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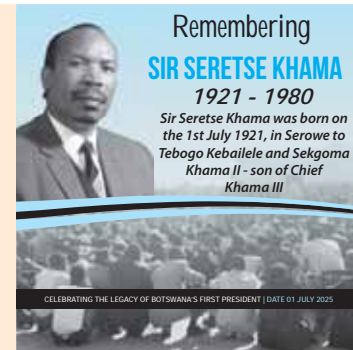
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'Digitalisation key to Africa growth'



President Advocate Duma Boko said Botswana was striving to develop a digitalised strategy that would ensure that all its people despite their locality were connected to high speed Internet. Participating in a high level dialogue titled: *The Race to Connect: Investing in Africa's Digital Backbone* at the ongoing US-Africa Business Summit in Luanda, Angola, the President emphasised that digitalisation was the cornerstone and turning point for Botswana and Africa's economic growth.

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ATLEGA STAR OF THE MONTH
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Marathe updates on police projects

By Esther Mmolai

MAUN - The construction of North West Division, and police station including 75 staff houses has been submitted for consideration in National Development Plan (NDP 12), Commissioner of Police Ms Dinah Marathe has revealed.

Funds permitting, she said construction of Shakawe Police District and 50 houses as well as construction of Special Support Group (SSG) in Maun Region and 75 houses would also be considered in NDP 12.

Ms Marathe made the remarks recently during the handing over of a service extension facility built and donated by Zhengtai Group of Botswana Company in Maun.

She said the construction of Dobe and Eretsha police posts with seven staff housing was ongoing and it was anticipated that the projects would be completed by January 2026.

"This development will go a

long in ensuring that crime is significantly reduced and that services are brought closer to the people where they are needed," she said.

Ms Marathe also highlighted that they would always strive to serve according to the communities' expectations as dictated by needs citing that as the Botswana Police Service, their strength depended on building strategic and effective law enforcement partnerships with the public through the Community Policing Programme.

Due to the sustained effectiveness of community policing in preventing and detecting crime, she said they had over the years extended the platform to include both the public and private sector space with overwhelming results as demonstrated by the overall reduction in crime.

Generally, she observed that crime and criminality in Botswana was manageable citing that in comparison, between the year 2023

and 2024, total crime decreased by eight per cent from 159 680 in 2023 to 146 529 in 2024.

Ms Marathe said the North West Division which covered several areas amongst them Ghanzi, Shakawe, Maun and Kasane experienced a crime reduction of 8.8 per cent from 15 455 to 14 085 offences.

"Out of that, No. 5 District, that is, Maun and surrounding areas noted a reduction from 9 313 in 2023 to 7750 offences in 2024, a reduction of 8.3 per cent."

Ms Marathe said in general, the North West Division had consistently recorded crime reduction over the last 5 years which was highly commendable.

"Whilst this indicates a downward trend, we realise the need for continuous improvements to refine our efforts to not just reduce recorded crime but to ensure the safety of our people," she said.

The police commissioner also attested to the significant contribution made by Community Policing towards their success crime story over the years saying they valued the community's support and shall continue to invest limitlessly in Community Policing for strengthened public safety and security for a peaceful Botswana.

The community's continued support and sacrifices, she said were the driving force behind

their quest for continuous service improvement and transformation.

Ms Marathe also highlighted that the issue of allowance for cluster policing members was ongoing citing that they had taken it up with relevant authorities.

Kgosi Leretsetse Mogalakwe appreciated the good work done by police officers in addressing crime and ensuring peace and stability.

He described their role as a calling saying many were motivated by a desire to help others and make a positive impact in the society.

He also acknowledged that officers demonstrated professionalism in line of their duty. **BOPA**

'Strengthen cross border cooperation to protect nature'

By Esther Mmolai

TSUTSUBEGA - There is need to strengthen trans-boundary cooperation through scientific partnerships, water governance agreements and peace building initiatives that recognise nature as a shared resource.

Speaking during Okavango is Calling festival which ended on Sunday, Professor Joseph Mbaiwa from Okavango Research Institute said the ecosystem was fragile and its survival and the survival of those who depended on it was not guaranteed.

"We live in an era of accelerating climate change, economic uncertainty and environmental degradation and so the call to reimagine tourism, sustainability and diplomacy is not merely thematic but it is existential," he said.

Prof Mbaiwa said the Okavango Basin stretched across national borders, from Angola's highlands through Namibia into Botswana's floodplains citing that the delta was a shared resource which gave it significant diplomatic value.

Sustainable diplomacy, he said must extend beyond treaties to include civil society, traditional leaders and the youth, adding that it must be inclusive, transparent and built in trust.

Furthermore, Prof Mbaiwa noted that the Okavango River Basin Commission and other regional platforms were critical but they must be supported and empowered by political will, international solidarity and by funding mechanisms that reflected the real value of ecosystem services.

"Let us embrace sustainability not as a slogan but as a way of life; let us practice diplomacy that respects nature, empowers communities and builds nature where Okavango Delta thrives," he added.

Namibian deputy high commissioner in Botswana, Ms Yvette Husselmann, said the delta

as a shared resource called for the three countries, Botswana, Namibia and Angola to come together, synergise efforts to protect and maintain the beauty of the resource and offer it as a tourism package to the global audience.

"We should work together to ensure the delta remains intact and market it to the global stage," she said in an interview. Ms Huddelmann said Botswana had a lot to offer in terms of cultural and wildlife tourism.

"The country has diverse rich cultures, natural beauty and cultural experiences and I would like to thank the community of Tsutsubega for the warm reception accorded to my team as the first time visitors. We are really impressed with the beautiful performances displayed by local artists and I believe my team has learnt some best practices and will continue collaborating with Botswana to sell the delta," added Ms Husselmann.

Meanwhile Okavango is Calling festival brought the tiny settlement of Tsutsubega in the outskirts of Maun to life as many people came to the area to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Okavango Delta as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Held at Tsutsubega floodplain right at the edge of the delta, the event showcased the delta's essence through a vibrant traditional music, food and art.

The festival organised by 390 Vision Company brought together people from different countries to celebrate and promote the country's rich heritage, the delta, while fostering informal networking.

The Namibian delegation comprising of the Namibian deputy high commissioner in Botswana, Namibia Tourism Board officials, entrepreneurs and chefs were among the dignitaries who graced the spectacular event.

The Namibian chefs also had the opportunity to showcase their traditional cuisine in the likes of Kapana, which is one of the famous street food. **BOPA.**



Minister for State President, Mr Moeti Mohwasa (left), Good Hope District Council chairperson, Mr Gofaone Nkwane (centre) and Acting Minister of Lands and Agriculture, also Good Hope/Mmathethe MP, Dr Edwin Dikoloti during a meeting at the council chamber recently. Mr Mohwasa said the persistent cross border stock-theft incidents that were now synonymous with the villages along the Molopo River had forced government to plan to use drones to monitor movement and bolster security along the border line.

Photo: Aobakwe Molefi

Government to use drones to combat livestock theft

By Aobakwe Molefhi

GOOD HOPE - Cross-border livestock theft, which have become a persistent problem in areas along Molopo River, have led to government propose drone surveillance to reinforce security along the border.

Communities residing along the border expressed frustrations during kgotla meetings over their livestock being stolen and taken to neighbouring South Africa.

In a meeting held in Good Hope on Thursday at the council chambers, the Minister for State President Mr Moeti Mohwasa told community leadership that drones would be used to monitor movement along the border line to augment regular patrols.

He told councilors that law enforcement officers had also pledged to increase their visibility in the area.

"We have also resorted to engaging our South Africa counterparts to come up with an amicable solution to this problem," he said.

Mr Mohwasa pointed out that illegal border crossing and cattle rustling could have devastating

effects in the economy of the country should diseases such as foot and mouth be detected in the area.

In other intervention measures, a cordon fence that cost government over P60 million was erected at least 2 years ago after the North West province of South Africa reported a case of foot and mouth disease in the area.

Mr Mohwasa pleaded with councilors to encourage residents to work closely with law enforcement officers to help curb incidences of crime.

For his part the Member of Parliament for Good Hope-Mmathethe constituency, Dr Edwin Dikoloti who is also Acting Minister of Lands and Agriculture concurred with Mr Mohwasa that, there was need for concerted efforts in controlling illegal border crossing and livestock theft.

He said government through Botswana Vaccine Institute had over the years liberalised the meat industry saying it would therefore be unfortunate if citizenry could let foot and mouth disease cross into Botswana.

"The effects will not only devastate the economy, it will mean

that there is no longer Botswana Meat Commission and its work force," he said.

Dr Dikoloti made it known that in cases of those unfortunate circumstances, all animals in the South part of Makalamabedi cordon fence would have to be culled.

He however said on top of all security measures being put in place, a delegation from Bobirwa would be coming to teach and mentor the affected communities in Barolong area.

"Bobirwa had the same problem of cattle rustling but the situation is now better thanks to engagement of mephato who are pivotal in controlling animal movements in their localities," he said.

Phitshane Molopo Councillor Mr Kgotlaetsile Bantatsetse decried that the cordon fence had already been vandalised.

He therefore said government should engage their South Africa counter parts, in regard to the vandalism and stealing of the fence.

Specially elected councilor Mr Kethlogile Keipeile said the same way government dealt with cash heist incidents should apply in stock theft occurrences. **BOPA**

'Digitalisation cornerstone of Africa'

By Moshe Galeragwe

LUANDA - Efforts are underway in Botswana to develop a digital strategy that guarantees universal high speed internet connectivity across the country.

Participating in a high level dialogue titled: 'The Race to Connect: Investing in Africa's Digital Backbone' at the ongoing US-Africa Business Summit in Angola, President Advocate Duma Boko said the country was determined to invest in digital infrastructure that was efficient, high quality and widely spread.

President Boko said Africa needed inter-connectivity that was effective and fundamental to opening up trade corridors.

He said it was unfortunate that in a modern world where technology was important, production areas in the continent were still hard to reach.

As such, President Boko said digitalisation was the cornerstone and turning point for Botswana and Africa's economic growth.

He said it was important for the continent to be efficient and curb wastefulness of resources that could go a long way in growing its economy and improve the lives of its people.

The President urged Africa to take advantage of the evolving technology by building data centres of hyper scale, robust and high information security.

He emphasised the need to bring Africa together, arguing that collaboration, understanding audience, having a common policy and a vision were the foundation to prosperity and desired growth for Africa.

"All African leaders must find each other, open markets, trade among themselves and raise the economy of the young and dynamic Africa," said President Boko.

He also urged African governments to have durable partnerships with the private sector.

The private sector, the President said should be given a platform to unleash their ingenuity and innovation to propel the development agenda forward and grow the economy.

President Boko said for government to get it right in its development endeavour, it must engage the private sector in the planning processes.

"Get full understanding of what the private sector need and government must do what it knows best to facilitate such," he said.

President Boko said Africa was wrestling with realities that were unique to the continent, which were obstacles to establishing itself as a technological hub.

As such, he said policies that were in line with developing and digitalising the continent must be harmonised adding that the free trade agreement must be the turning point.

President Boko said the continent recently launched the Digital Free Trade Protocol setting a foundation that would leap frog the technological development and bring the continent together.

"We need Africa to be the vanguard of excellence and that will take harmonisation of policies," he said.

President Boko said the difficulty that was faced by Botswana was that its National Development Plan, was planned and finalised without private sector involvement.

He said the new government had started a process of the National Transformational Strategy, where the development agenda would include the private sector.

The President said the strategy would involve all players and guide government in developing infrastructure that would address

challenges at hand.

He further said some of the skills that were lacking in government were in abundance in the private sector.

"In some instances government does not have the skills required to execute a project.

There is also lack of agility in government and the reluctance to act," he said.

President Boko said government would during the winter Parliament session table a Digital Services Bill that would result in the establishment of the Digital

Services Act. He said he was hopeful it would address all challenges at hand as the bill was drafted after thorough consultation.

The President said Africa had an opportunity to do it right under a harmonised environment and serve with agility and urgency. **BOPA**



Acting President Ndaba Gaolathe (right) and Minister of Local Government and Traditional Affairs who is also Rural Development Council chairperson, Mr Kethhalefile Motshegwa at the council members' orientation seminar in Gaborone yesterday. Mr Gaolathe said the RDC would no longer function as a forum, but a national taskforce for transformation. Photo: Godfrey Mpuse

Gaolathe stresses need to modernise RDC

By Thato Mosinyi

GABORONE - The Acting President, Mr Ndaba Gaolathe has underscored the need to reshape Rural Development Council (RDC) into a more agile institution capable of addressing today's complex challenges.

Giving a keynote address during the official opening of the RDC members' orientation in Gaborone yesterday, Mr Gaolathe who is also the Minister of Finance said the council as it stood before, was built for yesterday's problems, hence the need to re-forge it sharper and more strategic to meet the firestorm of today's complex challenges.

