GABORONE**

As Purple Day, an international campaign celebrated annually to raise awareness and reduce the stigma surrounding epilepsy, approaches on March 26, Young Epilepsy Botswana (YEB) hosted its 11<sup>th</sup> annual Purple Walk on Saturday.

Joined by Minister of International Relations, Dr Pheny Butale and deputy speaker of Parliament, Ms Helen Manyeneng, the YEB movement walked nearly 10km. Starting from The Grand Palm Hotel Casino Convention Resort to Railpark Mall and back, participants braved a rainy morning to show solidarity with those affected and to combat the myths and discrimination surrounding the condition in Botswana.

In his remarks, Dr Butale stated that government recognised the importance of strengthening health systems and supporting initiatives that improved the

quality of life for those living with neurological conditions.

Themed: Healthy Minds, Inclusive Nation, Dr Butale noted that Purple Day served as a reminder that building a compassionate nation was a core pillar in ensuring the dignity of all citizens. He commended YEB, health workers and volunteers for their commitment to educating communities.

"In Botswana, it is estimated that between five and 10 per cent of the population in each district may be living with epilepsy. This means thousands of Batswana including children, young people and adults, are affected by this condition.

Many are capable of living full and productive lives when they receive proper medical care and understanding," he said.

For her part, Ms Thato Makgosa shared a moving testimony about her life with epilepsy, discussing the volatility of diagnosis and medication adjustments.

"Sometimes doctors increase or decrease my dosage. Last



Multitudes converged at Grand Palm Hotel for the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Purple Walk hosted by Young Epilepsy Botswana in Gaborone on Saturday. Chief walker, Minister for International Relations, Dr Pheny Butale commended the organisers for not only raising awareness about epilepsy, but for also helping to reduce discrimination and stigma associated with the condition. Photo: Felicity Male

year, I had fewer seizures, but unfortunately, this January I had a seizure out of nowhere due to a shortage of my medication, which was heartbreaking," Ms Makgosa explained.

She emphasised the importance of resilience and urged the public to learn seizure first aid to better support those in need.

YEB president, Mr Ishmael Nshakazhogwe described the

Purple Walk as a national movement for hope. He noted that while the walk had successfully brought epilepsy into the public conversation and promoted early diagnosis, significant hurdles remained.

"Despite our progress, challenges such as stigma, limited access to specialised care and medication shortages continue to persist," Mr Nshakazhogwe said.

Sharing the same sentiment, Corporate Social Initiative chairperson at The Grand Palm, Ms Doris Jele, reaffirmed the private sector's role in fostering acceptance.

Ms Jele noted that corporate partnership was essential to creating a society where those living with epilepsy were defined by their talents rather than their condition. **BOPA**

# Ntlhaile hails Nucarbon plant as technological breakthrough

Portia Rapitsenyane  
**PALAPYE**

Assistant Minister of Communications and Innovation, Mr Shawn Ntlhaile has described NuCarbon Containerised Pyrolysis Plant as a major step toward Botswana's transition to a circular economy and industrial innovation.

Speaking at its launch in Botswana International University of Science and Technology (BIUST) on Thursday, Mr Ntlhaile said the project demonstrated how locally driven research can evolve into practical, market-

ready technologies.

The NuCarbon plant converts agricultural waste, specifically poultry litter, into valuable products such as biochar and energy.

The technology originated from academic research led by Daniel Botha during his PhD studies at BIUST.

Recognising the potential of the innovation, government, through the Botswana Innovation Fund, invested P1.49 million to support the development of a proof-of-concept.

"This is exactly the type of innovation pathway we want to see more often in Botswana," Mr

Ntlhaile said, emphasising the importance of linking university research, funding mechanisms, and industrial application.

He noted that the project highlighted the critical role local universities played in generating solutions that could contribute to national development.

The plant, he added, represented the culmination of research, funding support, and commercialisation through NuCarbon Technology.

As Botswana's poultry sector continues to expand, Mr Ntlhaile said the pyrolysis technology offered a sustainable solution to waste management challenges

by transforming waste into useful resources.

Founder of NuCarbon Technology, Dr Botha, said the containerised unit had already gained international recognition, including attracting investment, publication in peer-reviewed journals, and securing intellectual property registered under Botswana.

He said this technology was conceived and developed locally, in partnership with BIUST researchers and students.

Acting Vice Chancellor of BIUST, Professor Elisha Shemang, described the project as a strong example of

collaboration between academia, industry, and government.

"It illustrates how universities can act as engines of innovation, developing solutions that address national challenges while advancing scientific knowledge," he said.

Professor Shemang added that the project required persistence, creativity, and dedication, praising the researchers behind it as a reflection of the institution's growing talent base.

The launch marks not the end, but the beginning of scaling the technology for wider adoption and economic impact in Botswana. **BOPA**

Vice President and Minister of Finance, Mr Ndaba Gaolathe at the inaugural two-day Tax Pitso in Gaborone on Thursday. He said unless Botswana mobilised more of its own resources, the ambition of becoming a high-income nation would remain beyond reach.  
Photo: Thompson Keobaletswe



## Domestic revenue below potential

Ndingillo Gaoswedwe  
GABORONE

Vice President and Minister of Finance, Mr Ndaba Gaolathe has called for bold tax reforms, warning that Botswana stands at a pivotal moment in securing a sustainable economic future.

Speaking at the inaugural two-day Tax Pitso in Gaborone on Thursday, held under the theme: Shaping Botswana's Future Tax System: Dialogue for Fair and Sustainable Tax Reform, he said the forum was more than a procedural gathering, describing it as a critical platform for meaningful dialogue and collective action to transform the country's fiscal landscape.

Mr Gaolathe said the Pitso had been convened at a time when Botswana's economic outlook required urgent and well-

considered intervention.

He noted that while the country's long-standing reliance on mineral revenues, particularly diamonds, had served as a pillar of growth and development, enabling the nation to build institutions, expand infrastructure and uplift lives, the model was now under strain due to declining revenues, global economic uncertainties, and rising social demands.

Botswana's domestic revenue mobilisation, he said, remained below potential, with the tax-to-GDP ratio estimated at about 13.4 per cent lower than the African average and comparable economies in the region.

He also said unless Botswana mobilise more of its own resources, the ambition of becoming a high-income nation would remain beyond reach, stressing the urgency of building a modern, fair, and efficient tax system.

Mr Gaolathe warned that delaying reforms would deepen fiscal pressures, weaken public services, and shift the burden to future generations, while proactive measures would strengthen resilience and sustainability.

Among ongoing reforms, he highlighted plans to consolidate the Value Added Tax Act and the Income Tax Act into a comprehensive Tax Administration Act to streamline procedures, reduce duplication, and improve compliance.

He noted that the current Income Tax Act, last reviewed in 1995, had become outdated and complex, increasing the risk of inefficiencies and misinterpretation.

Additionally, a forthcoming VAT Bill is expected to expand coverage to digital services and products, ensuring the tax system keeps pace with economic changes. The

harmonisation of administrative provisions under the new Tax Administration Act will facilitate ease of compliance and improve the overall experience of doing business in Botswana.

The proposed reforms also include modest tax adjustments for higher-income earners and corporations, guided by fairness and ability to pay. Government further plans to support small businesses through simplified tax regimes, broaden the tax base to include emerging sectors such as digital and remote services, and strengthen compliance through real-time transaction monitoring.

Mr Gaolathe acknowledged concerns about the impact of reforms on households and businesses, emphasising that the Pitso was intended to gather public input to shape the final outcome.

In his welcome remarks, acting Commissioner General of the Botswana Unified Revenue Service, Mr Phodiso Valashia said the 2026/27 Budget marked a shift from reliance on mineral exports toward productivity, private sector growth, and domestic revenue mobilisation.

He cited urgent challenges, including the need to build fiscal buffers and enhance economic resilience, noting that Botswana was currently facing a revenue shortfall of over P1.5 billion affecting key projects such as water infrastructure, energy expansion, and small business support.

Mr Valashia called for a stronger culture of tax compliance, urging citizens and businesses to contribute fully.

Government aims to increase the tax-to-GDP ratio to at least 18 per cent by 2026/27, up from the current 13 per cent. **BOPA**

## Fund warns of volatile pension market

from page 1

Addressing a press conference in Gaborone recently, BPOPF acting chief executive officer, Ms Kwenantle Otukile said the global economy remained resilient but increasingly strained, requiring disciplined and long-term decision-making to safeguard members' retirement savings.

The press conference was meant to update the media on the current economic environment within which BPOPF operated, both from a global and domestic perspective and to explain how the developments were informing the decisions taken by the fund, as custodians of the members' retirement savings.

Ms Otukile said global growth was expected to hover around three per cent, broadly in line with recent years, but cautioned that the foundations of such growth were weakening amid a convergence of risks.

She pointed to geopolitical tensions, particularly in the Middle East, as a key factor already pushing up oil prices and raising the risk of renewed inflationary pressures. Higher energy costs, she noted, were feeding through to production, transport and the overall cost of living, reversing earlier gains made in easing inflation.

"At the same time, central banks that have been expected to cut interest rates are now adopting a more cautious stance, increasing the likelihood that borrowing costs will remain elevated for longer," she said.

Such dynamics, she said pointed to a global environment that was not in crisis, but one that was becoming more complex and more volatile, adding that trade tensions and concerns about sovereign debt sustainability in major economies were further contributing to uncertainty. Against such a global backdrop, she said Botswana faced its own distinct challenges, with the diamond sector, as the backbone of the economy, under significant pressure.

While some of the slowdown may be cyclical, she said there was growing concern that structural changes were also at play.

Ms Otukile highlighted shifting consumer preferences, increased competition from synthetic diamonds and continued weakness in key export markets as factors weighing on demand. The impact, she said extended beyond the mining sector, affecting economic growth, government revenues and

the country's external balances.

As a result, she said the country's economic growth had remained modest, with only limited signs of recovery in parts of the mining industry.

She said such pressures had also been reflected in a recent adjustment to the country's sovereign credit rating, underscoring concerns about fiscal sustainability in the face of weaker mineral revenues.

Furthermore, Ms Otukile said government's 2026-2027 budget must be viewed within such context, describing it as a balancing act between supporting economic activity and maintaining fiscal discipline.

"Government must continue to invest in infrastructure, energy and social services, but it must do so in an environment where revenues are under pressure, fiscal space is limited and borrowing requirements are increasing," she said. While acknowledging positive measures such as a commitment to fiscal consolidation and improved revenue collection, she also warned that the margin for policy error was narrowing with difficult trade-offs likely to define decision-making going forward.

Additionally, she pointed to structural limitations within the domestic financial market, describing it as small, concentrated and constrained in liquidity, with prolonged absence of new listings further limiting local investment opportunities.

Despite the challenging environment, Ms Otukile said BPOPF remained financially sound, supported by a growing asset base and a strategy anchored in long-term resilience.

"At times such as these, where uncertainty dominates headlines, it is important to separate noise from substance and ensure that decisions are anchored in principle, discipline and long-term responsibility," she added.

Institutional investors across the region, she said were grappling with heightened global uncertainty and domestic economic pressures, placing increased scrutiny on how pension funds managed risk, whilst protecting long-term value for contributors.

Going forward, she said the fund would continue to position itself cautiously, whilst seeking sustainable returns, noting that members would be given further insight into its performance and strategy during ongoing engagements. **BOPA**

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## PARLIAMENT 2026

# Strategies in place to curb human-wildlife conflict

### GABORONE

The Ministry of Environment and Tourism, through the Department of Wildlife and National Parks (DWNP), has implemented various strategies to mitigate human-wildlife conflict in the North West District.

In a recent update to Parliament, Minister Wynter Mmolotsi stated that efforts included capacitating farmers through livestock and crop protection initiatives, which included construction of predator-proof kraals, introduction of herding dogs and community outreach programmes focused on co-existence.

Mr Mmolotsi noted that other strategies included the introduction of hunting quotas in agricultural extension areas and the use of technology, such as GPS-collaring lions for early warning systems. He said the ministry was also identifying wildlife corridors for better land-allocation planning and collaborating with stakeholders in conflict-prone areas.

Regarding the legal framework, the minister highlighted that compensation for affected farmers, translocation and the lethal removal of habitual problem animals were carried out in accordance with the Wildlife Conservation and National Parks Act.

Furthermore, he said the Community Based Natural Resource Management (CBNRM) programme continued to promote community upliftment through hunting quotas and capacity building.

However, the minister acknowledged significant resource constraints, saying while the department had five vehicles dedicated to problem animal control, government austerity measures and funding shortages had caused maintenance delays.

Minister Mmolotsi further told Parliament that during the 2025/2026 period, 35 elephant reports and 27 lion reports were recorded so far while 26 lion reports were from Shorobe livestock farmers and efforts were made to capture and translocate problem lions. However, he said in cases where translocation had proven unfeasible, the department had resorted to lethal removal as a last resort.

Additionally, he said Hainaveld farmers had been urged to maintain and electrify fences to deter elephants. To further support such efforts, the minister said elephant and lion hunting quotas had been allocated to NG39 for the 2026 season, with proceeds set to be reinvested into conflict-mitigation projects.

Member of Parliament for Maun East, Mr Goretetse Kekgonengile, had sought clarity on the protocols for alleviating escalating conflict in the North-West District. Mr Kekgonengile also asked about transport resources, staffing and high frequency of lion attacks on cattle in the Shorobe area. **BOPA**

# Ministry develops National Migration Policy

### GABORONE

All foreign nationals entering Botswana will be profiled to improve data management concerning labor migration, trade and skills transfer, Minister of Labour and Home Affairs, Major General Pius Mokgware, has said.

Minister Mokgware said this while responding to a parliamentary question recently indicating that the ministry had developed a National Migration Policy, which outlined a comprehensive framework for managing, regulating and controlling both regular and irregular migration while balancing security and humanitarian goals.

“The development of this policy is advanced and is scheduled to be brought to Parliament in due course, after which

implementation will follow,” he said.

Maj. Gen. Mokgware noted that the Immigration Act (Cap. 25:02) served as the primary legal framework for migration. It provides provisions for addressing irregular migration, enforcing penalties for violations as well as establishing pathways to regularise undocumented migrants.

To curb illegal migration, the minister highlighted that the ministry conducted joint border patrols with other law enforcement agencies and neighbouring countries.

The minister emphasised that communities along border lines were frequently educated on the effects of migration regarding security, statelessness and the importance of safe and orderly movement.

“For example, communities

in villages like Tshidilamolomo, Sikwane, Ramatlabama and Moroka are often addressed during Kgotla meetings on the dangers of harboring illegal migrants,” he stated.

He added that the ministry also held regular bilateral joint security and cooperation meetings to discuss Memorandum of Understanding.

Okavango East legislator, Mr Gabatsholwe Disho, had asked for an update on legal and policy frameworks supporting the President’s directive for affirmative action to curb illegal immigration.

Mr Disho also inquired about measures to document undocumented migrants, particularly those from Zimbabwe, and the operational strategies used for stakeholder engagement and cross-border coordination. **BOPA**



Assistant Minister of Transport and Infrastructure, Mr Keoagile Atamelang has told Parliament that to bolster revenue, Air Botswana was implementing a tactical sales strategy, which included incentive programmes for travel agents, tour management companies and private firms.

# Air Botswana deploys plan to stabilise performance

### GABORONE

Air Botswana has implemented a short-term strategic plan to stabilise its performance, starting with the completion of a mandatory C-check maintenance on its ATR72-600 on March 6, increasing the airline’s operational fleet to three aircraft, though it currently maintains a two-aircraft schedule.

Answering a question in Parliament, Assistant Minister of Transport and Infrastructure, Mr Keoagile Atamelang said the process of operationalising two grounded ERJ145 aircraft had begun.

That, he said, included a five-phase certification process and repatriation of the planes from Namibia, with the first aircraft

expected to arrive in Botswana in April.

Mr Atamelang apprised Parliament that a crew re-qualification programme was underway to create a standby pool for all aircraft types by the end of April. Simultaneously, he said the airline was optimising its current crew assignments to better match flight operations.

To bolster revenue, he said Air Botswana was implementing a tactical sales strategy, which included incentive programmes for travel agents, tour management companies and private firms.

“Interline and codeshare partnerships are being rationalised to offer a seamless travel experience and eliminate the need to collect baggage and re-check at connecting airports,

including Johannesburg,” the assistant minister said.

However, he indicated that external factors posed a significant threat owing to the conflict in the Middle East which had disrupted crew training slots in the UAE, while rising fuel prices in South Africa were also affecting ticket affordability.

He further told Parliament that the airline did not achieve profitability by the end of December last year.

To manage costs, he said Air Botswana trimmed its network last August, suspending routes that failed to cover direct operating costs which included Gaborone to Durban, Gaborone to Windhoek and Maun to Windhoek.

“These suspensions saved the airline approximately P44 million

between August and December last year,” he said. The assistant minister attributed the weak performance to low revenue generation and poor load factors or seat occupancy.

He cited loss of market share, intensifying competition and decline in public confidence due to unreliable operations as primary drivers.

“This unreliability was caused by aircraft constraints and crew shortages,” he added.

Maun North legislator, Mr Dumelang Saleshando, had asked the minister for an update on the airline’s profitability following previous presidential declarations and inquired whether a formal strategic plan was in place to ensure future financial viability. **BOPA**



Legislators leaving Parliament after a session recently. Assistant Minister of Justice and Correctional Services, Mr Augustine Nyatanga (second row second left) said the Land Tribunal was at an advanced stage of transformation to elevate to High Court status. Photo: Gaseitsiwe Moruakgomo

# Land Tribunal set for High Court status

Tebagano Ntshole

GABORONE

The Land Tribunal is at an advanced stage of transformation to elevate it to High Court status, a move intended to align land adjudication with the country's ongoing constitutional reforms.

Presenting the 2026/27 budget estimates in Parliament recently, Assistant Minister of Justice and Correctional Services, Mr Augustine Nyatanga, said the tribunal's current performance was satisfactory.

Mr Nyatanga revealed that during the current financial year up to January, the organisation had registered 156 land board appeals, completing 109 of them, recording a 70 per cent completion rate.

Additionally, he said nine planning appeals were registered and all were successfully finalised. Mr Nyatanga emphasised that initiatives were underway to provide Botswana with a speedier, less cumbersome and more affordable dispute resolution mechanism.

