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President Advocate Duma Boko (centre), Lotsane Safaris owner, Mr Rainer Schorr (left) and wife, Petra during the official opening of Shaturia Manor Lodge in Tuli Block on Saturday. President Boko said government had begun a process to corporatise ministries to achieve maximum efficiency and inject some agility into its operations. Having gained insights from Mr Schorr on how some governments operated, President Boko said the process would ensure that government worked pretty much like business where decisions, informed by data, were taken quickly. Photo: Pheny Moalosi

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Maternal mortality cases on rise

By Lesedi Thatayamodimo

GABORONE - Botswana is grappling with a concerning rise in maternal mortality, with 2021 statistics revealing 240 deaths per 100 000 live births ‘a sharp and unacceptable increase,’ says Acting Minister of Health, Mr Lawrence Ookeditse.

Officially opening the second biennial congress of the Botswana Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (BOSOG) in Gaborone on Friday, Mr Ookeditse declared the situation a national emergency, citing hypertensive disorders of pregnancy and obstetric haemorrhage as the leading causes behind the rise.

Mr Ookeditse said those two conditions were not only the primary contributors to maternal mortality but had now become among the top 10 causes of overall mortality in the country, according to national health data.

He stated that a recent report by the McKinsey Institute further underscored the gravity of the situation, placing hypertensive disorders and obstetric haemorrhage among the top nine causes of reduced lifespan for women in Botswana.

“This is a national emergency that requires urgent, collective action,” he said, adding that ‘we are currently developing a turnaround strategy to close the gaps in the management of pregnant and labouring women and we welcome the support of all stakeholders, including BOSOG’.

Mr Ookeditse stressed that healthier women were critical to building strong families, thriving communities and a resilient economy.

He further called for strategic and substantial investment of resources, supported by cross-sector collaboration to improve maternal health outcomes, adding that restructuring of the health system to deliver equitable and high-value quality was key to help accelerate progress, reduce disparities, and close persistent gaps in women’s healthcare.

“Addressing the root causes of the women’s healthcare gap, such as treatment efficacy, care delivery, reliable data, and sustainable funding, can extend the healthy lifespan of women and yield immense economic and social benefits,” he said.

However, Mr Ookeditse also acknowledged long-standing systemic challenges that continued to undermine the quality of maternal care in Botswana.

Among them, he mentioned difficulties in retaining medical specialists in the public sector, unequal distribution of healthcare

personnel across district health management teams and recurring shortages of essential medical supplies.

He said those challenges were especially severe in rural areas, where limited infrastructure and basic amenities had led to chronic shortages of skilled personnel, worsening the healthcare divide between urban and rural populations.

Mr Ookeditse pointed out that despite financial constraints and the government’s inability to compete with private sector salaries, he noted that efforts had been made to improve staff retention, citing overtime allowances, scarce skills incentives, and contributions toward medical aid schemes; however, he admitted that those efforts remain insufficient.

“As a new administration, we are exploring all viable options to retain our skilled personnel and enhance public sector healthcare delivery to match private sector standards,” Mr Ookeditse added.

He therefore called on healthcare professionals, civil society, private partners, and international agencies to join hands in a united front against maternal mortality, saying ‘the urgency is clear, without a coordinated and sustained response, the lives and futures of thousands of women and families across Botswana remain at risk,’

he warned.

The two-day BOSOG gathering was an opportunity to

explore new advancements, share best practices, and strengthen collective efforts in bridging the

gap in Women’s Health disparities in access to quality health care in Botswana. **BOPA**



Assistant Minister of Health, Mr Lawrence Ookeditse (centre), Botswana Society of Obstetricians chairperson, Dr Vincent Molelekwa (left) and Sir Ketumile Teaching Hospital caretaker commissioning manager, Dr Kagiso Ndlovu during the second biennial congress of the Botswana Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists in Gaborone on Friday. Mr Ookeditse said Botswana was grappling with rise in maternal mortality, with 2021 statistics revealing 240 deaths per 100 000 live births.

Photo: Dimpho Buisanyang

Govt consults on bogosi, customary court acts review

By Keith Ketl

MAHALAPYE - In a democratic set up, consultations play a vital role in ensuring citizen participation and promoting informed decision-making processes, Ministry of Local Government and Traditional Affairs, Mr Ketlhalefile Motshegwa has said.

Speaking at a consultative kgotla meeting in Mahalapye on Thursday, the minister said consultations provided a platform for citizens to share their opinions, ideas and concerns, influencing policy development and implementation, noting such consultations presented opportunities for diverse perspectives to be heard.

The local government ministry is on a countrywide tour to consult on Bogosi Act of 2008 and Customary Act of 2013 reviews.

At the meeting, he said when government reviewed and made laws as well as other forms of development no one should be left behind.

Further, he said development

should not only translate into infrastructure, but also should impact people’s lives, hence the need to traverse the country to consult on Bogosi Act and Customary Court Act review to come up with the most relevant laws. Therefore, he said such consultations would spell out challenges and applicable solutions to daily challenges faced by Batswana.

However, Mr Motshegwa said the review of Bogosi and Customary Court Acts were geared to give prominence and potency to the role and stature of Bogosi in a modern democracy.

He also said in the envisaged Bogosi Act, Kgosikgolo title would be incorporated or assimilated into the act, arguing the law should reflect circumstances on the ground pertaining to Batswana’s lives as in the current scenario the word Kgosikgolo only exist ‘in the air’ but not recognised by the act.

He also said with a view to give Bogosi dignity, prominence and potency, they would get rid of title dikgosana and replace it with a more dignified title,

adding that in the current Bogosi Act, Dikgosi structure was as follows; kgosi, mothusa kgosi, moemela kgosi o mogolwane, moemela kgosi and kgosana in sequential order.

“In the envisaged act, the dikgosi structure would be as follows; kgosikgolo, mothusa kgosikgolo, kgosi, moemela kgosi wa ntlha, moemela kgosi wa bobedi le kgosi ya tletlanyo.”

He spoke fondly of revamping the Tribal Administration structure, noting such a move would improve the working conditions of dikgosi to ensure they had adequate tools of the trade for them to effectively and efficiently discharge their duties as well as their remuneration should give dikgosi dignity.

The minister further said Customary Court Act guided dikgosi on prosecution issues pertaining to criminal and civil cases, hence the need to consult them on how best to transform the act.

Mr Motshegwa said government departments were advised to review their programmes, policies and laws to remove bottlenecks that might

be detrimental to effectively and efficiently discharge their mandate.

He said programmes should be deliberately tailor made to cater for the lives of Batswana and provide solutions for daily challenges faced by Batswana.

Ipelegeng programme, initially designed for temporary employment to cushion Batswana against economic hardships and providing basic livelihoods, Minister Motshegwa said it would undergo transformation geared at transitioning it into a more agile and robust Public Works Programme, with beneficiaries remunerated for P2 500.

Mr Motshegwa said the programme would drift from providing temporary employment to empowering beneficiaries through engagement in basic infrastructure development and maintenance citing Bonno Housing programme in which the ministry would liaise with Technical and Vocational Education and Training providers for skills transfer. **BOPA**



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Boko inspires Moletemane Primary School pupils

By Chendzimu Manyepedza

MOLETEMANE - President Advocate Duma Boko's visit to Moletemane Primary School in the Bobirwa District will forever be etched in the memories of learners and staff members.

