

BOTSWANA

Daily News

THE PAPER THAT INFORMS AND EDUCATES

BEMA advocates integrated fashion to spur industrialisation

Page 7



Botswana face Libya in AFCON qualifier

Page 8



6 DAYS LEFT



NEWS

Government moves to address system downtime

Page 2

BUSINESS

Wheat lucrative cash crop in Pandamatenga

Page 4

DIKGANG

Khan o rotloetsa dikgwebo go abela setshaba

Page 5

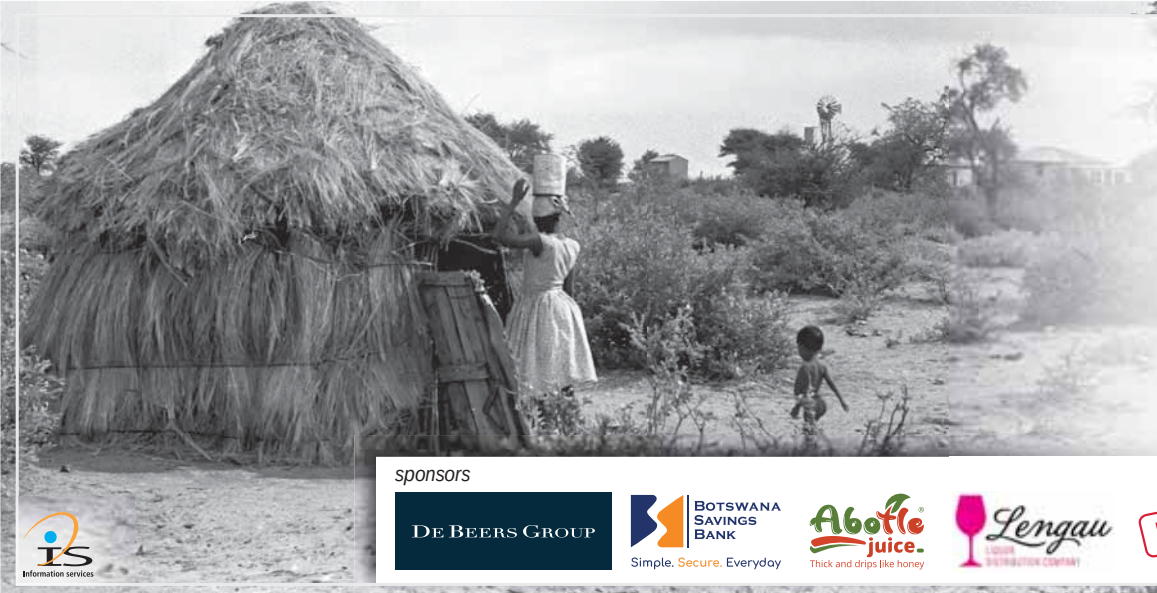


Boko meets Guterres

The two leaders deliberated on national initiatives linked to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and further highlighted the need for effective multilateralism and the respect for sovereignty in addressing current global challenges.

STORY PAGE 3

NEW YORK - President Advocate Duma Boko (left) and outgoing United Nations secretary general, Mr Antonio Guterres ahead of the 81st United Nations General Assembly in USA on Monday. The two leaders discussed issues aimed at strengthening cooperation between Botswana and the global body. Photo: Courtesy of BW Presidency





BOTSWANA @ 60

A Journey Through The Lens

#One nation. A thousand stories!

NOW ON!!!

The long awaited Botswana@60 Photo Exhibition is finally here. The first of its kind. Exquisitely curated works of art.

Venue : National Museum and Monuments

Date : From September 14, 2026

sponsors

DE BEERS GROUP

BOTSWANA SAVINGS BANK
Simple. Secure. Everyday

A bottle juice
Thick and drips like honey

Lengau
SOUTH AFRICAN COMPANY

BOKOMO

Btv

RE



Minister urges companies to comply with new act

Esther Mmolai
MAUN

Both employers and employees have been implored to familiarise themselves with the newly-enacted Employment and Labour Relations Act which aims to comply with international labour standards.

The Act, which commenced beginning of September is a culmination of collective efforts between the employer, the worker and government in a bid to align with the International Labour Organization (ILO) standards.

It aims to strengthen the protection and respect for worker's rights, promoting sound labour relations and collective bargaining as well as to enhance access to labour justice.

Apprising the councillors of the

North West District Council on the Act, Minister of Labour and Home Affairs, Major General Pius Mokgware explained that issues of workers' exploitation, unannounced retrenchment and failure to pay them on time had been worrisome and as such, the Act aimed to close gaps that allowed companies to exploit workers.

He said it was designed to advance decent work and social justice, noting that businesses were now aware of the new Act particularly since Botswana Business supported its commencement.

He said it was critical for both workers and employers to understand and exercise their rights, noting that employers must comply because failure to do so may result in their licences getting revoked.

"This Act is not developed for

employees as some people think but it is designed to protect both the employers and the employees. The employer also has the right to complain if an employee contravenes existing work regulations like leaving their job without notice," he added.

The minister thus called for both the employer and the employee to familiarise themselves with the Act and to ensure full compliance.

Major Gen. (Rtd) Mokgware informed the house that the Act addressed issues such as job security, citing that some companies had a tendency of giving short contracts ranging from one to six months but that the new Act set contract duration to a minimum of 12 months.

He said the Act also promoted transparent and fair recruitment,

that included the fact that people should be hired on merit and not based on favouritism, religious affiliation or along the tribal lines.

He said the Act also made provision of workers to unionise.

The council meeting also learnt that regulations had been finalised to facilitate the implementation of the Act and some councillors urged government to strengthen monitoring to ensure that employers complied with the new labour law.

The Commissioner of Labour, Ms Veronicah Moloko concurred that Botswana as a member of the ILO has to be compliant to international labour laws hence the commencement of the new Act.

She said the Act encouraged employers to have contracts with their workers, including those in the domestic work sector.