"This endeavour underscores a steadfast commitment to classifying land or shelter as a basic human right. Disputes relating to land are being approached along those lines," the assistant minister said.

Despite the positive statistics, Mr Nyatanga acknowledged that the Tribunal was battling limited resources, including inadequate funding, staff shortages and poor infrastructure.

"These factors have hampered the tribunal's efficiency and outreach, particularly in remote areas where many citizens remain unaware of their right to appeal land board decisions," he said.

To address such gaps, he said the tribunal was undergoing an internal review and structural transformation and the process of amending the Land Tribunal Act began in the 2024/25 financial year.

"The country is currently in the process of constitutional

transformation. There is, therefore, a need to reform land adjudication and integrate the Land Tribunal into a new judicial hierarchy to align with the envisaged Constitutional Court," he explained.

He added that the use of Circuit Courts had already contributed to the timely resolution of cases and helped eradicate backlogs. Debating the budget presentation, many of the Members of Parliament argued that the tribunal remained inaccessible to the average citizen though they had land disputes.

Mr Sam Digwa of Boteti West opined that the proposed P51.9 million recurrent budget was insufficient and he also called for more transparent operations and public education.

Lethakeng MP, Brigadier Domcaza Mokgwathi, urged government to upgrade sub-land boards in line with new districts to allow for additional and localised tribunals.

That, he said, would enable the

country to establish additional tribunals for easy accessibility. Specially Elected MP, Maj. Gen. Pius Mokgware expressed concern over the time taken to conclude cases, noting that the tribunal's rulings were often ignored because it currently lacked the authority of a High Court.

Tswapong South MP, Dr Kesitegile Gobotswang argued that the high volume of appeals were a symptom of incompetence within the land boards themselves. Dr Gobotswang also said the tribunal should spread its wings to other areas of the country adding it should be empowered and be at par with the High Court.

Bobirwa MP, Mr Lucas Taolo pointed to corruption within the Kweneng and Kgatleng land boards as a primary driver of the Gaborone tribunal's heavy caseload.

Meanwhile, the assistant minister had proposed budget of P51 954 670 for the Land Tribunal. **BOPA**

# Sese coal project awaits new investors

GABORONE

Parliament has been informed that the Sese coal project's small train pit was used for bulk sample extraction and not commercial mining.

Answering a parliamentary question on behalf of Minister of Minerals and Energy recently, Minister of Communications and Innovation, Mr David Tshere, stated that the 15 000-tonne sample was used for power station fuel combustion testing and a trial coal export exercise via Zimbabwe and Mozambique.

Mr Tshere explained that the mine was never commercially operational and was kept open for inspections by potential investors

to demonstrate the coal seams' thickness and proximity to the surface.

He revealed that the project's power was initially intended for export within the Southern African Power Pool, with 300MW earmarked for a copper miner in Zambia.

However, he said Zambia's state power company, ZESCO, introduced a 100MW ceiling on independent power imports, compromising the project's economics.

"The joint venture partner was pressured to divest due to shareholder pressure to phase out coal investments," he said, noting further that African Energy Resources Botswana now owned

Thato Mosinyi

GABORONE

The Office of the Receiver has experienced an increase in operational responsibilities, as reflected by the rise in court orders for the seizure, management and return of seized property.

Presenting the Office of the Receiver budget proposals for the 2026/2027 financial year recently, Assistant Minister of Justice and Correctional Services, Mr Augustine Nyatanga indicated that during the current financial year, the number of court orders increased from 66 to 79, demonstrating that criminal justice system's sustained efforts to deprive criminals of the proceeds and instrumentalities of crime.

Nonetheless, Mr Nyatanga stated that as at February this year, the portfolio of restrained property under management consisting of real estate, vehicles and plant machinery, livestock, personal effects, furniture, money and business interests, decreased from P169 million last year to P141 million, representing a significant decline of 16.5 per cent.

He said during 2025, the office returned vehicles, immovable properties and funds following court directives whilst some resulted in final forfeitures to government. He noted that the active role of the Office of the Receiver in administering the confiscated assets trust fund increased from P10 million in the previous year to P43 million.

"This increase of 321.8 per cent, is largely attributable to the final forfeiture, in January this year of funds amounting to P32 million, as well as continued administrative deposits from law enforcement agencies including the Botswana Police Service, Botswana Unified

# Office of the Receiver anticipates increased workload

Revenue Service (BURS) and the Directorate on Corruption and Economic Crime (DCEC)," he added. He indicated that no compensation was paid to victims of crime, during the year under review as claims received were still undergoing assessment.

"The confiscated assets trust fund management committee is finalising guidelines for the disbursement of funds to support victims, for compensation and rehabilitation, as well as capacity building and training initiatives for law enforcement agencies involved in combating money laundering, racketeering and terrorism financing," he said.

Notwithstanding such developments, Mr Nyatanga highlighted that the Office of the Receiver continued to face challenges relating to storage and high cost of maintaining restrained property, largely due to prolonged litigation which delayed finalisation and disposal of assets.

He said efforts to secure long-term storage solutions were nonetheless ongoing.

"In the interim, the office, in collaboration with the Botswana Defence Force (BDF), completed the construction of three shelters providing 60 temporary parking bays. This will significantly reduce deterioration caused by exposure to the sun," he said.

He further said as government had engaged an audit firm to conduct a forensic investigation across ministries and government agencies, the ministry was taking deliberate steps to ensure that the Office of the Receiver was adequately resourced to meet the anticipated workload.

That, he said included provision of appropriate storage and holding facilities for assets under receivership, as well as engaging suitably qualified personnel to manage, preserve and safeguard such assets. It was against such a background that the assistant minister proposed a P25 million recurrent budget allocation for the 2026/2027 financial year for the Office of the Receiver, representing 39 per cent over the budget for the current financial year.

The allocation is primarily intended to meet personal emoluments, rental obligations and operational expenses, including maintenance and preservation of seized property.

Mr Nyatanga said key drivers for the increase were personal emoluments, furniture and equipment as a result of the approval of additional staffing 24 posts for the Office of the Receiver. Under the development budget, Mr Nyatanga requested an amount of P24 million to be channeled towards execution of two key development projects, being the construction of the Francistown warehouse as well as the Property and Asset Management System. **BOPA**

100 per cent of the project and had spent 24 months seeking new development partners and investors.

He said upon realisation, Sese coal to power project was expected to bring long-term benefits to the community and Botswana, including local employment and economic empowerment.

Member of Parliament for Shashe West, Mr Jeremiah Frenzel, had asked if the minister was aware of the coal mine operation 20km from Mabekwa, which was suddenly closed.

Mr Frenzel also sought reasons for closure, potential plans for reopening and the benefits of reopening to the residents of Mabesekwa. **BOPA**




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## PUBLIC NOTICE

### BIUST TO INAGURATE ITS SECOND CHANCELLOR

**March 23, 2026**

The Botswana International University of Science & Technology (BIUST) has the honour to announce the forthcoming inauguration of Advocate Duma Gideon Boko, President of the Republic of Botswana, as the Second Chancellor of the University.


The historic ceremony is scheduled to take place on Thursday, 26 March 2026 at 08:30 at the BIUST Campus, Multipurpose Hall. The inauguration underscores the strong collaboration between higher education, industry, and government in driving Botswana's knowledge-based economy.

Members of the public are urged to join the University in commemorating this historic occasion by following the live proceedings through the official University social media platforms: <https://www.facebook.com/biustbw> and YouTube@BIUSTBW.

This auspicious occasion signifies a moment of profound institutional pride and national importance, reaffirming the University's mandate in advancing scientific excellence, technological innovation, and human capital development in service of the Republic.


**Issued by** : Directorate of Communications & Public Relations  
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**Email** : kgopanag@biust.ac.bw

**About BIUST:** The Botswana International University of Science and Technology (BIUST) was established by an Act of Parliament (Act CAP 57:05) in 2006 as a research-intensive University and the only specialized University in Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM). BIUST is a transformative strategically positioned entity supposed to lead the country's transition from a mineral-led to a knowledge-driven economy through undertaking cutting edge research in science, engineering, and technology. The "BIUST Transformative Strategy Plan 2023-28" is a vehicle and pathway through which this transition is to be realized. BIUST is renowned for its academic excellence, research programs, and commitment to innovation.



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# BENEFICIARY ASSESSMENT NOTICE



## CALL FOR BENEFICIARIES - DEATH BENEFITS CLAIMS

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

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

MEMBER NAME	EXIT DATE	MEMBERSHIP STATUS	MEMBER NAME	EXIT DATE	MEMBERSHIP STATUS	MEMBER NAME	EXIT DATE	MEMBERSHIP STATUS
Agnes Alfred	23/12/2025	Active	Othusitse Matswiri	21/01/2026	Deferred	Kelebogile Mposa	23/05/2025	Active
Boipuso Bommotse	28/11/2023	Active	Pearl Moabi	17/01/2026	Active	Moemedi Ngwako	09/08/2025	Active
Boitshepo Dinyando	18/12/2023	Active	Howard Modo	19/02/2026	Pensioner	Ditsapelo Rapelang	06/09/2025	Active
Selebatso Dube	04/09/2025	Active	Boitshoko Mokakane	02/12/2025	Active	Segomotso Samuel	13/11/2025	Active
Selelo Jobe	04/06/2025	Active	Batshidi Molebatsi	28/07/2025	Active	Kemo Sebobo	06/08/2023	Active
Tshepo Kabelo	21/09/2020	Active	Ototebile Morulane	12/01/2024	Active	Boithamako Setsile	19/12/2025	Pensioner
kesegofetse Lebang	12/10/2025	Active	Elizabeth Moshodi	13/09/2025	Active	Benjamin Solomon	23/11/2025	Active
Toffinah Letonkane	16/02/2024	Active	Omphile Mosweu	27/07/2024	Deferred	Ikgopoleng Tsetse	14/12/2025	Active
Tsepo Letsunyane	02/02/2026	Pensioner	Therisano Mosweu	30/01/2026	Active	Dipako Tshaakane	31/05/2024	Deferred
Diphetogo Makuku	25/09/2025	Active	Tshadi Motlhabane	16/05/2025	Active	Tshepo Tuelo	25/07/2025	Active

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

**Finding a better way**



# Daily Business

## Kazungula OSBP begins 24 hour operations April 1



*Kazungula Bridge Authority executive director, Mr Mukela Muyonda said preparations to transition the Kazungula One-Stop Border Post to 24-hour operations were underway, with full implementation scheduled for April 1. He said the authority had fast-tracked the rollout, following a directive from Presidents Advocate Duma Boko and Hakainde Hichilema to transition to a 24-hour and ultimately non-stop border post.*

Portia Keetile  
**KASANE**

Preparations to transition the Kazungula One-Stop Border Post (OSBP) to 24-hour operations are underway, with full implementation scheduled for April 1.

Addressing the Chobe District Development Committee recently, Kazungula Bridge Authority (KBA) executive director, Mr Mukela Muyonda confirmed that the authority had fast-tracked the rollout, following a directive from Presidents Duma Boko and Hakainde Hichilema to transition to a 24-hour and ultimately non-stop border post.

Mr Muyonda revealed that the Zambia Revenue Authority

(ZRA) recently piloted 24-hour operations following a strategic meeting with the KBA.

He added that other border agencies were continuing to build momentum leading up to April 1.

Furthermore, he noted that the KBA was set to meet with the Botswana Unified Revenue Service (BURS) to strategise the transition and implement systems that ensured seamless shift for travellers and logistics companies.

Again, he emphasised that robust IT systems were the backbone of such a transition and modernised systems would allow cargo transporters to capitalise on pre-clearance efficiency and minimise physical inspections for low-risk goods.

He also informed the committee

that the KBA's mandate had been broadened by the two member states with a goal to transform the authority from a single-asset operator into a regional investment platform that catalysed development in logistics, tourism, agriculture and related supply chains.

"The effectiveness of the Kazungula OSBP hinges on efficient border management and strong coordination between agencies in Botswana and Zambia," he said.

He added that such a mandate

was driven by rising traffic along major routes like the North-South Corridor, surging exports in mining, agriculture and manufacturing from Zambia and neighbouring countries as well as increased passenger movement within the Kazungula-Victoria Falls-Chobe region.

Mr Muyonda further stated that the authority would continue engaging with governments, border agencies and all stakeholders to realise the full potential of the 24-hour OSBP. **BOPA**

## BPOPF on track to exceed target

Lorato Gaofise  
**GABORONE**

**The Botswana Public Officers Pension Fund is closing in on its P133 billion asset target ahead of schedule, while already outperforming key strategic benchmarks, signaling strong returns for members despite a challenging economic climate.**

Speaking at a press conference in Gaborone on Friday, acting chief executive officer Ms Kwenantle Otukile said the fund's assets under management had reached P128.4 billion as at December 2025, placing it firmly on track to meet its March 2027 target.

Ms Otukile said the briefing formed part of efforts to strengthen relations with the media, whom she described as key partners in educating members and the public, while also providing updates on the fund's performance, strategy and priorities to build stakeholder confidence.

"We have a responsibility not only to grow retirement savings, but to deliver services in a sustainable and competitive manner that ensures long-term returns for our more than 120 000 members," she said.

The fund has already exceeded one of its major strategic targets, achieving a Net Replacement Ratio (NRR) of 86 per cent by December 2025, well above its 2027 target range of 66 to 81 per cent. The NRR measures the proportion of a member's income replaced by pension benefits at retirement.

On service delivery, Ms Otukile said the fund also surpassed its member satisfaction target, recording 82.8 per cent in the 2024-2025 survey against a target of 80 per cent.

Cont...page 8

## Fuel stocks supply secure until March

**GABORONE**

Botswana has enough fuel to last through the end of March, with 65 million litres currently in stock or in transit, despite the volatile global energy market triggered by ongoing conflict in the Middle East.

A press release from the Botswana Energy Regulatory Authority (BERA) confirms the country holds 20.8 days of national fuel cover, providing a temporary buffer against the current geopolitical storm.

These volumes comprise 41.4 million litres of diesel and 23.7 million litres of petrol.

"Furthermore, fuel importers have placed orders for approximately 20 million litres of petrol and 24 million litres of diesel.

They have provided assurance that the supply for March 2026 remains stable," reads the release.

However, while the outlook for March appears secure, BERA cites increasing uncertainty and anxiety

regarding the supply for April 2026.

This, it says is due to escalating premiums as traders shift toward spot pricing.

To address the additional costs of importation within the current pricing structure, the authority is currently engaging with oil companies.

The release further highlights the impact of global tensions saying "the ongoing geopolitical situation, particularly in the Middle East, has significantly impacted international oil markets. Brent crude oil prices increased by 38 per cent between March 1 and 18, 2026."

According to BERA, these developments are driven by escalating supply concerns and rising maritime transport costs. Consequently, the authority assures the public that it will continue to closely monitor developments and manage emerging risks in collaboration with government and industry stakeholders. **BOPA**

### BUSINESS BRIEFS

#### Access Bank enhances capacity

**GABORONE**

Access Bank Botswana has appointed two senior leaders to strengthen its strategic capabilities across Risk Management and Corporate and Institutional Banking. A press release from the bank says the appointment of Mr Kabo Gwafila as Head of Risk and Ms Omphemetse Dube as Head of Corporate and Institutional Banking reinforces the Bank's commitment to sustainable growth, robust governance and market leadership; enhancing the Bank's ability to deliver innovative financial solutions while maintaining strong risk oversight in an evolving economic environment. "As the Bank presses forward in its strategic growth agenda, Mr Gwafila and Ms Dube's leadership will be instrumental in positioning Access Bank to seize opportunities, foster innovation, and create lasting impact in the financial sector." **BOPA**

#### Cape Town airport wins Best Airport in Africa award

**CAPE TOWN**

South Africa's Cape Town International Airport has been named the Best Airport in Africa at the 2026 Skytrax World Airport Awards, local media reported on Sunday. The airport won the title at the awards held on March 18 in London, United Kingdom. It also received accolades for being the cleanest airport in Africa and having the best staff on the continent. Other South African airports recognised at the awards include O.R. Tambo International Airport in Johannesburg, which ranked second best on the continent, and King Shaka International Airport in Durban, which placed fourth and was among the top regional airports in Africa. **Xinhua**

#### Egypt advances policies to empower women

**CAIRO**

Egypt's cabinet on Sunday highlighted reforms aimed at expanding women's economic opportunities, citing a World Bank report that ranked the country among the world's leading reformers. In a statement, the cabinet said the measures are designed to promote "gender equality in rights and opportunities, and eliminate all forms of discrimination against women," while increasing female participation in national development. The World Bank's Women, Business and the Law 2026 report noted that Egypt led global reform efforts in improving legal frameworks for women's economic participation between October 2023 and October 2025. **Xinhua**

# Duo unites to advance digital economy

Benita Magopane  
GABORONE

Botswana and Mauritius have reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening bilateral trade and investment, with a strong focus on advancing digital economic growth.

This follows the Botswana–Mauritius Business Forum held on Friday, hosted by the Botswana Investment and Trade Centre (BITC) in collaboration with the Economic Development Board of Mauritius (EDBM).

The forum forms part of Mauritius' broader strategy to position itself as a trusted gateway to African markets and a regional hub for innovation and technology-driven development.

It also provided a platform



Participants at the Botswana–Mauritius Business Forum hosted by Botswana Investment Trade Centre in collaboration with the Economic Development Board of Mauritius in Gaborone on Friday. Botswana's ICT Sector chairperson, Mr Mothusi Tladi informed the visiting delegation that Botswana had partnerships opportunities in emerging technologies such as Artificial Intelligence, Cloud and Cybersecurity, with strong potential to develop into a hub. Photo: Felicity Male

for both countries to deepen economic cooperation and unlock opportunities in trade, investment, and cross-border partnerships.

Speaking at the event, BITC

Chief Operations Officer, Mr Anthony Sefako, said the forum offered Botswana an opportunity to learn from Mauritius' successful economic transformation.

He noted that Mauritius had transitioned from an agriculture-based economy to manufacturing, and now to a service-led economy anchored by financial services, tourism, and a growing knowledge-based sector.