"From this moment on, RDC is not a forum. It is a taskforce of transformation. Its functions must evolve, not in theory, but in how we act and deliver. We are reimagining this council as a policy innovation lab, a national convener and catalyst as well as a driver of a whole-of-government and whole-off society rural renaissance," he said.

To that effect, Mr Gaolathe said work in terms of reviewing the structure and composition

of the RDC and revision of the 2002 Revised National Policy for Rural Development (RNPRD) undertaken by the Botswana Institute Development Policy Analysis (BIDPA) was nearing completion.

He noted that the future demanded institutions that listen, move and deliver and as a result, government should build strong Institutions for the purpose of decentralised, transparent community-anchored governance.

Also, the Vice President said government has declared war on rural stagnation in an effort to reimagine and rebuild the soul of the nation, starting in the villages.

He said government was steadfast to invent the future of rural living, through considering 'rural' as the new frontier of green growth, food systems, cultural pride, job creation and climate leadership.

"We must ensure our young people see opportunity in the village not just in the city. Let us give them reasons to stay, build and lead," he said.

Mr Gaolathe stated that government had identified key

enablers of successful rural transformation with clear lessons that converge around the principle of land clarity and equity and productivity.

He thus highlighted the need to modernise agriculture through smart irrigation, quality inputs and tech-enabled training, adding that drought should no longer be a crisis, but rather a catalyst for climate-smart farming.

Mr Gaolathe said building foundational infrastructure in rural areas like roads and broadband was critical towards such area's livelihoods upliftment.

"These are not luxuries, they are non-negotiable enablers of growth and we must build resilient value chains that reward producers and create rural jobs," he said.

Mr Gaolathe said he was aware that the ministry of local government and traditional affairs was working diligently to get the decentralisation policy across the line.

"This policy is not just administrative, it is foundational to giving rural communities the power to shape their own destinies," he said. **BOPA**

Debswana spends P1.4 billion on voluntary separation

By Tebagano Ntshole

TLOKWENG - Debswana Diamond Company has spent P1.4 billion since December last year releasing 664 employees on voluntary separation.

Speaking during the Liberty Life Living Annuity Conference held in Tlokweng recently, the Debswana Group, Human Resources executive head, Ms Matlhogonolo Mponang said a further 96 employees were released in June at a cost of P200 million.

Ms Mponang however, said the Debswana board had made a decision that there would be no involuntary separation.

The slump in the diamond market has resulted with the diamond mining company closing

its operations in Letlhakane and Damtshaa mines as production has been reduced from 24 million carats.

"Right now we are not selling diamonds as a country," said Ms Mponang.

Debswana employs 6 200 people and a further 6 200 through its business partners, bringing a total of 12 400 employees in the diamond industry.

Due to reduction in production, a decision was made to part ways with employees through voluntary separation, Ms Mponang said.

The slump in the diamond market signified an end of an era, with independent economic consultant, Dr Keith Jeffries signaling that the end of economic hardships was not in sight. **BOPA**



India High Commissioner to Botswana, Mr Bharath Kuthati (left) and World Health Organisation partnership officer, Ms Cristina Birsan during International Yoga Day in Gaborone on Saturday. Mr Kuthati said yoga offered a time-tested low-cost and deeply enriching solution.

Photo: Gaseitsiwe Moruakgomo

Yoga offers time-tested solution to modern challenges

By Lesedi Thatayamodimo

GABORONE - "In a world where stress, anxiety and lifestyle diseases continue to rise, yoga offers a time-tested, low-cost and deeply enriching solution," says the Indian High Commissioner to Botswana, Mr Bharath Kumar Kuthati.

Speaking during the 11th International Day of Yoga celebrations held in Gaborone on Saturday, Mr Kuthati emphasised the holistic benefits of yoga, describing it as a path to mental clarity, emotional resilience, inner stillness and wisdom.

"Through regular practice, yoga inspires virtues that elevate the human spirit, courage that protects like a father, forgiveness that comforts like a mother, peace that becomes our constant companion, and wisdom that nourishes our journey," he said, adding that 'yoga is more than posture, it is a way of being'. Celebrated under the global theme: Yoga for One Earth, One Health, Mr Kuthati highlighted the interconnectedness of personal well-being and planetary

health.

He noted that the message of yoga went beyond the individual, calling on humanity to live with greater mindfulness, compassion, and ecological awareness.

"Yoga encourages us to be conscious of how we breathe, move, eat, consume, and engage with the world. It connects the physical with the spiritual, the self with the universe, and individuals with one another," he said and encouraged Botswana to embrace it not just as a form of exercise, but as a guiding philosophy for a balanced, purposeful, and harmonious life. Sharing the same sentiments, World Health Organisation (WHO) partnership representative, Ms Christina Birsan praised yoga's contribution to global health and wellness. "WHO recognises yoga as a powerful tool for promoting mental and physical health. Yoga plays a key role in preventing and managing non-communicable diseases and reducing stress and anxiety," said Ms Birsan.

She also highlighted yoga's accessibility, calling it an inclusive practice suitable for

people of all ages and abilities.

"Its affordability and adaptability make it a sustainable health solution," she said, encouraging the integration of yoga into workplaces, to support employee well-being.

The event featured yoga demonstrations, breathing exercises, and guided meditation sessions led by trained instructors.

Participants of all ages joined in the celebration, embodying the spirit of unity, health, and mindfulness, reaffirming yoga's growing influence in Botswana and around the globe.

Organised in partnership with the Indian High Commission, local wellness groups, the celebration marked Botswana's growing engagement with yoga as a cultural and public health initiative.

First observed in 2015 following a United Nations resolution initiated by India, the International Day of Yoga is now celebrated annually in over 177 countries, promoting the message that inner peace and outer harmony are within reach for all. **BOPA**

'Nation prayer against GBV vital'

By Keetile Bontsibokae

MOLEPOLOLE - As residents of Molepolole, let us get on our knees and pray against rising gender-based violence (GBV) incidents.

This was said by Bakwena deputy kgosi, Kgosi Lawrence Mhaladi in his welcome remarks during a gender-based violence (GBV) prayer session in Molepolole recently.

"As a village, already we are victims of this menace. Why are we an angry nation that we can kill one another? Let us stand in one accord in prayer to fight GBV because with God nothing is impossible," said Kgosi Mhaladi. Mr Mhaladi, who has, in several gatherings voiced out how he was being haunted by a stereotype that posed Molepolole as the most dangerous village in Botswana, wondered why GBV cases were rising despite government efforts to end.

When sharing the Gospel, the chairperson of the Molepolole Ministers' Fraternal, Pastor Diane Mogome of St. John Apostolic Church at Lephalleng ward, said the law had been enacted, programmes and policies made to curb the GBV problem, but it seemed such made matters worse.

He said the current situation of GBV was a total opposite of the message portrayed by the National Anthem, which entailed that this country was a gift from God that deserved to be reserved through love, peace and tranquility. Pastor Mogome also emphasised a Setswana proverb, *Ntwakgolo ke ya molomo*, which directly translates to the best solution for a discordance was to negotiate rather than resort to violence. Inspector Lita Bagayi of District 11, under the Gender and Child Protection Unit at Molepolole Police Station reported that defilement cases were skyrocketing in his policing area. Inspector Bagayi made an appeal to the public to partake in deterring GBV by ensuring they camouflage no GBV culprit and to assist the victims with all their might to set them free from the

abuse.

"We are worried about GBV in our policing area, despite a slight decline in GBV cases numbers, we should strive to end this within our communities. A strong family builds a strong community and everything becomes easier in life," said Inspector Bagayi. She also said in 2023 statistics indicated that 113 cases of defilement occurred in Molepolole and its outskirts with a big decrease in 2024 where only 44 cases were registered.

However, at the apex of the statistics, Inspector Bagayi revealed that 216 cases of common assault were filed, whereas in 2024 about 103 cases of this kind were recorded.

"In 2023, we received 95 cases of threat to kill and 63 cases of the same manner in 2024, while for the murder cases we registered five in 2023 and three in 2024.

Eighty-nine cases of rape were reported in 2023 while in 2024 we registered 88, whereas in the offence of assault occasioning bodily harm 92 cases were reported in 2023 and in 2024 about 51 cases we reported. In the malicious damage to property, statistics scored up to 59 cases while in 2024 the statistics tallied up to 22 cases.

Thirty-one cases were recorded under the use of insulting language in 2023 while we wrapped the year 2024 with only 14 cases of this kind," reported Inspector Bagayi.

She advised people to report GBV cases, adding that currently all police stations had a special units dedicated to addressing such cases.

For his part, the Member of Parliament for Molepolole South, Mr Shima Monageng decried a lower turn up of residents. "Churches should have been here with all members.

We cannot be dominant only in bad things. People have to change according to the Word of God. We as the church let us pray to kill the spirit of the devil making people sin or opt to perform wicked deeds," said Mr Monageng. **BOPA**

Corpus Christ Catholic celebrates silver jubilee

By Goweditse Kome

MASUNGA - The Corpus Christ Catholic Mission has been urged to evangelise, capture and bring many souls to their church.

Speaking at the 25th Corpus Christ Catholic Mission Silver Jubilee celebrations over the weekend, Masunga deputy chief, Kgosi Thabo Monaga encouraged church leaders to welcome members and treat them equally without favour, as that could lead to breakdown and members fleeing from the church.

"Use the 4Cs being

Consultation, Communication, Cooperation and Coordination," he said, noting that if this could be put in practice, things would always be on track.

For his part, Bishop Frank Nabuasah said the church was established in Masunga in 2000 and was assisted by the United States of America at a tune of US\$20 000 for construction of the church structure.

He said as funds were not enough to complete the building that was suitable and large enough, they went on a fund raising campaign to manage the

structure of their choice.

He stated that as the donor always had an upper hand, he suggested that the church be named Corpus Christi Catholic Mission citing that he did not believe in the name of the church but in the blood of Jesus Christ.

Bishop Nabuasah stated that they started constructing sisters' houses followed by pre-school, then the church followed by Father's house and the education centre. He noted that their intention of building a parish in the area was to gather people to worship together as Catholic

Christians and followers of Christ. Meanwhile, Provincial Supervisor of the Congregation of Oblates of Mary Immaculate for Lesotho and Botswana, Father Mothusi Boatile said Pilgrimage was a journey taken by a person with purpose.

He said there were many things happening in life that oblige people move from one point to another.

Father Boatile stated that the book of Philippians 3 verse 20 was a reminder that people were visitors in this world adding that even some of the hymn notes

indicated that there was a home for all in heaven.

As such, he said, this shows that people are bound to move from one area to another moving with a purpose of glorifying God.

"Whenever we talk about pilgrimage, there is already an element of detachment and attachment as a person has to leave one area to another," he said.

He urged all pilgrims to be educational whenever they embark on their journey, as that is their role to learn during their tour voyages. **BOPA**

City council cracks whip on businesses

By Ndingililo Gaoswediwe

GABORONE - On June 6, Gaborone City Council (GCC) launched a broad, cross-sector initiative dubbed 'City Upkeep' aimed at restoring the city's cleanliness, enhancing safety and urban infrastructure. Initially, the campaign did not attract much attention. It seemed like a routine move, part of council's mandated duties.

However, as it intensified, much was revealed including concerns of food handling among different

supermarkets and food outlets in the city, prompting immediate shutdown for some. In most instances, the outlets had engaged employees without certificates of fitness and at the same time operating in unsanitary conditions.

This crackdown was not isolated; rather, it served as a wake-up call for many food handlers across the city. More pictures emerged on Gaborone City Council Facebook page that showed "potential risk of contamination from a major cockroach infestation", sale of food unhealthy for human consumption

such as stale meat that had been left uncovered, food cooked in plastic bags, pools of greasy oil, utensils caked with grime, rusted grills, filthy kitchen napkins and unclean surfaces, all depicting a state of neglect.

In an interview with the council's Chief Environment Officer, Mr Patrick Oleseng, he reported that as of June 22, so far 24 establishments had been inspected, with 15 failing and having their goods confiscated and charged. Only nine passed the inspection, he said and stressed that compliance must be ongoing, while premises should be cleaned daily, especially since this was a requirement stipulated during the initial licensing stages.

Regarding littering, he said GCC had charged several companies, including restaurants, for improper waste handling and disposal.

"However, enforcing charges against individuals who litter remains a challenge," he said.

Mr Oleseng clarified that although the law stipulates a P300 fine for littering, officers on duty cannot demand this amount at the scene, making it difficult for the council to trace and penalise individual offenders effectively.

Mr Oleseng said the campaign which was yielding results was expected to conclude on August 23 and had also been extended to include maintenance of streetlights, road markings, vegetation control, desilting storm water drainage, litter picking, road sweeping, filling potholes and removing illegal dumps.

Evidence of these efforts includes heaps of soil along major roads like the Western Bypass, desilted culverts and visible road markings across the city.