Such, she said, was meant to also help curb child labour and forced labour. For their part, councillors welcomed the Act and called on the relevant ministry to ensure its implementation and monitoring to ensure compliance.

Councillor for Sankoyo/Khwai/Mababe, Ms Tshabang Paul argued that in the tourism sector especially at some safari camps in the Okavango Delta, issues of ill-treatment of workers were rife and believed that the new law would address such matters.

She said safari employees presently faced several challenges such as low wages, excessive work hours and poor quality of accommodation spaces, and expressed hope that under the new Act, such would become a thing of the past. **BOPA**

Government moves to address system downtime

Relief Lephutshi
KANYE

The Ministry of Communications and Innovation is addressing persistent government system downtime by migrating the entire government system in to the data centre certified in 2025.

Addressing Kanye District councillors on Monday, The Minister of Communications and Innovation, Mr David Tshere said government had taken a decision to ensure that all government services were digitalised.

Botswana, he said, had a data centre, dubbed as Delta Digital Data Centre based in Gaborone, which its aim was to resolve system downtime through full digital migration to a secure government cloud.

He stated that the Digital Services Act of 2025 which had already been passed by Parliament and was in use, required that all services should be offered online by November 2027.

Mr Tshere implored Kanye District Council to align their services with the Digital Services Act established in 2025, noting

that it applied to both government and private sector services.

Services offered by councils, such as refuse collection and hawkers' licence applications, he said should be offered online.

He implored Kanye District Council management to prepare to maximise the government cloud system by budgeting for applications and setting up their systems.

He further added that they would be a new digitalised national identity which would enable payment processing into the digital identity. He cited that it would assist Post Office services and be linked to the hMinistry of Labour and Home Affairs system.

He said his ministry had already begun preparing for the full implementation of the Act, indicating that there was a certified data centre in place, an indication that the country was moving towards digitalisation.

Regarding the closure of the Rural Industries Innovation Centre -RIIC, Mr Tshere stated that the mandate of RIIC was to improve rural industrialisation, and said so far RIIC had fulfilled



Minister of Communications and Innovation, Mr David Tshere (left) and Kanye District Council chairperson, Mr Morapedi Kgosithebe during a council meeting on Monday. Mr Tshere said government had taken a decision to ensure that all government services were digitalised and implored the council to align its services with the Digital Services Act of 2025. Photo: Courtesy of Ministry of Communications and Innovation

its mandate. He stated that it passed the first and second phases of revolution from stone age, introduced tools in doing work, ventured in devising machineries such as milling and winowing machines, donkey carts.

He said technology and innovation have since evolved and the establishment of the Research Council would help industries to align with AI-powered automation.

In response to the ministers' update the councilors welcomed the Digital Services Act but expressed concern that some sections of the population might be left behind.

Councillor for Kgosing Ward, Mr Mosekisi Rangobana, said Botswana's move towards digitalisation would particularly benefit the agriculture sector, which often experiences network outages.

He indicated that technology would make service delivery and daily life easier for end users, but voiced concern that technology seems to benefit those in urban areas and major villages, while those in rural areas were often left behind.

However, Councillor Themba Stimela of Molapowabojang expressed concern with cyber security in the advent of digitalising

services especially scams and fraud practices.

He had asked on the preparedness of the ministry on handling issues of cyber security.

Councillor for Lotlhakane East/Moreane, Mr Michael Mohutsiwa, expressed worry that people in rural areas still lack basic technology skills and risk being scammed when seeking help with technology.

Commenting on the issue councillor for Gasegogwane Ward, Mr Fithi Keeletile, voiced concerns on abuse of technology especially members of the public and asked how the act would safe guard on such incidences. **BOPA**

Moswaane calls on VDCs to lead rural industrialisation

Goitsemodimo Williams-Madzonga
MARAPONG

Village Development Committee (VDC) members have been urged to take the lead in community development and rural industrialisation.

Addressing a kgotla meeting in Marapong on Monday, Assistant Minister of Local Government and Traditional Affairs, Mr Ignatius Moswaane said VDCs must revive rural industries and cooperatives by utilising natural resources in their communities.

Mr Moswaane said self-



Assistant Minister of Local Government and Traditional Affairs Mr Ignatius Moswaane

reliance activities were at the forefront of building Botswana, which celebrates 60 years of independence this year. He said

Botswana were previously hands-on in community building and less dependent on government, unlike in recent years.

He expressed concern that Botswana had downgraded agriculture and become reliant on imported food, while productive land lies idle. He said it was unfortunate that some people had neglected their ploughing fields and opted to rely on the Ipelegeng programme for survival.

This, he said need to change so that Botswana must returned to producing their own food for subsistence and commercial purposes.

With excess produce, he

said VDCs in partnership with the private sector could set up industries to produce end-use products from farm produce, resulting in job creation.

He further urged VDCs to resuscitate Development Trusts and stimulate investment projects in the village, advising them to do away with individualism and work collectively towards developing the village.

Mr Moswaane added that government, through the council, would facilitate funding for such community projects.

Meanwhile, on concerns raised by residents that Marapong Brigade was underutilised as it

offered only two courses and enrolled a limited number of students, Mr Moswaane said he would engage relevant authorities to have it partner with the Ipelegeng programme for skills development.

Commenting on the Assistant Minister's remarks, Ms Setobokeni Lesetedi said the community was eager to see development that created employment.

She added that officers tasked to help should be willing to assist and that some business requirements needed to be eased to facilitate those interested in doing business in rural areas. **BOPA**

Govt targets UNEP to build smart economy

Pako Lebanna
NEW YORK

The government is working on partnering with development stakeholders such as the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNEP) with a view of building an economic model driven by digital technology, innovation and resource efficiency to boost productivity and improve the quality of life.

President Advocate Duma Boko relayed the view in a bilateral discussion with UNEP executive secretary and UN under secretary, Mr Claver Gatete, at the UN headquarters in New York City, United States of America.

He said the SmartBots project would be formally launched in November, and government intended it to continue as a collaborative effort between the state and UNEP, as a key flagship project to build capacity and digitalise the economy.