The Friday visit signified the importance President Boko attaches to educating, nurturing young minds and promoting efforts focused on building a bright future.

With enthusiasm and a connection he has to young learners, President Boko emphasised the transformative power of literature and learning.

He stated that developing the love for reading presented boundless opportunities, adding that books unlocked the doors to knowledge and creativity and that reading should not be a school activity only, but a lifelong habit.

President Boko pledged to donate 1 000 short story books to the school, to ignite and enhance literacy among learners and also walk the talk of encouraging the young ones to embrace reading.

He also promised tablets for all learners at Moletemane Primary School, to enrich learners' educational experience and demonstrate the importance of digital learning in today's world.

"Learners must be provided with tools to navigate digitalisation. The tablets will position them well for innovation and enable digitalised classes that can help them engage academically while in different locations," said President Boko.

He requested learners to shun bullying, a problem that affected many schools across the country

and was linked to broader societal issues of gender-based violence, calling for an increased awareness against bullying in educational environments.

"Bullying is not just a childhood issue, it is a seed of deeper societal problems. It can lead to serious consequences, including gender-based violence, which continues to hinder the progress of many communities," said President Boko.

Instead, he encouraged a culture of open dialogue, respect and kindness among learners, urging them to extend this attitude to their teachers and parents outside of school.

Moletemane Primary School head, Ms Tsapelo Ndawanyana, expressed heartfelt gratitude for President Boko's pledges, which would address some of the school needs.

She also mentioned that his visit brought hope and inspiration to learners and the school staff.

Ms Ndawanyana was also happy for the donations from various businesses in Moletemane, noting that they improved the overall wellbeing of learners and inspired them to strive for better academic results.

She mentioned that the school enrolled more than 600 pupils, and was faced with a shortage of classrooms though teachers were unrelenting in their pursuit of good academic results.

The visit concluded with President Boko taking pictures with pupils, to capture the memories that the community will treasure forever, as learners beamed with pride while standing next to a national figure who dares them to believe in their capabilities. **BOPA**



President Advocate Duma Boko interacting with Standard Two pupils during his visit to Moletemane Primary School on Friday. He encouraged learners to study hard, saying all had the potential to succeed if they put effort into their studies. He also addressed the issue of bullying in schools, saying it was unacceptable. The President further committed to donating 1 000 short story books to the school.

Photo: Phenyo Moalosi

'Government to corporatise ministries for efficiency'

By Manowe Motsaathebe

TULI - Government has begun a process to corporatise ministries to achieve maximum efficiency and inject some agility into its operations, President Advocate Duma Boko has said.

The process will ensure that government 'works pretty much like business' where decisions, informed by data, are taken quickly.

Speaking during the grand opening of Shaturia Manor Lodge, one of Botswana's most

exclusive villas offering an exquisite blend of luxury and privacy at Lotsane Safaris on Saturday, President Boko said he gained insights on how some governments operated from the facility owner, Mr Rainer Schorr.

"He raised an issue that I have wrestled with, that I shared with those that I work with in the government and attempt to bring in and inject into how government works," he said.

The ministries, the President said, would be responsible, accountable, transparent, open

while agile and robust in pursuing determinant goals.

The goals, he said would be clearer and concentrated in target.

"We know what we want to achieve and when, so we are pursuing digitalisation," he said and emphasised the seriousness in pursuit, calling the digitalisation process 'the pivot point of the economy.'

He said digitalisation would enhance efficiency while putting complete stoppage to any wastage and irresponsible spending inter alia.

"It will help us respond more decisively to the dictates of business... and so, when investors come, we will be ready to facilitate them quickly so that they don't spend time being tossed about when our people need investment for jobs," the President said.

The Shaturia Manor Lodge, an investment in upward of P500 million, which has created 50 direct jobs, has been dubbed as a creator of a 5-star rating destination, which would beckon investors from afar for the enjoyment of the country's stunning flora and fauna.

He also said he was encouraged that tourism locally was taking off after COVID-19 setback and credited the likes of Mr and Mrs Schorr's efforts toward propelling the industry to greater heights.

Speaking at the same event, dubbed the opening of the dream, owner, Mr Schorr, a German, explained that the manor sat inside a 100km of fencing with 17 waterholes and thousands of indigenous animals like sable and antelopes.

The manor was constructed in two years upon completion of signing of contract. **BOPA**

Duo reaffirms commitment to railway line

By Portia Ikgopoleng

KASANE - Botswana and Namibia have reaffirmed a commitment to the Trans-Kalahari Railway line (TKR), to promote distribution of regional traffic among corridors in Southern Africa, increased regional integration and international cooperation.

Speaking at the Joint Ministerial Committee (JMC) of the TKR in Kasane on Friday, Minister of Transport and Infrastructure, Mr Noah Salakae said the railway line was a spine for economic transformation, encompassing logistics hubs, industrial clusters, energy infrastructure and trade zones amongst others.

"We must think in terms of catalytic value of jobs created not just in construction but agribusiness, mining services, clean energy generation and digital logistics platforms that can thrive in smartly planned corridor economy," said Minister Salakae.

The TKR, he said was a smart rail transportation system that would pull citizens of both nations from isolation, create employment as well as turn quiet villages, towns and cities into thriving commercial centres and tourist destinations.

Mr Salakae commended the JMC for appointing a consultant in March as that set a strong

foundation for advancing the roadmap collectively set to realise this vital project.

He further said Botswana was in the process of developing Botswana Infrastructure Investment Plan aimed at upgrading and expanding infrastructure ecosystem, to unlock broader economic opportunities.

The minister said President Advocate Duma Boko and Namibia President, Dr Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah in their meeting recently, underscored that TKR was key infrastructure development cultivating substantial increase in the value of exports, job creation, economic diversification and stimulate economic growth for both nations. For his part, Namibia's Minister of Transport and Works, Mr Veikko Nekundi said the aim of the project was to facilitate trade, movement of commodities and people not just for Botswana and Namibia but the rest of Africa under Africa Continental Free Trade Area.

He said analysts projected economic growth in the region to be 4.2 per cent this year, far below the seven per cent achieved elsewhere in other regions hence the realisation of the project had countless benefits for the people locally and regionally.

"When economies grow, opportunities are created and poverty is eradicated, welfare of our is people improved hence the realisation of this railway line will breathe a new life to our people," said Mr Nekundi.

He pointed out that it was worrisome that since Botswana and Namibia entered into a Memorandum of Understanding for this project in 2010, no single kilometre of the railway line had been constructed.

Mr Nekundi implored the technical team of implementers to perform their duties expeditiously, to ensure the mammoth project came into fruition for the benefit of Botswana and Namibians. **BOPA**

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PAC decries poor work conditions

By Gontle Merafhe

GABORONE - Members of the Parliamentary Public Accounts Committee (PAC) have expressed displeasure on the conditions of work Batswana are subjected to by employers.

During the Ministry of Labour and Home Affairs audit in Gaborone on Wednesday, the committee Chairperson, also Member of Parliament for Bobirwa, Mr Taolo Lucas, said workers were not free to talk about the poor working conditions for fear of victimisation and possible dismissal.

Mr Lucas said farm workers

in Gantsi and Tuli Block were abused and should be prioritised for inspection of labour.