However, he said daily activities would persist until Gaborone looks cleaner and more organised. Due to limited resources and manpower, he explained that the campaign focused all efforts on one area at a time to ensure progress before moving to the next and had been so



Gaborone City Council employees painting road markings at Tshweneng Ward in Gaborone on Saturday. The council has embarked on a City Upkeep exercise to enhance the general environment and ultimately promote sustainable urban cleanliness.

Photo: Godfrey Mpuse



Gaborone City Council inspections uncovered poor hygiene practices. Some establishments had been shutdown pending compliance.

Photo: Courtesy of Gaborone City Council

far extended to Bonnington South, Gaborone Central, Gaborone North and Segoditshane/Tshweneng among others.

He said they had observed that as city authorities tightened standards, many establishments faced the challenge of compliance.

Mr Oleseng noted that GCC conducted inspections regularly, with no year passing without them. Nonetheless, capacity constraints remained a concern.

He said that many businesses appeared to comply simply to satisfy council authorities, which he described as a wrong motivation, as compliance should be for the benefit of customers.

He highlighted that exposing non-compliant establishments provided consumers with an

opportunity to make informed choices about what they eat and where they sourced their food.

He stressed that compliance was crucial with food handlers expected to adhere to all the necessities stipulated in the license, and businesses failing to meet other licensing standards would receive notices of non-compliance or face fines ranging from P1 000 to P4 000. These fines can increase if cases are referred to court.

Although the law empowers him to make recommendations for license revocations, he said the council had not yet exercised this authority.

However, if circumstances worsen, such action may be considered, he said. **BOPA**

Mustard Seed school expands

By Portia Rapitsenyane

PALAPYE - Kenya Ambassador Ms Sabdiyo Bashuna has applauded Kenyans staying in Botswana for starting up projects that are geared toward building the country.

Speaking at the groundbreaking ceremony of Mustard Seed International School and Sports Academy in Palapye on Thursday, Ms Bashuna said Botswana based Kenyans were making strides in different professions such as teaching, engineering and nursing among others.

She said it made them proud that the story of the Mustard Seed was an example of something that started small and become big, with impact on the human capital of Botswana.

The groundbreaking marked expansion of Mustard Seed International School and Sports Academy from a nursery and pre-school. It also coincided with the book launch titled: *Gracefully Becoming* written by the founder of the school, Ms Mary Mwangi.

Ms Bashuna said the vision to open Mustard Seed International School and Sports Academy

signified a noteworthy investment in human capital development and future prosperity.

She further noted that it took a lot of courage to come to another country and make something work. She thanked Botswana for having enabled people like Ms Mwangi and other Kenyans to work and lived with them.

She said Kenya was in full support of the project but, adding that her country considered Botswana as a solid partner.

We take pride in the school because it is going to have monumental impact on the country and the young people of Botswana, she said.

She said Ms Mwangi's story was that of resilience, dedication, devotion and hardwork.

For her part, Ms Mwangi said they were not only building a school but shaping souls.

She pleaded with parents to raise children who were kind with strong values. She said Mustard Seed International School and Sports Academy would be a place where education was not just for the mind but for the soul, body and the heart.

She said it took her 25 years to

get to where she was and further urged those who had the same dreams not to be discouraged if their doors had not opened yet.

She also thanked Palapye community for the support.

She said her book *Gracefully Becoming* was more than a story but a testimony and a message that your pain could be your platform, your detour could become your divine direction.

She carries the reader through her transformative journey; fleeing political exile, enduring hunger and heartbreak, raising two sons as a single mother and ultimately founding Mustard Seed International School and Sports Academy.

Kgosi Martha Lebang of Palapye said the school had transformed early childhood education in her village, mentoring others, creating jobs and nurturing children.

She said as Dikgosi, they were always encouraged by those who work not just for themselves, but for the uplifting of others.

Kgosi Lebang said as they expand into a full academy, she was confident that the legacy would continue not just in Palapye but throughout the nation. **BOPA**



Some businesses were charged for operating in unsanitary conditions.

'Community tourism crucial'

By Esther Mmolai

TSUTSUBEGA - It is important to transition from traditional tourism models toward community based, low impact and regenerative tourism in order to protect the Okavango Delta for future generations.

Giving a key note address during the Okavango is Calling expo held at Tsutsubega settlement on Saturday, Professor Joseph Mbaiwa from Okavango Research Institute (ORI) said tourism must benefit local people not just through jobs but through ownership, training and decision making.

He said communities living around the delta must be partners not spectators in the tourism economy.

The ORI academic was of the view that community based tourism initiatives could provide economic opportunities while promoting responsible tourism practices and awareness about the value of the delta.

"We want to see local communities owning lodges, campsites and being ambassadors of delta. Currently right in the heart of the delta there are multi-million dollar five star lodges owned by foreigners. We should ensure that tourism uplifts the livelihoods of locals as the custodian of the delta," he added.

Prof. Mbaiwa who is an expert in tourism studies further noted that tourists visiting the delta, should have a good story to tell about Botswana saying that could also help in marketing the product.

However, he acknowledged that some community trusts were investing in infrastructure and that Tsutsubega community had registered a company aimed to implement tourism initiatives to benefit the community.

"Our efforts must be rooted in the Sustainable Development Goals and goal number one states that there should be no poverty and we cannot achieve it unless we empower the people who live in and around biodiversity hotspots like the Okavango. Goal 15 speaks to life and land and it requires us to preserve wetlands, forests and wildlife corridors with urgency and integrity," he added.

Prof. Mbaiwa highlighted that conservation must go hand in hand with development and that

meant investing in education, clean water, renewable energy and digital connectivity for rural communities.

Prof. Mbaiwa said Okavango was indeed calling for all to think beyond the present, beyond profit and beyond borders saying people should act responsibly to ensure its sustainability.

When welcoming the guests, Kgosi Edwin Maleho of Tsutsubega thanked the 390 Vision Company for hosting the event in his area, which he said was not recognised as a village but rich in natural resources.

In an effort to benefit from their natural resources, he said the community had registered a company aimed at fostering prosperity and economic growth within the community through various initiatives and promoting effective engagement and partnership within the tourism

industry.

Chief organiser of the event and also the managing director of 390 Vision Company, Mr Thato Sebati said it was his dream to see communities living within and adjacent to the delta benefiting directly from the area's resources, promoting conservation and improved livelihoods. He said the event celebrated and promotes the delta in recognition of its listing as the 1000th heritage site.

He appreciated that the event gave small businesses opportunities to market their products and services as well as empowering young people particularly learners from Career Dreams Centre to showcase what they had learned. The centre offers a variety of training programmes particularly in the hospitality and tourism sector as well as other fields.

BOPA



Kgosi Edwin Maleho of Tsutsubega (second right) interacting with the Namibian delegation during the Okavango is Calling Festival at Tsutsubega settlement over the weekend. Kgosi Maleho thanked the 390 Vision Company for hosting the event in the settlement, which he said was not recognised as a village but was rich in natural resources. Photo: Esther Mmolai

Employee Africa Summit Thursday

By Lorato Gaofise

GABORONE - The 3rd Annual Employee Africa Summit to be held in Gaborone from Thursday until Friday is expected to attract around 100 delegates, both locally and internationally.

Addressing a press conference in Gaborone, Monday, Employee Africa chief executive officer, Mr Mompoloki Makwana said the two-day summit themed: Empowering Workforce Resilience: Navigating Change and Innovation in Africa would bring together leaders, professionals and stakeholders to shape the future of Africa's workforce in today's changing field of work.

"We invited visionaries, industry leaders, policy makers, Human Resource professionals and corporate partners for two days of powerful dialogue, strategic networking, skills development and actionable insights focused on preparing Africa's workforce for the future," he said.

Mr Makwana said the summit was organised for expert to deliberate and exchange ideas on how best to create a working environment that cultivated resilience for the workforce.

"With the advent of technology, we have new structures on board, such as working from home or from a different country. Therefore, it is important to create an environment that promotes resilience for the transformation of the African workforce for the future of work," he added.

Mr Makwana stressed that given the ever-changing field of work, skills set development was also not something to be done part

time, but on full time basis.

"If you want to create empowered professionals, who are able to create value and perform exceptionally well, it is important to ensure employees are well skilled and capacitated to effectively execute whatever they've been tasked to do," he said.

Employee Africa CEO said Absa Bank Zambia chief executive officer, Ms Mizinga Melu would deliver a keynote address, at the summit, on the element of leadership, change, as well as innovation.

He said *As you Rise*, a book, which highlights the importance of resilience by Ms Melu made her the right person to share ideas on leadership and fostering the level of resilience, for a leader to be able to engage with people from different backgrounds.

Additionally, Mr Makwana said the Minister of Sport and Arts, Mr Jacob Kelebens would present on a topic titled: Redefining work: Sport and Arts as a Career, which seek to ensure that sport and arts were not regarded as part time or extra-curricular activity.

Further, Mr Makwana said a Clinical Psychologist, Dr Portia Mazabane would deliberate on mental health issues, adding that people were depressed and facing anxiety and as such mental health was not something to brush aside, but needed to be conversed on.

"We also have Botswana Human Resources Development Council CEO, Professor Alinah Segobye to talk much more on HRDC mandate and achievements. We have three different sub-themes that we are looking at, for this year's summit," he said. **BOPA**

Market day boosts business activity in Sowa Town

By Goitsemodimo Williams-Madzonga

SOWA TOWN - Sowa Town council through their District Development Economic Committee organised market day for the Small Medium Micro Enterprises (SMMEs) to assist them forge partnerships and secure new markets.

In an interview with the council's commercial officer Mr Ntemane Lebone on Thursday, he explained that the market day was aimed at boosting economic activity in Sowa as most of the businesses were illegally operating and not fully exposed to wider market.

He said in order for them to get exposure they conducted workshops and training platforms then ultimately gave way for the market day which was organised in 2019, and it attracted less than

50 exhibitors.

This year, he highlighted that they had over 100 businesses coming on board, some coming as far as Lobatse and Gaborone as well as from neighbouring districts of North East and Tutume.

He further added that they had witnessed growth among the enterprises that had been coming to take part, adding that these successful businesses had inspired and attracted upcoming entrepreneurs.

In addition, he stated that as their town had been earmarked as Special Economic Zone for Chemical Production with Botswana Ash Mine, the market day, would therefore, enable potential investors to come on board. Furthermore, Mr Lebone said they were striving to achieve Public Private Partnerships to stimulate economic growth in

Sowa Town, which they believed would drive job creation as more businesses move into setting up in the town.

He said they had a number of businesses seeking permit and licences to utilise open spaces around the town and these were positive results of their effort of engaging SMMEs.

Meanwhile, Youth Development Fund beneficiary Ms Ghadzani Tanken of Vula Jtose, a water purifying company based at Dukwi explained that the market day had opened doors for her since the first attendance in 2023. Before then, she was selling to the local community mostly and had been able to spread her wings as far as Sebina moving towards securing Francistown market and paving way to open another branch in Nata through a partnership with another company. **BOPA**

Consular offers tips to Macheng JSS learners

By Keetile Bontsibokae

SOJWE - Macheng Junior Secondary School received an inspiring message on Saturday

from Ms Annelin Vista, the Consular for the Philippines in Botswana.

Speaking at the Baitshapi Social Club fourth donation session to

the school, Ms Vista emphasised that despite hardships, students could still realise their dreams.

“What matters is attitude, your discipline, and your hard

work. Every day, try to improve yourself, even in small ways. Help your teachers without being asked. If you see them carrying a box, just say ‘Madam, can I help you?’ If they’re carrying things and cannot open the door, assist them and open the door, saying ‘Please’ and ‘Thank you,’ she told the learners.

Ms Vista’s words resonated with the students and staff alike, highlighting the importance of good manners and proactive kindness.

The event was part of the fourth donation drive organised by Baitshapi Social Club, a group of media personnel and community volunteers committed to supporting less privileged learners.

Since its inception in 2022, the club’s efforts have focused on uplifting the education of disadvantaged students.

Ms Lucretia Chima, the club’s chairperson, shared the journey behind their charity work.

“We used to be friends who enjoyed relaxing together until one day, we realised there are children in the countryside who need our help,” she explained. Since then, the club has been consistent, donating twice a year, with the aim of improving school results and ensuring no child is disadvantaged due to social circumstances.

Their donations have included sanitary pads, clothing, and shoes.

“Initially, we provided about 500 sanitary pads and clothing, but we saw some students wearing flip-flops in the cold, so we started a shoe drive to address that need,” Ms Chima said.

She emphasised that these donations aimed to make a tangible difference in students’ lives, helping them focus on their education without undue hardship.

The school headmaster, Mr Shadrack Keatlholetswe, urged learners to work hard toward their futures and enjoy their youth with positive pursuits.