“Our country has historically relied heavily on minerals, particularly diamonds, as a major source of government revenue. However, like Mauritius, we are committed to diversifying our economy.”

He identified Information and Communication Technology (ICT) as a key driver of diversification, particularly in addressing socio-economic challenges such as youth unemployment.

Mr Sefako pointed to Mauritius'

success in the Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) sector, which has created approximately 30 000 jobs, as a model Botswana could emulate. Mauritius Minister of Information Technology, Communication and Innovation, Mr Avinash Ramtohol, reaffirmed his country's commitment to strengthening partnerships across Africa.

He described Mauritius as a reliable and forward-looking partner, citing its track record in political stability, innovation, and progressive digital policies.

Mr Ramtohol also highlighted significant investments in advanced digital infrastructure, including state-of-the-art data centres designed to serve both regional and global markets.

“These initiatives form part of our long-term vision to establish Mauritius as a secure and efficient

digital hub,” he said.

Providing an overview of Botswana's ICT landscape, ICT Sector Chairperson, Mr Mothusi Tladi, said the sector remains central to the country's transformation agenda.

He noted that government continues to play a key role as both a major consumer of ICT services and an investor in enabling infrastructure.

However, citing Statistics Botswana, Mr Tladi said the ICT sector currently contributes about 2.8 per cent to GDP and was largely driven by micro and small enterprises, with limited participation from original equipment manufacturers.

He also highlighted the persistent challenge of youth unemployment, estimated at 28.9 per cent among those aged 15 to 35, including ICT graduates. **BOPA**

## BPOPF on track to exceed target

...from page 7

She said the results reflected steady progress under the fund's 2022–2027 corporate strategy and underscored its commitment to delivering value and maintaining member confidence.

Ms Otukile attributed the strong performance to sustained asset growth, prudent investment management and increased diversification across portfolios, including active and deferred members, pensioners and pre-retirement switch portfolios.

Beyond financial returns, she said the fund was playing an increasing role in domestic economic development. More than P5 billion has been committed to an incubation programme aimed at supporting emerging local asset managers and strengthening capital markets in Botswana. “This is a notable contribution towards building a more inclusive and resilient financial ecosystem,” she said.

The fund has also strengthened its governance framework, enhancing transparency, board oversight and protection of members' interests, while investing in digital tools to improve service delivery and engagement.

These include a projection tool platform, structured educational campaigns through webinars, mobile offices and podcasts designed to improve members' understanding of pension matters such as contributions, benefits, investment decisions and regulatory requirements.

Operationally, BPOPF recorded a service performance score of 97.7 per cent as at December 2025, supported by ongoing process improvements and the digitisation

of benefits administration.

Ms Otukile said the fund would continue to prioritise prudent management of retirement savings to ensure sustainable, long-term returns for members. **BOPA**

## Integration crucial for SADC economic gains

JOHANNESBURG

Member states of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) must accelerate practical measures to deepen economic integration and unlock the region's full potential, according to a Johannesburg-based senior economist.

While the 16-member bloc has made strides in promoting regional trade and investment, intra-SADC trade still accounts for only about 20 per cent of the region's total trade volume, highlighting a significant opportunity for expansion.

Joseph Upile Matola, from the South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA), told Xinhua that while gains have been recorded, further efforts are required to improve regional connectivity and market access.

A key priority remains improving the efficiency of One-Stop Border Posts (OSBPs), according to Matola, facilities like the Chirundu Border Post between Zambia and Zimbabwe have successfully slashed crossing times from days to hours.

However, he noted many OSBPs across the region remain only partially integrated. “Enhancing OSBP operations is critical to lowering both the cost and time

associated with cross-border trade.” Digitalisation is also expected to play a pivotal role.

With internet penetration exceeding 50 per cent and mobile subscriptions rising steadily, SADC is well-positioned to expand e-commerce and digital trade platforms to bolster intra-African commerce.

As a regional inter-governmental organisation, SADC is committed to promoting sustainable economic growth, deeper integration, good governance, and security among member states in Southern Africa.

The organisation includes 16 members: Angola, Botswana, Comoros, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. Matola urged governments to pivot from “rhetorical integration” toward practical, results-driven cooperation to achieve sustainable

growth over the next decade.

Central to this shift is political leadership, particularly in translating policy into action. This includes fast-tracking the ratification of regional protocols, many of which have been signed but remain unenforced.

Stronger governance and political stability are also vital for attracting investment, as investors prioritise predictable and secure operating environments.

Furthermore, the economist called for more robust enforcement mechanisms to ensure compliance with regional agreements, noting that weak implementation continued to undermine integration efforts. Regional stability

remains a priority, requiring continued diplomatic engagement in conflict-affected areas such as the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Madagascar.

To reduce dependence on external markets, Matola highlighted the

need for structural transformation. Currently, SADC economies rely heavily on exporting raw materials, including minerals and agricultural commodities.

Promoting value addition and beneficiation, especially in mining and agriculture, will be essential for driving industrialisation and shielding the region from global price shocks. Matola also identified the operationalisation of the Regional Development Fund as a crucial step toward mobilising domestic financing for regional projects, thereby reducing reliance on external funding. Energy development, particularly in renewables, was cited as another critical frontier.

Despite abundant natural resources, many countries in the region still face chronic power shortages.

“Energy is the backbone of manufacturing,” he said, stressing that increased investment in power infrastructure was vital to support industrial growth and enhance economic resilience.

As SADC countries pursue deeper integration, the economist concluded that stronger implementation, strategic infrastructure investment, and regional stability would be the cornerstones of long-term economic transformation. **Xinhua**

# Botswana Open University strives for inclusive education

## GABORONE

Botswana Open University (BOU) provides accessible and inclusive education that accommodates all potential learners without any limitations to their personal status such as locations and previous academic performance or employment.

Answering a question in Parliament from Member of Parliament for Maun West, Mr Caterpillar Hikuama, Minister of Higher Education, Mr Prince Maele said BOU currently operated 26 learning centres and 19 examination centres across five regional campuses.

He added that all the five BOU regional campuses; Gaborone, Maun, Kang, Palapye and Francistown were fully connected to the internet where students were encouraged to physically visit the campuses and had free access to internet.

Moreover, he said some BOU students leveraged SmartBots connectivity at various government hotspots to access their learning materials.

"Furthermore, to enable interactivity, other means of communication are utilised to reach students, for example, bulky SMS where messages are sent to students to draw their attention to certain discussions in the instructional materials," Mr Maele explained.

He said WhatsApp capabilities were also used for engaging students and Google Meet to deliver tutorials and run synchronised group discussions. Minister Maele further explained that BOU provided education at junior certificate (JC), Botswana General Certificate of Secondary Education (BGCSE) and pre-occupational levels using open distance learning methodologies.

He also indicated that BOU employed decentralised learner support model to reach even the most marginalised learners.

"The principle of shared use of resources in public schools facilitates the teaching and learning process through contact



*Botswana Open University provides accessible and inclusive education that accommodates all potential learners without any limitations to their personal status such as locations and previous academic performance or employment.*

tutorial session in collaboration with local communities," the minister said.

However, he noted that students experienced connectivity challenges from time to time due

to both inadequacies of national connectivity grid and individual affordability.

"It must be noted that prior to COVID-19, whilst course content was availed through the moodle

for download, tutorials were offered face to face at the regional campuses and students were expected to attend," Minister Maele said.

He further noted that most of

BOU tertiary students (60 per cent) were adult individuals who were employed, some of whom had access to internet at their workplaces.

The minister added that BOU also fostered inclusivity by profiling its students to identify those with special needs and served them through assistive technologies and other means.

Parliament also heard that from 2018 to 2025, BOU enrolled 13 139 students for JC, 47 912 for BGCSE and the minister attributed the decrease in enrolment from 2022 to limited resources for open schooling since the introduction of the Back to School during the BOCODOL era, when funding for it came from composite Ministry of Education, covering both basic and higher education.

"It is hoped that participation of BOU as a partner in the Bula Buka project will help to inject the required resources and give boost to the enrolment," the minister said. **BOPA**

## Minister acknowledges need for reforms

### GABORONE

There are no plans to make the Tutume Sub-Land Board a fully-fledged land board with Nata and Marapong being its subordinate land boards.

This was said by acting Minister of Lands and Agriculture, Dr Edwin Dikoloti, when responding to a question in Parliament.

Dr Dikoloti noted that the ministry's mandate, as derived from the Tribal Land Act and related legislation, did not include the restructuring of the tribal boundaries.

"The only power available to the minister is the approval of the establishment of a subordinate land board, by a land board for its own tribal area (Section 53 (1)) of the Tribal Land Act, 2018," he said. He explained that the boundaries of

the Ngwato Land Board, like other land boards, were prescribed by the Tribal Territories Act and as such, any changes must be preceded by the amendments of the Tribal Territories Act and related legal instruments that recognise the tribal boundaries.

"I am aware of the decentralisation policy, however, I must indicate that the restructuring and upgrading of the subordinate district councils to fully-fledged councils and merging of administrative authorities with district headquarters was in line with the provisions of the Local Government Act of 2012, in particular Section 5 (1)," he said. Dr Dikoloti added that there was no such provision in the Tribal Land Act that empowered the minister responsible for lands to reorganise the tribal boundaries for

the expediency of the service or for the sake of service delivery.

He said notwithstanding Mr Moalosi's question, Botswana, wanted a land administration system that was efficient, transparent, accountable and responsive to their needs. "Botswana have expressed concern over delays in land allocation, inconsistencies in decision-making and inefficiencies associated with largely manual and committee-driven processes. These concerns are calling for a comprehensive reform of the current Land Board system," he said. He explained that Botswana wanted a modern, professional and digitally enabled institution.

He said the current practice of appearing before the board, site visits and their related manual processes, were regarded as outdated. He therefore said the

ministry has started the Land Administration Know Your Customer (LA-KYC) online service, which was currently in the testing phase and due to be officially launched once comments from the users had been addressed.

Dr Dikoloti further shared that Botswana had, in their call, during kgotla meetings, and other engagements, emphasised the importance of maintaining their cultural identity and traditional leadership structures to ensure that their customary values, community interests and traditional authority continued to play a central role in land administration.

"Our intended reforms are about restoring public confidence in tribal land administration, improving service delivery and building a system that is fit for purpose, future-ready and responsive to the needs of all Botswana," he said.

Nkange legislator Motlhaleemang Moalosi had asked the minister if there were any plans to make Tutume Sub-Land Board a fully-fledged entity.

Mr Moalosi had also asked if the minister was aware of the Decentralization Policy and whether, for the sake of service delivery, it would not be prudent to break up Ngwato land board into smaller land boards based on the newly established districts. **BOPA**

## 'Capital punishment sanctioned by law'

### GABORONE

Government maintains that capital punishment is sanctioned by law and also acknowledges and respect it as provided for in the Penal Code, Minister of Justice and Correctional Services, Mr Nelson Ramaotwana has said.

Responding to a parliamentary question, Minister Ramaotwana said there could never be a moratorium on capital punishment in the country unless it had been declared in terms of the law by an appropriate authority.

"There has never been such a declaration as neither the President nor government has declared a moratorium on the death penalty," Minister Ramaotwana said.

Currently, he said there were 19 prisoners on death row, out of which six had been through the Court of Appeal and four of them were dismissed by the Court of Appeal before October 2024, while two were dismissed in 2025.

Following dismissal of their appeals, Mr Ramaotwana said the prisoners lodged applications for mercy and no decision had been made on any of the representations

yet. "There is a critical point that we wish to show concerning three of the six who have gone through the Court of Appeal. It has come to light that three of the six applicants, were not heard by the Court of Appeal, rather the court dismissed their appeals on

the ground that they had not filed their appeals on time," he added.

Ordinarily, the minister said the President would only take an executive decision when all judicial processes had been exhausted. Serowe South MP, Mr Leepetswe Lesedi had wanted to know

government's position on capital punishment and if a moratorium had been imposed in Botswana. The legislator had also asked why government seemed to place more value on the rights of murderers over those of their victims and their families. **BOPA**

## Overcapacity forces sewage disposal to other places

### GABORONE

Minister of Water and Human Settlement has acknowledged that sewage from the Boteti District is currently being transported and disposed off as far as Serowe, Maun and Francistown.

Answering a question in Parliament, Minister Onneetse Ramogapi explained that the Letlhakane wastewater ponds were overwhelmed.

The minister added that the facility had a design capacity of 0.274 million litres per day but was currently receiving 0.5 million litres per day.

"Because the ponds cannot process volume beyond this limit, the ministry has been forced to divert waste to neighbouring districts," he said.

Regarding the district's capacity to manage waste, Mr Ramogapi noted that two vacuum tankers were currently operational in the

district, one tanker was based in Rakops, servicing the village and its surrounding areas while the second tanker was based in Letlhakane, servicing the village and nearby settlements.

Minister Ramogapi further admitted that the ministry was aware of the negative environmental and economic impacts of hauling waste over long distances.

He said while a new sewerage system for Letlhakane was

prioritised under the eleventh National Development Plan (NDP11), the project was stalled due to financial constraints.

"It has now been deferred for implementation during NDP12," Minister Ramogapi said.

Boteti West MP, Mr Sam Digwa had asked the minister if he was aware that waste from drains in Boteti district was disposed off in Serowe and highlighted the inefficiency of using a single vehicle for such a vast area. **BOPA**



Ambassador of Germany to Botswana and Special Representative to SADC, Ms Gabriela Bennemann (left) and Chobe District Council chairperson, Mr Johane Chenjekwa during a courtesy call by the EU delegation on Mr Chenjekwa and the district leadership in Kasane recently. Ms Bennemann and other European Union Heads of Mission to Botswana and SADC have reaffirmed their commitment to supporting Botswana in maintaining its status as a global leader in environmental conservation and sustainable development. Photo: Portia Keetile

## Envoys reaffirm support for Botswana conservation efforts

Portia Keetile  
KASANE

European Union (EU) Heads of Mission to Botswana and SADC have reaffirmed their commitment to supporting Botswana in maintaining its status as a global leader in environmental conservation and sustainable development.

The delegation, led by EU Ambassador to Botswana and SADC Petra Pereyra, included Finland Ambassador Pekka Metso and Germany Ambassador Gabriela Bennemann.

The envoys paid a courtesy call on the Chobe District Council leadership recently.

Speaking during the visit, Ambassador Pereyra noted that while diamonds remained the backbone of Botswana's economy, the tourism sector continued to play a critical role in job creation and improving livelihoods across communities.

"The tourism sector employs about 50,000 people and has the potential to double this figure. As the European Union, we will continue to prioritise this sector through a new programme to be launched in the coming years," she said.

She explained that the purpose of the visit to Chobe was to strengthen the partnership between Botswana and the EU, and to appreciate high-impact projects in wildlife conservation and sustainable tourism funded by the EU through the Kavango-Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area (KAZA).

Ambassador Pereyra acknowledged concerns raised by Chobe residents, including human-wildlife conflict, Foot and Mouth Disease, and power outages.

She said the EU remained committed to supporting Botswana's transition to green energy, which would benefit the country's long-term sustainability goals.

She further emphasised the need for long-term solutions that promoted coexistence between humans and wildlife, stressing that conservation efforts must be people-centred.

Chobe District Council chairperson, Mr Johane Chenjekwa, said the council had been engaging residents on local economic development initiatives aimed at improving livelihoods.

He noted that while many proposed projects had high potential, funding constraints remained a major challenge.

Mr Chenjekwa stressed that successful conservation depended on community ownership of

natural resources.

"Securing community buy-in is the foundation of successful conservation, as people are more likely to protect the environment when they see themselves as primary custodians and beneficiaries," he said.

He further called on government to review compensation rates for damages caused by animals, noting that this would help reduce retaliatory killings.

Additionally, he urged increased support for survivors of wildlife attacks, pointing out that many victims suffer permanent disabilities that limit their ability to sustain their livelihoods. **BOPA**

## Organisations partner to host boy-child empowerment event

Marvin Motlhabane  
MOSHUPA

The Moshupa Bogosi Association, in partnership with Men's Conference Botswana, will convene a first-of-its-kind kgotla meeting designed to empower and shape responsible manhood for a better nation.

Scheduled for March 28 at the Moshupa main kgotla, the event will be held under the theme: The Wellbeing of the Boy-Child: Shaping a Better Botswana for Tomorrow.

In an interview, Kgosi Oscar Mosielele of Moshupa stated that they expected attendance from Men's Conference Botswana, community elders, professional counsellors, members of the Moshupa Bogosi Association, Ministers Fraternal and the Moshupa District Women's Association.

The event follows a prior session held at Moshupa Secondary School, which focused on empowering young boys with the skills and mindset needed to become virtuous men.

Kgosi Mosielele noted that all stakeholders were joining forces to encourage the boy-child to adhere to resolute principles of good conduct within society.

Reflecting on heritage, Kgosi Mosielele noted that in the ancient kgotla of Moshupa, forefathers held bogwera, the rite of passage that turned boys into disciplined, protective and truthful peacemakers.

"Bogosi was the cradle of virtuous manhood," he said.

However, he observed that modern challenges, including absent fathers, urban pressures, moral drift and rising gender-based violence (GBV), had silenced many of those traditional teachings.

He added that too many boys

today grew up without guidance, carrying pain instead of purpose.

Through the scheduled event, the Bogosi Association aimed to revive the spirit of bogwera and bojale to restore moral strength and combat GBV.

Simultaneously, Men's Conference Botswana brings a vision of shaping manhood through mentorship, emotional intelligence and safe spaces as well as blending cultural rites with modern tools.

On Saturday, the two forces will unite for team-building exercises, kgotla dialogues and mentorship circles. The goal is to forge today's boy-child into tomorrow's protector, nurturer and builder.

Kgosi Mosielele described the gathering as more than just an event, but a homecoming of wisdom, where traditional and modern manhood spoke as one.

He emphasised that the kgotla setting created a harmonious and relaxed environment for boys to share their challenges while learning traditional customs.

As part of the day's activities, boys will be tasked with preparing traditional meat dishes, including *serobe* and *mokoto*.

The move Kgosi Mosielele said would foster a spirit of unity between fathers and young men.

Following lunch, fathers will remain behind to discuss strategic interventions for community challenges and devise proactive measures to curb ill behaviour.