SmartBots is the country's digital transformation strategy and action plan tailored to propel the country towards a knowledge-based, high-income economy by 2036.

This is done through digital inclusion through providing connectivity at public places, digitalising government services, entrepreneurial startups at the SmartBots Lab at the Botswana Innovation Hub as well as boosting village connectivity.

President Boko said the Vice President and Minister of Finance, Mr Ndaba Gaolathe, as well as the Minister of Minerals and Energy, Ms Bogolo Kenewendo, had been engaging UNECA with the view of exploring modalities of cooperation between the country and the UN commission.

Moreover, President Boko said Botswana was eager to operationalise and gain traction on some of the good ideas that had been shared in order to diversify the economy. On mining, he said Botswana sought a leadership role in the Kimberley Process and would need the backing of institutions such as UNECA.

Mr Gatete, previously Rwanda's minister of Finance and Economic Planning (2013-2018), and his country's former ambassador to the UN at New

York and high commissioner to the United Kingdom at London, prior to being appointed by the UN secretary general, Mr Antonio Guterres, to head UNECA in 2023, sounded keen to work with Botswana.

"Botswana is one of the countries we are interested in because we believe there could be progress owing to the leadership, the political will. If we transform the economy and introduce successful technological programmes, we could use Botswana as a model of a country that works, and others can follow suit and benchmark from what is practically being done," said Mr Gatete.

Adding her worth, Ms Kenewendo said Botswana sought to build capacity and expertise and value around the diamond industry and other mineral sector activities.

"We are also looking to build a think tank around our mineral expertise. The President has been very clear that we should use the expertise that we have around mineral resource management to support other African countries, in areas such as negotiating contracts," said Ms Kenewendo.

She gave the example of Botswana having assisted a sister African state with a value proposition, through rethinking exploration, streamlining mining plants as well as introducing them to Botswana's sorting capability and sales platform, they managed to increase the value gained from diamonds exponentially.

"That is something we put together for one country which for now I shall not name, and we are working on assisting another. We could now formalise this, and through UNEP assistance and our proposed think tank, we could create good value propositions. Not only for the diamond industry, but leveraging on the mining experience we have, for mining as it is transferable, responsible mining and credible sourcing," said Ms Kenewendo.

BOPA



Assistant Minister of Trade and Entrepreneurship, also MP for Serowe North, Mr Baratiwa Mathoothe (centre), Serowe District Council deputy chairperson, Mr Anthony Odirile (left) and Kgosi Marage Marage (right) during a kgotla meeting at Seetso Ward in Serowe on Monday. Mr Mathoothe said cooperation in manufacturing between companies could improve Botswana's exports and GDP. Photo: Baldwin Nyamande

Manufacturing sector key to economic diversification

Keamogetse Setilo
SEROWE

Industrialisation through manufacturing and agro-processing is critical to diversifying the economy, Assistant Minister of Trade and Entrepreneurship, Mr Baratiwa Mathoothe has said.

Addressing a kgotla meeting at Seetso Ward in Serowe on Monday, Mr Mathoothe, who is also Member of Parliament for Serowe North, said following the decline in diamond sales, Botswana must find sustainable ways to keep the economy afloat.

He said government's strategy was centred on value addition through localised processing, noting that minimising the export of raw materials would increase returns and profits while creating jobs and competitive salaries.

Mr Mathoothe said government was determined to transform the agricultural sector through investment,

training and programmes that created a conducive environment for farmers to transition from subsistence to commercial farming. He said this would boost exports, create value addition opportunities and drive employment.

On health, he said government was committed to ensuring citizens benefited from quality medical services, noting that the envisaged National Health Insurance would provide private practices with an opportunity to open clinics in remote areas, ensuring equitable access to healthcare for those without medical aid.

He said government was also focused on reforming vocational education and training to address skills shortages and align training with industry demands through Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET).

Mr Mathoothe urged residents to support government's

economic transformation agenda, saying progress was only possible through collective effort and cooperation.

Meanwhile, Kgosi Marage Marage appealed for the construction and maintenance of internal roads and storm water drainage infrastructure. He said yards flood during the rainy season due to stagnant water with no diversion channels or culverts.

Kgosi Marage called on the community to foster collaboration and create a conducive environment to attract investors and business opportunities.

A resident, Ms Gosego Keseitseng, raised concern over the shortage of blood reagents at clinics and Sekgoma Memorial Hospital.

She said patients who could not afford private laboratory services go for months without knowing their health status, a situation she said was life threatening for those with chronic conditions.

BOPA

Boko and Guterres discussion highlights SDGs attainment

Pako Lebanna
NEW YORK

As the global diplomatic community grapples with the choice of the upcoming United Nations (UN) secretary general, President Advocate Duma Boko met the outgoing administrative head of the global body, Mr Antonio Guterres, at the UN headquarters in New York city, United States of America.

The 81st United Nations General Assembly (UNGA81) taking place this week will as part of its agenda, give direction on the choice of new head of the UN Secretariat, but prior to that, Botswana got to deliberate its national interests with the incumbent, Mr Guterres, who will hand over to his successor next New Year's day.

During the courtesy call on Mr Guterres, the former Portuguese

prime minister and Socialist Party leader who has served as the ninth secretary general since the UN was established in 1945, President Boko discussion with him aimed at strengthening cooperation between Botswana and the global body. The two leaders deliberated on national initiatives linked to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and further highlighted the need for effective multilateralism and the respect for sovereignty in addressing current global challenges.

Seven candidates, four of them women vying to be the first ever female head of the UN, are contesting to be elected to succeed Guterres as secretary general.

Article 97 of the UN Charter prescribes that "the secretary general shall be appointed by the General Assembly upon the

recommendation of the Security Council," and on Tuesday morning, President Boko joined heads of state and government from across the world in the official opening of the UNGA81.

Officially opening the meeting on Tuesday, Mr Guterres called for a reform of the UN system to make it more democratic, saying it was designed in 1945 in the immediate aftermath of World War II, but dynamics of the time, such as the Cold War and colonialism had since been overrun by historical events.