He said some workers were given monthly contracts which was common among Chinese employers and was unfair to Batswana.

He also said even the government was engaged in such practices as temporary and freelance positions were not filled to avoid paying gratuity and severance to employees.

He said the committee had asked companies to bring employment returns from which they looked into needed skills, places of work and skills transfer where foreigners were engaged.

Mr Lucas said it was true employers exploited workers through the monthly contracts. Member of the PAC and MP for Gamalete, Mr Boniface Mabeo, said working conditions were appalling especially in establishments ran by the Chinese and Indians.

Mr Mabeo said some workers were exposed to excessive heat without proper protective clothing putting them at risk. Another member of the PAC, Mr Victor Phologolo, said trade unions were also non-compliant to labour laws, and yet collected

subscription from members without annual returns.

Mr Phologolo said such unions continued to exist and remained in the Ministry of Labour and Home Affairs books which was an act of non-compliance. Another member of the committee, Mr Goretetse Kekgonegile, said the special permits for mines to operate special shifts, the mines have since changed to 12-hour shifts with exemption permits.

“These permits have been running for seven years yet normally, special permits are supposed to run during

emergencies. What kind of mining emergencies run for seven years?” he asked.

He said workers would continue to suffer unless the permits were revoked.

He also said payment, averaging overtime hours in mines and other establishments were to be cancelled to fairly pay workers for work done.

He further said Batswana possessed skills that foreigners were offered permits for such as teaching in private schools and some shops. **BOPA**

Former miners benefit P41.2m compensation

By Gontle Merafhe

GABORONE - Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Labour and Home Affairs, Mr Jimmy Opelo says from December 2022 to date, R55 million equivalent to P41.2 million has been disbursed to compensate people who were employed in the South African mines.

Addressing the Parliamentary Public Accounts Committee in Gaborone on Wednesday, Mr Opelo said they had met with their South African counterparts and discussed the matter of former miners. Mr Opelo said they had engaged at the level of permanent secretaries and ministerial levels.

“I have personally with my team visited the PS for health and PS for Labour in the Republic of South Africa and some representatives of the Ministry of Health at the PS level and at the lower level of the PS to talk about this issue,” he said.

Mr Opelo said both governments had engaged in an intensive and amicable way to an extent that they had worked out the numbers which had proven to change overtime as while they did assessment, the people they did not talk about came up.

He also said there were a couple of ways the former miners were categorised as some had issues of occupational health and some sustained injuries and some had annuity that they the miners were not aware of when they retired from work.

He further said they had teams working with social workers and traditional leaders through which kgotla meetings were held across the country.

Mr Opelo said they worked with families who brought evidence that their kin had worked in the mines since miners were aged, some had died and any form of money, injury and annuity was paid.

Therefore, he said, the two governments had agreed that

a trust should monitor the arrangement as government representatives from both countries met regularly.

He said they met each time as new evidence was presented with 621 former miners yet numbers kept going up.

“As I speak to you now, they are in Palapye,” he said.

He said they started paying former miners pensions late though those responsible for occupational health hastened to draft compensation Memorandum of Understanding was still pending.

PS said while they were engaged in bilateral talks with the South African government, there were fraudsters who collected P300 from each ex-miner promising to collect their benefits from South Africa.

He said the fraudsters did not have any ties with the compensation bodies nor did they know them, therefore were scammers because even if they knew where to go, they would not be given any money as they did not know who had the money. **BOPA**



Members of the Parliamentary Public Accounts Committee during the Ministry of Labour and Home Affairs audit in Gaborone recently. The committee expressed displeasure on the conditions of work Batswana were subjected to by employers. Photo: Thompson Keobaletswe

‘Plans to relocate officers delay’

By Gontle Merafhe

GABORONE - The Ministry of International Relations has opened an office at the Gaborone Main Mall in order to relocate staff from the dilapidated headquarters.

However, only a few employees have moved to the newly acquired building, owing to failure to partition it for occupation by all.

Giving the executive summary of the ministry at the parliamentary Public Accounts Committee

session in Gaborone on Friday, permanent secretary, Mr Thuso Ramodimoosi said the office was opened two months ago following its acquisition in April 2024, the period it had been attracting monthly rentals.

“The plan was to temporarily relocate everybody whilst this dilapidated headquarters is being renovated under the Development Manager (DM) model,” he said, explaining that since the said model had been suspended, partitioning

had been impossible, dictating that only a few members of staff relocate.

Mr Ramodimoosi, who had been with the ministry for two month now, said the ministry continued to pay rent with the hope of partitioning the building.

He said the new office was much better than the headquarters, safe for lack of WiFi installation, which he said was in the pipeline, together with furniture replacement, as the current was worn out. **BOPA**

Committee calls for Chema Chema update



Ministry of Trade and Entrepreneurship permanent secretary, Mr Olesitse Masimega appearing before the Public Accounts Committee in Gaborone on Thursday. He informed the committee that the new guidelines for Chema Chema programme were expected to be approved by July. Photo: Thompson Keobaletswe

By Ndingililo Gaoswediwe

GABORONE - The Public Accounts Committee (PAC) has advised the accounting officer of the Ministry of Trade and Entrepreneurship to provide the nation with a comprehensive update on the status of the Chema Chema programme.

Originally launched as a loan scheme to empower small entrepreneurs, the programme was recently paused to facilitate its transition into a grant facility, following procedural requirements.

Appearing before PAC on Thursday, the ministry’s Permanent Secretary, Mr Olesitse Masimega, informed

the committee that the approved loans would be reviewed and reassessed in light of rising prices.

He also said that those who had not yet received approval should reapply once new guidelines were issued.

Mr Masimega indicated that the new guidelines were expected to be approved by July.

However, he was unable to confirm whether funds would be available for disbursement by that time.

In response, PAC chairperson Mr Taolo Lucas advised Mr Masimega to issue a detailed communique to clarify the current status to the public. **BOPA**

Missing persons unit to ease communication

By Gontle Merafhe

GABORONE - The newly established missing persons unit will ease communication between the police and the relatives of those missing.

Commissioner of police, Ms Dinah Marathe told the parliamentary Public Accounts Committee in Gaborone on Friday that the move to set up the missing persons unit was a response to the public outcry that the police were not doing enough to search for the missing persons.

She said at times the police failed to continually furnish the missing person's kin with feedback, which anomaly resulted in the public mistrusting the police.

Sharing statistics, the commissioner said 648 people went missing in 2023, while 612 went missing in 2024.

She said 92.4 per cent of missing persons in 2024 were found alive.

She also said the Botswana Police Service worked with Interpol in missing person cases to utilise the latter's database for people's whereabouts.

"We need a national database that has the prints of all of us such that we can share them internationally," Ms Marathe said, explaining that the envisaged database could help increased

detection rate of missing persons.

Ms Marathe said among the people reportedly missing, some crossed borders to neighbouring countries while others moved houses without informing relatives, which caused anxiety for them, regretting that searching for missing persons was a daunting task that cost BPS a lot of resources.

"Some had moved to other areas without informing next of kin while some youth [steal away]. Some, especially along the border villages, cross over to the farms. There is one who returned recently after five years," she said.

She also explained that a police chopper was only dispatched when it had been alleged that the missing person had left the village, as it only effective for bush searching, not build-up areas.