Kgosi Mosielele thanked Men's Conference Botswana for bringing such a significant intervention to his community, citing its potential to reduce juvenile delinquency.

"And so we gather, dikgosi, fathers, mentors, educators and the boys themselves, to write the next chapter of our story. The fire that once burned in the bush now burns brighter in the hearts of Moshupa's young men," he said. **BOPA**

## Over P49.9 million earmarked for Ikageng programme

Tshiamiso Moseitha  
SEROWE

The Serowe District Council (SDC) has earmarked P49,920,753 for the implementation of the newly established Ikageng Public Works Programme as part of its 2026/27 financial year budget.

Presenting the budget during a special full council meeting recently, finance committee chairperson, Mr Nametso Senku noted that while the allocation matched the current year's funding, the council was still awaiting final implementation guidelines for the programme.

Mr Senku added that beyond the public works programme, there were several high-priority infrastructure investments aimed at improving district services, which included support for the Constituency Community Projects throughout the district at P30 million while over P3.01 million would be set aside for primary school maintenance to ensure a safe learning environment.

Additionally, P750,000 would

fund the construction of a new teacher's house at Central Primary School to address a critical housing shortage, while P12 million was allocated to complete the stormwater drainage project in Tshimoyapula, which was currently 76 per cent complete.

The council also addressed housing for vulnerable populations and a total of P152 206 had been allocated under the Remote Area Development Programme (RADP) to construct a house in Malatswae.

The project was originally prioritised for the 2025/26 cycle but faced implementation delays.

Despite the multi-million Pula budget, Mr Senku warned about the council's operational capacity, indicating that while they had the necessary human resources, lack of means to support their work remained a significant hurdle. "In the public health sector, limited operational funding will affect outreach programmes, mobility of health teams and maintenance of health facilities," Mr Senku stated, adding that such constraints could compromise the quality and reach of essential services. **BOPA**



Serowe District Council finance committee chairperson, Mr Nametso Senku deliberating on the council's budget during a recent special full council meeting. He said the council had earmarked over P49.9 million for the implementation of the newly established Ikageng Public Works Programme. Photo: Baldwin Nyamande

# Dikgang

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Mothusa kgosi ya Ga-Mmangwato, Kgosi Seretse Peter Khama o boleletse banni ba Mahalapye fa Kgosi Khama IV a tlaa bolotsa mophato kgwedi ya Motsheganong e tlhola letsatsi. A re mophato o tla akaretsa batho ba tshotsweng ka dingwaga tse di fa gare ga 1991 le 2010.

## Kgosi Seretse o kopa morafe go rotloetsa mophato

Kefilwe Selotlegeng  
MAHALAPYE

Bangwato ba rotloeditswe go amogela tsosoloso ya mephato.

Se se builwe ke mothusa kgosi ya Bangwato, Kgosi Seretse Peter Khama kwa phuthegong ya kgotla kwa Mahalapye ka Labothlano.

Kgosi Seretse o tlhalositse fa Kgosi Khama IV a tla bolotsa mephato e le mene Motsheganong a tlhola letsatsi, mme o gorosiwe a tlhola gararo.

Ka jalo, Kgosi Seretse mephato e tla akaretsa batho ba ba tshotsweng mogare ga dingwaga tsa 1991 le 2010.

Mme o rotloeditse botlhe ba ba nang le keletso ya go ya mophatong, go ikwadisa kwa

dikgotleng mo dikgaolong tsa gammangwato.

Kgosi Seretse a re mephato e tla bolotswa e le mene ka gore go tsere sebaka go sa bolotswe mophato ka mabaka a a rileng.

A re ka tshwanelo mephato e siana ka dingwaga di le tlhano a tlhalosa fa maikaelelo e le go tsosolosa ngwao le go bopa setshaba.

Mongwe wa baeteledipele ba thulaganyo ya mephato, Rre Martin Seretse o kopile batsadi go rotloetsa bana ba bone go ya mophatong.

O kopile batsadi gore ba neela bana mefago le di dirisiwa tse dingwe, mme o gateletse gore ba banang le dingwaga tse di kwa morago, mme le bone ba a letlellwa

go ya mophato o o tlaa bololang.

A re ba laleditse ba sepodise, baruti, bogakolodi le ba tshidilo maikutlo le ba-na-le-seabe ka kakaretso go tla tsaya karolo kwa tirong eo.

Monni mongwe wa Mahalapye, Rre Basimolodi Maute a re pele mephato e ne e sa bolotswe fela, ka go ne go nale thulaganyo e e faphegileng.

Mme Phillipine Mokubung ene o kopile Kgosi Seretseg gore ba gagamatse kgang ya dinako tsa diphitlho gore di dirwe phakela thata.

Mme Mokubung gape o supile matshwenyego ka kapari ya bomme kwa dintsho a kopa gore go rotloeditse banana ka go tlotla loso. **BOPA**

## 'Tirisano mmogo e botlhokwa'

Booster Mogapi  
MOLEPOLOLE

Badiragatsi ba rotloeditswe go bereka mmogo go ipetlela isago.

Se se builwe ke mopalamente Swa Molepolole South, Rre Shima Monageng ka letsatsi la mafatshefatshe la baboki kwa Molepolole ka Matlhatso.

Rre Monageng, yo le ene a dirileng ka sebaka mo seromamoweng, a re tshwaragano e aga isago ya sennela ruri.

A re go tlhoka tirisano mmogo ya badiragatsi go supa gore sengwe ga ba se dire sentle.

Ka jalo, o ne a kopa badiragatsi go bopagana ka gore fa ba bua ka lentse le lengwefela, ba ka kgona go reediwa, mme matshwenyego a bone a kgone go rarabololwa.

Rre Monageng o ne gape a kopa baboki gore ba dirise talente ya bone go dira madi.

A re metlha ga se ya maloba, e baboki le badiragatsi ka kakaretso ba neng ba sa bone dikatso.

Rre Monageng a re puso e itlamile go dira mmogo le badiragatsi mme le ene o emetse dikgang tsa bone ka dinao ka jaana kgapetsakgapetsa a ba buelela kwa palamenteng ka le ene ele modiragatsi. O ne a ba fa sekai sa batabogi ba mabelo ba e rileng mo dingwagaeng tse e seng

kae ba fiwa matlo a a fetotseng matshelo a bone mme ba dirisa talente ya bone.

Mopalamente o ne a supa fa badiragatsi le bone baka dirisa talente ya bone go aga botshelo le bokamoso jo bo itumedisang.

O ne a tlatso ka gore modiragatsi wa nnete ga a dirisa tiro ya ga ope, ka a tshwanetse go dira tiro ya gagwe e e pharologanyo.

A re seo se naya modiragatsi sebaka sa go atlega ka balatedi ba tlaa rata tiro ya gagwe ba sa e tshwantsanyane le ya ga ope.

Mookamedi wa lekgotla la Maruping Poetry Organisation, Mme Keabonye Bareeng a re letsatsi leo le kgobokanya baboki go tla go ipelela talente ya bone ka jaana poko e anamisa molaetsa ka puo ya molomo.

A re letsatsi leo le fa baboki, bogolo jang ba banana, sebaka sa go supa talente le bokgoni jwa bone.

Mme Bareeng a re e re ntswa letsatsi leo e le la baboki, badiragatsi ba bangwe le bone jaaka borradikataro ba nna teng ka e le bana ba molodi o le mongwe.

O tladitse ka gore maikaelelo magolo a bone ke go itumelela letsatsi leo ngwaga le ngwaga, mme keletso ya bone ke gore badiragatsi botlhe ba tseye karolo mo go lone.

A re lekgotla la bone le tlhamilwe ka 2016, maikaelelo a lone e le go neela ba-na-le-bogole sebaka sa go supa le go godisa talente ya bone le go supa gore go nna le bogole ga se sekgedi se se ka itsang mona-le-bogole go supa bokgoni jwa poko ya gagwe. **BOPA**

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A prominent voice among the Kgalagadi farming community, Mr Darryl Van Der Westhuizen (third left) with farmers during a meet and greet session organised by Tsabong District Emergency Operation Team recently. He called for an immediate overhaul of the agricultural ecosystem.  
Photo: Naomi Leepile

## BORAVAST farmers warn about structural malfunction

Naomi Leepile  
RAPPELSPAN

The battle against Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) in the Kgalagadi South region is reaching a breaking point, driven not only by the virus itself but by a systemic disconnection that has left the Bokspits, Rappelspan, Vaalhoek and Struizendam (BORAVAST) community feeling like outsiders in their own country.

Local farmers within the cluster are warning that a structural

malfunction within the Department of Veterinary Services is turning one of Botswana's most productive green zones into a landscape of desperation.

Speaking during a meet-and-greet session held by the Tsabong District Emergency Operation Team, Mr Darryl Van Der Westhuizen, a prominent voice among the Kgalagadi farming community, called for immediate overhaul of the agricultural ecosystem.

He warned that current administrative barriers were effectively shutting down the local

economy and creating a climate of exclusion.

Despite the BORAVAST community's proactive efforts to mend boundary fences and secure their stock without government assistance, Mr Van Der Westhuizen said the emotional and financial weight had become unbearable.

He described a grim reality where the state's primary contribution to the FMD fight has been the culling of livestock rather than the support of livelihoods.

A chilling lack of psychological support for farmers forced to watch

their entire livelihoods destroyed by mandatory culling was also highlighted.

According to Mr Van Der Westhuizen, government has failed to account for the trauma of such losses, which he warned could lead to a mental health crisis, including the risk of suicide among those left with nothing.

The geographical isolation of the BORAVAST area had further turned routine veterinary services into a financial nightmare, he noted.

Mr Van Der Westhuizen pointed out the absurdity of the current

centralised system, where a farmer requiring a P13 Keeper ID card or P20 worth of small stock ear tags was forced to travel to Tsabong, a trek of over 260km one way that often involved costly overnight stays.

The logistical hurdles did not end with the journey, he said once an animal was finally tagged, a farmer must wait an additional three weeks for the system to update before a sale can be legalised.

"These impossible hurdles are creating desperate farmers who may eventually turn to livestock smuggling into South Africa just to survive, ironically creating the very FMD risk the government is trying to prevent," Mr Van Der Westhuizen warned.

He further cautioned that desperate situations created desperate people, noting that the sentiment in BORAVAST was that the area had been neglected for far too long.

If government truly intended to eradicate FMD, locals said they must first address the infrastructure that kept the BORAVAST economy in a state of permanent lockdown.

Furthermore, he said the green zone status of the region appeared to be a title held only on paper.

While the Botswana Meat Commission (BMC) quoted premium prices of P53/kg for such zones,

Mr Van Der Westhuizen revealed that BORAVAST farmers were being exploited by market sharks, feedlots and butcheries from the north who capitalised on the area's isolation.

He noted that while farmers read about premium prices on social media, they were reportedly receiving as little as P20/kg, a rate significantly lower than even the red zone prices in Ngami.

The community is now calling for an urgent summit with national leadership to move away from a strategy of fear and toward a partnership of prosperity.

Mr Van Der Westhuizen believed that if government invested in proper market access and treated farmers as allies, the BORAVAST region could become a cornerstone of the national Gross Domestic Product through smallstock production.

Responding to the concerns, principal veterinary officer, Dr Tshephang Moeng informed farmers that government has recognised the emotional toll of the crisis.

Dr Moeng announced that psychological counselling has been arranged and those who have been affected by the mandatory culling would be assisted in due course.

BOPA

## BPOPF ups service drive and accelerates benefit payouts

Lorato Gaofise  
GABORONE

The Botswana Public Officers Pension Fund (BPOPF) has unveiled an ambitious plan to improve service delivery, accelerate benefit payments and deepen digital transformation, as it moves to enhance member experience and accountability.

Addressing a press conference in Gaborone recently, BPOPF acting chief executive officer, Ms Kwenantle Otukile said the fund was placing service efficiency at the centre of its 2026–2027 strategic priorities. Ms Otukile said whilst investment performance remained important, timely access to benefits was the ultimate test of the BPOPF's effectiveness.

"At the end of the day, no matter how strong our investment returns are, if we are not able to provide members with their benefits on time, then we would not have achieved what truly matters," she said.

She revealed that the fund

had already made progress in strengthening internal processes, achieving a service performance score of 97.76 per cent as at December 2025, which was well above its internal standards.

However, the BPOPF acting CEO acknowledged that improving turnaround times for benefit payments remained a key focus area for the year ahead.

She said the fund was also accelerating its digital transformation programme to improve efficiency and member engagement.

That, she said included the rollout of a mobile application, an online projection tool and plans to expand self-service platforms, such as chatbots and electronic Know Your Customer (eKYC) systems.

Ms Otukile said such tools were designed to give members greater visibility over their retirement savings and enable them to make informed decisions about their pensions.

"We want our members to actively participate in decisions about their retirement benefits, both in the short and long term," she added.

Again, she said BPOPF was expanding its financial literacy and member education initiatives through digital and social platforms, webinars and outreach programmes aimed at improving understanding of pension matters.

Beyond service delivery, she said the fund was also strengthening its investment strategy to ensure long-term resilience.

Ms Otukile noted that BPOPF would continue diversifying its portfolio to manage risk and capture opportunities, whilst increasing

allocation to domestic assets in line with both strategic objectives and regulatory requirements.

Additionally, she said the fund would also maintain its focus on developing local asset management capacity through its incubation programme, which supported emerging Botswana-based investment managers.

On governance, Ms Otukile said BPOPF was committed to maintaining high standards by aligning with international best practices, strengthening internal controls and enhancing risk management and actuarial oversight.

She added that Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) considerations would remain a central part of investment decision-making, with the fund seeking to balance financial returns with sustainable and socially responsible outcomes.

The fund, she said would also continue to invest in technology and infrastructure to ensure seamless service delivery and improved data accuracy. She emphasised that enhancing member value and experience remained the cornerstone of BPOPF's operations, with all strategic initiatives aligned to delivering sustainable and long-term benefits.

Meanwhile, BPOPF member benefits director, Ms Mercy Robinson, outlined key factors behind delays in processing pension benefits, noting that tax compliance issues remained a major constraint.

Ms Robinson said a number of claims were delayed because members had not filed their tax returns with the Botswana Unified Revenue Service (BURS),

a requirement before benefits could be paid.

"As a Fund, we cannot proceed with payments where tax obligations have not been met. There are cases currently pending with BURS due to outstanding tax returns," she said.

To address that, she said the fund had intensified member education efforts in collaboration with BURS, including direct engagement with affected members and public awareness campaigns through traditional and digital platforms.

She also pointed to data discrepancies between the fund and employers as another source of delays.

"All claims must undergo a reconciliation process, and where inconsistencies arise, employers must be engaged before payments can be finalised," she said.

To resolve that, she said BPOPF was undertaking a comprehensive data cleansing exercise, with about 25 per cent of member records already reviewed and corrected.

In addition, Ms Robinson said disputes over beneficiaries, particularly in death benefit cases continued to delay payments, as the fund could not proceed until rightful beneficiaries were determined.

"In such cases, we engage families and guide them through the appropriate processes, including hearings where necessary, to ensure fairness and transparency," she added. While such challenges affected turnaround times, she also emphasised that the fund was committed to improving efficiency, whilst ensuring that all payments were processed accurately, fairly and in line with legal requirements.

BOPA



Officials leading maintenance work by cutting trees during the launch of Operation Mbizi at Batanani Junior Secondary School in Mapoka in 2023.

# Mbizi initiative brings schools back to life

Thamani Shabani  
FRANCISTOWN

In the early 1980s, Botswana introduced community junior secondary schools to address the shortage of secondary schools.

Initially, the schools were established to address the shortage of senior secondary schools, with community involvement in construction and operations through a Board of Governors.

Over time, government, however, took full control, and community involvement seemingly dwindled. Recently, there is a renewed interest in revitalising community participation and in the North East region, an initiative called Mbizi was introduced.

Mbizi, a Kalanga word for 'Molaletsa', brings community members together to maintain schools.

Using their own tools and skills, they cut trees, and undertake a variety of maintenance works including carpentry, bricklaying, plumbing and painting; saving schools huge sums of money.

In 2022, at Batanani Junior Secondary School in Moroka, the initiative saved P512 million, reducing the tendering price to P80,000.

According to Dr Moses Mpuchane, regional Parents Teachers Association chairperson

for the Ministry of Child Welfare and Basic Education's North East region, Mbizi was the answer to the often exorbitant maintenance bills.

"Compared to tendering, Mbizi is much cheaper. Various companies donate free materials and we used free skills from brigade students," he said, making reference to the work that had been undertaken at Batanani JSS through the initiative.

He noted that the initiative reduced costs by over 80 per cent, which was commendable.

"The Mbizi initiative is as good as it is effective," Dr Mpuchane said.

"It brings back community members' sense of ownership in respect to schools in their localities."

He explained that though government has taken full control of junior secondary schools, Mbizi

aims to re-establish community involvement.

Dr Mpuchane emphasised that the initiative was borne out of the urgent need to address the glaring dilapidation of schools,

particularly those with boarding facilities.

The state of such schools required much more than simple maintenance as it bordered on rendering facilities completely inhabitable.

This called for urgent attention, and Mbizi became the much-needed solution.

"Mbizi is good because it reduces the costs of maintenance. When tendering is used, bidders often hike prices, making the cost of maintenance unbearable for government," he said.

Dr Mpuchane is heartened by the support of parents of learners of the four junior secondary schools in the North East Region, and had indicated that support for the initiative had shown how much communities could achieve when they worked in unison.

"Mbizi is good because it reduces the costs of maintenance. When tendering is used, bidders often hike prices, making the cost of maintenance unbearable for government."

## 'Botswana offers trade and economic growth opportunities'

Bonang Masolotatse  
GABORONE

Botswana is positioning itself as a prime destination for Canadian investment, particularly in mining and renewable energy, as it seeks to diversify its economy and strengthen international trade partnerships.

Speaker of the National Assembly, Mr Dithapelo Keorapetse, said during a visit by the Canadian Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association to his office recently that Botswana offered vast opportunities for collaboration in trade and economic growth.

He noted that Botswana's mining sector, backbone of the economy for long, continued to present significant investment potential.

The country, he said was endowed with abundant natural resources, including diamonds, iron ore, copper and coal, alongside emerging opportunities in critical minerals.