He said the UN Security Council for example, still had no permanent member from Africa, a continent that was still under colonial rule when the UN was founded and even after independence, still lacked parity with the Permanent Five-the United States of America, the United Kingdom, France,

Russia and China, who had the veto power to overrule the democratic decisions of the majority.

Meanwhile, on the margins of the core UN Assembly, President Boko continued with effort to lure investment to the country.

He met representatives of Oracle Corporation, a major American technology company based at Austin, Texas that specialises in enterprise software, database systems and artificial intelligence (AI).

President Boko also had deliberations with Rene Awambeng, a seasoned investment banker, currently the lead investment fund manager and corporate advisory for Africa, Caribbean and the Middle East at Premier Invest, a major global financial services company.

BOPA

DailyNews

Published by: Department of Information Services
37795 Wellie Seboni Drive
Private Bag BR 139 Gaborone

Printed by: Government Printing and Publishing Services

Online Edition: <https://dailynews.gov.bw>
email: bopa@gov.bw email: dailynews@gov.bw

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

Editors

Ms Masego Pilane
Tel: 365 3569
Email: mkpilane@gov.bw

Mr Sefhako Sefhako
Tel: 365 3589
Email: ssefahako@gov.bw

Ms Sereki Mpitse
Tel: 365 3595
Email: smpitse@gov.bw

Head of Photography

Head of Marketing

Head of Graphics

Mr Yobe Shonga
Tel: 365 3604
Email: yshonga@gov.bw

Ms Lucretia Chima
Tel: 365 3574
Email: lchima@gov.bw

Mr Edward Matlala
Tel: 365 3557
Email: ematlala@gov.bw

Call: 365 3591 / 3592 / 3593 / 3599 To Advertise



Wheat lucrative cash crop in Pandamatenga

Portia Keetile
PANDAMATENGA

Wheat is emerging as a lucrative cash crop in Pandamatenga, with farmers diversifying from traditional sorghum production and taking advantage of the area's frost-free winter climate and irrigation potential.

Prominent commercial farmer, Mr Jaco Strachan, is among farmers driving the shift from predominantly dryland farming to irrigation.

Having farmed in Pandamatenga for nearly two decades, Mr Strachan has spent the past four years producing wheat using centre-pivot irrigation systems, harvesting about four tonnes per

hectare from 100 hectares.

He said wheat was a relatively low-input crop compared with other grains, making it a cost-effective option for farmers.

"Because wheat does not face persistent pressure from destructive pests throughout its lifecycle, farmers benefit from significantly lower pesticide costs and reduced labour requirements," he said.

Mr Strachan said wheat generally required only one spray cycle after planting to control pests such as aphids and bollworms.

He said the preferred planting window for irrigated wheat was from late April to May, when temperatures were cooler and favourable for the crop.

However, he noted that some farmers planted as early as March this year, taking advantage

of above-normal rainfall and abundant residual soil moisture, which reduced their reliance on artificial irrigation.

For Mr Strachan, the growing production must be matched by reliable markets.

He said his main commercial buyers were domestic millers Bolux and Bokomo, while private processors had also started sourcing his wheat for soft porridge production.

He said he was exploring opportunities to export wheat to neighbouring Zambia and Zimbabwe, given Pandamatenga's proximity to the two countries and its position along existing trade routes.

However, he said expansion into regional markets remained constrained by legal requirements, export licensing and cross-border

administrative procedures.

Mr Strachan said the Botswana Agricultural Marketing Board (BAMB) could play a greater role in opening international markets for local wheat farmers.

"Currently BAMB is not buying wheat from farmers and they can use their position to secure a market because there are trucks passing through Botswana carrying wheat from South Africa to Zambia and this could be our wheat," he said.

Despite the crop's potential, Mr Strachan identified inadequate electricity supply as one of the major constraints to agricultural expansion in Pandamatenga.

He said farmers relied heavily on diesel generators to power large centre-pivot irrigation systems, increasing the cost of production.

BOPA



Commercial farmer Mr Jaco Strachan said wheat was a relatively low-input crop compared with other grains, making it a cost-effective option for farmers in Pandamatenga.



Officials rally farmers to unite against FMD

Michelle Mosebiwa
DIKWIDIDI

Farmers have been urged to work closely with the government and unite in the fight against Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD), as the outbreak continues to threaten the value of cattle and beef industry in Botswana.

Addressing a Kgotla meeting in Dikwididi, Department of Veterinary Services director, Dr Kobedi Segale, said following confirmation of FMD in Kgatleng, the community should support government efforts to contain the disease. He said government had introduced a vaccination programme in which cattle would undergo three rounds of

vaccination administered 28 days apart and that vaccinations were currently taking place in different areas as authorities continued to contain the disease.

Dr Segale explained that cattle were particularly susceptible to FMD and vaccination was aimed at strengthening their immune response against the disease. "Vaccinated cattle are marked with a V on the right side to indicate that they have been vaccinated," he said.

However, he cautioned farmers that vaccination did not mean cattle were completely protected from FMD. Vaccinated animals can still contract the disease, although vaccination can reduce its severity and effects.

Dr Segale further warned

that vaccinated cattle could still transport the disease to unaffected areas hence farmers were urged to comply with movement restrictions and other instructions issued by veterinary authorities.

Farmers were urged to cooperate with veterinary officers by bringing their cattle for vaccination and that vaccination was also being conducted in areas east of the A1 road all the way from Gamalet to Dibete, while surveillance was being conducted on the western side of A1. Tricking challenges during vaccination include stray cattle and failure to know neighbours which Dr Segale said made it difficult for veterinary officials to locate all cattle for vaccination, particularly where livestock owners lived in the city.

Kgosi Letsebe Mpete of Dikwididi encouraged residents not to lose focus and continue mending containment fences as the only tried and tested measure to combat FMD. Kgosi Letsebe said the meat industry was one of the mainstay of the economy, hence all should join hands to combat the outbreak and bring meat industry to normalcy.