As for human trafficking, Ms Marathe said Botswana was mainly used by traffickers for transit, not as a destination, meaning there were no proceeds of trafficking in the country.

The police chief said statistics proved that the majority of missing persons were found alive even though some were found dead, which was one of the factors that influenced the establishment of the missing persons unit.

BOPA



Public Accounts Committee (PAC) chairperson, Mr Taolo Lucas (left) and Botswana Police Commissioner, Ms Dinah Marathe after the latter's appearance before the PAC in Gaborone on Friday. Ms Marathe said the move to set up the Missing Persons Unit was a response to the public outcry that the police were not doing enough to search for the missing persons. Photo: Phenyo Ramatu

Ookeditse advocates for safe abortions

By Lesedi Thatayamodimo

GABORONE - Acting Minister of Health, Mr Lawrence Ookeditse has called for urgent action to improve access to safe abortion services to address the growing concerns over health risks posed by unsafe procedures carried out in secrecy.

Speaking during the second biennial congress of the Botswana Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (BOSOG) in Gaborone on Friday, Mr

Ookeditse spoke of the need for open dialogue and legal reforms to protect the lives and rights of women in Botswana.

While abortion remained heavily restricted under current law, he said the reality was that many young girls and women sought out unsafe alternatives, often with devastating consequences.

"Women are dying in silence, as leaders, we must confront this public health issue with compassion, evidence, and a

commitment to human rights, access to safe abortion is not about encouraging it, it is about saving lives and ensuring dignity," he said.

Under Botswana's current Penal Code, abortion is only permitted in limited circumstances, such as when the mother's life is at risk, in cases of rape or incest, or where the fetus has severe abnormalities. Mr Ookeditse therefore, said it was time for open and honest national dialogue on abortion since many women resorted to unsafe and unregulated procedures.

He said there was a concerning rise in complications related to unsafe abortions, particularly among young women and girls in rural communities.

"Think of a poor girl child in Manxotai, with unwanted pregnancy, ending up throwing a baby in a pit latrine," Mr Ookeditse said, expressing frustration over the ambiguities and stigma surrounding abortion services. "On the other hand, another young girl from a rich family still in Botswana crosses the border to perform a safe abortion," said Mr Ookeditse.

He stressed the importance of better support systems for women facing unwanted pregnancies and called on lawmakers and religious leaders to participate in an inclusive national conversation on reproductive health rights.

"Although Botswana is a Christian country, and abortion against ethics, I am not advocating for abortion as a first option," but advocating for safety, legality and informed choice," he said.

The acting minister announced plans to table the motion in the upcoming parliamentary session, to explore policy options that aligned with the impact of unsafe abortions on international health standards.

The BOSOG platform serves to advance women's health care, promote medical ethics, collaboration, knowledge sharing, and advocacy and professional development. **BOPA**

Cable theft, vandalism overwhelm BPC

By Esther Mmolai

MAUN - Botswana Power Corporation (BPC) has recorded over 100 households that have been affected by power cable theft in Maun.

The corporation is reportedly overwhelmed by a problem of

electric power cable theft and vandalism of infrastructure, which are exacerbated by a readily available black market. BPC senior customer service officer, Mr Letsogile Ledimo explained when responding to comments by members of the community who accused the corporation

for delaying to replace stolen cables from their homes. Mr Ledimo said the corporation was currently replacing cables stolen last year October and the exercise was about to be completed. He said this year, 156 households had reported stolen cables and urged residents to join forces with

the corporation to come up with a solution. He explained that it costs the corporation millions to replace the stolen cables, money that could have been used to improve services. Mr Ledimo stated that BPC was exploring ways of addressing the problem among them, using non-copper cables.

Earlier, members of the community complained about copper cable theft in the village and that the corporation fell short to assist them.

They said lack of electricity negatively impacted their lives.

Water Utilities Corporation official, Mr Onkeme Ramaxao also decried vandalism of water reticulation infrastructure, which disturbed efforts to efficiently provide potable water in the village.

He said water metres were being stolen at an alarming rate and that the cost of replacement was being borne by household owners. The process, he said was rather slow because priority was given to those awaiting water connection.

Mr Ramaxao also urged residents to take advantage of the 50 per cent debt amnesty campaign due to end June 30. The campaign aims to encourage residents to pay outstanding water bills. **BOPA**



Botswana Power Corporation is reportedly overwhelmed by a problem of electric power cable theft and vandalism of infrastructure, which are exacerbated by a readily available black market. The corporation has recorded over 100 households that have been affected by power cable theft in Maun.

CIPA resolute in piracy fight

By Booster Mogapi

RAMOTSWA - Companies and Intellectual Property Authority (CIPA) has destroyed counterfeits material worth P2.7 million and pirated goods worth P395 000 which include phones, tablets, clothes, shoes, pirated CDS and DVDs, decoders, and other related materials.

The Assistant Minister of Trade and Entrepreneurship Mr Baratiwa Mathoothe, who witnessed the destruction of counterfeit goods at Ramotswa District Landfill on Thursday, said destroying counterfeit products sent a strong message that businesses that

thrived on deception, exploitation and fraud have no place in the economy.

He said the government was resolute in putting in place the building blocks for Batswana to develop sustainable business enterprises as they strive to create meaningful and well-paying jobs.

Mr Mathoothe said they were mindful that these new businesses would find it difficult to compete with cheap, low quality imported counterfeit products.

“This why today’s activity is so symbolic. We are sending a clear message that we are removing barriers to trade for the ordinary Motswana while assuring them that

we will protect their innovation and invention”, said Mr Mathoothe

He stated that the confiscated goods were holding back the creative industries by actively devaluing music and film as a product. Mr Mathoothe said he was pleased that CIPA and its partners had taken a decisive steps to launch a war against counterfeit and pirated goods.

He challenged CIPA to ensure that the draft bills developed to strengthen IP laws were finalised to ensure harsh penalties and develop a more robust enforcement programme.

When giving an overview of the market, market agent Mr James

Maradza said counterfeits goods undermined legitimate businesses and eroded public trust.

He said that was why markets had become pro-active agents in working alongside law enforcement, regulatory bodies and consumer protection agencies to confiscate such illegal products.

Mr Maradza further said this was not just about enforcement, but rather protection of the public from unsafe products, unfair competition and illicit economic activity.

The Acting Registrar General of CIPA, Mr Timothy Moalusi said they were raising public awareness by educating the public on the serious consequences of purchasing and distributing counterfeit goods.

He said they wanted to support innovation and fair trade as they need to put more emphasis on honesty and legitimate trade for the economy to grow.

Mr Moalusi added that “by demonstrating that we are resolute in protecting intellectual property rights, we create an environment where creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship can flourish which is essential for economic

growth and creating a healthy and vibrant business landscape”.

He said they were destroying counterfeit goods collected between 2016 and 2025 through CIPA Compliance and Enforcement Unit in collaboration with Botswana Police Service, Botswana Unified Revenue Service, Interpol and Intellectual Property holders.

Mr Moalusi said the infringing goods were confiscated from borders, shops and informal traders.

Kgosi Mosadi Seboko asked CIPA to raise awareness among all Batswana, adding that not all people had access to technology where such information may be shared.