Mr Keorapetse highlighted that several Canadian companies, including Lucara Diamond Corp, Giyani Metals Corp, NexMetals Mining Corp and Premium Nickel Resources Ltd, had traded with Botswana, demonstrating the strength of existing bilateral trade ties and the potential for further growth.

Beyond mining, he said Botswana also targeted renewable energy development.

With abundant sunlight throughout the year, the country presents a compelling case for solar energy investment as it works toward reducing its carbon footprint.

The Speaker also pointed to opportunities in tourism, noting that about 40 per cent of Botswana's land was designated as wildlife management areas.

He cited the Okavango Delta, the world's largest inland delta, as a key natural asset with significant potential to attract more international investors and visitors.

Furthermore, he said Botswana was taking steps to modernise governance, including the digitisation of Parliament, and emphasised the importance of strengthening the capacity of legislators to effectively oversee the executive.

He added that efforts were underway to develop a Parliament Act aimed at ensuring institutional autonomy.

Leader of the Canadian delegation, Mr Jamie Schmale, said Canada was keen to deepen collaboration with Botswana, particularly in mining, where there was interest and potential across Africa.

He also identified agriculture as another key area for cooperation, stressing that food security remained fundamental to national development.

For his part, Canada's High Commissioner to Botswana, Mr Adler Aristilde, said the country was eager to expand trade diversification efforts and strengthen bilateral relations. **BOPA**

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**I WANT 2 farm workers** at Ratlhong farm Box 78 Jwaneng Keitumetse R Kenosi. Cell 71396711

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**FARM WORKER WANTED** at Thagale lands. Contact Boki Matlou, P O Box 682 Mochudi or call 77021067. Closing 15 April 2026

**FEMALE FARM MANAGER** wanted at Dikwididi. Must have drivers license. Call 74007964

**FARM WORKER WANTED** at Seleme Lands, Kgatleng. Contact Amogelang Mannathoko at 76059262.

**TWO FARM WORKERS WANTED** AT MABELE AND SATAU CONTACT K. MBANGA : 76614491

**HERD BOY WANTED** AT KAVIMBA VILLAGE CONTACT : 71132440 /75305783

**TWO FARM LABOURERS** Needed (Makaleng) Bangu Lempaletse, Box 211 Makaleng 76272023

**FARM WORKERS WANTED** in Kgatleng Marokolwane. Apply to P O Box 10187 Gaborone. Joseph Fraser Tlhoiwe. Closing date: 09/04/2026

**MIXED/INTEGRATED FARM** worker required in Hatsalatladi. Apply to Mr Kamanga: P O Box 3128 Molepolole

**2 FARM WORKERS** wanted at Magotlhwane Lands. Apply to P O Box 504562 Gaborone or call Olebile Mokgwaela at 3937044 before 30/04/2026.

**FARM WORKER WANTED** at Lentsweletau/ Boseja. Call 73026300/ 76595722.

**FARM WORKER WANTED** at Mosusu. Call 72145137

**FARM WORKER REQUIRED:** Farm at Jamataka. Apply to: Masoba, P O Box 81221, Gaborone. Closing date: 09/04/2026.

**WANTED: FARM WORKER** at Kgomodiatsaba. Apply: Moji Mokibe P O Box 30696 Tlokweng. Closing date: 11/04/2026.

**FARM WORKER WANTED.** Makoro Lands. Must have two years experience. Contact 72547409

**FARM WORKER AT** Phikojwe Lands 71872224

**WANTED 8 FARM** workers in Moremi. Box 20 Palapye. 74683848

**FARM WORKER WANTED** 71582049.

**FARM WORKER WANTED.** Apply to P O Box 60064 Gaborone West

**NEIGHBOUR CONSULTATION**

**KEGOMODITSE RAMPEFE, THE** owner of plot 6988, Tawana Extension, Letlhakane notifies her neighbours of plot 6989, 6981 and 6987 about the change of land use from residential to family-multi residential. Any objections contact Boteti Sub district physical planning at 2909331.

**WILLIAM SETILO RAMPEFE,** The owner of plot 3068, Phase 1, Letlhakane notifies his neighbours of plot 3069, 3067 and 3091 about the change of Land use from residential to multi - family residential. Any objections contact Boteti Sub District Physical planning at 2909331.

**OWNER OF PLOT** 3586 at Newstance, Tatisiding notifies neighbours about erection of a boundary wall. Any objections contact North East District Council Physical Planning office on 2431136 within 14 days of this publication.

**OLEBOGENG GABOAGELWE OWNER** of Plot No.9124, Sunset Ward, Charleshill proposes to change land-use from Single-Family Residential to and Multi-Family Residential. For any objections please contact Charleshill District Council Physical Planning Office, Telephone No.6592057 within 14 days of this publication.

**OWNER OF PLOT** 20930 at Mere Ward, Serowe, would like to change land use from single residential to commercial land use. For any objections please contact Serowe District Council, Physical Planning Office 4630411, within fourteen (14) days of this publication.

**PLOT 4240 UNIT 6** Jwaneng is applying for change of land use from single to multi-residential. Any objections phone Isaac Tswetla 71348591

**OWNER OF LOTS** 68296, 68297, 68307, & 68308 at Morule Industrial Park, Phakalane, Pentagon Holdings (Pty) Ltd notifies their neighbours at lots 68295, 68298, 68306 and 68309 of the proposed warehouse shell development on these property. For any objections contact Gaborone City Council Physical Planning within 14 days of this publication.

**OWNER OF LOT** 75123 Phakalane, Bibian Ventures (Pty) Ltd notifies their neighbours of the proposed commercial and retail development on this property. For any objections contact Gaborone City Council Physical Planning Offices within fourteen (14) days of this publication.

**KEFILWE LETSWAPONG PROPOSES** to subdivide Plot No.2691, Matebele, and subsequently change the land use of the resultant portions from Horticulture to Single-Family Residential and Multi-Family Residential. For any objections please contact Kgatleng District Council Physical Planning Office, Telephone No.3639365 within 14 days of this publication.

**THIS NOTICE SERVES** to notify the owners of plot No. 80139, 80137 and 80131 of the intention to erect a boundary wall by Emeldah Lebitso Mosung of plot No. 80138, Gaborone North. Objections should be forwarded to Gaborone City Council, Town Clerk on Tel : 3657400, Emeldah Lebitso Masung. Cellphone : 71773079

**NEIGHBOR CONSULTATION: THE OWNER (NLEPO PTY LTD) OF LOT 1717 LOCATED AT HUHWE (PARAKARUNGU) WISHES TO CHANGE LAND USE FROM CURRENT LAND USE - RESEARCH CENTER (LIGHT INDUSTRIAL) TO MIXED USE. FOR ANY OBJECTION CONTACT THE PHYSICAL PLANNING DEPARTMENT AT CHDC ON 6250275.**

**PATRICK KABELO LORATO** of plot 24537 Khurumela ward, Palapye seeks to change landuse from single family residential to multifamily residential. Contact Palapye District Council 4921092 for objections.

**CHANGE OF LAND** use. Owner of Plot 3604, Mmopane Block 1 intends to change land use from single residential to multi- family residential. For objections, contact Mogoditshane District Council Physical Planning on Telephone: 3105615 within 14 days from publication notice.

**THE OWNERS OF** plot 2045, Metlhabeng, Tlokweng hereby gives a notice to neighboring plots 2046 & 2044 that they intend to erect a boundary wall on the plot. For any objections contact Tlokweng district council physical planning office within 14 days of this publication

**THE OWNER OF** plot 5001, Masetlheng, Tlokweng hereby gives a notification to neighboring plots 5002, 5018, 5019, 5020 & 5000 that he wishes to erect a boundary wall. For any objections contact Tlokweng district council physical planning office within 14 days of this publication

**OWNER OF PLOT** 5010, Masetlheng, Tlokweng, wishes to change land use from civic & community to group living & development of student dormitories. For further clarification please contact Tlokweng district council physical planning office within 14 days of this publication.

**AARON RAMOSAKO INTENDS** to change land use of his Agricultural plot in Dinkgwana ward, Mochudi, to mixed-use Agriculture (Agriculture & Industrial). Objections may be submitted in writing within 14 days to the Physical Planning Office, Kgatleng District Council.

**NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETINGS**  
Administration of Estate Act  
(Cap. 31:01)

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

Name of the Deceased person	Estate Number	Date of Meeting	Time	Master
DINKWETSE BOIDITSE	ESHMY 000062-26	11.05.26	0900HRS	SARM

**DATED AT MAHALAPYE THIS 16TH MARCH 2026**  
MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

**NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETINGS**  
Administration of Estates Act [Cap.31:01]

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

Name of Deceased Person	Estate Number	Date of Meeting	Time	Master
IKGOPOLENG NARE	ESHFT-000681-25	26-05-26	0900HRS	SARM 2

**DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 10TH DAY OF MARCH 2026**  
MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

**NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETINGS**  
Administration of Estates Act (Cap.31:01)

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

Name of Deceased Person	Estate Number	Date of Meeting	Time	Master
CAIPHUS MATALE	ESHFT-000230-26	26-05-26	0900HRS	SARM 1

**DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 19TH DAY OF MARCH 2026**  
MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

**NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETINGS**  
Administration of Estates Act [Cap.31:01]

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

Name of Deceased Person	Estate Number	Date of Meeting	Time	Master
Moyagabo Mosebola	ESHFT-000532-25	26-05-26	0900HRS	SARM1

**DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 19TH MARCH 2026**  
MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

**APPLICATION FOR CERTIFIED COPY OF LOST TITLE DEED**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the undersigned intends applying for a **certified copy of Deed No.595/95 dated of 11th day of July 1995** made in favour of **Mr. Bolelang Adolph Letlole** in respect of:

**CERTAIN: Piece of land Lot 16804, Francistown**  
**MEASURING: 700m2 (Seven Hundred Square Meters)**  
**HELD UNDER: Certificate of registered state Title No.595/95 dated 11th July 1995**

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

**Dated at Gaborone on this 13th March 2026**

**NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETINGS**  
Administration of Estates Act [Cap.31:01]

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

Name of Deceased Person	Estate Number	Date of Meeting	Time	Master
Gabanamotse Kelebetseng	ESHFT-0000584-25	20-05-26	0900HRS	SARM2

**DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 19TH MARCH 2026**  
MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

**NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETINGS**  
Administration of Estates Act [Cap.31:01]

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

Name of Deceased Person	Estate Number	Date of Meeting	Time	Master
BATHOKI JOSEPH	ESHFT-000112-26	20-05-26	0900HRS	SARM 2

**DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 4TH MARCH 2026**  
MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

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

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

Name of Deceased	Person Estate Number	Date Of Meeting	Time	Master
ELLIOT MONGWATO	ESHFT-000728-25	26-05-26	0900HRS	SARM 2

**DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 05TH DAY OF MARCH 2026**  
MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

**CHANGE OF LAND USE** Owners of plot No. 1576 in Gamodubu wishes to change land use from Industrial to single-family residential. For more queries, contact cellphone no. 72471009 or Kweneng District Council, Physical Planning Office on telephone no. 5920841 within fourteen (14) days from publication of this notice.

**VACANCIES**

**RAPHA MEDICAL CENTRE** is looking for a qualified Radiographer in Lethakane preferably a Degree holder. Contacts: 2976003

**LUCERN FIELDS NEED** Financing, Design, Project Management, Construction and Commissioning of Solar Electricity System. Contact 4979998. Address P O Box 77 Sherwood near Martins Drift Border Post.

**SAHARA MOTORS REQUIRES** the services of a Panel beater with class 1 skilled worker qualification or equivalent in panel beating. Candidate must have at least 10 years experience or more. Apply : The Director, P O Box 301568 Tlokweng. Closing date : 06/04/2026

**JOB OPPORTUNITY: GENERAL** Practitioner Doctor x3. Kalafhi Day Hospital is seeking qualified and experienced general practitioners to join our team, Requirements: Medical Degree MBBS or equivalent atleast 3 years post internship work experience. Full BHPC registration. Submit their CV, cover letter & supporting documents to career@kalafhi.co.bw by the 08th March 2026

**NEIGHBOUR CONSULTATION**

**DIPOTSANA CLAY PRODUCTS PROPRIETARY LIMITED**, owner of the Clay Brick Manufacturing operation located in Dipotsana village, wishes to change land use from Industrial (clay brick manufacture) to Mining Concession.

**Any objection, contact Kanye District Council, Physical Planning (3105615) or owners (71895295) within (14) days of this publication.**

**VACANCY:**

**Bikers (Food Delivery Riders)**

A company looking for reliable Bikers for food delivery services with a valid motorbike driving licence. Must be responsible, punctual, and familiar with local routes.

Experience in delivery services is an added advantage. CV / Call **71486608** (WhatsApp)

**RIOTRADE ENTERPRISES (PTY) LTD**

**VACANCY: Cigarettes Packing & Wrapping Machines Operator**

Responsible for operating cigarette packing and wrapping machines, ensuring efficient production and quality control.

Requirements:

- Minimum 3 years' proven experience in similar role
- Good knowledge of HLP packing machines
- Proven knowledge of WMH wrapping & M.E. overwrapping machines
- Form 4 / O-Level certificate
- Fluent in English
- Knowledge of cigarette packet/carton defects
- Other cigarette making/packing machine experience added advantage
- Age 18-35 years

Email: [info@riotrade.co.bw](mailto:info@riotrade.co.bw)

Closing date for applications: 03 April 2026

**NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETINGS**

**ADMINISTRATION OF Estates Act [Cap 31:01]**

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

Name of Deceased Person	Estate Number	Date Of Meeting	Time	Master
KESEBONYE KGWATALALA	ESHFT-000222-26	05-05-26	0900HRS	ARM

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 9<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MARCH 2026

MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

**NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETINGS**

*Administration of Estates Act (Cap. 31:01)*

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

Name of Deceased Person	Estate Number	Date of Meeting	Time	Master
KAMOGELO MOTLATSO	ESHMY 000137-26	11.05.26	0900HRS	SARM

DATED AT MAHALAPYE THIS 17<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2026

MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

**NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETINGS**

ADMINISTRATION OF Estates Act [Cap 31:01]

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

Name of Deceased Person	Estate Number	Date Of Meeting	Time	Master
GOSABOELWENG KEOTISE	ESHMY-000128-26	11-05-26	0900HRS	SARM

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 15<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MARCH 2026

MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

**NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETINGS**

**ADMINISTRATION OF Estates Act [Cap 31:01]**

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

Name of Deceased Person	Estate Number	Date Of Meeting	Time	Master
KOBAMELO HILL	ESHFT-000237-26	06/05/26	0900HRS	DRM

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 10<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MARCH 2026

MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

**APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFIED COPY OF A LOST TITLE DEED**

NOTICE is hereby given that **DEPUTY SHERIFF MESHACK MOSHABI** intends applying for certified copy of **Deed of Fixed Period State Grant No. 681/2017** dated the 7<sup>th</sup> day of April 2017 in respect of **Lot 7638 - Gaborone** in respect of the below mentioned property namely:

- CERTAIN:** piece of land being Lot 7638 Gaborone
- SITUATE:** in Gaborone Township Extension 27
- MEASURING:** 525 m<sup>2</sup> (Five Hundred and Twenty Five Square Metres)
- WHICH PROPERTY:** is held under Deed of Fixed Period State Grant No. 681/2017 dated the 7<sup>th</sup> day of April 2017 made in favour of **KHUMOITSILE NTSIMA**

All persons having objection to the issue of such copy is hereby required to lodge same in writing with the Registrar of Deeds within three (3) weeks from the last publication of this notice.

**M K MOESI & CO**  
Lot 2689, Extension 9 Hospital Way  
P O Box 10160, Gaborone

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS**

Master's Reference: ESHGB 000711/24

IN THE ESTATE of the Late **MICHAEL MOLETSANE LEE** who died at Extension II Clinic, Gaborone, Gaborone District, Botswana on the 24th day of January 2024.

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

DATED at ..... on this ..... Day of ..... 2026.

The Executor **Mpho Papi Lee**  
P O Box 40092

**GABORONE**  
CELL: 76718470

**APPLICATION FOR CERTIFIED COPY OF CANCELLED MORTGAGE BOND**

NOTICE is hereby given that the undersigned intends applying for a certified copy of **Cancelled Mortgage Bond No. 1215/2010** dated 13th day of April 2010 made in favour of **First National Bank Limited** in respect of:-

- CERTAIN :** piece of land being **Tribal Lot 1103, Tlokweng;**
- SITUATE :** at **Tlokweng in the Batlokwa Tribal Territory;**
- MEASURING :** **2590 m2 (Two Thousand Five Hundred and Ninety Square Metres);**

Any person having objection to the issue of such a copy is hereby required to lodge the same in writing with the Registrar of Deeds at Gaborone within 3 (three) weeks of the last publication of this notice.

DATED AT GABORONE ON THIS 10TH DAY OF MARCH 2026.