A resident, Mr Thebe Ncube called for more containment zones, indicating that Zone 11 was too big and presented more challenges for farmers and veterinary officials, while Mr Kitso Ramocha encouraged fellow farmers to ensure cattle were taken to vaccination points because leaving behind some would regress the efforts to eradicate the disease.

BOPA

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Experts call for evidence-based research

KIGALI - African officials and tax experts have called for stronger use of evidence-based research to shape effective tax policies, improve tax administration and unlock Africa's domestic revenue potential. The call was made Tuesday in Kigali Rwanda, during the ongoing 11th Annual Congress of the African Tax Research Network (ATRN). Speaking at the opening of the congress, Rwanda's Minister of Finance and Economic Planning Yusuf Murangwa underscored the importance of evidence-based research in shaping effective tax policy and strengthening domestic resource mobilisation across Africa. Murangwa said ATAF provided a platform for Africa's revenue administrations to learn from one another, speak with one voice in international tax rule-making and build the technical capacity required to strengthen domestic resource mobilization.

Xinhua

High fuel prices ripple through Türkiye economy

ANKARA - Surging fuel prices are increasingly affecting household budgets, transportation choices and the prices of goods and services in Türkiye, after diesel exceeded (US\$2.05 per liter for the first time recently. The latest increases came amid elevated global energy prices and disruptions to oil supplies. Brent crude rose above US\$100 per barrel earlier this month as concerns over supplies through the Strait of Hormuz intensified. In a country where nearly half of the workforce earns the minimum wage of 28,075.50 liras, the hikes are significant. The impact is particularly significant for Türkiye, a major importer of both oil and natural gas. Yusuf Koseoglu, a retired architect living in Ankara, told Xinhua that the increases were already affecting households and the wider economy.

Xinhua

Tunisia and Af DB seal projects deals

TUNIS - Tunisian Minister of Economy and Planning Samir Abdelhafidh and the African Development Bank's (AfDB) Deputy Director-General for North Africa Malinne Blomberg signed two guarantee agreements in Tunis on Tuesday to fund water network and chemical industry projects in Tunisia, according to a statement released by the ministry. The agreements cover financing for the National Water Distribution Utility and the Tunisian Chemical Group (GCT). The first facility, worth €2111.5 million, is allocated to a project to improve the technical and energy efficiency of the drinking water network in the Grand Tunis area. The second, valued at US\$110 million, aims to support the environmental rehabilitation and modernisation of GCT's production units. Speaking at the signing ceremony, Abdelhafidh said that both projects align with the strategic priorities of Tunisia's 2026-2030 Development Plan.

Xinhua

Dikgang

PAMPIRI YA THUTO LE DIKITSISO

Ipapatse Fa Leletsa

659 6315 | 625 0353 | 533 0379 | 297 8237
261 0480 | 241 3402 | 365 3500

Khan o rotloetsa dikgwebo go abela setshaba

Keetile Bontsibokae MOLEPOLOLE

Mopalamente wa Molepolole North, Rre Arafat Khan o akgoletse ba lebentlele la Choppies mowa wa go neela ba ba tlhokileng lesego.

Rre Khan o buile se bosheng, fa a ne a rolela ba le lelwapa loo-rra-Keobale ntlo kwa kgotleng ya Mankgwenyane kwa Molepolole, ee agilweng ke Choppies.

A re kago ya ntlo eo, e tla morago ga gore mokhanselara wa kgaolo eo, Rre Outlwele Mosweunyane a mo bebele fa boo-rra-Keobale ba tlhoka go thusiwa ka bonno jo bo sireletsegile.

“E rile ngwaga o simolola ke bo ke itshwaraganya le mookamedi wa Choppies, Rre Ramachandran Ottapathu, mme a tshepisa gore e tlaare ka kgwedi ya Phukwi mono

ngwaga kago e bo e simolola.

Ke leboga ba Choppies go menagane ka gore ntlo e ke ya boraro mo kgaolong yame e ntse agiwa ke bone,” ga tlhalosa Rre Khan.

Rre Khan a re ntlo ya ntlha e agilwe kwa kgotleng ya Magokotswane, ya bobedi e kwa kgaolong ya Borakalalo.

“Ke solofela fa Choppies e tla nna e ntse e thusa ka go aga matlo a mangwe. Ka kgwedi ya Phalane re tlaabo re ya kwa kgaolwaneng ya Boribamo re ya aba ntlo e nngwe le yone e agilwe ke ba Choppies,” ga tlhalosa Rre Khan.

Rre Khan a re ba Choppies ga ba thuse kgaolo ya gagwe fela, a re thuso ya bone e tswetsetse ka go nowa moro go ralala lefatshe la Botswana.

Ka jalo, o gwetlhile banni ba Molepolole go lemoga ke-mo-

nokeng ya Choppies le bagwebi ba bangwe.

A re bagwebi ba ba dirang jaaka Choppies ba botlhokwa ka gore ba lemoga botlhokwa jwa setshaba mo dikgwebong tsa bone.

A re go emana nokeng ke neo e mang le mang a nang le yone go ya ka bokgoni jwa gagwe mme a gatelela gape gore go bo a kgona go tsamaela morafe go ba kopela dithuso ga se kgang ya go kopa tlhopho, mme ke go supa lorato la Modimo.

Mogolwane wa tsa ipapatso kwa Choppies, Rre Kabelo Ketshabile a re monongwaga lebentlele la bone le setse le agile matlo a le marataro mo Botswana ka bophara.

A re ba simolotse go agela setshaba matlo ka ngwaga wa 2010 mme jaanong ke selomodiro ka ba ikaelela go tswela ba ntse ba dira jalo go yeng pele.

“Re ipoleletse gore dipoelo tse re di bonang kwa Choppies re di busetse gape kwa Batswaneng,”

ga tlhalosa Rre Ketshabile.

Moemedi go tswa kwa go boo-rra-Keobale o supile fa ba itumeletse mpho eo, le go akgola botlhe ba ba nnileng le seabe mo kagong ya ntlo.