She said people had to know about the dangers of counterfeit goods and how they affected the economy and health of the nation.

Kgosi Seboko said lack of understanding of intellectual property laws can be detrimental to fair trade and when law enforcers confiscate goods from ordinary people, they may be aggrieved as they do not understand the meaning of it. **BOPA**



Companies Intellectual Property Authority, Botswana Unified Revenue Services, Botswana Police Service and Ministry of Trade and Entrepreneurship during a collaborative venture to destroy counterfeit material worth P2.7 million and pirated goods worth P395 000 at the Ramotswa District Landfill on Thursday.
Photo: Teko Letsholo

Northern trade fair success

By Thamani Shabani

FRANCISTOWN - This year’s Business Botswana Northern Trade Fair was a powerful statement about Botswana’s economic resilience and innovative potential.

Business Botswana vice president (North), Mr Humphrey Nawa, described the fair as a cut above the rest, a resounding success that defied the challenges of a recently ‘collapsed economy’.

He said for Botswana to move forward, its people must be participants, not recipients.

The secret to the success of the show, he said was a diverse range of exhibitors spanning agriculture, Information and Communication Technology (ICT), as well as manufacturing, showcasing a remarkable level of determination and perseverance.

The fair was not just a marketplace, it was a showcase of innovation, attracting young entrepreneurs and fostering a spirit of self-reliance.

The virtual tour equipment by the Ministry of Transport and

Infrastructure and the exhibition of electric cars by eMobility particularly stood out, highlighting Botswana’s foray into green energy and its potential to create new value chains and jobs.

“These innovations have value chain development and can create more jobs, grow the economy and improve the livelihoods of many households,” Mr Nawa emphasised, highlighting the educational aspect of the fair, with its focus on manufacturing, the cornerstone of economic development.

However, the fair was not without its challenges. Space limitations prevented the inclusion of cattle, a significant aspect of Botswana’s agricultural sector.

While small stock exhibitions continued to thrive, Mr Nawa acknowledged the need for expansion to accommodate larger livestock displays in the future, outlining plans to address the space constraints for next year’s event.

He encouraged exhibitors to consider investing in their own dedicated showrooms, a model adopted in other countries to attract

both domestic and international participation.

Mr Nawa envisions the Francistown trade fair grounds becoming a hub of activity, utilised at least twice a month to maintain momentum.

While acknowledging financial constraints and the need for increased sponsorship, he outlined plans to upgrade the facilities, expressing the need for more showrooms, particularly during the windy winter months.

Mr Nawa highlighted the participation of young people from across various sectors and encouraged greater youth involvement in future events.

He further emphasised Francistown’s strategic location as a logistics and mining hub, suggesting that leveraging the trade fair’s infrastructure could revitalise the local economy, particularly in the wake of mine closures.

“It is more than just a trade fair, it is a testament to Botswana’s enduring spirit of entrepreneurship and innovation,” said Mr Nawa. **BOPA**

Trade fair highlights Francistown as potential business hub

By Kelebogile Taolo

FRANCISTOWN - With its strategic geographical position, Francistown stands as a burgeoning hub for business opportunities, particularly access to the Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries located in the north of Botswana.

Business Botswana president, Mr Neo Nwako commented on Thursday, during the official opening of the 29th Business Botswana Northern Trade Fair in Francistown.

Mr Nwako said Francistown was surrounded by numerous informal businesses that required support and development.

He therefore, reaffirmed Business Botswana’s commitment to enhance local economic development strategies in Francistown, ensuring that the transition to a robust private-led economy extended to grassroots levels, including the informal sector and Small, Medium, and Micro Enterprises (SMMEs).

As advocates for the business community, he said Business Botswana had completed the documentation and launched the Private Sector Development Strategy for the period 2025 to 2029, which focused on inclusivity and aimed to align the informal sector with SMMEs, fostering a high-income economy in Southern

Africa.

“This aligns seamlessly with the government’s agenda for economic growth,” said Mr Nwako.

He also highlighted the importance of the strategy in addressing the country’s persistent inequalities, introducing initiatives and platforms designed to promote equitable growth.

The strategy is built on five key pillars; economic expansion, mainstreaming the informal sector, enhancing competitiveness through digitisation and private sector leadership. Mr Nwako expressed confidence that a strong partnership with the government could lead to meaningful business growth and job creation.

“By implementing effective strategies and initiatives, we can empower our youth to engage meaningfully in the economy,” he said and explained that quite a number of young people were unemployed despite being university graduates.

Additionally, Mr Nwako reported significant growth in participation at the trade fair, with over 170 exhibitors compared to around 150 in the previous year.

This year’s theme was: Driving Economic Diversification Innovation for Sustainable Growth.

The fair is a vital platform for showcasing business opportunities and fostering economic development in the region. **BOPA**

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Okavango schools in dire state - clrs

By Kedirebofe Pelontle

GUMARE - Okavango District Council (ODC)'s Education and Health Committee has raised concern about the dire situations of some schools in the district.

The committee recently visited 19 schools in the Okavango District – 13 primary schools and six secondary schools to inspect the school situations.

Reporting on behalf of the committee at a full council meeting recently, the Councillor for Nxauxau-Chukumuchu, Mr Uakazemba Tjiponda, said there were challenges of poor sanitation which resulted from faulty toilet

systems, bats infestation in most schools, old furniture, dilapidated school facilities, damaged fences and poor food handling due to lack of protective clothing.

Mr Tjiponda said the worst schools were Danega satellite school under Nokaneng stream, Ngambao and Gowa junior secondary schools in Seronga and Kauxwi respectively.

The Councillor for Nokaneng-Habu, Mr Itjienda Tjinyeka, said Danega Satellite School had a challenge of staff accommodation, hence teachers of opposite gender shared accommodation while some teachers commuted from Nokaneng and Gumare.

Mr Thinyeka said the situation needed urgent attention of at least provision of porta cabins for staff houses. He said although not part of the report, Okavango Junior Secondary School had challenges of dilapidated facilities, and therefore required replacement of doors and locks for safety of boarding students.

A Nominated Councillor, Mr Kaukapita, said most schools in the Okavango District were the worst as compared to other schools in the country and the Ministry of Child Welfare and Basic Education should take accountability.

The Okavango District Commissioner, Mr William

Keareng, advised the councillors not to suggest stringent recommendations regarding the school situations but to consider partnerships with some investors to address some of the challenges experienced while awaiting interventions from the Ministry of Child Welfare and Basic Education.

Mr Keareng also said the Minister of Child Welfare and Basic Education recently visited some schools in the eastern part of the Okavango Delta such as Gowa therefore was aware of the school situations.