**MORIBAME MATTHEWS**  
Mowana Mews, Unit 6, Plot 74769  
Western Commercial Road, CBD  
P O Box 46271  
GABORONE

**NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETINGS**

**ADMINISTRATION OF Estates Act [Cap 31:01]**

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

Name of Deceased Person	Estate Number	Date Of Meeting	Time	Master
JOHNSON B. NKGARE	ESHFT-000263-26	20-05-26	0900HRS	ARM

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 19<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MARCH 2026

MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

**NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETINGS Administration of Estates Act [Cap.31:01]**

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

Name of Deceased Person	Estate Number	Date of Meeting	Time	Master
KEETERETSE MPETLA	ESHFT-000958-25	05-05-26	0900HRS	SARM 1

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 5<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2026

MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

**VACANCY EXTRA HEAVY DUTY DRIVER WANTED**

**Employer:** JVR Global Logistics

**Number Required :** 02

**Service Provided :** Heavy Haulage and Logistics

**Address :** Plot 1040-KO, Diremogolo Ward, **Gabane**

**Qualifications:** Valid Driver's License, Clean Driving Record

**Experience:** Minimum 10 Years for Local and Cross Boarder Trips

**Job Summary:** Experienced Driver for Long Haul and Local Deliveries

**Apply to:**  
**P O Box AE 353 AEH, Gaborone**

**Closing Date: 10 April 2026**

**NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETINGS**

**Administration of Estates Act (Cap 31:01)**

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

Name of Deceased Person	Estate Number	DateOfMeeting	Time	Master
KENEL L. SEBULA	ESHFT-001478-25	05-05-26	0900HRS	SARM

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 9<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MARCH 2026

MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

**NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETINGS**

**Administration of Estates Act, [Cap.31:01]**

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

Name of Deceased Person	Estate Number	Date of Meeting	TIME	MASTER
JAMES MWANGALA MUYUNDA	ESHFT-000131-26	13/05/26	0900HRS	ARM

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

MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

**NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETINGS**

**Administration of Estates Act (Cap 31:01)**

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

Name of Deceased Person	Estate Number	DateOfMeeting	Time	Master
STANLEY GRIESMEIR	ESHFT-000068-26	28-05-26	0900HRS	DRM

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 5<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MARCH 2026

MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

**NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETINGS**

**ADMINISTRATION OF Estates Act [Cap 31:01]**

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

Name of Deceased Person	Estate Number	Date Of Meeting	Time	Master
SINZA JESTER MUFWANZALA	ESHFT-000138-26	26/05/26	0900HRS	DRM

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

MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

## VACANCIES

**HORSE HAND NEEDED** in Gabs North, atleast 3 years of experience is required. Send CV + Certificates + references to P. O. Box 5161 Main Mall Gaborone or email to mandabarnard730916@gmail.com or w/upp to 71321149. Closing date: 08-04-26

**LOOKING FOR A FASHION** (MALE/FEMALE) WITH AT LEAST 2 YEARS EXPERIENCE IN KASANE CONTACT BARULAGANYE AT 74798501, EMAIL: royalsafaris@gmail.com

**WANTED: IMAAM/ ISLAMIC** Theologian (Pastor) To lead congregation in prayer and advise on Islamic Theology and laws. Apply to: The Chairman, Botswana Muslim Association. Private Bag X025 Gaborone, Tel: 3184141. Closing date: 09/04/2026

**MEFFA INVESTMENT (PTY) Ltd:** we are urgently looking for a fashion designer having diploma and embroidery experience of 10 years. Apply to Meffa Investment (Pty) Ltd P O Box 134 Goodhope. Phone number 77168565. Closing date: May 01 2026

**PHYSIOTHERAPIST WANTED WITH** full registration of the HPC Botswana. Send Cv to 76494765, also whatsapp on same number. Good remuneration

**VACANCIES : ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS** Buildings, Civil Engineer- Roads, Plumbers, Civil Engineer Construction, Environmental Engineers, Geotechnical Engineers, Carpenters. Apply to Roads Safety Alliance, P.O Box 501972 Gaborone, trusteesbotswana7@gmail.com

**APPLICANTS ARE INVITED FOR** INDIAN EXECUTIVE CHEF, MIN 5 YEARS EXPERIENCE IN INDIAN CUISINES FOR SWAMI INVESTMENTS (PTY) LTD AT MMAMABULA, DROP APPLICATION AT P. O. BOX 315 KASANE, CONTACT 6252237. BOTSWANA PREFERRED. LAST DATE TO APPLY 30 MARCH 2026

# FARM WORKER (1)

Required at Dutlwe (Khane) Farms to attend to various farm duties.

Contact Mr Kentse Pro Keogotsitse at 72 373 482 by 25 April 2026.

**KGATO AGGREY KABELO PHELHU** OWNER OF PLOT 8318, MOGODITSHANE, INTENDS TO CHANGE LANDUSE FROM RESIDENTIAL TO MULTIRESIDENTIAL, FOR ANY OBJECTIONS, PLANS ARE AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING AT BUILDING CONTROL OFFICES, MOGODITSHANE SUB-DISTRICT COUNCIL. +267 316 6646 / +267 310 5615

## CHANGE OF LAND USE

OWNER OF PLOT NO. 17154 NKOYAPHIRI- MOGODITSHANE, INTENDS TO CHANGE THE LAND USE FROM RESIDENTIAL TO CIVIC AND COMMUNITY

ANY OBJECTION REGARDING THIS PROPOSAL SHOULD BE FORWARDED TO MOGODITSHANE/THAMAGA DISTRICT COUNCIL WITHIN 14 DAYS AT PHYSICAL PLANNING OFFICE OR CALL 3931537/8

### NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETINGS Administration of Estates Act (Cap 31:01)

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

Name of Deceased Person	Estate Number	DateOfMeeting	Time	Master
VIRGINIA BOTSHABELO SEDIE	ESHMY 00018-26	28.04.26	0900HRS	SARM

DATED AT MAHALAPYE THIS 9<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2026

MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

### NOTICE OF NEXT OF KING MEETINGS Administration Of Estate Act (Cap.31:01)

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

Name of deceased person	Estate Number	Date of meeting	Time	Master
LEFETOGILE DAVID	ESHMY 000043-26	28.04.2026	0900 HRS	SARM

DATED AT MAHALAPYE THIS 10<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2026  
MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

### NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETINGS Administrative of Estates Act (Cap.31:01)

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

Name of Deceased Person	Estate Number	Date of Meeting	Time	Master
TEMA PHINDA	ESHFT-000271-26	27-05-26	0900HRS	ARM

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 20<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MARCH 2026  
MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

### NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

Master's Reference: ESHGB 000693/23

**IN THE ESTATE** of the late MCGREY SECHELE who died at Masilwana Ward, Mahetlwe, Kweneng District, Botswana on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of July 2009 and PELOENTLE SECHELE who died at Scottish Livingston Hospital, Molepolole, Kweneng District, Botswana on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of May 2017.

**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 the 17<sup>th</sup> Day of March 2026.

The Executor Dative  
Beauty K. Difele  
P.O.BOX 500928 GABORONE  
Cell: 71 662 686/72 331 820

## VACANCY: ANIMAL FEED SCIENTIST / ANIMAL PRODUCTION SPECIALIST

A company looking for a qualified Animal Feed Scientist / Animal Production Specialist with Degree in Animal Science, Animal Production, Animal Nutrition, or related field.

Equivalent qualifications/experience may be considered. Knowledge of animal feed formulation and livestock production. CV / Call 71 486 608 (WhatsApp)

## NTENTION TO CHANGE MARITAL REGIME

(In terms of Section 8(1)(f) of the Married Persons Property Act, 2014) BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE that:

1. ANGELINAH CYNTHIA BONIFACE and TSHEPO MAXIMA KEGAKILWE, married in community of property on the 7<sup>th</sup> of December 2013 at a Church in Moroka, wish to change their matrimonial property regime from that of "IN COMMUNITY OF PROPERTY" to that of "OUT OF COMMUNITY OF PROPERTY."

2. The parties intend to apply to the High Court of Botswana after the expiration of the prescribed three (3) weeks statutory notice from the date of first publication hereof.

3. Any person, creditor, or debtor, who may have an interest in the assets and/or liabilities of the parties' estate are hereby invited to inform the parties' Attorneys should they have objections to the parties changing their matrimonial property regime. The parties' Attorneys being Koonne Attorneys at the address below.

4. Such notice should be submitted before the expiration of the said three (3) weeks period or else such objections should make representation before the High Court of Botswana once the contemplated application is lodged.

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN ON THIS 10<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MARCH 2026

KOONNE ATTORNEYS, APPLICANT'S ATTORNEYS, PLOT 1458, GUY STREET, MINESTONE, P. O. BOX 20371, FRANCISTOWN

All Correspondence  
Private Bag 001 JWANENG, Botswana  
Address to : Town Clerk

**JWANENG TOWN COUNCIL**

Tel : 588 0303  
Fax No : 588 2609  
588 1395

LIQUOR ACT (Cap.43:11)

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A LIQUOR LICENCE**

**FORM 2 (reg.3(1))**

**NOTICE is hereby** given that the undersigned has applied for a Distribution liquor licence in terms of Section 13 of the Liquor Act (Cap.43:11) in respect of the premises situated at Unit 4 Plot 2422 Goodhope Crescent and the liquor Control Authority has determined that the application shall be heard by the Liquor Control Authority on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2026.

Any person who wishes to object to the grant of the licence should within twenty-one (21) days of the last publication of this notice, give notice in writing to the Liquor Control Authority of his intention to oppose the application and state the grounds on which his objection is based.

Company/Business | Name: Powertech Botswana T/A Jacaranda Pub Grill and Jacaranda Bottle Store  
Address : Plot 2422 Unit 4 Goodhope Crescent | Submitted by: Letang Batho Moeketsi  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 13<sup>th</sup> March 2026

### NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETINGS Administration of Estates Act (Cap.31:01)

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

Name of Deceased Person	Estate Number	Date of Meeting	Time	Master
MOLATEDI SEEMO	ESHMY-000112-26	28.04.26	0900HRS	SARM

DATED AT MAHALAPYE THIS 10<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2026

MASTER OF THE COURT

### IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA HELD AT FRANCISTOWN ESHFT-000302-23

#### FIRST AND FINAL LIQUIDATION AND DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT

**IN THE ESTATE** of the late Ngapeng Samuel Sasebola - ESHFT-000302-23 who died at Sir Ketumile Masire Hospital, Gaborone, and Gaborone District on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of June 2021.

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

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 05<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2026

CAIPHUS SEBUDUBUDU  
EXECUTOR DATIVE  
P O BOX 283, BOBONONG  
71670826/ 77471303

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

### FIRST AND FINAL LIQUIDATION AND DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT

Masters Reference: ESHGB-000252/23

**IN THE ESTATE** of the late OBOLOKILE GALATLHWE who died at Madiba Ward, Palapye, Central District Botswana on the 11 February 2022.

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

DATED AT \_ ON THE \_ DAY OF \_ 2026

THE EXECUTOR LEBONE TUMELO GALATLHWE  
P O BOX 1721 MAHALAPYE  
Cell: 74 417 460

### NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETINGS Administration of Estates Act (Cap 31:01)

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

Name of Deceased Person	Estate Number	DateOfMeeting	Time	Master
OSIMILE MAXABE	ESHFT-001078-25	05-05-26	0900HRS	SARM 1

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 09<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MARCH 2026

MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

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

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

Name of Deceased Person	Estate Number	Date Of Meeting	Time	Master
ROSINAH MAKHALA	ESHFT-001398-25	26-05-26	0900HRS	DRM

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 19<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MARCH 2026

MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

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

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

Name of Deceased Person	Estate Number	Date of Meeting	TIME	MASTER
SIMON MONTSHO	ESHFT-000193-26	06-05-26	0900HRS	SARM1

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

MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

### NEIGHBOUR CONSULTATION

Owner of **plot No. 77671, Kgosi 3, Gaborone North** would like to notify the neighbours of the intention to construct a boundary wall. Any objection should be submitted to **Gaborone City Council Physical Planning Office** at **365 7400** within **14 days** of the publication.

### CHANGE OF LAND USE

The Owner of **Plot 17225, Gaborone West Phase 1** would like to Change the Use of the plot from RESIDENTIAL (SINGLE-FAMILY) to RESIDENTIAL (MULTI-FAMILY).

Whoever has an objection to the proposal should forward it to **Gaborone City Council's Physical Planning office** (Telephone 365 7494/5/6 and 365 7542) in writing within **14 days** of the publication of this notice.

### Change of Land Use

**DIPOTSANA CLAY PRODUCTS PROPRIETARY LIMITED**, owner of the Clay Brick Manufacturing operation located in Dipotsane village, wishes to change land use from industrial (manufacturing) to Mining Concession.

Any objection should be forwarded to **Kanye District Council, Physical Planning Office, telephone No' 3105615, or contact owners at 71895295 to view the plans, within fourteen (14) days of this publication.**

### NEIGHBOUR CONSULTATION

**GOITSEONE NANCY SEBEGO**  
OWNER OF PLOT 13116, MOGODITSHANE,

INTENDS TO CHANGE LANDUSE FROM RESIDENTIAL TO MULTIRESIDENTIAL,

FOR ANY OBJECTIONS, PLANS ARE AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING AT BUILDING CONTROL OFFICES, MOGODITSHANE SUB-DISTRICT COUNCIL.  
+267 316 6646 / +267 310 5615

### VACANCY Accounts Assistant

We are seeking an accounts assistant to join our dynamic team within the diamond cutting and polishing industry. The role is responsible for providing effective financial and administrative support to the Accounts Department.

#### Key Responsibilities

- Manage accounts receivable and payable.
- Reconciling books of accounts.
- Managing accounting documents.
- Prepare MIS reports.
- Managing petty cash.
- Perform any other duties as assigned

#### Requirements

- Degree in Accounting or related field.
- Fellow member of BICA.
- 1 year experience in the accounting field.
- Excellent communication skills.
- Ability to meet deadlines.
- Attention to details for ensuring accuracy in documentation.

Interested candidates should submit their applications including copies of certified certificates, certified identity documents, references and a comprehensive curriculum vitae addressed to:

*The Human Resources Manager; P O Box 2307 AAD, Poso House Gaborone Or Email: botswana@kgirdharlal.com*

Closing date: 15<sup>th</sup> April 2026.

### NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETINGS

Administration of Estates Act (Cap.31:01)

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

Name of Deceased Person	Estate Number	Date of Meeting	Time	Master
PHETOGO OFITHILE	ESHMY-000034-26	21.04.26	09000HRS	SARM

DATED AT MAHALAPYE THIS 03rd DAY OF MARCH 2026  
MASTER OF THE COURT

### NOTICE OF INTENTION TO ENTER INTO A TRANSACTION WITH A NON-CITIZEN IN TERMS OF SECTION 34 OF THE TRIBAL LAND ACT (2018)

THIS NOTICE is issued in compliance with the Tribal Land Act of 2018, Section 34, Subsection (1) (a to e) and the transaction involves the following property in Tribal Land:

**THE SELLERS** : LEABANENG MOYUNDA  
**THE PURCHASERS** : AFRICA NEW EXPLORERS TRAVEL AGENCY PROPRIETARY LIMITED;  
**CERTAIN** : Tribal Lot 22133;  
**SITUATE** : At Senonori, Maun in the Batawana Tribal Territory;  
**MEASURING** : 1688.93 Sqm (One Thousand Six Hundred and Eighty Eight Decimal Nine Three Square Metres);  
**WHICH PROPERTY** : is held under Memorandum of Agreement of Grant of Lease, dated 6<sup>th</sup> July 2016 between Tawana Land Board and Leabaneng Moyunda;  
**PURCHASE CONSIDERATION** : P300,000.00 (Three Hundred Thousand Pula);  
**SUBJECT** : to the terms and conditions of a deed of sale, the terms and conditions of which may be inspected at the offices of Adom & Botha Attorneys, Plot 6496, Sir Seretse Khama Road, P O Box 2466, MAUN

#### BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT:

- Any Botswana citizen interested in entering into a similar transaction in respect of the above property shall be given priority notwithstanding the agreement reached by the above-named parties regarding the controlled transaction.
- should any person wish to object to the proposed transaction, notice of objection with reasons thereof should be addressed to the Tawana Land Board with copies to the undersigned **within thirty (30) days** from the date of publication hereto.

ADOM & BOTHA ATTORNEYS, PLOT 6496, SIR SERETSE KHAMA ROAD, P O BOX 2466, MAUN TEL: 686 1090

### NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETINGS

Administration of Estates Act (Cap.31:01)

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

Name of Deceased Person	Estate Number	Date of Meeting	Time	Master
KEIMELWE BADUBI	ESHMY-000070-26	21.04.26	09000HRS	SARM

DATED AT MAHALAPYE THIS 02nd MARCH 2026  
MASTER OF THE COURT

### FINAL LIQUIDATION AND DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT

Master's Reference: ESHGB-000400/23

IN THE ESTATE of the late **GAOLATLHE PUNI SECHELE** who died at Flortown Ward, Mahalapye, Central-Mahalapye District, Republic of Botswana on **22nd May 2023**.

THE FINAL LIQUIDATION AND DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT in the Estate will be open for inspection at the offices of the **Master of the High Court at Gaborone** for a period of **(Twenty-one) 21 days** from the date of publication hereof. Any objection to the Estate Account may be lodged with the Master within the **21 days** stated above

DATED AT GABORONE this 20th day March 2026

Executrix Dative  
**Sechele Teleka Sechele**  
P.O. Box 902  
MAHALAPYE  
CELL: 72104083

### NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

Master's Reference: ESHGB 000345/24

IN THE ESTATE of the Late **PIRISIRA KUSENGEYA** who died at Princess Marina Hospital, Gaborone, Gaborone District, Botswana on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of March 2024.

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

DATED at \_\_\_ on this \_\_\_ Day of \_\_\_ 2026

The Executor  
**Magazini Kusengeya**  
P O Box 1134 ABG, Sebele GABORONE  
Cell: 72170833

### CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

### MARKETING OFFICER



Candidate must have the following:

- A Bachelor's degree in marketing /equivalent
- Have at least 2 years' work experience in marketing, preferably in higher education environment.
- Good knowledge of both physical and digital marketing.
- Proactive, dedicated with strong communication and analytical skills.
- Experience in student recruitment will be an added advantage

#### APPLICATIONS INSTRUCTIONS

Candidates who meet the above requirements should apply providing an application letter, CV and all certified copies of educational certificates and references.

Applications for the post listed above should be **hand delivered** to : Plot 61739, Gundakuni Street, Phase 4 Gaborone West (Near BOFWA) Or posted to:

The Principal  
**MEGA-SIZE COLLEGE**  
P.O Box 201432, Gaborone  
Or emailed to : hr@megasize.ac.bw or mega@megasize.ac.bw

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# Council to maximise existing revenue streams

Calviniah Kgauthe  
LOBATSE

The Lobatse Town Council aims to maximise existing revenue streams and identify new income sources after a P224 million budget was approved for the 2026/2027 financial year, falling short of the council's estimated requirement of P290 million.

During the budget presentation recently, councillors expressed optimism, rallying Lobatse residents to carry their weight through consistent payment of rates and service levies.

The ma/Motswedi ward councillor, Mr Velem Heii, emphasised that such payments were crucial, as they provided a significant portion of the revenue required to deliver essential services and maintain infrastructure.