Mokhanselara, Rre Mosweunyane a re ba Choppies ba supile lorato le setho ba tlhotlhelediwa ke Modimo.

A re se ba se dirileng ke go tlotlomatsa seriti sa lelwapa loo-rra-Keobale ka go ba agela bonno. BOPA

Mapodisi a tlhotlhomisa bogodu kwa Pitsane

Aobakwe Molefhi PITSANE

Ramapodisi a Ramatlabama, Superintendent Mary Baabina a re ba tlhotlhomisa tiragalo e mo go yone magodu, a go belaesegang a ipapanne ka tlhobolo, a ne a tshosetsa babereki ba madirelo a leokwane a Meru kwa Pitsane mme a ba amoga madi.

O boletse mo potsolosong gore tiragalo eo, e diragetse ka Tshipi ka jaana ba ne ba amogela pego, mme ba ragogela kwa lefelong la tiragalo, kwa ba fitlhetseng dilalome tseo di ineile naga.

Superintendent Baabina a re babereki ba supile fa go ne ga tla kolo i ya sepalamo sa setshaba, e e neng e tshela leokwane ka nako eo, mme ya re mongwe wa babereki a re wa thusa, ga tswa borre bangwe kwa morago ga madirelo ba ipipile difatlhego.

O tswetsetse a re go begilwe fa dilalome tseo di ne tsa tsaya mmereki yoo mme ba tsena mmogo mo madirelong kwa ba fetileng ba pateletsa babereki ba ba mo teng go bula mabolokelo a madi mme ba tsaya madi a mo nakong eno go iseng go itsiwe gore ke bo kae.

A re morago ga go tsaya madi, ba ne ba kopana le kolo i e nngwe e e neng e emetse go tshela leokwane, mme ba tshosetsa mong wa yone ba bo ba kgona go e tsaya ba tsena ka ga re itse.

Superintendent Baabina o supile fa ba kgonne go bona kolo i eo e phuagantswe mo motseng.

A re ba santse ba le mo patlong ya babelaelwa bao.

Mo dikgannyeng tse dingwe, mothusa Ramapodisi a Good Hope, Assistant Superintendent Kenneth Edward a re ba tshegeditse borre ba le batlhano mabapi le dikgang tsa go thuba madirelo le ntlo ya rre mongwe kwa kgotleng ya Gakhudu kwa Good Hope.

A re borre bao ba dingwaga tse di lesome le bosupa goya kwa go tse di masome a mabedi le borataro.

A re mapodisi ba ne ba amogela pego go tswa go mongwe wa batswa-setlhabelo, morago ga gore babelaelwa bao ba thube kwa gagwe, mme ba utswe terata.

Ka lesego, a re ba ne ba kgona go tshwara babelaelwa ba le babedi, mme ya re morago, ba ne ba ntsha ba ba neng ba nale bone.

Rre Edward o boletse fa babelaelwa bao ba ne ba ntsha mosi ka sekhurumelo, mme ba tlhalosa fa ba ne ba thukutha kwa madirelong mangwe a ba letso la Korea.

A re ba sepodisi ba ne ba ntse ba le mo letsholo la ba belaelwa, morago ga gore batswa setlhabelo ba beke tshenywa kwa madirelong a bone kgwedi e e hetileng.

O supile fa dilalome tseo, di boletse fa ba ne ba utswile didirisiwa ka bontsi di akaretsa motshine wa oo nosetsang ditshipi, megala ya motlakase, gareng ga tse dingwe.

Go ya ka mothusa Ramapodisi, babelaelwa ba tla lebihiwa molato wa thuba a bo ba utswa mo lefelong la kgwebo le la bonno. BOPA



Ntlo e e agetsweng ba lelwapa loo-rra-Keobale ke ba Choppies jaaka e ne e rolwa ke mopalamente wa Molepolole North, Rre Arafat Khan kwa kgotleng ya Mankgwenyane kwa Molepolole bosheng. Rre Khan o akgoletse ba Choppies mowa wa go thusa ba ba tlhokileng lesego, a supa fa bagwebi ba ba dirang jalo ba le botlhokwa ka gore ba lemoga mosola wa setshaba mo dikgwebong tsa bone. Senepe: Choppies Botswana

Jwaneng Mine rewards academic excellence

Kehumile Moekejo
JWANENG

Jwaneng Mine recently hosted the ninth edition of the Diamond Dream Academic Awards ceremony.

The awards ceremony recognise outstanding academic performance by learners and educators from the 2024 and 2025 examination results from 25 primary and five junior secondary schools within their area of influence.

Established in 2017, the initiative is testament to the company’s commitment to investing in education through recognising academic excellence, as well as the role and contribution of teachers

to the results.

Speaking at the ceremony, Deputy Permanent Secretary for Finance in the Ministry of Child Welfare and Basic Education, Mr Olebogeng Moipisi commended Jwaneng Mine for an impactful initiative in the education sector.

He said the initiative was aligned with the government’s objective of achieving inclusive education, as well as providing a conducive environment for collaboration with strategic partners.

“The ministry has prioritised strategic reforms that places the learner at the centre of development. These reforms are geared toward modernised teaching and learning, protecting the rights and wellbeing of every child and ensuring that no learner is left behind.

This is also espoused in the Botswana Economic Transformation Programme (BETP), which advocates for inclusive high quality and

future-ready education system which empowers each and every learner,” he noted.

Mr Moipisi further applauded educators and parents for the dedication they continued to show in improving the education sector.

Jwaneng Mine General Manager, Mr Goitseone Gadifele said while the primary objective of the awards was to recognise excellence, they were also intended to enhance confidence among learners, challenging them to continuously improve their results.

He also said the outcome was testament of what stakeholders could achieve when they join hands toward a common purpose.

Mr Gadifele said, as the country celebrated its 60th independence anniversary, the time was also an opportune moment for Debswana to reflect on its contribution and legacy toward socio-economic development of the country.