The Deputy Council Secretary for the Okavango District Council, Mr Losika Kula said the council should

prioritise school's needs under programmes such Constituency Community Project (CCP) to tackle some of the challenges. **BOPA**

Event highlights importance of hand hygiene

By Benita Magopane

GABORONE - Health workers have been encouraged to prioritise proper hand hygiene practices to prevent the spread of infections. The message was echoed at a World Hand Hygiene Day event held at Princess Marina Hospital in Gaborone on Friday. The event, themed: It might be gloves, it's always hand hygiene, aimed to raise awareness on the importance of hand hygiene in healthcare settings. It also underscored crucial role of medical gloves in preventing the spread of infections, while reinforcing that gloves are not a substitute for proper hand cleaning. Delivering the keynote address, World Health Organization (WHO) technical advisor, Ms Boingotlo Ramontshonyana, highlighted the risks posed by healthcare-associated infections (HAIs), which affected millions of patients and healthcare workers globally each year. She shared that, according to the WHO, 7 out of every 100 patients in high-income countries and 15 out of every 100 in low and middle-income countries acquire at least one healthcare-associated infection during their hospital stay. While, the 2024 Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP) she said approximated 43 per cent of healthcare facilities globally still lack basic hand hygiene services. "Hand hygiene in healthcare settings remains one of the most effective and low-cost interventions to improve patient safety, prevent infections, and combat antimicrobial resistance," said Ms Ramontshonyana. She noted that while gloves help minimise the risk of contaminating healthcare workers' hands and reduce germ transmission, they do not offer complete protection. "Gloves are not a replacement for hand hygiene. Their effectiveness depends on proper use and timely hand decontamination. Hand hygiene by washing or using alcohol-based rubs remains essential after glove removal," she said. Princess Marina Hospital manager, Ms Segopotso Motshubi, expressed commitment to championing hand hygiene practices among staff, particularly in light of the increasing occurrence of highly transmissible illnesses such as Ebola and Monkey pox. As health workers, we must lead by example and implement good hygiene practices that not only save lives but also reduce healthcare costs," she said. Chief Nurse in the Postnatal Ward, Ms Margaret Kagiso, stressed that consistent hand hygiene was key to reducing the spread of illnesses, especially those resistant to medication, and was a critical preventative measure against microbial infections resulting from hygiene neglect. **BOPA**

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INDEPENDENT ELECTORAL COMMISSION NEIGHBOR CONSULTATION

The Independent Electoral Commission (IEC), as the registered owner of Plot 82634, Block 10, Gaborone, wishes to inform the public and neighboring property owners, in particular, the owner of Plot 56831 of its intention to construct a Head Office, Warehouse, and Results Centre in compliance with the Environmental Assessment Regulations under the Environmental Assessment Act.

For any objection, clarity or suggestions please contact Ms. Baaitse Sebudula at email: bsebudula@gov.bw, Telephone: 3612400/3612488.

THERISO YA BAAGISANYI

Lekgotla la Tsamaiso Merero ya Ditlhopho tsa Botswana (IEC), le le abetsweng setsha mo kgaolong ya Gaborone sa Plot 82634 kwa Block 10, le itsisi baagisanyi le setshaba ka kakaretso ka maikaelelo a lone a go aga diofisi tse di tla akaretsang ofisi-kgolo, kago ya mabolokelo a didirisiwa tsa ditlhopho le lefelo la kitsiso maduo a ditlhopho.

Molaetsa o, o lebagane segolo-bogolo le mong wa setsha sa Plot 56831 gone kwa Block 10, Gaborone. Se se dirwa go itebagantswe le ditsetlana tsa Molao wa Tlhokomelo Tikologo, o o laelang ope o o dirang ditlhabololo go itsisi baagisanyi.

Go itse go feta fa, o ka ikgolaganya le Mme Baaitse Sebudula mo mogaleng wa 3612400/3612488 kgotsa mo email: bsebudula@gov.bw,



Integration of biodiversity conservation key

By Esther Mmolai

MAUN - It is upon the government and the community to drive the integration of biodiversity conservation in land use and spatial planning, specifically focusing on UN Sustainable Development Goal (SDG 11), says the executive director of Ngamiland Council of Non-Government Organisations (NCONGO), Mr Siyoka Simasiku.

SDG 11 aims to make cities and human settlement inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable to achieve a balance between economic growth and social equity, among others. Mr Simasiku, who was officiating at the national commemoration of the International Day of Biodiversity in Maun on Thursday, emphasised inclusivity, stating that protecting biodiversity required shared responsibility and action at all

levels.

He appreciated that the commemoration was held in Maun, a village that embodies the intricate balance between development, farming activities and environmental conservation.

He said Maun, like many growing settlements in Botswana, maintained a strong cultural and spiritual connection to the land, nature and biodiversity that support

the livelihoods and well-being of its people.

However, Mr Simasiku pointed out that the village was currently facing rapid changes due to urbanisation and population growth, the changes which coupled with land-use transformation were putting increasing pressure on the surrounding ecosystems and biodiversity.

“This has led to challenges including improper waste disposal, illegal mining of earth materials (gravel and pit sand), flooding, pollution, rehabilitated burrow pits, excessive veld products harvesting and the impacts of climate change,” he said noting that the issues were often worsened by limited capacity and inadequate waste management facilities.

He noted that the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) was currently undertaking a nationwide stakeholder consultation on the revision of the Botswana’s National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, a plan which had been carried out since 2016 and had done a lot to protect biodiversity and ensure sustainable use of natural resources.

However, Mr Simasiku said a lot still needed to be done, adding that one way of achieving the aspirations under biodiversity conservation and wise use of natural resources was through inclusivity.

“As local leadership, we reaffirm our support for these efforts and we understand the importance of integrating biodiversity into local planning and decision-making,

therefore we remain committed to working hand-in-hand with all stakeholders,” Mr Simasiku said.

He emphasised the need to fully implement the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Protocols; to invest in nature-based solutions; to raise awareness, especially among the youth as well as to integrate biodiversity into every policy, business model, and decision that shapes collective future.

In his welcome remarks, North West Deputy District Commissioner, Mr Ramogaupi Gaborekwe emphasised the importance of conserving biodiversity in a sustainable manner.

He appreciated that the event was held Maun considering the fact that it was a district rich in natural resources and biodiversity that encompasses dry and wet lands.

Outlining the objectives of the day, acting director DEP, Ms Ingrid Chite stated that the event aimed to provide an opportunity to foster wide support for the implementation of the convention, its protocols and related action frameworks as well as to educate the public about the significance of biodiversity and the threats it faced.

She said it also aimed to encourage action that protected biodiversity and its habitats including preservation of species and the maintenance of healthy ecosystem as well as to celebrate the richness and diversity of life on earth, from smallest organism to entire ecosystem. **BOPA**



Guests touring Botswana Tourism Organisation stall during the International Biodiversity Day in Maun on Thursday. NCONGO executive director, Mr Siyoka Simasiku said it was the responsibility of both government and the community to drive the integration of biodiversity conservation in land use and spatial planning, with specific focus on UN Sustainable Development Goal 11. Photo: Esther Mmolai



EXTERNAL ADVERTISEMENT

VACANCY CIRCULAR NO. 6 OF 2025

PRINCIPAL CLERK ASSISTANT I

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for the below positon in the National Assembly.

VACANCY CIRCULAR NO. 6 OF 2025

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Leave: 30 working days per annum
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Benefits:

- i) Optional contributory medical aid scheme (Government pay 50% and employee 50%).
 - ii) Contributory Pension Fund (Government pays 15% and Employee 5%)
- Experience:** 10 years relevant experience, 2 of which should have been served as Principal Clerk Assistant II (D3) or equivalent in the private sector.