He reflected on the challenges of student morale and vandalism, lamenting that some students seemed bored with schooling, leading to destructive behaviours.

Councilor Mr Tshetlha Sentlhaga commended the Baitshapi Social Club for their altruism.

“Their efforts serve as motivation for the kids,” he said.

He noted that the school’s performance has improved noticeably since the club’s interventions, with better rankings both regionally and nationally.

He said the event underscored the importance of community support in shaping a brighter future for Botswana’s youth, fostering an environment where learners could thrive academically and personally. **BOPA**



The Consular for the Philippines in Botswana, Ms Annelin Vista (left) handing over school uniform and stationery to Macheng Junior Secondary School head, Mr Shadrack Keatlholetswe on behalf of Baitshapi Social Club in Sojwe on Saturday. Ms Vista encouraged the learners to appreciate the gifts, saying the donations were a token of love.



PRESS RELEASE

THE STATUS OF PAYMENTS FOR BOTSWANA DEFENCE FORCE PENSION DENOMINATOR ADJUSTMENT

GABORONE, 20th June 2025: The Ministry for State President wishes to inform the public, that Government has been able to secure **Five Hundred Million Pula (BWP500,000,000)** to enable Botswana Public Officers Pension Fund (BPOPF) to pay members of the Botswana Defence Force (BDF) the money they are owed by the fund before end of July 2025.

The Nation will recall that the Government made an undertaking to pay members of the BDF the transfer value adjustment that came about due to the adjustment of the pension denominator down to n/375. In doing this, priority will be given to those who have retired from the BDF since the money may not be enough to pay everyone. The rest of the members who are affected will be paid as funds becomes available.

Government had so far paid 52% of the retired members by December 2024 at a cost of P1 billion before funds were depleted. The Government remains steadfast and commits to honouring its promise despite the current financial constraints.

The Government extends its gratitude to all those who are yet to be paid for their understanding and patience.

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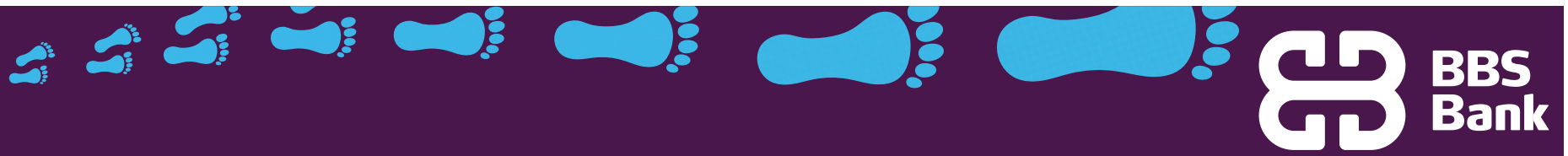
op-pr-office@gov.bw



P/Bag 001 Gaborone



Ministry for State President



BBS BANK LIMITED

(Incorporated in the Republic of Botswana)
Company Registration Number: BW00001057162
BSE Share Code ISIN: BW0000001965

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the 2024 Annual General Meeting ("AGM") of shareholders of BBS Bank Limited (Hereinafter "BBS Bank" or "the Bank") will be held at **Avani Hotel & Resort Conference Centre, Plot 4727, Chuma Drive, Gaborone** and virtually, through electronic participation on **Thursday 26 June 2025 at 09h00**.

Purpose of the AGM

The purpose is to transact the business set out in this notice of the AGM ("Notice"), to consider and if deemed fit, to adopt, pass, with or without modification the resolutions set out in this notice, and to transact any other business as may be transacted at the AGM or raised by shareholders and to answer any questions put forth by shareholders in terms of the Companies Act Cap. 42:01 as amended ("the Act") and the Constitution of BBS Bank ("Constitution"), regarding the affairs and business of the Bank.

AGENDA

Ordinary Business

1. To read the notice convening the meeting and confirm the presence of a quorum in accordance with the Constitution.

In terms of Article 71 of the BBS Bank Constitution, a quorum for a meeting of shareholders is constituted if those shareholders or their proxies who are present or who have casted postal votes are between them able to exercise a majority of the votes to be cast on the business to be transacted by the meeting.

2. Ordinary Resolution Number 1: Minutes of the Previous Meeting

To receive and adopt the minutes of the AGM held on 23 May 2024.

"RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the AGM held on 23 May 2024 be and are hereby adopted".

3. Presentation of Consolidated Annual Financial Statements and Reports

The audited Annual Consolidated Financial Statements of the Bank (as approved by the Board of Directors of BBS Bank) for the year ended 31 December 2024, including the report of directors and auditors will be presented to the shareholders.

The consolidated annual financial statements are contained in the bank's integrated report, in terms of section 215 of the Companies Act.

**The full set of audited financial statements of the Bank for the year ended 31 December 2024 and integrated report can be accessed on the Bank's website (www.bbs.co.bw), and can be obtained free of charge upon request from the Investor Relations Office by emailing to bbs@bbs.co.bw and will also be emailed to shareholders.*

IMPORTANT NOTE: ORDINARY RESOLUTIONS

The voting rights required for the approval of an ordinary resolution by shareholders is more than 50% of the voting rights exercised for each resolution.

4. Re-Election of Non-Executive Directors retiring by rotation

To consider and appoint by way of separate resolutions the following directors who retire by rotation in terms of the Constitution and Board Charter of BBS Bank, and being eligible and available, offer themselves for re-election. The Board Charter requires retirement and rotation of directors at the end of their 3-year term. Dr. Mogano and Ms. Moloyi were first appointed to the Board on 29 April 2022, and they will retire at this AGM. The Board Charter additionally requires that rotation of board members should be structured so as to retain valuable skills, to have continuity of knowledge and experience and to introduce persons with new ideas and expertise. Directors who retire and being eligible are entitled to offer themselves for re-election.

In terms of the BBS Bank Board Nominations Policy, nomination for re-election of a director should be considered on the basis of a director's performance, including attendance at meetings of the Board and its committees. The results of the skills gap analysis and Board evaluation exercise reveal that the Board is satisfied with the knowledge, skill, experience and performance of Dr. Mogano and Ms. Moloyi respectively. Their longer service on the board helps to strengthen the board's understanding of the business and oversight responsibilities. The Board has on the recommendation of the HR, Remuneration and Nominations Committee considered their continued independence and concluded that both Dr. Mogano and Ms. Moloyi continued to exhibit independence and objectivity in decision making and handling board affairs. Coupled with the results of the board evaluation, attendance at meetings, knowledge and their contributions, the Board recommends Dr. Mogano and Ms. Moloyi respectively to the Shareholders for re-election. The re-election contributes to the bank's strategy and promotes the maintenance of a balance of skill and experience in the board.

4.1. Ordinary Resolution 2: V.B. Mogano

"RESOLVED THAT Dr. Vincent Bino Mogano, who retires by rotation in terms of the Constitution of BBS Bank, and being eligible and available, offers himself for re-election, be and is hereby re-elected as a Director."

4.2. Ordinary Resolution 3: K.N. Moloyi

"RESOLVED THAT Ms. Koziba Ntema Moloyi, who retires by rotation in terms of the Constitution of BBS Bank, and being eligible and available, offers herself for re-election, be and is hereby re-elected as a Director."

Biographical profiles of Dr. Mogano and Ms. Moloyi respectively are set out in Annexure A to this Notice.

5. Confirmation of Election of Non-Executive Directors

To consider and elect by way of separate resolutions the following directors who have been appointed by the Board in terms of clause 93.2 of the BBS Bank Constitution. In terms of clause 93.2 of the Constitution the board may, subject to the Banking Act appoint suitable persons to be directors of the Company, and to discharge the functions of a director, contingent upon a resolution and/or ratification by the holders of the majority of ordinary shares at the next annual general meeting. Following regulatory approvals, the Board appointed Mr. John Kimani Muiruri ("Mr. Kimani") and Ms. Pulane Dibuseng Letebele as independent non-executive directors effective 23 October 2024, subject to a resolution of the shareholders.

The appointment of Mr. Kimani and Ms. Letebele was intended to enhance the balance of skills and experience, particularly in the areas of banking, strategy, information technology, accounting, financial reporting and audit practice. The appointment also enabled the bank to remedy regulatory matters with respect to related party representation on the board, independent non-executive directors and enhancing membership of Committees such as the Audit Committee.

5.1. Ordinary Resolution 4: J. Kimani Muiruri

"RESOLVED THAT the appointment by the Board of Mr. John Kimani Muiruri, as a director of BBS Bank be and is hereby confirmed, and that Mr. John Kimani Muiruri be and is hereby elected as a director."

5.2. Ordinary Resolution 5: P.D. Letebele

"RESOLVED THAT the appointment by the Board of Ms. Pulane Dibuseng Letebele, as a director of BBS Bank be and is hereby confirmed, and that Ms. Pulane Dibuseng Letebele be and is hereby elected as a director."

Biographical profiles of Mr. Kimani and Ms. Letebele respectively are set out in Annexure A to this Notice

6. Remuneration of Auditors for the Reporting Period

To consider and ratify the remuneration of external auditors Ernst & Young for the year ended 31 December 2024, as approved by the BBS Bank Board of Directors.

6.1. Ordinary Resolution 6: Ernst & Young

"RESOLVED THAT the remuneration of Ernst & Young, amounting to BWP2,104m for the year ended 31 December 2024 (2023: BWP2,058m) be and is hereby ratified."

7. Appointment of External Auditors

Section 191 of the Companies Act mandates the bank as a public company to appoint an auditor to hold office from the conclusion of the meeting until the conclusion of the next annual meeting and to audit the financial statements of the company and, if the company is required to complete group financial statements, those group financial statements, for the accounting period next after the meeting. Section 22 of the Banking Act requires BBS Bank to appoint, annually and at its own expense, an independent auditor, acceptable to the Central Bank who shall make a report to the bank's shareholders on the annual balance sheet and profit and loss account, in accordance with the requirements in the Companies Act and with generally accepted accounting standards in Botswana, and such other directives and guidelines as the Central Bank may from time to time issue. The Bank of Botswana Guidelines on Bank's Audit Committees, Annual Independent External Audit and Publication of Audited Financial Statements requires the external audit firm to rotate every five years, the lead auditor or coordinating partner or the partner responsible for reviewing the audit. The Financial Reporting Act also requires that a certified auditor be appointed for a term not exceeding five years. If the appointment of an auditor comes to an end either before or after the five-year period, a re-tendering process must take place. The current external auditors Ernst & Young were appointed in 2020 and their term of five (5) years has come to an end in December 2024. Pursuant to the above requirements, a procurement process was executed leading to the appointment of a successful bidder, after a competitive process. Based on the recommendation of the Audit Committee, wherein technical expertise, experience and capacity of external auditor were considered, the Board recommends to the shareholders that PwC Botswana be appointed as the new auditors of the Company.

7.1. Ordinary Resolution 7: PwC Botswana

"RESOLVED THAT PwC Botswana be and is hereby appointed as the external auditor of the Company, and to hold office until the conclusion of the next annual general meeting."

IMPORTANT NOTE: NON-BINDING ADVISORY VOTES

Non-binding advisory votes are put to shareholders in the same manner as ordinary resolutions. Therefore, the percentage of voting rights that is required for ordinary resolutions 6 and 7 to be adopted is more than 50% of the voting rights exercised for each resolution.

However, if the resolutions are voted against by 25% or more of the voting rights exercised, then the Board will initiate engagement with the concerned shareholders.

8. Non-Binding Advisory Vote of the Remuneration Policy and its Implementation

King IV recommends that a company may table its remuneration policy and implementation report for separate non-binding advisory votes by shareholders at the AGM, in the same manner as an ordinary resolution. This vote enables shareholders to express their views on the remuneration policies adopted and on their implementation. These resolutions are of an advisory nature only and a failure to pass either one or both will not be binding on the Board and will have no legal consequences relating to existing arrangements. However, whilst these resolutions are non-binding, the Board will consider the results of the votes when reviewing and/or considering amendments to the Company's Remuneration Policy and its implementation in future.

Forging Ahead

2024 Integrated Report
Now Available www.bbs.co.bw



In the event that any of the ordinary resolutions or both, are voted against by 25% (twenty five percent) or more of the voting rights exercised in relation thereto, the Board will implement measures including the engagement with the relevant shareholders as to the reasons thereof, and set out the manner and timing of such engagement. A highlight of the remuneration policy of the Company and its implementation components is incorporated in the human resources section of the integrated report.

8.1. Ordinary Resolution Number 8: Remuneration Policy

"RESOLVED THAT the Remuneration Policy of the Company as set out in the Integrated Report be and is hereby endorsed by way of a non-binding advisory vote."

8.2. Ordinary Resolution Number 9: Implementation Report

"RESOLVED THAT the implementation of the Remuneration Policy of the Company as set out in the Integrated Report be and is hereby endorsed by way of a non-binding advisory vote."