Despite sluggish economic growth, Cllr Heii noted that the council continued to exercise sound financial prudence, having successfully collected P15 million in internal revenue during the 2025/2026 financial year while maintaining quality service delivery. He commended the Lobatse community for their contribution to the upcoming budget and

encouraged those lagging behind to settle their outstanding rates.

Furthermore, Cllr Heii applauded the P59.3 million allocation to primary health care, which accounted for 26 per cent of the total budget. He noted that such reflected government's commitment to addressing healthcare challenges. He added that moving primary healthcare back under council jurisdiction had yielded positive results, leaving clinics better resourced and reducing congestion at Athlone Hospital.

Tsopeng South councillor, Mr Moalosi Rasesia, stressed the importance of navigating the current fiscal climate to ensure service continuity. He said Lobatse council remained financially stable compared to other local authorities, noting it has successfully met its

payroll obligations.

Nominated councillor, Mr Gofaone Kedise highlighted the role of technology in fiscal management.

To tackle low collection rates, he said the council was leveraging digital tools, including an FNB App, allowing residents to pay levies at their convenience.

Lobatse Mayor, Mr Aron Ganagomo, revealed that property rate debt was currently at over P30 million.

He announced that, in addition to the FNB platform, the council would soon introduce ABSA integration to facilitate easier remote payments.

The comments followed a presentation by the finance committee chairperson and Boswelatlou councillor, Mr Omar Raphael (left) and other councillors during the Lobatse Town Council 2026/2027 financial year budget presentation recently. Councillors encouraged residents to consistently pay their rates and service levies.

million allocation to consist of P209 million for government revenue support grant and P15 million for internally generated revenue.

Mr Raphael noted that while the council's mandate was clear, delayed disbursements of government subventions had hindered service delivery. "We are central to how public services are accessed. Delayed disbursements make it harder to align spending with national priorities," he stated.

Meanwhile, expenditure during the previous period was also affected by austerity measures introduced in the second quarter to ensure fiscal sustainability. Consequently, spending was strictly prioritised for high-impact programmes while non-critical expenditures were deferred.

Key allocations included the largest share of P59.3 million to public health as well as P47.5 million to human resources and administration, representing 21 per cent of the budget, including P17.4 million for staff pensions.

All remaining departments received allocations below 10 per cent.

"We must focus more on revenue maximisation from existing and new sources. We are ready to execute innovative approaches to enhance our financial sustainability," he said. **BOPA**



Finance committee chairperson and Boswelatlou councillor, Mr Omar Raphael (left) and other councillors during the Lobatse Town Council 2026/2027 financial year budget presentation recently. Councillors encouraged residents to consistently pay their rates and service levies. Photo: Calviniah Kgauthe

## Councillors reject proposed liquor act amendments

Thandy Tebogoo  
KANYE

Kanye District councillors have unanimously rejected government's proposed amendment to the Liquor Act, which seeks to abolish liquor control authorities and transfer their powers to a director.

Under the proposal, the director would then delegate the powers to council secretaries or town clerks.

The decision followed a presentation by Assistant Minister of Trade and Entrepreneurship, Mr Baratiwa Mathoothe, during a recent Kanye District Full Council meeting.

Mr Mathoothe explained that transferring powers would simplify and expedite the licensing process, effectively making it an over-the-counter service.

He explained that the bill aimed to address regulatory shortfalls and enhance penalties for better industry oversight.

The assistant minister told councillors that key updates included redefining premises to include land, buildings or specific places to remove legal ambiguity, introducing online liquor licensing and catering for additional products sold in liquor outlets, such as ice blocks and condoms, redefining night clubs as indoor entertainment venues specifically equipped for dancing and live music as well as removing licensing requirements for homemade traditional beer, tourism enterprises and canteens within the Department of Wildlife

and National Parks.

The debate centred on the current 500-metre distance requirement from schools, highways, major roads and churches.

Mr Mathoothe noted that such restrictions had led to an influx of applications for exemptions, meaning the law was currently being implemented primarily through loopholes.

The proposed amendment, he added also sought to delete the distance requirements for highways, major roads and churches to facilitate easier licensing and further maintain the 500-metre restriction for schools to ensure the safety and well-being of learners.

Despite easing of some hurdles, he said the bill introduced new grounds for the revocation of licenses, including failure to collect a license after approval, providing false information during the application process and failure to comply with specific license conditions.

The assistant minister further noted that the sector remained plagued by challenges such as noise pollution, persistent non-compliance and lenient penalties that failed to deter offenders.

Councillor Mr Shimane Thelo of Lotlhakane East-Diabo argued that more authority should be decentralised to local councils.

Other councillors shared the same sentiment, arguing that moving control to the director would effectively take services away from the people. **BOPA**

## Serowe council approves P233m budget for 2026/27 financial year

Tshiamiso Moseitha  
SEROWE

The Serowe District Council (SDC) has approved a budget of over P233 million for the 2026/2027 financial year.

Presenting the recurrent and development budget during a special full council meeting recently, finance committee chairperson, Mr Nametso Senku, stated that the SDC had been allocated a budget ceiling of P233 982 000, out of which P83 951 728 had been earmarked for the implementation of various development programmes and projects within the district.

Mr Senku, who is also the Councillor for Mabeleapudi ward, advised councillors that due to fiscal constraints, the development budget was largely directed toward the completion of ongoing projects.

"This approach aims to ensure value for money and minimise cost escalations," he said.

He encouraged councillors to prioritise existing projects and utilise available resources efficiently while improving overall project

planning and implementation.

He further indicated that the 2026/27 budget was anchored on several key strategic priorities, which included improving the quality of life for citizens through social protection and essential services, strengthening infrastructure development and maintenance to support economic activity, promoting economic diversification and private sector-led growth as well as enhancing efficiency in public service delivery and expenditure management.

Mr Senku warned of the risk of declining public confidence if service delivery standards were not maintained.

"In light of these challenges, it is imperative that we take deliberate and strategic action. There is a need for urgent engagement with the Ministry of Local Government and Traditional Affairs to review the Revenue Support Grant ceiling and to advocate for supplementary funding to address critical operational gaps," he said.

Despite the approval, councillors attached strict conditions to the budget proposals, noting that the

current framework presented significant risks.

They expressed concern over shrinking recurrent budgets, citing that the 2026/2027 allocations were insufficient to meet rising operational costs, including salaries and infrastructure maintenance.

Councillors argued that the continued reduction in grants would suffocate service delivery.

They emphasised that the council must transition toward smarter, self-reliant initiatives to remain sustainable, suggesting a broader revenue base and a more robust collection strategy.

A major point of contention was the recent transfer of Primary Health Care (PHC) facilities back to the district from the Ministry of Health.

Councillors decried the move, noting that facilities were not adequately budgeted for.

They expressed concern over the imbalance between personnel and operational expenditure, particularly regarding the inclusion of PHC personnel costs, which were not part of the previous financial year's obligations. **BOPA**

# Earth climate swings increasingly out of balance - WMO

## GENEVA

The Earth's climate is more out of balance than at any time in observed history, as greenhouse gas concentrations drive continued warming of the atmosphere and ocean as well as melting of ice.

The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) said this yesterday during the occasion to mark World Meteorological

Day, themed "Observing Today, Protecting Tomorrow."

On the same day, WMO released the State of the Global Climate report 2025, analysing a range of key climate indicators, including greenhouse gas concentrations, surface temperature, ocean heat and acidification, sea level rise, Antarctic sea ice extent, and glacier melt.

The report confirmed that 2015-2025 were the hottest 11

years on record, and 2025 was the second or third hottest year on record, at about 1.43 degrees Celsius above the 1850-1900 average.

Extreme events around the world, including intense heat, heavy rainfall and tropical cyclones, caused disruption and devastation, highlighting the vulnerability of interconnected economies and societies.

The reports says ocean continued to warm and absorb

carbon dioxide.

Over the past two decades, it said the ocean absorbed the equivalent of about 18 times the annual human energy use each year,

adding that 2025, ocean heat content (to a depth of 2 000 meters) reached the highest level since records began in 1960, surpassing the previous high set in 2024.

Data from individual monitoring stations showed that

levels of three main greenhouse gases; carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide continued to increase in 2025 it said.

For the first time, the report included Earth's energy imbalance as a key climate indicator.

It says the Earth's energy imbalance had been increasing since its observational record began in 1960, particularly in the past 20 years, reaching a new high in 2025. *Xinhua*

# South Africans speak against interference

## JOHANNESBURG

"We will not be bullied!" The slogan, also printed on white crew-neck shirts worn by many participants at the People's March held on Saturday at Mary Fitzgerald Square in downtown Johannesburg, South Africa, reflected the country's determination to defend its sovereignty and democratic gains.

As South Africa marked Human Rights Day, which commemorates the Sharpeville Massacre of March 21, 1960, when apartheid police killed 69 unarmed protesters, thousands of people marched from the downtown square, across the Nelson Mandela Bridge, to Constitution Hill in Johannesburg, the country's largest city and the provincial capital of Gauteng.

Led by the African National Congress (ANC) together with its alliance partners, including the South African Communist Party, the Congress of South African Trade Unions and the South African National Civic Organization, the march brought together business formations,

labor groups, civil society movements and citizens from across the country.

The rally saw participants dressed in green, yellow and black, the colors of the ANC flag, alongside traditional leaders in cultural attire, singing and dancing to showcase the nation's heritage.

"The message is very clear from the ANC.

We are saying no to bullying. We are tired of bullying," Tebogo Munyai, a regional leader for ANC Ward 21, told Xinhua, noting that the gathering aimed to stress the need to end the bullying of South Africans.

He also highlighted the role of the country's Constitution in ensuring that South Africa belongs to all, with security and health guaranteed regardless of race.

Minister of International Relations and Cooperation Ronald Lamola, who took part in the march, said the country needed no outside interference in its domestic and foreign policies.

"And it is encouraging to see thousands of South Africans here today, marching and defending



**JOHANNESBURG** - Demonstrators during a march marking Human Rights Day at Mary Fitzgerald Square in South Africa on Saturday. Speaking at the national commemoration South African President Cyril Ramaphosa called for renewed efforts to close the gap between constitutional rights and everyday reality. Photo:Xinhua

this sovereignty, but also saying this is our country," he noted, stressing the importance of continuing to pursue an independent foreign policy.

"No force on earth, however powerful, can interfere with the sovereign authority of the people of South Africa to govern their own affairs," the ANC said earlier in an announcement for the national event, which included simultaneous regional marches

and solidarity gatherings.

"We, the people of the Global South, know fully well that our people, our economies and our natural resources were exploited to build the economies and sustain the standard of living, overconsumption and economic development of the Global North," it added.

Speaking at the national commemoration in Kimberley, Northern Cape province, under

the theme "A Legacy of Courage: Protecting Rights, Preserving Humanity," South African President Cyril Ramaphosa called for renewed efforts to close the gap between constitutional rights and everyday reality.

"Our task is to ensure that the rights and freedoms contained in the Constitution are not only protected in law but experienced in the daily lives of all South Africans," he said. *Xinhua*



**WINDHOEK** - Namibia's Westair Group, a private aviation company, introduced a fuel surcharge across its services, citing rising fuel costs and supply volatility linked to Middle East conflict, as it seeks to maintain operations and service reliability. Photo:Xinhua

# Westair implements fuel surcharge

## WINDHOEK

Namibia's Westair Group, a private aviation company, has implemented a fuel surcharge across its services due to ongoing global and regional pressures affecting fuel supply and prices.

In a statement on Monday, the group said that over the past weeks, due to the ongoing conflict in the Middle East, volatility in fuel availability, and sustained increases in fuel costs placed significant pressure on the aviation industry worldwide.

The introduction of a fuel surcharge will allow the Westair Group to maintain its operational standards, route network, and service reliability, while continuing to provide safe and efficient air travel across Namibia and the region, the statement said.

"We remain committed to connecting Namibia and supporting the country's tourism and business sectors," said Henri van Schalkwyk, CEO of the Westair Group.

"This decision has not been taken lightly, but it is a necessary step to ensure that we can continue to operate sustainably in a challenging global environment."

The surcharge will be applied across applicable bookings effective March 23 and will be reviewed regularly in line with fuel price movements, he added.

The Westair Group's primary passenger operations, including FlyNamibia, FlyNamibia Safari and Westair Charters, provide essential air service across a variety of domestic and regional routes. *Xinhua*

# Cooperation with China beneficial - Matekane

## MASERU

Lesotho is willing to work with China to further advance bilateral cooperation and ensure that the partnership brings greater benefits to the two nations, Prime Minister Sam Matekane has said.

In a recent interview with Xinhua at his residence in eastern Lesotho, Matekane said that Lesotho and China have maintained close cooperation and achieved fruitful results.

He noted that Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi's visit to Lesotho in January reflected profound friendship between the two countries, as the two sides agreed on the need to further deepen cooperation and move bilateral ties forward.

He added that bilateral cooperation in areas such as infrastructure, agriculture and education continued to deepen in recent years, contributing to Lesotho's economic and social development while improving people's livelihoods.

"Our priority is agriculture," Matekane said, noting that China's support in agricultural projects, including emergency food aid and agricultural machinery, had strengthened local farmers' confidence in improving food security.

On people-to-people exchanges, Matekane suggested that the two countries further expand cooperation in talent development and exchanges.

He noted that through the Sebatso Youth Empowerment Initiative, a program launched three years ago, many Basotho youths have acquired practical skills in China.

"One of our youths who studied trout fishing in China now runs his own fish farm," he said.

Additionally, Matekane welcomed China's decision to grant zero-tariff treatment on imports from African countries with which it has diplomatic relations, saying the move created new opportunities for Lesotho to expand its exports and deepen trade ties with China.

"Lesotho's textiles have reached store shelves in China, with significant volumes exported," he said, demonstrating the potential for further cooperation in trade and investment.

On global affairs, Matekane stressed that Lesotho was a peaceful nation that supported resolving disputes through dialogue rather than conflict, and stands firmly for global peace and stability.

"China, as a major country, is standing firmly to try to bring peace to the world.

This is what we expect China to do," he said.

Matekane said that over the past six decades, Lesotho made notable progress in economic and social development and achieved greater political stability through reforms.

He said Lesotho will continue to pursue development in other sectors, particularly water resources.

Describing Lesotho as the "water tower" of southern Africa, Matekane noted that there was strong investment potential in sectors such as renewable energy and infrastructure.

He welcomed Chinese companies to explore opportunities in renewable energy, wool and mohair production, and expressed hope for deeper cooperation in infrastructure development.

"I'm very confident that relations between Lesotho and China will continue to grow stronger in the years ahead," he said. *Xinhua*



**THABA-TSEKA** - Lesotho Prime Minister Sam Matekane in an interview with Xinhua in Lesotho. He said Lesotho was willing to advance bilateral cooperation with China. Photo: Xinhua

## Ethiopia eyes horticultural market under zero-tariff policy

### ADDIS ABABA

Ethiopia eyes tapping into the massive horticultural market in China, taking advantage of the zero-tariff policy Chinese government granted to 53 African countries that have diplomatic ties with the country, a senior expert said.

Tewodros Zewdie, executive director of Ethiopian Horticulture Producer Exporters Association, said China's zero-tariff preferential treatment would

significantly enhance Ethiopia's horticultural products export and strengthen its overall trading system.

"The Chinese market provides hundreds of millions of potential buyers for produce coming from Africa, and it is one of the critical players in the horticulture industry, so it will help us expand our market destination and unlock the full potential of Ethiopia," Zewdie told Xinhua in an interview on Saturday.

Noting that there was

insignificant export of horticultural products to China due to tariff-related issues, Zewdie said the zero-tariff decision would give African countries, the opportunity to exploit the Chinese horticultural market of hundreds of millions of consumers.

"Fortunately, we do have Ethiopian Airlines, which is operating more than 40 flights per week to China. So logistics are already available.

The market opportunities in China will help us boost the foreign currency gains, as well as to create decent employment opportunities for tens of thousands of Ethiopians in the country," he said.

The executive director noted that China's zero-tariff policy will also provide Ethiopia with a strong

buffer against its suspension from the United States' trade privileges under the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA). AGOA is a non-reciprocal trade arrangement designed to support development in African countries by providing preferential access to U.S. markets.

Since its enactment in 2000, it has been at the core of U.S. economic policy and commercial engagement with Africa, providing eligible sub-Saharan African countries with duty-free access to the US market for over 1 800 products.

The implementation of China's zero-tariff policy for the 53 African countries takes effect starting from May 1, 2026, and is expected to boost export competitiveness of African countries. *Xinhua*

## US attempts to dominate global energy market

### MOSCOW

The United States is pursuing a doctrine of domination in global energy markets, Russian Foreign



**Russia Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov**

Minister Sergey Lavrov said in an interview with Russian media on Saturday.

"They (the United States) care only about their own well-being.

They are ready to defend this prosperity by any means; coups, abductions, or assassinations of leaders of countries that have natural resources Washington desires.

All of this is related to oil," said Lavrov.

He further asserted that the United States follows the principle that its interests always take precedence over international agreements.

He pointed out that the United States historically welcomed and continues to welcome Russia's marginalization in European energy markets.

He emphasised that for the United States to cooperate with Russia, it must first respect Russia's interests. *Xinhua*



**YAOUNDE** - Raphael Etoga showcasing his traditional Obom fabric at a workshop in Cameroon recently. Obom is a traditional fabric made from specific tree species by the Ekang people in Cameroon. The craft of making it is a significant part of the country's cultural heritage. Today, young Cameroonian designers are incorporating Obom into modern fashion designs. Photo: Xinhua

# Arts & Culture

Nxai Pan: Iconic destination to explore

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# Modipane fairest of them all

Photos: Pheny Moalosi



Miss World Botswana, Ruth Thomas crowning the new Miss Botswana 2026 Magdeline Modipane at the grand finale.

Magdeline Modipane emerged victorious in a night of glamour and stiff competition among 12 finalists to be crowned Miss Botswana 2026 in Gaborone on Saturday. The 25-year-old from Tonota impressed

throughout the pageant, particularly in the evening gown and question-and-answer segments, marking a remarkable comeback after finishing in the Top 5 last year. Her journey was defined by

resilience and growth, having secured multiple fast-track titles including Miss People's Choice, where she made history with over one million votes. Judges praised her poise, elegance and articulation.