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To facilitate provision of Protocol Services to Members of Parliament and visiting Dignitaries

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- Drafts Conference programmes, official opening programs and securing of country flags
- Provides regular briefs and appropriate analysis on pertinent issues taking place at the Regional and International level
- Arranges and covers courtesy calls by Diplomats and other dignitaries in liaison

with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

- Facilitates provision of Country briefs and other relevant information to International Parliamentary Organisations like Inter Parliamentary Union, African Parliamentary Union, SADC Parliamentary Forum, Pan African Parliament, SADCOPAC etc.
- Jointly agrees on performance objectives and targets and signs performance agreements with staff, undertakes performance reviews in accordance with the performance management system
- Addresses Protocol related queries and complaints from Members of Parliament and other stakeholders.
- Provides professional guidance, coaching and mentoring to staff
- Addresses staff welfare issues
- Manages and reviews performance of staff
- Reviews and ensures the alignment of all unit policies, procedures and interventions comply with SHE legislation and protocols and the MDA's quality management systems
- Monitors and ensures that all the functions and activities of the Department comply with national legislation and quality management standards
- Implements and ensures members of the unit undertake action items arising from SHEQ audits and risk assessments on time and in accordance with MDA's standards
- Provide departmental estimates
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REQUIRED COMPETENCIES

- Leading and Supervising
- Working with people
- Leading and Supervising
- Working with people

- Relating and Networking
- Planning and Organising
- Delivering results and meeting customer expectations
- Writing and reporting
- Adapting and responding to change
- Adhering to principles and values
- Following instructions and procedures
- Coping with pressures and setbacks

APPLICATIONS

- 1) Applicants should quote the reference number and the vacancy circular number and give the following details:
 - (a) Brief summary of career with duties performed (Curriculum Vitae) including the date of first appointment, present post and grade and the date of appointment thereto.
 - (b) Certified copies of academic certificates, and two (2) recent work related references (not more than 12 months).

- 2) All applications should be routed through Heads of Departments. Applications not so routed will not be considered.

Applications should be addressed to:

Clerk of the National Assembly, Parliament of Botswana, P O Box 240, Gaborone or submitted to the Records Management Unit, Office No 19, Annex 3.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Only shortlisted applications will be responded to.

CLOSING DATE: 30th May 2025

For further details please contact HR at Ext: **512/ 552/ 557**

Makhanselara a Palapye a leboga BITC

Ka Portia Rapitsenyane

PALAPYE - Makhanselara a kgaolo ya Palapye ba lebogile ba Botswana Investment and Trade Centre (BITC) go thusa bagwebi ba ba rekisang dijo tsa Setswana fa Makoro Veterinary Gate ka go ba direla lefelo le ba tlaa rekisetsang mo go lone.

Makhanselara ba ne ba leboga ba BITC ka Labone jaaka fa ba ne ba ba lekodisa ka tse ba di dirang mo nakong eno, le go neela bagwebi bao lefelo leo semmuso.

Bagwebi ba ba direlang fa thoko ga tsela kwa lefelong leo, e bile bontsi jwa bone e le bomme, ba rekisa dijo tsa Setswana bogolo jang tsa thobo di tshwana le mmidi, dinawa, magapu, ditloo, manoko le tse dingwe.

Ka jalo, makhanselara ba ne ba supa fa ba BITC ba thusitse fela thata ka barekisi bao ba tlaa nna le fa ba itiketsang teng bogolo jang ka dinako tsa pula, diphefo le diemo tse dingwe tse di tlhokang gore ba nne fa go tswalegileng.

Ba ne ba akgola BITC go tswa ka mogopolo wa go direla bagwebi bao, mme ba ba kopa go tswelela ba thusa ba bangwe ba ba tlhokang dithuso tse di tshwanang le tseo.

E ne e rile go le pele fa a neela bokopano jwa khausele pego ka lefelo leo, la marekisetso, mogolwane go tswa kwa BITC Mme Kutlo Moagi a supa fa mogopolo o rotloetswa ke lenaneo



Makhanselara a Palapye a buisiwa ke mogolwane go tswa kwa Botswana Investment and Trade Centre (BITC), Mme Kutlo Moagi ka lenaneo la go thusa bagwebi ba ba rekisang dijo tsa Setswana fa Makoro Veterinary Gate bosheng. Senepe: Portia Rapitsenyane

le ba nang le lone la go direla setshaba.

A re ba ne ba tla go kopana le bomme ba ba rekisetsang koo, ya re ba tsena teng ba gwetlhega ka ba ne ba lemoga gore ba direla fa go sa faphegang sentle.

A re bomme bao, ba rekisetsa fa thoko ga tsela, mme ba dira jalo ba le mo letsatsing e bile mo malatsing a mangwe go le mogote thata, mme mo dinakong tse dingwe bangwe ba tla ba tshotse bana.

Mme Moagi a re ba ne ba tsaya tshwetso ya gore ba ba thuse ka lefelo le ba tlaa rekisetsang mo go lone, e le la sennelaruri ka le tlaa dira gore fa ba rekisetsang teng go

tlhabologe e bile go lebege botoka thata le batho ba ba fetang foo ba kgone go ema ba bo ba kgatlhega ba itapolosa.

Lenaneo le ba le tshwaraganetse le ba Debswana, Morupule Coal Mine le ba Letshego mme ba ba thusa ka dikobotlo di ferabobedi tse di ka kgonang go thusa batho ba le masome a mane le borobabobedi (48).

O ne a tswelela ka go lekodisa makhanselara fa ba ne ba nna le mathata fa ba tshwanetse go tsenya marekisetso ao, a supa fa ba ne ba solofetse go a baya fela fa bagwebi bao ba direlang teng mme molao wa ditsela wa supa fa ba ka seka ba dira jalo.

A re ba lekgotla la kabo ditsha ba ne ba felela ba ba baya ditsha tse pedi kwa ntle ga tsela mme ba khampani ya Unique Construction ba solofeditse fa ba tlaa ba thusa ka go dira tsela ya ditena e e tswang mo tseleng ya sekontiri go tsamaela fa lefelong le bomme bao ba tlaabong ba direla teng.

O ne a kopa makhanselara ba kgaolo ya Palapye go tshwaragana le bone go digela lenaneo le ka le gogile ka lebaka.

A re lenaneo le le mo kgaolong ya Palapye mme go maleba gore e nne bone ba le okamelang.

O ne a ba kopa gape gore ba dire le bone go baakanyetsa gore ba wetse ba bo ba neele bagwebi bao lefelo la bone semmuso. **BOPA**

Botso go le boitekanelo di ya thoteng

Ka Grace Sebape

LOBATSE - Motshwarelela kgosi kwa Peleng mo Lobatse, Kgosi Motlhagodi Thipe a re botsogo le boitekanelo ke di ya thoteng mo botshelong jwa motho.

Kgosi Thipe o buile mafoko ao kwa Lobatse ka Labotlhano, jaaka maloko a komiti ya ditlhabololo tsa motse ya kgaolwana ya Kgaboesele a ne a tshwere letsatsi la boitekanelo.

O boletse fa go le botlhokwa gore motho a bo a itekanetse mo mmeleng le mo tlhaloganyong.

Mokwaledi wa komiti ya ditlhabololo tsa motse ya Peleng Bophirima, Mme Dorcus Sephetsolo, o ne a rotloetsa banni go dira ditiro tsa kwa lwapeng go ka sidila mmele go ema kgatlhanong le malwetsi a a sa tshelanweng, go akanya mo go feteletseng.