IMPORTANT NOTE: SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS

The percentage of voting rights required for the approval of special resolutions is at least 75% of the voting rights exercised for each resolution.

9. Remuneration of Non- Executive Directors

Clause 98.1 of the BBS Bank Constitution entitles the Board (other than executive directors) to receive such sums as fees for their services as directors and on such terms as the Company in a general meeting may determine from time to time. The Board acknowledges the additional responsibilities and time commitments for non-executive directors since the commencement of the implementation of the transformation strategy. The bank is now subject to more requirements and its risk has increased. The current board fees were set in 2018 when the building society was converting into a company. The fees have remained the same and have never been revised to date, despite a change in circumstances.

The remuneration is designed to reward directors for their leadership and to incentivize them to achieve the company's strategic goals. King IV™ recommends that the Board should ensure that the company remunerates fairly, responsibly, and transparently so as to promote the achievement of strategic objectives and positive outcomes in the short, medium, and long term. The bank has an HR, Remuneration and Nominations Committee ("committee") whose responsibility includes the review of the remuneration to ensure that it is fair, affordable, competitive, and aligned with the company's objectives. The remuneration committee has performed a benchmark of compensation packages of directors of similar organizations in the banking industry, financial services industry, listed companies and state-owned entities. It is important for the company to remain competitive in attracting and retaining top talent and the caliber of individuals necessary to direct the company successfully, without being overly generous.

The fee paid to directors for the financial year ended 31 December 2024 is set out in the governance section of the Integrated Report. The Board proposes an adjustment to the fees payable as set out below. If approved, the fees shown below will be payable to non-executive directors until the next passing of a resolution at annual general meeting.

Role	Current Retainer	Proposed Retainer	Current Board Fee Per Meeting	Proposed Board Fee Per Meeting	Current Committee Chair Fee	New Committee Fee Chair	Current Committee Member Fee	Proposed Committee Member Fee
Board Chair	60 000	150 000	12 000	13 200	-	-	-	-
Lead Independent Director	45 000	49 500	9 500	10 450	-	-	-	-
Board Member	30 000	33 000	7 500	8 250	-	-	-	-
Committee Chair	-	-	-	-	7 000	7 700	-	-
Committee Member	-	-	-	-	-	-	6 000	6 600

9.1. Special Resolution 1: Approval of Remuneration of Non-Executive Directors

"RESOLVED THAT pursuant to the Constitution, the Company be and is hereby authorised to remunerate the non-executive directors for their services rendered as directors, in accordance with the scale of remuneration set out below;

Remuneration principles:

- *Board chair remuneration (sitting fee) to principally be the highest as a function of the role and to compensate for exclusion (in some cases) from sitting on Board Sub-Committees;
- *All other Board members to be remunerated equally, regardless of experience or tenure on the Board;
- *Sub-Committee chair's remuneration to be higher than regular Committee members;
- *The level of remuneration is to be standard across all Board-Committees;
- *Retainer fee to be maintained as part of the remuneration structure
- *To pay a separate sitting fee for board and committee meetings
- *Ad hoc engagements to be covered by the retainer
- *Travel costs to be paid according to an out-of-pocket expense, subject to prior approval in each instance.
- *Other' remuneration is to be limited as far as possible
- *An across board adjustment of 10% on both retainer and sitting fee.
- *An additional adjustment to Board Chair retainer, in line with the responsibilities of the role and to compensate for exclusion on committees.

Additional information on the benchmark and outcome of director remuneration survey is set out in Annexure B to this Notice.

10. Any Other Business

To transact any other business which may be transacted at the AGM, including answering questions put forth by Shareholders regarding the affairs and business of the Bank. Additional information on the benchmark and outcome of director remuneration survey is set out in Annexure B to this Notice.

11.Adjournment of AGM by Chairperson

NOTES TO THE NOTICE OF THE AGM

1.Registration and Attendance

1.1.Electronic Registration: Shareholders may attend either virtually or in-person (physically) at the venue. To attend the AGM, shareholders should access the link "BBS Bank 2024 Annual General Meeting Registration" in the BBS Bank website for registration and verification purposes. Upon successful verification, a notification with the AGM details will be sent to the Shareholder. On the day of the meeting, Shareholders should start logging in from 08h00.

1.2.Registration and Attendance at the Venue: Shareholders who wish to attend the AGM in-person, and who have not registered online, will be able to register at the venue from 08h00 to 08h45. In order to register at the venue, shareholders will be required to provide identification, as more fully set out at the 'identification' section below.

1.3.Electronic Attendance: once registration is confirmed, shareholders wishing to attend virtually will be required to connect to the AGM through a virtual link and follow relevant prompts. Attendees may be required to complete all relevant fields including title, first name, last name, contact details and email address for verification and before the commencement of the meeting.

1.4.Disclaimer: BBS Bank, its directors, employees, transfer secretaries or advisors will not be responsible for loss of network connectivity or other network failure due to insufficient data, airtime, internet bandwidth, network provider challenges and/or power outages and/or any other cause that could limit or prevent any shareholder or proxy from participating in and/or voting at the AGM.

2.Proxies and Voting

2.1.Shareholders are urged to consult clauses on proxies and proxy forms as outlined in the BBS Bank Constitution, a copy of which is available on the Bank's website by accessing the link "BBS Bank Constitution". The Constitution will also be emailed to Shareholders. The clauses are paraphrased in the "Notes" section of this Notice.

2.2.A shareholder is entitled to attend (and vote, if applicable) at the meeting. A shareholder may appoint a proxy to attend and participate at the meeting in the place of the shareholder. A proxy need not be a shareholder of the Bank.

2.3.Proxy Forms must be received by the Company Secretary **48 HOURS** before the start of the meeting either by email at bbs@bbs.co.bw, or delivered at BBS Bank Head Office 4th Floor (see location details in the "Contact Information" section below) or at any BBS Bank Branch across the country.

2.4.The Chairperson may accept or reject a proxy form which is completed and/or received other than in the accordance with these instructions.

2.5.This Notice of the AGM which includes the form of proxy with additional notes and instructions, will also be available on the BBS Bank website www.bbs.co.bw. It will also be emailed to shareholders. Alternatively, a copy may be requested from the Company Secretary by emailing bbs@bbs.co.bw.

2.6.As stated above, the Form of Proxy or other authority appointing the Proxy must be delivered to BBS Bank Limited, Plot 13108-12, Corner of Lemmenyane and Segoditshane Roads, Broadhurst, Gaborone. Such can also be posted (at the risk of the shareholder) to BBS Bank Limited at P.O. Box 40029, Gaborone, or emailed to BBS Bank Limited at bbs@bbs.co.bw and must be duly received by the Bank at least 48 hours before the date of the meeting.

3.Identification

Shareholders and proxies will be required to provide proof of identification reasonably satisfactory before attending or participating in the meeting. Shareholders may be required to log in using their share account or identity numbers (National Identity Card numbers 'Omang' for citizens and Passport numbers for non-citizens).

4.Questions

To facilitate engagement and asking of questions between shareholders attending in-person and those attending virtually, the Bank will allow questions to be raised at the meeting by shareholders attending in person first and then by shareholders attending electronically. Shareholders attending virtually can also submit their questions by way of text via the electronic meeting chat box.

The Bank would like to respond to as many shareholders' questions as possible. Therefore, shareholders are encouraged to submit their questions prior to the meeting, at least 48 hours before the date of the meeting to bbs@bbs.co.bw to ensure that all questions are addressed at the AGM.

By order of the Board.

Dimpho Phagane
Company Secretary

Maele o solofetsa ditirelo kwa ditsheng

Ka Omphile Ntakhwana

RATHOLO - Mopalamente wa kgaolo ya Tswapong Bokone, e bile e le Tona wa Thuto e Kgolwane, Rre Prince Maele, o solofeditse banni ba Ratholo gore o tlaa sala morago kgang ya go tsa ditlhabolo mo ditsheng tse di setseng di beilwe.

Fa a buisa phuthego kwa motseng oo, Rre Maele a re go botlhokwa gore ditlhabololo tsa metsi, motlakase le ditsela di dirwe mo ditsheng tse di abilweng gore batho ba kgone go aga.

“Ke a le solofetsa gore ke nngwe ya dikgang tse ke tsileng go ema ka dinao e bile ke sa itsape, gore metse ya rona e tswelwele e gole, e tlhabologe,” Rre Maele a supa.

O boleletse banni ba Ratholo gore o kgatlhanong le dikgogakgogano, e bile o tlaa ikgogela morago mo dikgannyeng tse batho ba lwelang bogosi kana maina a metse.

“Ke direla Batswana botlhe, Tautona Advocate Duma Boko o papamaditse gore ga re a tshwanela go kgetholola ope. Nna ga nkake ka tsena epe kgang ya go lwela bogosi kana leina la motse. Ke motho le bontle, kagiso le thokgamo,” Rre Maele a supa.

Rre Maele o supile fa ba tsile go dira tshutiso ya go baakanya molao motheo wa lefatshe la Botswana kwa palamenteng ya mariga.

“Ditsetlana di tshwana le ya gore Batswana ba ithlophela tautona le tse dingwe,” Rre Maele a tlhalosa.

O supile fa puso e tlaa baakanya dituelo tsa P4 000 mo badiring ba yone, go bo go sala morago o jaanong o tlaa tlamang dikhamphani go duela P4 000 go ya godimo.

Rre Maele o tswelsetse a rotloetsa Batswana go tsibogela mananeo a puso go tokafatsa matshelo a bone.

Fa bua ka lenaneo la puso la Bonno, Rre Maele a re kgaolo ya gagwe e neetswe boikarabelo jwa go aga matlo a le 1 000 e le nngwe ya methale ya go thusa go rarabolola tlhalelo ya matlo a badirelapuso.

O gakolotse fa kgwedi ya Seetebosigo e le yone ya bofelo go anya thulaganyo ya puso gore batho ba ipobole, go fokolelwa sekoloto sa metsi.

“Fa o na le sekoloto sa metsi se se welang mo kgwedding ya Sedimonthole 2024 go ya kwa morago, puso ya re o tlaa duela sephatlo sa sekoloto fa puso e duela sephatlo se sengwe, mme go tswalwa kgwedi eno e fela,” Rre Maele a tlhalosa.

Kgosi Ditshotlo Mangadi wa Ratholo, a re selemo sa bone ke letlhoko la kokelo. “Tsothle re ka di bua, mme fela, selemo sa rona se se tona ke kokelo,” Kgosi Mangadi a supa. **BOPA**



Mookamedi wa khamphani ya *Rockeys' Beading Basket*, Mme Daisy Bailewang a le kwa madirelong a gagwe kwa *Thapong Visual Arts Centre* mo Gaborone bosheng. O supile fa a rekisetsa barati ba mekgabisa, segolo bogolo bajanala dilwana tse a di dirang, le kwa ditshupong kwa mafatsheng a a kwa ntle ga Botswana. O dira dibaga, manyena, ditlatlana le mekgabisa ka go farologana. Mme Bailewang yo o simolotseng kgwebo e ka 2012, o supile fa a ne a ikgapela seetsele sa yo o gaisitseng mo dikgaisanong tsa ga Tautona ka ngwaga wa 2023. Senepe: Tshepo Gombo

Phimolo dikeledi e lopile P33m

By Relief Lephutshi

KANYE - Go bolelwa fa go setse go dirisitswe P24 million go phimola dikeledi batho ba ba amilweng ke tiro ya kgopho ya metsi a a leswe kwa Kanye, mme ga dirisiwa gape P9 million go duela ba ba senyegetsweng fa go tswelsetse ka tiro eo.

Go boletse jalo mookamedi mo lekalane la ditirelo tsa botegeniki mo Lephatheng la Metsi le Bonno, Rre Kaboyamodimo Raitoko fa a lekodisa makhanselara a Kanye ka tiro eo bosheng.

O tlhalositse gore palo ya batho ba ba amilweng ke ditirelo tse, bangwe ba senyegetsweng e bile ba ngogoregile, e tswelsetse ka go gola mme ba thusiwa sentle ka go na le setlhopha se se lebaganyeng le go thusa go rarabolola dikgang tse.

Rre Raitoko o supile fa go le botlhokwa gore botlhe ba ba amilweng ke tiro e ba itsuho go ise go iwe kgakala gore dikgang di rarabologe motlhofo.

A re go na le thulaganyo e e lolameng ya gore go dirwa jang fa motho a senyegetsweng kgotsa mafaratlhatlha a tshwanetse go ralala bontlha bongwe jwa setsha sa mongwe.

O ne a tlhalosa gore ba lephatana la kabo-ditsha ba thusa thata fa go tla dikgang tsa seelo sa phimolo dikeledi.

O ne a tswelsetse ka gore, le fa go ntse jalo, bangwe ba malwapa fa gongwe ga ba bonale motlhofo, mme go nne mogoga moleele o

fa gongwe o tlang ka ditlamorago tsa tiego ya go wetsa tiro ka fa go tshwanetseng.