He said the company recognised



Botswana Examinations Council director for assessment design, Mr Letso Dibeela (left) and Jwaneng mayor, Mr Ronica Ntsimako (right) handing over the JCE 2025 best performing award to Katlo Ramasu from Morama Junior Secondary School recently. Katlo walked away with P7,500 cash prize and a trophy. Photo: Kelesitse Motshwanaesi

education as a key factor in development and prosperity for the country and its people.

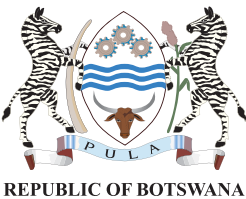
“Education and skills development remain fundamental to achieving prosperity for all as we envision under Botswana’s Vision 2036, particularly as we work toward a diversified and knowledge-based economy.

It is therefore important that we continue striking partnerships with schools, regional education offices, the Botswana Examination Council, parents, local leadership

and other stakeholders to create an environment where children can thrive,” he noted.

To date, Mr Gadifele said Debswana had invested over P7 million in the programme, in an endeavor to inspire learners to strive for success.

In addition, he said they continue to support teacher development through Government Schools Development Programme, particularly in Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics. **BOPA**



REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA

MOGODITSHANE EAST CONSTITUENCY

CONSTITUTIONAL COURT PANEL

Discussion



24 SEPTEMBER, 2026



1800HRS



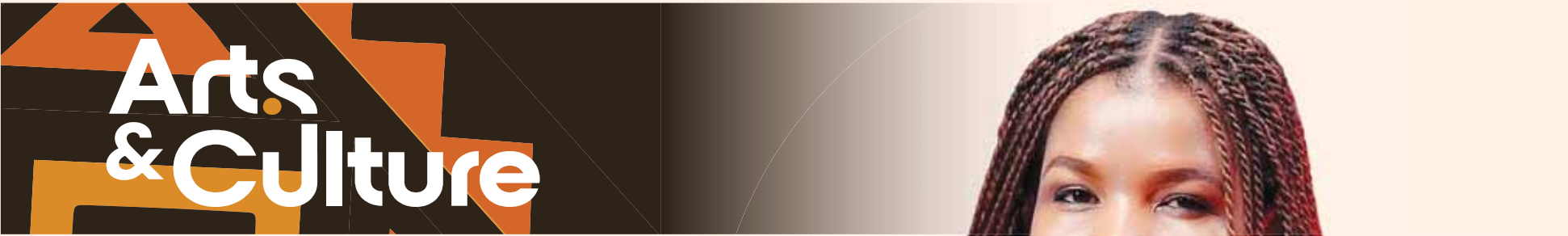
STAY WELL HOTEL



HOST

Hon Letlhogonolo Barongwang

Assistant Minister, Transport and Infrastructure and also MP for Mogoditshane East Constituency



BEMA advocates integrated fashion to spur industrialisation

Ketshepile More
GABORONE

Botswana Exporters and Manufacturers Association (BEMA) has called for a more connected fashion industry, describing the sector as an ecosystem that brings together designers, manufacturers, leather processors, textile businesses, suppliers, financiers, logistics companies and markets.

BEMA Chief executive officer, Mmantlha Sankoloba said fashion was not just about clothes, but an industrialisation, a job creation, youth empowerment, women economic participation, exports and sustainable wealth creation.

She made the remarks in an interview ahead of her participation at the fourth season of the BRICS+ Fashion Summit scheduled for Moscow from 28 to 30 September 2026.

“As BEMA, we want the BRICS

Fashion Summit to see Botswana not merely as a small market but as a strategic partner with significant potential across fashion, textiles, leather processing and other manufacturing value chains,” Sankoloba said.

To establish a sustainable fashion industry in Botswana, she highlighted that it was essential to develop a local textile, leather and fashion ecosystem rather than relying solely on imports.

Furthermore, she stated that key opportunities existed in leather processing, where Botswana could leverage its livestock resources to create value-added products such as footwear and handbags.

Similarly, in textiles, she said developing local capabilities in all aspects from production to distribution was vital.

Sankoloba further acknowledged that the BRICS+

Fashion Summit presented a chance to explore various markets and value chains, including textiles and fashion products and believed Botswana would utilise all available platforms to boost exports while simultaneously developing its domestic production capacity.

To ensure local designers and young creative talents get opportunities to export to distant markets in the BRICS bloc, she said BEMA’s focus was to connect Botswana’s creative talent with international markets by facilitating exposure to a range of industry stakeholders including

BEMA’s focus is to connect Botswana’s creative talent with international markets by facilitating exposure to a range of industry stakeholders

designers, buyers, and investors.

Efforts, she said were centered on creating opportunities through showcases, mentorship and skills development while also addressing production capabilities to meet international standards.

Botswana’s fashion industry has made its way to the BRICS Fashion Summit, demonstrating the country’s creative products capability towards attracting international attention.

And in light of that, it is apparent that there are opportunities available for more local designers to establish Botswana’s presence in the bloc.

“The bigger opportunity is to create a pipeline of Botswana designers and brands that can progressively enter international markets. The BRICS market is diverse, and that creates opportunities for different categories and price points. Botswana designers should not try to compete by simply copying international fashion but we should build brands around our own identity, creativity, craftsmanship and African heritage while meeting international standards.”

Sankoloba also noted that collaborations between designers and manufacturers, along with designer exchange programmes could facilitate the transformation of local ideas into market-ready products and foster mutual engagement with international fashion markets.

BEMA’s engagement with BRICS and their participation started three years ago with a number of commercial discussions and potential deals and Sankoloba said their priority this year was to move conversations to bankable and implementable partnerships.

“Some of these engagements have not yet reached conclusion but they remain active working processes. We are continuing discussions, assessing opportunities and working through the requirements needed

to turn them into concrete partnerships,” she said.

During the 2026 Summit, Sankoloba said the focus would be on enhancing opportunities in textile and garment manufacturing, leather processing, technology transfer, skills development, and local value chains in Botswana.