Thomas taking her last walk before crowning the new queen. She will represent Botswana at the 72<sup>nd</sup> Miss World 2026 in Thailand.



Modipane showcasing elegance in her evening gown.

Top 12 Miss Botswana 2026 finalists during the grand finale at Molapo Creative Hub.

Modipane flanked by her first princess Mosa Gontshwanetse (left) and second princess Michelle Bagoleng.



A panel of judges during the event.

Setswana Neo Soul artiste, Uncle X performing during the grand finale.





A waterhole that attracts different species at the Nxai Pan. Situated along the Nata-Maun road in northern Botswana, Nxai Pan National Park stands out as an iconic destination worth exploring.

## Nxai Pan: Iconic destination to explore

Esther Mmolai  
MAUN

For travellers seeking tranquillity, abundant wildlife sightings and an authentic experience away from crowded tourist hotspots, Nxai Pan National Park stands out as an iconic destination worth exploring.

Situated along the Nata-Maun road in northern Botswana, the park features vast open landscapes of fossilised salt pans, grassy plains and acacia woodlands. This unique environment makes it an exceptional safari destination, particularly during the rainy season when wildlife congregates around water sources.

Visitors to the park can expect sightings of a wide range of species, including zebras, springbok, gemsbok, giraffes, lions, wildebeest, elephants and wild dogs.

The area is also renowned for its striking scenery, highlighted by the famous Baines Baobabs, which provide some of the most picturesque landscapes in the country.

Despite its beauty, Nxai Pan remains one of Botswana's lesser-visited parks, making it a true hidden gem for travellers seeking off-the-beaten-track experiences. Its relative quietness enhances the sense of exclusivity

and immersion in nature.

The park's wildlife is particularly impressive, with large populations of animals gathering during the wet season. The zebra migration, accompanied by herds of wildebeest and springbok, creates dramatic scenes, often alongside heightened predator activity. Waterholes frequently attract multiple species at once, offering excellent game viewing opportunities that leave lasting impressions on visitors.

Accessible yet unspoiled, the park is best explored through 4x4 game drives across its expansive terrain. For those seeking a deeper connection with nature, camping under the stars provides an unforgettable experience in the African wilderness.

While many first-time visitors to Botswana often prioritise destinations such as the Okavango Delta and Moremi Game Reserve, Nxai Pan offers equally rewarding wildlife encounters, along with a quieter and more intimate setting.

With recent flooding affecting parts of these more popular areas, Nxai Pan has become an attractive alternative for accessible game viewing during the wet season.

Nxai Pan Park manager, Mr Modiri Mogopa, said in an interview that the park receives an average of over 20,000 visitors

annually, significantly fewer than Moremi Game Reserve.

"This park is also well known as one of the routes for the zebra migration from the Okavango and Chobe areas into the Boteti and Makgadikgadi Pans in search of fresh grazing," he said.

At the heart of the park lie seven large Baines Baobabs, located about 30 kilometres from the main entrance. Estimated to be around 1,000 years old and reaching up to 20 metres in height, the trees were named after explorer and artist Thomas Baines, who painted them in 1862. They stand on the edge of Kudiakam Pan, a salt pan that fills with water during the rainy season and becomes a prime spot for birdwatching.

The park also offers a range of facilities, including a campground operated by Xomae Group, a lodge run by Kwando Safaris, and campsites managed by the Hospitality and Tourism Association of Botswana (HATAB) and the Botswana Guides Association.

Providing historical context, Mr Mogopa explained that the park formed part of the prehistoric Makgadikgadi Lake system, which once covered much of the region. Originally declared a game reserve in 1970, the area was expanded in 1992 with the inclusion of Kudiakam Pan and subsequently designated a national park. **BOPA**



Various birds bring life to the national park.

## Chinese cultural elements shine at Cape Town Carnival

CAPE TOWN

Cape Town Carnival 2026 kicked off in South Africa on Saturday evening, with Chinese cultural elements emerging as a highlight of the festivities.

Under the theme: Follow Your heART, this year's carnival brought together more than 1,500 performers from communities across the city.

The parade celebrated diversity, creativity and cultural understanding through massive floats, colorful costumes and vibrant performances, drawing tens of thousands of local and international spectators.

Among the participants, the Chinese performing group stood out as the biggest star of the evening. Their repertoire, including Chinese opera, traditional dance, dragon and panda performances, consistently drew applause and cheers from the crowd along the parade route.

According to Dong Gang, head of the Chinese performing group, this marked the eighth time the Chinese community had participated in the carnival. This year's delegation featured two floats, four performance formations and more than 150 performers ranging in age from four to over 70, making it the largest lineup at the event.

"This year, the Chinese team's performance is a combination of tradition and modernity.

It not only showcases traditional intangible cultural heritage, such as dragon and lion dances, but also incorporates modern technology, especially advanced humanoid robots, which together with our traditional performances bring new highlights to the audience," Dong told Xinhua.

"Coinciding with the China-Africa Year of People-to-People Exchanges, we believe the participation of the Chinese community will help strengthen cultural exchanges between China and Africa. In particular, presenting our traditional culture within South Africa's mainstream cultural life will leave a vivid and lasting impression," he added.

Dong's remarks were echoed by Ren Faqiang, China's Consul General in Cape Town.

"Against the backdrop of the China-Africa Year of People-to-People Exchanges, the Chinese contingent at this year's Cape Town Carnival is the largest, most colorful, most numerous and most spectacular in terms of performances in history. I believe it will definitely showcase the charm of Chinese culture," he said.

Ren noted that the Chinese

performing team included not only overseas Chinese and students, but also local South Africans.

This, he said, demonstrates that despite the geographical distance between China and South Africa, the peoples of the two countries are closely connected, and cultural exchange serves as an important bridge.

Guo Jingkai, a 30-year-old overseas Chinese resident in Cape Town, participated in the carnival parade for the fifth time this year as a member of the lion dance team.

He said taking part in such events helps strengthen cohesion among Chinese people living abroad.

"The carnival is a cultural window, featuring a wide variety of cultures and styles. Through cultural exchange, it allows Chinese people to experience local culture while also enabling others to experience Chinese culture," Guo said.

For Erick Strydom, a South African teacher, who joined the Chinese formation, this was his first time participating in the parade as a performer.

He described the experience as deeply exciting.

"To me, it is an honour to be here and to represent China," he told Xinhua.

"What I have noticed is just how my culture aligns with the Chinese culture. We have the same work ethic. We have amazing similarities in our cultures. I think that's something we can celebrate, especially in Africa."

"When we look in Africa and the change that China has also brought, we see that there is a lot of help that we have been receiving from China and we know it. And it is time to celebrate each other's cultures and stand together and be stronger together," Strydom added. Hazel Mhishi, a local visitor attending the parade with her children, spoke highly of the Chinese performances, calling them 'amazing'.

"They did a great job and we really enjoyed the interaction that they did with us and with the kids," Mhishi said.

"We love to know more about the culture, so that we can understand what they're presenting more."

"It shows more diversity in the culture that we are in, for me as a foreigner as well. It shows more diversity, more intercultural exchange that is happening in South Africa, which is a great thing, and more involvement in all the cultures," she added.

**Xinhua**

## Meishan national historical and cultural city

BEIJING

China's State Council has approved Meishan City, located in the southwestern Sichuan Province, as a national historical and cultural city, according to a notice on the website of the Chinese government released on Thursday.

The notice highlighted Meishan's long history, profound culture, rich heritage, well-preserved traditional features and distinct regional traits, recognising its great historical and cultural value.

It required Sichuan and Meishan governments to implement cultural relic

protection laws, explore heritage value, clarify ancient Meizhou's layout, strengthen protection and utilisation, and promote fine traditional Chinese culture, according to the notice.

Meishan, which is also called Meizhou, is home to the great Chinese poet Su Shi of the Song Dynasty (960-1279). **Xinhua**

# Gnabry rides the wave for Bayern and Germany

BERLIN

Serge Gnabry says the twists of his career have taught him patience, perspective and, at last, a measure of peace.

The Bayern Munich forward, now 30, is enjoying one of his strongest stretches in recent years after a run of injury setbacks and uncertainty that once left his future at the club in doubt.

Healthy again and back in form, Gnabry has become an important part of Bayern's push for trophies on three fronts, while also re-establishing himself in Germany's plans ahead of the 2026 World Cup.

"The challenge is not to lose faith as you face moments you can't really influence," Gnabry said after scoring twice in Bayern's recent 4-0 win over Union Berlin.

For Gnabry, the bigger victory has been regaining stability after a difficult spell shaped by repeated injuries. That renewed consistency helped convince Bayern to extend his contract through 2028, despite months of speculation that he could be sold. Gnabry has also accepted a pay cut to remain in Munich. "I just saw the chance to gain stability when I can avoid further injuries," he said. "Bayern is my club."

His resurgence has come at a key moment for Bayern, which has scored 97 goals and is chasing the Bundesliga record of 101 set by the club in the 1971-72 season.

Bayern is also firmly in contention in the German Cup and the Champions League. Still, Gnabry has warned against getting carried away. "It's important to see things as a long-distance race," he said. His teammates and coaches have noticed the difference. Midfielder Joshua Kimmich was effusive in his praise after the Union win.

"His performance is crazy, incredible," Kimmich said. "I am happy we extended his contract."

Coach Vincent Kompany said Gnabry's biggest obstacle has never been talent, but fitness.

"Injuries have kept him from a steady performance, but he always fought back," Kompany said.

Kompany added that Gnabry remains on the same level of importance as Bayern's other attacking stars, including Harry Kane, Michael Olise and Luis Diaz. "He is a factor for the team's spirits, on and off the pitch," Kompany said.

Over the years, Gnabry has developed into one of Bayern's most flexible attackers, capable of playing on either wing or in a central attacking role. That versatility, combined with his experience, has made him valuable for both club and country. Germany coach Julian Nagelsmann has also underlined Gnabry's importance, calling him a key figure in the national team's hopes for the 2026 World Cup.

Gnabry has scored 25 goals in 57 appearances for Germany and was again praised by Nagelsmann ahead of upcoming friendlies against Switzerland and Ghana.

Gnabry has come through a career that included spells at Arsenal, West Bromwich Albion and Werder Bremen before he established himself as a leading figure at Bayern. Now, after the setbacks and doubts, he appears settled again. Gnabry said he is simply happy to be part of Bayern's formidable attack, even as the team closes in on another milestone. "You don't think of records while on the pitch," he said. "But 97 goals are outstanding, and we will happily push the record to new heights." *Xinhua*



Serge Gnabry

# Manchester City wins EFL Cup

LONDON

Manchester City beat Arsenal 2-0 in the EFL Cup final on Sunday, with Nico O'Reilly scoring twice in a four-minute burst in the second half to seal the trophy.

The victory gave Pep Guardiola his fifth EFL Cup title with City and could provide a lift for the closing stretch of the season, with his side still trying to chase down Arsenal in the Premier League title race despite a nine-point gap.

City were the better side after halftime and deserved their win against an Arsenal team that looked short of its usual sharpness, perhaps feeling the effects of a demanding Champions League outing in midweek.

In the Premier League, Sunderland claimed a dramatic 2-1 win over Newcastle United at St James' Park in the Tyne-Wear derby, with Brian Brobbey scoring a 90th minute winner.

Newcastle had gone ahead in the 10th minute through Anthony Gordon after a Sunderland defensive mistake, but Chemsdine Talbi equalized in the 57th before Brobbey struck from close range after his first effort had been blocked.

Aston Villa tightened its grip on a top-four place with a 2-0 home win over West Ham United, thanks to goals from John McGinn and Ollie Watkins in either half.

The loss left West Ham in the relegation zone.

Nottingham Forest also took a major step toward survival with a 3-0 win at Tottenham, increasing the pressure on interim Spurs coach Igor Tudor. *Xinhua*

# Japan clinches third AFC Women Asian Cup title

SYDNEY

Japan won the AFC Women's Asian Cup for a third time after defeating host Australia 1-0 in the 2026 final on Saturday night.

Maika Hamano scored the only goal with a long-range strike in the 17th minute as Japan triumphed in front of a crowd of 74,397 at Sydney's Stadium Australia, a record for a Women's Asian Cup match.

Speaking after the match, Japan's coach Nils Nielsen said that the large Australian crowd made the game difficult for his team.

"It's very difficult to play with an enthusiastic audience like this," he said.

"But the girls fought with everything they had and I'm actually very proud of them when it comes to that part."

After an opening 15 minutes in which Australia created the better chances, Hamano broke the deadlock when she received the ball with her back to goal on the left edge of the penalty area, turned and fired a dipping shot into the bottom right corner.

The strike, beyond the outstretched arms of Australia's Mackenzie Arnold, proved decisive in a match in which the host created repeated

opportunities but failed to convert.

Australia's best chance to equalize came in the 89th minute when Ellie Carpenter's cross from the right found Alanna Kennedy, whose header toward the top left corner was caught by a diving Ayaka Yamashita.

"I think they beat us just off one moment," Australian captain Sam Kerr said after the match.

"For most of the game we had the better chances and definitely in the second half, most of the possession so it was just one moment and unfortunately that's what football is decided on," she said.

Veteran Australian defender Steph Catley said that the team did everything they could have and that the loss was one of the hardest of her career.

"They scored an amazing goal and that was the difference. That's football sometimes. It's heartbreaking," she said.

The win capped a dominant tournament for Japan, which scored 29 goals and conceded only once in six matches.

It was the third time Japan had beaten Australia 1-0 in a Women's Asian Cup final, having previously done so to win consecutive titles in 2014 and 2018. *Xinhua*



# Charlton takes third consecutive gold at World Indoor Athletics Championships

TORUN

Devynne Charlton of the Bahamas equaled her own world record of 7.65 seconds on Sunday and became the first woman to win three world indoor titles in the 60-meter hurdles.

Charlton, who also won in 2024 and 2025, celebrated by placing a crown on her head and draping herself in the Bahamian flag during her lap of honour.

"I didn't have the best start, I stumbled a bit but I tried to fix it as fast as I could," Charlton said.

"I knew I had it when I crossed the finish line. I know I could have run a little bit faster too."

In the women's pentathlon, Sofie Dokter of the Netherlands produced a career-best performance to upset world champion Anna Hall of the United States and world silver medalist Kate O'Connor of Ireland, winning gold with a world-leading 4,888 points.

Dokter cried on the podium as the Dutch anthem played.

New Zealand's Tom Walsh secured the men's shot put title with a season-best throw of 21.82m in the sixth and final round. Americans Jordan Geist and Roger Steen took silver and bronze.

The men's long jump final also produced late drama as Portugal's Gerson Balde surged from behind with a world-leading leap of 8.46m in the sixth round to overtake Italy's Mattia Furlani for gold.

Furlani claimed silver with a personal-best 8.39m, while Bulgaria's Bozhidar Saraboyukov took bronze with 8.31m.

Portugal added another gold in the women's long jump through Agate De Sousa, who jumped 6.92m in the fifth round.


Italy's Larissa Iapichino took silver with 6.87m in the final round, and Colombia's Natalia Linares won bronze with 6.80m.

Britain enjoyed a strong final day in the middle-distance events.

Georgia Hunter Bell won the women's 1 500m in a world-leading 3:58.53, while Australia's Jessica Hull, bronze medalist in the 3 000m a day earlier, took silver in 3:59.45.

Keely Hodgkinson added another British gold in the women's 800m, setting a championship record of 1:55.30. Molly Caudery then won the women's pole vault with 4.85m. The United States swept both 4x400m relay titles. The men won in a championship-record 3:01.52, with Belgium taking silver and Jamaica bronze. The US women won in a season-best 3:25.81, ahead of the Netherlands and Spain. The United States topped the medal table with 18 medals, including five gold. Host Poland finished with one gold, one silver and two bronze. *Xinhua*

# DailySport




**Ticket Prices**

**PREMIUM STAND**  
(Southern Stand at the finishing line):

Day 1 – \$170  
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Day 2 onwards – \$200  
(approximately BWP2468)





Preparations are underway for the third edition of Ma-Sa Easter Cup. The event is scheduled for April 4 at Masa Racing Park, about 15km from Maun.

## Horses ready to trot at Ma-Sa Easter Cup race

By Esther Mmolai  
**MAUN**

Preparations for the third edition of Ma-Sa Easter Cup are in the final lap and horses have started to arrive at the race venue to familiarise themselves with the surroundings.

Organised by Ma-Sa Racing Park owner in support of Botswana Horse Racing Association, the event is billed for April 4 at Ma-Sa Racing Park just 15km outside Maun.

This year's theme is: Footprints Never Fade-Honouring the Brave Horses Which Ran Before Us.

Horses from Botswana, South Africa and Namibia will compete in the race.

Already Namibia has brought more than 30 horses while locally, participating horses are from Maun, Kareng, Motokwe, Tsabong, Takatokwane, Good Hope, Charles Hill and Kokotsha among others.

Currently, trainers are busy focusing on ensuring that horses are calm and acclimatise to the race day environment while some are to ensuring availability of all the gear and equipment.

The horses' welfare supersedes everything else.

Ma-Sa annual race usually attracts competitors and supporters from across the country and even beyond the border, so this year's edition would incorporate starting gates.

The event spokesperson, Tico Otukile, said they have introduced some changes to make the race more vibrant and competitive.

He said they have introduced new races of 1100m, 1300m and 2000m under Thorough breed and short distance race of 800m and 1000m dedicated for Tswana breed category.

"We have also resolved that this time, no Tswana horses from outside North West District will participate in the event because we have enough horses within the district from Makalamabedi all the way to Kuke gate," he added.

Furthermore, Otukile revealed that horses racing in 800, 1000, 1100, 1200 and 1400 metres would be using

professional racing starting gates, which accommodates only 10 horses at a time.

Spectators and competitors, he said, would be treated to a highly classic and competitive race, ensuring safety, fairness and greater professional integrity from the start.

Otukile also stated that dignitaries from Namibia in the likes of chairperson of the Omaheke Regional Council, Rocco Nguvauva and the chief regional officer of the Council, Pecka Semba together with North West District leadership including the council chairman, Itumeleng Kelebetseng and his counterparts from Charles Hill and Ghanzi would grace the occasion. **BOPA**



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