O tswelsetse a bolelela phuthego ya khansela gore tiro ya kgopho ya metsi a a leswe kwa Kanye e ya motsubong.

A re motse o ne wa kgaogangwa ka dikgaolwana e le go thusa khamphani ya kgokelo ya dipompo gore ba ka bula kgotsa ba tswala fa kae fa ba tswelsetse ba dira tiro ya go gokela mafaratlhatlha a moalo.

Rre Raitoko a re, mo lekgolong, rakonteraka o kgonne go dira selekanyo sa masome a a ferang bongwe le boferabobedi sa tiro ya kgokelo ya mafaratlhatlha a kgopho ya metsi a a leswe.

O kaile fa sephatlo sa tiro e e setseng e le fela fa go ikadileng letlapa le a tlhalositseng fa le le sekgele sa dikhilomethara di le lesome le bobedi (12.857km) tsa diphaephe tsa mokgokolosa (gravity mains) le sekgele sa dikhilomethara tse di lesome le bongwe le metso e mebedi ya diphaephe tse di berekang ka go gopiwa (11.236km for vacuum lines).

Mogolwane o ne a kopa bogogi jwa motse gore ba rotloetse morafe go ikwadisetsa go gokela ka bontsi mo mafaratlhatlheng gore metsi a kgone go goroga ka bokete kwa a tlhatswetswang teng.

Go ya ka pego ya kgokelo ya kgopho ya metsi a a leswe, go gokelela ditsha kwa mafaratlhatlheng a, go simolotse kwa Kanye Brigade mme ga

anama le motse go fitlhelela kwa kgotleng ya Lodubeng, kwa go simolotsweng ka matlo a badirela puso.

Rre Raitoko o supile fa go gokelela dingwe ditsha go santse go emisitswe ka ntlha ya go sa dira sentle ga dipompo tsa kwa metsi a a gorogelang teng, Pump Station 3/ PS3, e go tlhalositsweng fa e le yone ya konokono ka jaana e le yone e fetisetsang metsi kwa matlhatswetsong.

O ne a re PS3, e ne ya itshupa e bereka sentle kwa tshimologong, mme ya tloga ya nna le dikgwetlho tse ba di tsibogetseng ka go rulaganyetsa bomaitseanape go tla go baakanya fa go sa berekeng sentle.

Go sa le foo, Rre Raitoko a re e tlaa re fa ba setse ba kgonne paakanyo eo, ke gone ba tswelsetse go ithlaganelela go gokela dikgotla ka bontsi.

O ne a tlhalosetsa khansela fa tiro ya go gokela mafaratlhatlha e lemanywe ke dikgoreletsi di tshwana le go amogela metsi a a tswang mo matlwane a boitiketso a a tswang ka dikoloi ka jaana a na le mmu o montsi, mme le fa gontse jalo, o supile fa ba bereka mo tharabololong ya go re a amogelwe ka pabalesego.

O ne gape a tlhalosa go re mo tirong e e setseng, selekanyo sa letlapa le le tswanetseng go thubiwa ke 34 710m³ gore tiro ya go tsenya diphaephe e bo e ka tla bokhutlong, le fa gontse jalo rakonteraka o setse a dirile thulaganyo e e maleba go fetsa tiro. **BOPA**

BAPATSA
KGWEBO
YA GAGO
FA

241 3402/3

Dulux refurbishes St Joseph's College

By Baleseng Batlotleng

KGALÉ - Dulux Botswana has been commended for its generosity and unwavering commitment to collaboration after donating paint to refurbish St Joseph's College in Kgale.

Speaking at the beginning of the painting project of the school facilities on Friday, school principal Ms Constance Male, said the gesture was a meaningful act of generosity and collaboration from their partners, Dulux and the Construction Industry Trust Fund (CITF) who had provided seven apprentices to engage in the project.

Ms Male applauded Dulux Botswana for choosing to support education through the provision of paint, to enable a conducive learning environment for learners and teachers.

"We do wish to highlight the broader need for refurbishment across our campus. Our facilities are in serious need for revitalisation. We can only pray that this kind of gesture sparks a further outpouring of support," she said and hoped that the development would motivate learners and teachers.

Ms Male appealed to the business community to come on board as it took such collaborations to raise future generations. Dulux Botswana country sales and marketing manager, Mr Ayanda Sempe said heeding the call to repaint part of the school infrastructure was part of the company's corporate social responsibility of supporting education and giving back to the community.

He said they had done the same for other schools in Okavango, Shakawe, Digawana,



Construction Industry Trust Fund, principal facilitator-training, Mr Edwin Mogatlenyane (left), St Joseph's College School Head, Ms Constance Male (centre) and Dulux Botswana country sales and marketing manager, Mr Ayanda Sempe performing first brush strokes at the official kickoff of the paint-a-school initiative at Kgale on Friday. Ms Male commended Dulux Botswana for its generosity and commitment to collaborate with the school. Photo: Baleseng Batlotleng

Tsabong and were looking to expand the partnerships.

Mr Sempe said their mandate was to support and empower those who were engaged to better lives especially through the provision of quality education.

"We have already trained over 800 youth countrywide and we plan to continue partnering with other stakeholders like CITF to enlighten future generations," he

added.

CITF principal facilitator-training, Mr Edwin Mogatlenyane said they hoped for the best partnership after rebranding in the near future.

He said CITF, which was to be renamed Rapid Skills Development Centre (RSDC) would have a fund that directly talked to its needs and aspirations, which would allow it to expand its provision of technical support.

He said the CITF method of training was competency based modular training,

which recognised prior learning for those with prior experience in painting and other various trades. Mr Mogatlenyane said the company's strategy for 2025-2030 was to improve stakeholder engagement, which would see the quality of training improved.

St Joseph's College deputy head girl, Thato Makgopa said the school community was thankful for the great gesture.

"It brings a smile to every learner and brings motivation to us to produce good grades. We also promise to keep our school environment clean," she said. **BOPA**

Road accident simulation exercise identifies gaps

By Calviniah Kgautlhe

LOBATSE - Traffic nearly came to a standstill Friday morning along A1 Road in Lobatse, by the roundabout near the Botswana Geoscience Institute, where accident emergency services providers were performing a fatal road accident simulation exercise.

Lobatse assistant district commissioner, Mr Kabelo Ntopo said in an interview that the exercise was organised by the district disaster management committee, to simulate an emergency fatal accident situation in order to assess emergency teams' response effectiveness, which included Emergency Medical Services, Botswana Police Services, Department of Fire Services and Botswana Defense Force emergency services.

He highlighted that the exercise sought to enhance road accident preparedness in order to draw and put to action effective response plans, procedures and systems as part of emergency management processes.

"We do this every two years in order to make improvements where need be. Today we have identified resource gaps. We have also noticed that we must improve our coordination and collaboration as teams coming from different locations attending to a fatal road accident scenario," he said and appreciated that different departments performed accordingly as their response times were within international standards though more could be done.

He however, cautioned that members of the public had a tendency of taking photographs during such occurrences yet doing so was forbidden hence the public must be educated on what to do in such situations.

Any loopholes to ensure that emergency services are served in the best possible

way, much be closed, Mr Ntopo said.

The training was followed by an evaluation exercise, where members of the response teams consented on the need to improve communication.

Additionally, they called for a centralised call system for the teams, to avoid making multiple calls to different departments, by those seeking assistance.

The teams also called for capacity building and additional resources such as transport and an accident emergency response vehicle equipped with all the necessary material including the jaws of life, to be able to extricate victims who would be trapped in vehicles.

They also suggested that a police road accident investigator must always form part of the team, that being a standard emergency response operating procedure.

The simulation exercise involved a motor vehicle, which hit a tractor carrying seven farm workers in its rear load, who got ejected onto the road, resulting in one death and others severely injured.


Passengers of the vehicle that hit the tractor also sustained severe injuries and were trapped inside their car that caught fire.

"My heart skipped a beat, I was really shocked when I saw people lying on the road with ambulance siren warning, the police and Botswana Defense Force attending to them. It looked so real until after I carefully looked and I realised that it was staged," said a member of the public, a pedestrian, Ms Kgalalelo Mabaya breathing a sigh of relief.

She was part of the crowd in the peripheries who had come to witness the exercise.

She also appreciated that the training helped to sensitise the public, to always be alert on the road. **BOPA**

PRIVATE BAG 00128
GABORONE
BOTSWANA
DITSHENGACCOS@GMAIL.COM
ADMIN@DITSHENGACCOS.CO.BW



TEL: (+267) 316 6649
FAX: (+267) 319 0952
CELL: (+267) 75305227
PLOT 153, PILANE RD
EXT. 5, GABORONE

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Ditsheng SACCOS is seeking expressions of interest from qualified Batswana citizen Owned companies with expertise in system development, financial data management, and process optimization to design and implement a comprehensive system tailored to our operational needs. The envisioned system should streamline our financial and operational processes, ensuring efficiency, security, and scalability.

To prequalify to be invited to tender, all companies responding to this call for expression of interest must submit detailed documentation that includes the following:

- Demonstrate a proven track record in delivering system development solutions. Provide a detailed case study of a major system development project successfully implemented, along with brief descriptions of other relevant projects. Where possible, identify clients or institutions that have benefited from your solutions. At least two client references should be included, either as written testimonials or email contacts for verification.
- Outline the proposed methodology for designing, developing, and implementing the requested financial management system. This should include a clear statement on how member account management, transaction automation, and financial reporting are integrated into the system to enhance efficiency, accuracy, and decision-making. Additionally, explain how the system will interface with external financial platforms for scalability and seamless integration.
- Management Expertise & Resources: Provide an overview of the firm's capabilities in system development, including experience in financial technology, automation, and software integration. Highlight available technical and operational resources that will support project execution.

- Project Team & Qualifications: Detail the skills and expertise of personnel assigned to this project, emphasizing experience in financial system development, database management, security protocols, and user-interface design. Include certifications, relevant qualifications, and past project experience.
- Company Profile: Summarize the firm's structure, ownership, and operational presence, including headquarters and other locations. Provide a brief history, date of establishment, areas of specialization (particularly in financial software and cooperative systems), notable accreditations, awards, and recognitions. Outline key infrastructure available in Botswana or internationally to support system development
 - The company should be registered with the Registrar of Companies.
 - It is a requirement that the taxes of the participating bidders must be in good standing. Tenderers are therefore, requested to obtain and submit a copy of a tax clearance certificate or letter from the tax authorities.

Tender documents shall be hand delivered at Ditsheng Saccos offices Plot 153 Pilane Road Extension 3 Gaborone, by the 9th July 2025 at 1000hrs.

my investment, my priority

Classified Ads

FARM WORKERS

MODISA WANTED AT MOSETSANAMONTLE FARM. BOX 2658, GABORONE. 71747027

HERDBOY WANTED IN DUTLWE FOR CATTLE AND GOATS. 3 YEAR EXPERIENCE. NO DRINKING, NO SMOKING 72100673

FARM LABOUR WANTED AT KAVIMBA CONTACT EDINAH MUBI 74026657

A LADY FARM worker wanted in Karakubis Box 582 Ghanzi call Amogelang Dikago 72270888. Closing date 05/07/2025

FARM WORKER WANTED in Mmatseta, urgently 72512292

WANTED FARM WORKERS, Nnete Madisa. P O Box 40737 Broadhurst

3 FARM WORKER wanted at Gakgatla. Contact Baby Motsilanyane at 72168902

FARMERS WORKER WANTED at Tantapane. Apply To Sophie Molefe. Contact 73252489

3 FARM WORKERS WANTED. Kgalalelo T. Letsholo Tel 75931974 P O Box 50282 Gaborone Sasakwe. Date due 5/07/2025

I AM LOOKING for a farm worker at Molalatau to, help in taking care of the farm and do general work in the farm including feeding chickens. No experience needed. Contact 71586856. Closing date: 14 days after publication

FARM WORKER (AGE +35) wanted in Rasesa. Should have piggery experience. Call 71634343.

HERD BOY WANTED at Parakarungu. Christopher Mathomola Box 33 Kasane 78481796.

FARM WORKER WANTED. Molapowabojang, Tshweneyagae. Cell 76383708.

HERDBOY WANTED AT Samane Jwaneng area P O Box 240 Sebina. Zibanani Mokgeti cell 71742283

NEIGHBOUR CONSULTATION

ELISA MASHALANE OWNER of plot No 341 in Bolamba ward at Moletemane village, proposes change of land use of the plot from commercial to single family residential. For any enquiries contact Bobirwa physical planning department or client's private physical planner Tebogo Bohutsana on 72505759

OWNER OF PLOT 33457 at Mapororo ward in Maun, wishes to change landuse from residential to self catering development. For any objections, contact North West District Council, Physical Planning Office on 6861844

OWNER OF PLOT 16635 in Maratadiba ward, Tlokweng wishes to inform neighbours of his intention to change land use from residential to multi-residential. For any objections, contact Tlokweng physical planning office on 3928355

OWNER OF PLOT 11773 in Extention 11 Palapye wishes to inform neighbours of plot 11772, 11774, 11793 of her intention to change land use from single residential to multi-residential. For any objection contact Palapye physical planning office.