Meanwhile, Sankoloba underscored the need for Botswana to integrate fashion, textiles and leather into its industrial development strategy, promoting them as productive sectors with key policy recommendations including fostering local manufacturing, incentivising investment, developing relevant skills, improving access to finance, ensuring government procurement favours local firms, supporting export growth, facilitating technology transfer, and establishing local raw material value chains.

Additionally, she said the protection of intellectual property and enhanced collaboration between stakeholders were essential for long-term international business relations.

“From our experience BRICS+ FS participation is instructive, some opportunities move quickly, while others require negotiations, due diligence, technical work and commercial alignment. The fact that some engagements are still being worked through does not mean they have failed; it means we must remain deliberate in converting opportunities into concluded transactions. Ultimately, BEMA wants the BRICS Fashion Summit to produce measurable economic outcomes for Botswana,” Sankoloba noted.

She, therefore said BEMA’s goal was to secure orders, partnerships and investment opportunities for Botswana, aiming for sustainable economic growth domestically. BEMA seek to establish Botswana as a manufacturing hub for fashion and leather processing, creating local jobs, enhancing skills, and fostering stronger enterprises.

“By leveraging the BRICS+FS platform, we aim to advance economic diversification and industrial development, ensuring that value is retained within the country”. **BOPA**

Botswana Exporters and Manufacturers Association CEO Mmantlha Sankoloba



BRICS+ FASHION SUMMIT

Moscow 2026

The premier platform uniting fashion, innovation and cooperation across the Global South and beyond.



Mmantlha Sankoloba
Botswana Exporters and Manufacturers Association CEO

“Strengthening Global South Cooperation for More Inclusive and Sustainable Governance.”

MEET OUR SPEAKER

The Summit’s agenda will focus on:

-  **Macroeconomic Trends**
Global outlook and growth opportunities
-  **Transformation of Consumer Behavior**
New values, digital influence and lifestyle shifts
-  **AI in Fashion**
Practical case studies and real-world applications

 **CONCERT HALL, ZARYADYE MOSCOW, RUSSIA**

 fashionsummit.org

SEPTEMBER 28-30, 2026
MOSCOW, RUSSIA

 **MOSCOW FASHION WEEK**

SEPTEMBER 26 – OCTOBER 1, 2026
Experience the region’s emerging creative energy and dynamic new wave of fashion creators.

FASHION. FUTURE. TOGETHER. BRICS+.

Botswana Exporters and Manufacturers Association CEO, Mmantlha Sankoloba said fashion was not just about clothes, but an industrialisation. She made the remarks in an interview ahead of her participation at the fourth season of the BRICS+ Fashion Summit scheduled for Moscow from September 28 to 30.



The Zebras begin their bid for a place at the 2027 Africa Cup of Nations finals with an encounter with Libya at the Tripoli International Stadium today.

Botswana face Libya in AFCON qualifier

Tumisang Moilwa
GABORONE

The senior national football team, Zebras begin their bid for a place at the 2027 Africa Cup of Nations finals with a difficult away assignment against Libya aka The Mediterranean Knights at the Tripoli International Stadium in Libya today.

Botswana's opening Group H encounter comes against

a familiar opponent, with Libya having won the last two meetings between the sides by a 1-0 scoreline.

The most recent came in September 2024 when Libya edged Botswana 1-0 in a friendly at the same Tripoli venue.

The North Africans had also claimed a 1-0 victory over the Zebras in the opening match of the 2023 AFCON qualifiers in Benghazi.

That record gives Libya reason for confidence ahead of the encounter, although the hosts will themselves enter the match with a relatively new-look technical setup.

Senegalese coach, Yousoupha Dabo was appointed Libya's head coach in July, replacing compatriot Aliou Cissé.

Dabo previously served as Cissé's assistant with the national team, giving him

familiarity with the squad while also bringing a new voice ahead of the AFCON campaign. Libya's most recent international outings also point to a side that can be difficult to separate from. They drew 0-0 with Niger before playing out a 2-2 draw against Liberia in March. The Zebras will have to avoid another narrow defeat and start the campaign with points on the road.

They also have little time to dwell on next week's result, as they return home to face Tunisia on September 28 in their second Group H fixture.

With Libya, Tunisia and Uganda making up the group, Botswana will know that a positive start away from home could provide an important foundation for the campaign.

Kick-off is scheduled for 6pm. **BOPA**

Dinaledi misses out on World Cup spot

Anastacia Sibanda
GABORONE

The Botswana senior national netball team, Dinaledi, failed to qualify for the Netball World Cup Sydney 2027, following their losses at the ongoing Africa regional qualifiers and the Africa Netball Cup at the Kasarani Indoor Arena in Nairobi Kenya.

The team, placed in Pool I with Zimbabwe, Namibia, Tanzania and South Africa, only managed to defeat Tanzania 59-35 and lost 54-32 to Namibia, 57-39 to Zimbabwe and 72-32 to South Africa in their final match yesterday.

Though the team did not make it to the World Cup, head coach, Martha Mosoahele-Samm said they would leave with few positive pointers from the tournament.

Also, she said the tournament served as a building block for the squad.

"We represented Botswana

well, it was really tough, but we gave it our all. The team is the future of Botswana. These youngsters are developing and growing well and in years to come, they will give teams a run for their money," she said.

Although their quest to qualify for the World Cup is over, the team will now shift focus to play positioning matches, where the aim is to finish on a high note and salvage pride.

Meanwhile, the tournament, which started on Saturday, ends over the weekend and only two teams will qualify from this event to the NWC2027.

Eight teams; Malawi, Zimbabwe, Namibia, Zambia, Kenya, Botswana, Tanzania and Nigeria are taking part in the tournament, while South Africa and Uganda are also part of the tournament despite having already qualified for the World Cup due to their respective world rankings. **BOPA**



The senior netball national team, Dinaledi failed to qualify for the Netball World Cup Sydney 2027, following their losses at the ongoing Africa regional qualifiers and the Africa Netball Cup at the Kasarani Indoor Arena in Nairobi Kenya. Photo: Courtesy of Botswana Netball Association