OWNER OF PLOT 1894 in Bontleng Gaborone wishes to change land use from single family residential to multi-family residential. Any objections to this change should be sent to Gaborone Town Council Planning Office Tel 08006006 within 14 days of this publication

HEINSITE CONSTRUCTION (PTY) LTD at Gaborone, Phakalane, wishes to change landuse from residential to multi-residential. Any objections contact Gaborone City Council physical planning office at 3657494 / 3657400 within 14 days of this publication.

NEIGHBOUR CONSULTATION

CHANGE OF LANDUSE Kabelo Keabile, owner of plot 2210, Molepolole, Lekgwapheng intends to change landuse from residential to civic & community (preschool). For any objection, contact Molepolole Council physical planning office . Telephone (+267) 5920841 or cellphone No. 75216104.

I TSHEGOFATSO G. BOGATSU owner of plot 4068 in Masetlheng ward/Tlokweng wish to erect boundary wall and neighbors to consult Tlokweng council on 3695000/3695120

VACANCIES

FASHION DESIGNER WANTED with five (5) years experience in Fashion Design. Apply to Monevico Enterprises (Pty) Ltd Box 3287 Molepolole. Contact no 71682029

DESIGNER AND EMBROIDERY digitizers, machinists & mechanics. 10 years experience with Diploma. Apply to the Manager, Nevlyn Investments P O Box AD 166 ABE, Gaborone. Tel 3953265. Closing date 30 June 2025

CHAIN STITCH EMBROIDER & Fashion designer, CARL LINKS INVESTMENTS, 20 years experience in embroidery. Contact 5306368/71543696, Closing date: 09/07/2025.

NEIGHBOUR CONSULTATION

Tapiwa Keatlhotswe owner of Plot 80217, Portion of Lot 10128 located in Gaborone North, would like to notify owners of Plot Nos, 80216, 80218, 80225 and 80226 about the **intent to construct a boundary wall.**

Any **queries or objections** to this proposal should be forwarded **in writing within 14 days** of publication of this notice to Gaborone City Council, Physical Planning Office during working hours from 0730 hours to 1630 hours, Telephone 365 7400.

NEIGHBOUR CONSULTATION CHANGE OF LAND USE

Energy Natural Resource Corporation (Botswana) (Pty) Ltd, the owner of Lot No. 34913, Morupule Lands, Palapye, would like to change land use from Agriculture to Industrial (100MW PV Solar Plant).

For **any objections** please contact Palapye District Council Physical Planning Office, Telephone No. 493 0821/24 **within 14 days** of this publication.



IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA

HELD AT GABORONE CASE NO: CVHGB-003144-24
 In the matter between:
 MEDSWANA PROPRIETARY LIMITED Plaintiff
 And
 FLUID POWER HOLDINGS PROPRIETARY LIMITED 1st Defendant
 T/A CLINICARE PHARMACY
 NEO DALTON SEBELE 2nd Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to the judgment of the above Honourable Court, the following property will be sold by public auction by Deputy Sheriff AUGUSTINE K. MOKALAKE to the highest bidder as follows:

DATE OF SALE: 25TH JULY 2025
 VENUE: BROADHURST MAGISTRATE COURT YARD
 TIME: 10:30 A.M.

PROPERTY TO BE SOLD: 1 X MITSHUBISHI PAJERO, WHITE IN COLOUR, MODEL 2000, REGISTRATION NO B 851 AKY, 1 X TOYOTA CAMRY NAVY IN COLOUR, REGISTRATION NO. B 780 AYN, 3 X WHEEL CHAIRS, 1 X AIR CONDITIONER

CONDITIONS OF SALE: CASH OR BANK GUARANTEED CHEQUES IMMEDIATELY AFTER SALE.

DATED AT LOBATSE THIS 19TH DAY OF JUNE 2025

DEPUTY SHERIFF AUGUSTINE K. MOKALAKE c/o ADOM & BOTHA ATTORNEYS, PLOT 61127, GROUND FLOOR, MEDSWANA BUILDING, GABORONE P.O. BOX 27, LOBATSE – TELEPHONE NO. 398 5256 (Ref: M153/106/AWB/km)

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO SELL AND TRANSFER IMMOVABLE PROPERTY IN TERMS OF SECTION 340F TRIBAL LAND ACT 02018

Notice is hereby given in terms of section 34 of the tribal land than Sandrige Enterprises Proprietary Limited has entered into a purchase and sale agreement with Mohammad Soriful Islam in respect of the below- mentioned property for the sum of P957, 120.00(Nine hundred and fifty seven Thousand one hundred and twenty pula only) namely:

CERTAIN: Piece of land being industrial plot
SITUATE: At Bokaa, Mologwana lands
MEASURING: 2991sqm(two thousand nine hundred and ninety-one square meters)
HELD UNDER: Lot 6936 Bokaa
DEVELOPMENT STATUS: Undeveloped

Any citizen interested in a similar transaction in respect of the above property shall be given priority notwithstanding the agreement reached by the parties.

Any citizen objecting to this transaction should do so in writing to Oodii Sub Land Board, within 30 days of this publication.

Dated at Gaborone On the 20th day of June 2025

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

Masters Reference: ESHGB 000728/24

IN THE ESTATE of the Late **KEBITSAMANG POGISO** who died at Borakalalo Ward, Molepolole, Kweneng District, Republic of Botswana on **23rd June 2023.**

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 _____ 2025

Executer Dative
 Odirile Gaoskelwe
 P O Box 3390
MOLEPOLOLE
CELL: 76597772/73148073

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 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
AMOS DUBE	ESHFT-000269-23	29-07-2025	1100HRS	DRM

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 10TH DAY OF APRIL 2025

MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

NOTICE OF PROPOSAL TO ENTER INTO A CONTROLLED TRANSACTION (In terms of Section 34 (1) of the Tribal Land Act No. 1 of 2018)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the members of the Public of the following proposed transaction to be entered into between **KOPA INVESTMENTS (PROPRIETARY) LIMITED** (citizen) and **FREDRICK MUTUNGA MUIVA** (Non-citizen), for the sale of the entire shareholding of the abovementioned citizen company, which holds title over the hereunder mentioned property, that is to say:

CERTAIN: Piece of land being Plot 1231 Mogoditshane;
SITUATED: At Mogoditshane in the Bakwena Tribal Territory;
MEASURING: 2 388m² (Two Thousand Three Hundred and Eighty Eight Square Metres);
HELD UNDER: Agreement of Grant of Lease for Business Plots No.TL 1054/2019 dated 16th day of **October 2019** in favour of **KOPA INVESTMENT (PROPRIETARY) LIMITED.**

SUBJECT TO: to the following conditions and reservations namely:

FOR the consideration amount of **P3 200 000.00 (Three Million Two Hundred Pula)** to be paid upon signature of deed of sale.

ANY citizen of Botswana who objects to or is interested in entering into a similar transaction in respect of the aforementioned property is afforded the right to **register such objection or interest, in writing**, to the Secretary of the Mogoditshane Sub-Land Board offices at Mogoditshane **within 30 (Thirty) days** of publication of this notice, to receive priority notwithstanding the proposed transaction set out above.

DATED AT GABORONE THIS 19TH DAY OF JUNE 2025.

MAINA NYANGARI LEGAL PRACTICE, Plot 36933, Nakalatlou Crescent, Block 8, GABORONE. P O BOX 80342, GABORONE.

Lobatse Estates CAMBRIDGE INVESTMENTS (PTY) LTD
 T/A Lobatse Estates
 Private Bag 24 Lobatse Botswana
 Lot 13401 Lobatse Estates Lobatse Botswana
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 CIL Property Marketing & Management
 MOBILE: +267 73844654 EMAIL: sales@lobatse-estates.com

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

Masters Reference: ESHGB 000450/25

IN THE ESTATE of the Late **STELLA SINKI TEMA** who died at Sir Ketumile Masire Teaching Hospital, Gaborone, Gaborone District, Republic of Botswana on **18th July 2021.**

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 _____ 2025

Executer Dative
 Emisang Tema
 P O Box 82130
GABORONE
CELL: 71846832/72514022

NOTICE OF PROPOSAL TO ENTER INTO A CONTROLLED TRANSACTION

(In terms of Section 34 (1) of the Tribal Land Act No. 1 of 2018)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the members of the public of the following proposed transaction to be entered into between **ADAM ISMAIL ARBI** (citizen) and **DUMAZILE MASEKO** (Non-citizen), for the sale of the here-undermentioned property, that is to say:

CERTAIN: piece of land being Lot 23188 Mochudi
SITUATE AT: Mochudi (Cadastral 28) in the Bakgatla Tribal Territory;
MEASURING: 9986m² (Nine Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty Six Square Metres)
HELD UNDER: Memorandum of Agreement of Grant of Lease No. TL 824/2021 dated 15th July 2021, between the Kgatlang Land Board in favour of **ADAM ISMAIL ARBI**.
SUBJECT TO: The terms and conditions set out in the aforementioned lease.

FOR the consideration amount of **P100 000.00 (One Hundred Thousand Pula)** to be paid in terms the deed of sale.
 ANY **citizen of Botswana who objects** to or is interested in entering into a similar transaction in respect of the aforementioned property is afforded the right to **register such objection or interest, in writing**, to the Secretary of the Mochudi Sub Land Board, P O Box 1401, Mochudi or submit at the offices of the here-undermentioned attorneys **within 30 (THIRTY) DAYS** of publication of this notice, to receive priority notwithstanding the proposed transaction set out above.

DATED AT GABORONE THIS 10th DAY OF JUNE 2025.

MAINA NYANGARI LEGAL PRACTICE, Plot 36933, Nakalatlou Crescent, Block 8, GABORONE. P O BOX 80342, GABORONE.

NOTICE OF PROPOSAL TO ENTER INTO A CONTROLLED TRANSACTION

(In terms of Section 34 (1) of the Tribal Land Act No. 1 of 2018)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the members of the public of the following proposed transaction to be entered into between **PHILLIP NYAMAMBI** (citizen) and **WANKAM HOLDINGS (PROPRIETARY) LIMITED** (Non-citizen), for the sale of the here-undermentioned property, that is to say:

CERTAIN: Piece of land being a portion of Tribal Grant No. 1285-KP
SITUATE: at Oodi, in the Bakgatla Tribal Territory;
MEASURING: approximately 3Ha (Three Hectares)
HELD UNDER: Memorandum of Agreement of Lease No. TG 75/2014 dated 7th day of April 2014 made in favour of **PHILLIP NYAMAMBI**.

FOR the consideration amount of **P1 050 000.00 (One Million and Fifty Thousand Pula)** to be paid in terms the deed of sale.

ANY **citizen of Botswana who objects** to or is interested in entering into a similar transaction in respect of the aforementioned property is afforded the right to **register such objection or interest, in writing**, to the Secretary of the Oodi Land Board, Private Bag 002, Oodi or submit at the offices of the here-undermentioned attorneys **within 30 (THIRTY) DAYS** of publication of this notice, to receive priority notwithstanding the proposed transaction set out above.

DATED AT GABORONE THIS 16th DAY OF JUNE 2025.

MAINA NYANGARI LEGAL PRACTICE, Plot 36933, Nakalatlou Crescent, Block 8, GABORONE. P O BOX 80342, 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
LEBOGANG DINYAO	ESHFT-000511-25	02-09-2025	0900HRS	SARM

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 05TH DAY JUNE 2025

MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

NOTICE TO ENTER INTO A CONTROLLED TRANSACTION

(In terms of Section 34 (1) of the Tribal Land Act No. 1 of 2018)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the members of the Public of the following transaction entered into between **KOOS ARON DIMPHO MOATSHE** (citizen) and **OLIVEAN BUILDING CONSTRUCTION (PROPRIETARY) LIMITED** (Non-citizen), for the sale of the here-undermentioned property, that is to say:

CERTAIN: Piece of land being Lot 5742 (A Portion of Cadastral 17);
SITUATED: At Mmathubudukwane in the Bakgatla Tribal Territory;
MEASURING: 828m² (Eight Hundred and Twenty Eight Square Metres);
ALLOCATED TO: KOOS ARON DIMPHO MOATSHE by a Resolution of the Mmathubudukwane Sub-Land Board of the 26th March 2024;
LAND USE: RESIDENTIAL purposes only.

FOR the consideration amount of **P45 000.00 (Forty Five Thousand Pula)** to be paid in terms the deed of sale.

ANY **citizen of Botswana who objects** to or is interested in entering into a similar transaction in respect of the aforementioned property is afforded the right to **register such objection or interest, in writing**, to the Secretary of the Mmathubudukwane Sub Land Board, P O Box 78, Mmathubudukwane or submit at the offices of the here-undermentioned attorneys **within 30 (THIRTY) DAYS** of publication of this notice, to receive priority notwithstanding the proposed transaction set out above.

DATED AT GABORONE THIS 3rd DAY OF JUNE 2025.

MAINA NYANGARI LEGAL PRACTICE,
 Plot 36933, Nakalatlou Crescent, Block 8, GABORONE.
 P O BOX 80342, GABORONE.
 mnlpractice@gmail.com - (+267) 75 157 568

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DailyNewsbw

Tuesday June 24, 2025 No. 117

Author launches sci-fi novel

By Benita Magopane

GABORONE - Debutant author, Ita Mangela's first installment of her four-part science fiction novel

titled *The Mela Legacy*, is already available on Amazon.

The Mela Legacy, is a groundbreaking fusion of African heritage, ancient history, and futuristic

fiction.

The 175 paged novel was recently is only available at Exclusive Books Botswana in Gaborone, where it was launched recently.

The story unfolds through the eyes of Nala Isa, a brilliant and reflective University of Botswana student.

The release marks the fulfilment of a 20-year dream for Mangela. "I was part of the science stream in high school. Studying for an undergraduate degree in the United States fuelled an interest in science and technology," she added, explaining how this sparked a dormant creative passion that led to the birth of her book.

Through this richly layered narrative, Mangela reimagines Botswana's ancient knowledge systems in a high-tech, future-facing society.

The result is a compelling setting where the past and future collide in profound and transformative ways. "I began developing the concept for the series years ago and finally brought it to life over an 18-month writing period," said the author, noting that balancing scientific accuracy with engaging storytelling posed its own challenges.

Beyond the speculative elements, *The Mela Legacy* celebrates Botswana's unique tourist attractions and cultural richness.

Mangela revealed that she aimed to offer readers a deeper appreciation of the country's

landscapes and historical depth.

"At its heart, *The Mela Legacy* is a tribute to the richness of Botswana's traditions and the untapped potential of its people, especially the youth," she said.

Its editor Dr Naledi Kgolo-Lotshwao, a linguist and senior lecturer in the Department of English at the University of Botswana praised the novel's fusion of the past, present, and future, describing its Afro futuristic themes as fascinating and unique.

She opined about the book being a strong contender in the global sci-fi scene, comparing it to works such as *Black Panther*.

"Another impressive aspect I noted in the manuscript was how she integrated Botswana's cultural heritage sites, such as the Goo-Moremi Gorge, into the storyline, elements that resonate deeply with people from the central parts of the country, like me," commented Dr Lotshwao, confidently recommending the book as a must-read for sci-fi enthusiasts.

The Mela Legacy stands out for its bold and imaginative blend of traditional African wisdom and speculative fiction, offering an inspiring vision of what Africa has been, and what it can become. **BOPA**



Author of *The Mela Legacy* novel, Ita Mangela (centre) with Justice Leatile Dambe (left) and Monty Chiepe during her book launch in Gaborone recently. *The Mela Legacy* is a visionary four part series blending African heritage, ancient history and futuristic fiction. Photo: Phenyto Ramatu



Miss Botswana, Ruth Thomas (centre) arriving for her homecoming ceremony on Friday. She expressed her desire to put Masunga on the map and showcase her village's rich, diverse cultures and a place worth visiting. Photo: Goweditse Kome



Kgosi Thabo Maruje III (right) welcoming Miss Botswana, Ruth Thomas to Masunga kgotla. He assured her of their commitment to working closely with Botswana Council of Women to address any challenges, ensuring Miss Botswana's journey to the world stage was smooth. Photo: Goweditse Kome

Masunga residents welcome Miss Botswana

By Goweditse Kome

MASUNGA - Vision needs patience, consistency as it is built over time and vital for one's success.

Kgosi Thabo Masunga Maruje III said at the homecoming ceremony of the newly crowned Miss Botswana, Ruth Thomas in Masunga on Friday.

Kgosi Maruje III said the queen had been given the platform but it was upon her to decide what she was going to use the platform for, depending on how she focused on her vision and fighting for it. "You have been given the

responsibility and the opportunity that the community and the citizenry was so proud of," he said adding that all eyes around the world was watching her.

He assured her that they will engage and work cordially with Botswana Council of Women (BCW) to ensure that all challenges were unravelled for her to sail swiftly during her tenure leading to the world competition.

Kgosi Maruje III further said Miss Botswana was a leadership position adding that BCW should be supported to enable them nurture the country's pageants.

The queen said everything was

possible when one believed and had a vision.

Thomas said hers was a vision which started three years back as a desire and later became a reality, and now she was a shining light that inspired the youth.

"I intend to put Masunga on the map for the world to see that this village was rich in all assortment of cultures and was a place to be," she said.

She urged the community to work together in nurturing all forms of talents to amaze the world and ensure that their village and the country was represented with all forms of abilities. **BOPA**

Chess siblings appeal for financial help

By Anastacia Sibanda

GABORONE - Chess siblings, Vanya and Amour Kaboyaone are appealing to members of the public and the private sector to fund them for the FIDE World Cadet Chess Championship, which will be in Almaty, Kazakhstan in September. The championship deadline for registration is month end. In May, the duo represented the country at the 2025 African Individual Championship in Kenya, where Vanya won bronze in the under seven boys' category while their combined contribution ranked Botswana sixth out of 12 African countries. Their mother, Katlego Uyapo, said in interview that the World Cadet was a yearly chess tournament, which featured almost all the best players from all over the world with ages ranging from eight, 10 and 12. The tournament, she said provided players with the opportunity to meet well-polished players such as World Grand Masters to train the players.

She highlighted that it was at such a tournament that some chess players could pick their FIDE ratings by beating highly rated players.

"There will be training for all the players and their coach, Pudungwane Lesole will mingle with other

coaches and learn a thing or two for the benefit of our local coaches and other players," she said.

Uyapo said for Vanya to win a bronze medal at the continental tournament for Botswana, he attained rights to be a Candidate Master and the youngest to achieve such a feat.

"He had to work on getting his first ratings and work toward 2000 Elo to get the title next to his name. For now, he needs more games to play in prestigious tournaments," she said.

Although they currently had to money to sponsor the players to Kazakhstan, she said the players would continue with their preparations.

The Botswana Chess Federation (BCF) public relations officer, Goitsemodimo Makgatle said they were aware of the players' willingness to compete at the championships.

However, she said BCF did not have funding at the moment to cover players' tournament. **BOPA**



The Kaboyaone siblings, Vanya (left) and Amour are appealing to members of the public and the private sector for financial support so as to compete at the FIDE World Cadet Chess Championship, billed for Almaty, Kazakhstan in September. The deadline for registration is at the end of the month. Photo: Courtesy of the Kaboyaones



Botswana Investment and Trade Centre-Brand Botswana executive director, Kutlo Moagi (left) and Inside BW Woman Sport managing partner, Portia Mlilo at a capacity building workshop for Vunani Annual Botswana Women Sports Awards winners in Gaborone on Friday. Moagi said they were committed to recognising, developing and growing sport people and athletes as well as transforming them into brands. Photo: Tshepo Gombo

Vunani, Inside BW Women Sports empower award recipients

By Benita Magopane

GABORONE - Supporting initiatives that empower women in sport has been one of the most fulfilling aspects of Vunani Fund Managers and organisers of the Vunani Annual Botswana Women Sports Awards.

It was against this backdrop that Vunani, in partnership with Inside BW Women Sports, hosted a capacity building workshop for award winners in Gaborone on Friday.

The workshop aimed to equip the recipients with knowledge in key areas such as financial literacy, investment funding, personal branding, contract negotiations, national ambassadorship and opportunities available to elite athletes.

The recipients included Oratile Nowe, who was named

Sportswoman of the Year, Felicity Male, who received Photographer of the Year award and Sethunya Manama, who was honoured as Young Promising Athlete, among others.

Speaking at the event, Vunani Fund Managers representative, Tefo Lebati expressed joy in being able to empower women through sport development initiatives.

"Supporting initiatives that empower women in sport has been one of the most fulfilling and joyful aspects of our journey. This workshop is a testament to our commitment to excellence and is designed to help you further develop skills in financial literacy."

She also expressed hope that the session would inspire a new sense of purpose among the participants.

Lebati, who pledged Vunani's continued support for women in sport, also reaffirmed the

company's belief in the power of sport to transform lives and build stronger communities.

Inside BW Women Sports managing partner, Portia Mlilo highlighted that while turning medals into wealth was essential, effective money management was even more crucial.

She pointed out that athletes already possessed valuable traits such as discipline, planning, and sacrifice, which qualities were key to achieving financial success.

"Talent without knowledge can leave even the most gifted behind. Let us plan for uncertain seasons, including injury and retirement," she said.

She urged athletes to protect their personal brands and maintain integrity, particularly on social media, emphasising their roles as Botswana sports ambassadors. **BOPA**

Sir Seretse Khama Day marathon preparations on top notch

By Keamogetse Setilo

SEROWE - Despite the wintry Saturday morning, a good number of adults, children and young people gathered at both Serowe and Palapye assembly points, participating in the 5-kilometre and 10-kilometre activation runs, all in readiness for the Sir Seretse Khama Day marathon (SSKDM) set for July 1.

Amos Masugae, a technical expert from SSKDM, said in an interview that the marathon, featuring 5km, 10km, 21km and 42.2km events, was expected to attract many participants from both local and international backgrounds.

He said the 42.2km race would begin at Morupule in Palapye to Serowe Stadium while the remaining races would take place in Serowe.

This year, he said submissions had been received from locations as distant as Japan and other SADC countries.

He also said they aimed to be inclusive of every demographic, even accommodating entries from pensioners who wished to take part.

He said the marathon aimed to honour Sir Seretse Khama and his values, highlighting his famous enthusiasm for sport and his ideals of unity and nation building.

He highlighted that it was through sport that individuals from diverse backgrounds came together for shared objectives of healthy competition, improvement of cultural and social life and economic advancement.

Palapye District AIDS Coordinator, Thuso Ernest said this year's marathon promised to bring more positive outputs, citing

that all preparations leading to the main event were seamlessly carried out with due diligence

He noted that the event offered both large and small enterprises the chance to earn revenue and enhance the economies of Serowe and Palapye.

Furthermore, he noted that the availability of emergency medical services throughout all races provided a safe environment for all participants.

Moreover, he said there would be police stationed at different posts throughout the races to ensure that participants were safe from motorists and common criminals.

He urged people to register for the marathon to show solidarity in driving the nation toward attaining good health through physical exercise, adding that, 'a healthy nation is a wealthy nation'. **BOPA**



CASSABLANCA - The Mares in training ahead of the TotalEnergies CAF Women Africa Cup of Nations in Morocco on Sunday. The team is in Group B with Algeria, Nigeria and Tunisia and its first assignment will be against Algeria on July 6. Photo: Anastacia Sibanda

The Mares in good spirit

By Anastacia Sibanda

CASABLANCA - The senior women national football team, The Mares is focused and in good spirit ahead of the TotalEnergies CAF Women Africa Cup of Nations (WAFCON), which starts on July 5. The Mares is in Group B with Algeria, Nigeria and Tunisia and their first assignment against Algeria is on July 6.

They will then play against Nigeria on July 10 followed by Tunisia on July 13.

Botswana head of delegation, Keleeme Bahakgametse said in an interview that since the team's arrival in Morocco last week, they had been in good spirit as they understood their assignment.

He said training had been going very well, adding that at the moment, the team was solid and

in good health. Bahakgametse said preparations were going well, and the facilities were up to standard.

"I am happy at the same time that I am leading a united, determined and solid team, which is a good thing. They will have to do all what it takes to fight for the country," he said.

Bahakgametse said they arrived early in Morocco for the team to acclimatise, work

on team building and players' mental strength.

"It is hot in Morocco and cold back home, so we wanted their bodies to adjust to the weather, so that any reaction is immediately dealt with before the tournament," he said.

He further said he was also impressed by the technical team adding that all members understood their roles and doing them diligently.

In their debut at the WAFCON in 2022, The Mares reached the quarterfinals, after beating Burundi, 4-2 and lost 2-0 to Nigeria and 1-0 to South Africa.

They qualified for the knockout stage as one of the best third-placed teams in their group, but lost 2-1 to Morocco.

The Mares then faced Cameroon in the in the 5th-6th place play-off and lost 1-0. **BOPA**



Remembering SIR SERETSE KHAMA

1921 - 1980

Sir Seretse Khama was born on the 1st July 1921, in Serowe to Tebogo Kebailele and Sekgoma Khama II - son of Chief Khama III