Mookamedi wa kokelwana ya Peleng Central Clinic, Rre Fanuel Ngwenya a itebagantse le botsogo jwa tlhaloganyo le malwetsi a a sa tshelanweng, o boletse gore botsogo bo botlhokwa, ka jalo a kopa komiti e e rulagantseng go kopana le tse dingwe mo Peleng go leka go tokafatsa botsogo.

Rre Ngwenya o boletse gore e le ba botsogo, ba ikaelela go fa setshaba ditirelo tsa botsogo tsa maemo a ntlha, a tlatsa ka gore molwetse o tshwanetse go itse gore o thusiwa ke mang, e bile fa a sa kgotsofalela thuso eo, o ka ikopanya le bagolwane a ikuela gone mo kokelwaneng eo.

O tswelletse a bolela gore baoki tshwanelo ya bone ke go fa setshaba ditlamelo.

A re letsatsi la Laboraro mongwe le mongwe mo bekeng go bonwa ba malwetse a a sa tshelanweng kwa Peleng Central Clinic, fa ngaka ene a bonwa

ka Labobedi le Labone go itsa balwetse go nna nako e telele ba sa thusiwe.

Mooki wa botsogo jwa tlhaloganyo kwa kokelong ya Athlone mo Lobatse, Mme Bontle Sepora, o boletse fa bolwetse jwa tlhaloganyo bo sa tlhaole, mme bo ama mongwe le mongwe, ngwana kana mogolo.

Mme Sepora a re motho o ka lwala bolwetse jwa tlhaloganyo mme a sa supe dikai dipe fela mme se, se rurifadiwe ka go dira ditlathlombo tse di tseneletseng, gore molwetsi a fiwe dithuso tse di maleba.

O tswelletse a bolela gore bolwetse jo, bo tshelanwa ka losika, kgotsa segotso, a bolela gore go tlhakatlhakana ga maikutlo, kwelo tlase ya maikutlo le tsone di ka baka bolwetse jwa tlhaloganyo.

O boletse gore go na le dithuso tse di fiwang batho go ya ka se

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The week that v



Vice President Ndaba Gaolathe (fifth right), UNDP resident representative, Mr Balazs Horvath with other dignitaries at the launch of the UNDP's 4th Botswana National Human Development Report on Youth Empowerment. **Photo: Godfrey Mpuse**



Attorney Samantha Mbikiwa embracing her clients at Lobatse High Court after Justice Matlhogonolo Phuthogo ruled in their favour that boarding masters and matrons were entitled to multiple C-Band grading. **Photo: Calviniah Kgautlhe**



President Boko inspecting a guard of honour before embarking on a three-day state visit to Estonia. **Photo: Thompson Keobaletswe**



Rio-De-Teb Adventure employee, Mr Lesego Keeditse preparing a scooter for children at the fun park during the just-ended Business Botswana Northern Trade Fair. **Photo: Ogopoleng Kgomoethata**



Mafitlhakgosi Traditional Group dancer entertaining guests at the official opening of Shaturia Manor in Tuli Block. **Photo: Phenyio Moalosi**



Dignitaries at the ground breaking ceremony of child helpline call centre at Childline Botswana in Gaborone. **Photo: Gothusang Lesego**

was in pictures

is discussed areas of bilateral relations notably in the fields of digital transformation and innovation, education and swana. In Mochudi, Ian Bafo Moanga was arraigned before the magistrate court in connection to the fire that burnt at Ndaba Gaolathe launched the UNDP's 4th Botswana National Human Development Report on Youth Empowerment skills gap, education, training and systematic issues. In Ramotswa, the Companies and Intellectual Property Authority piracy and Intellectual Property theft. In Lobatse, Ms Kamogelo Lekagane and 104 others won a case in which Justice giving their legal action against government. Economic activity picked as Francistown hosted the Business Botswana e Karate Association Africa Cup in Johannesburg. Gaborone held the ground breaking ceremony for a child helpline financed telecommunication system to enhance operational efficiency. Botswana Defence Force hosted track and field ns and the Africa Cup of Nations tournaments slated for Morocco in July and December respectively. Rounding the



Ian Bafo Legobo after appearing at Mochudi Magistrate Court in connection to the fire that burnt down Mmathubudukwane Police Station. **Photo: Phenyo Ramatu**



Some of the counterfeit gadgets which were destroyed by CIPA at the Ramotswa District Landfill. **Photo: Teko Letsholo**



BFA president Tariq Babitseng (left) presenting certificates of partnership to road to Morocco Travel partners at a high-level stakeholder engagement in Gaborone. **Photo: Gothusang Lesego**



Members of Botswana Defence Force during BDF track and field event. **Photo: Gothusang Lesego**



Some of the 30 young Nihon Karate Kyokai-Botswana members before leaving for South Africa to participate at the Japanese Karate Association Africa Cup in Johannesburg. **Photo: Calviniah Kgautlhe**

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KE BATLA MODISA mo Kgaolong ya Takatokwane. Leletsa: 72274006/ 77521369.

TWO FARM WORKERS wanted at Ntshekeletse lands. Male and female. Contact 72196822

2 FARM LABOURS wanted at Goodhope. Keemenao Sabokone farm at Goodhope horticulture project. closing date 12/06/25. P.O.Box 50272 Gaborone

FARM WORKERS WANTED near Hatsalatladi near Molepolole should know how to read and write English. Experience in horticulture an added advantage. call 71309386 by the of 10 June 2025

HEADBOY WANTED, CATTLEPOST near Rakops. Contact 71531952/ 76914576

FARM WORKER WANTED in Tlokweng, 3 years experience. Contact 76680113

WANTED FARM WORKER Apply to P O Box 2067 AAD Poso house Gaborone.Thabang Lumande

NEIGHBOUR CONSULTATION

OWNER OF PLOT 10915 Palapye, Rabaeng ward, would like to inform owner of Plot 10913 and 10916 that would like to change land use from single family to multi-res. For enquiries contact Physical Planning at 4930800.

OWNER OF PLOT 12894 Francistown, Area-A would like to inform owner of plot 12895 and 12893 that they would like to change land use from single family to self-catering. For enquiries contact 74512367 and physical planning at 2411929

OWNER OF PLOT no 11964,Mmasepatela Dikgang would like to change land use from single family residential to multi family residential,Any objections can be sent to Mogoditshane Sub District Council, building control at Telephone No.3166646 or in writing within a period of fourteen (14) days of this publication

OWNER OF 33015 , Kanye seeking neighbor consultation for change of land use from residential to multi-residential. Contact +267 72596371

TUITION

TUITION FOR SUPPLEMENTING students Form 3 and five in G-West, all subjects. Call Mr Teddy at 71782954.

VACANCIES

FASHION DESIGNER WANTED, contact Jeke Garments P.O.Box 48 Molepolole. closing date: May 31 2025 77982668

URGENTLY WANTED TO Tutor in G-West part-time Tutors for form 5 for Economics, Accounting, Business Studies, Maths and SDA. Degree / Diploma holders staying in or near G-West. Call / text 72294686

APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFIED COPY OF LOST TITLE DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the undersigned intends to apply for a certified copy of Notarial Deed of Lease no. MA 469/2009 dated 15th August 2006 made in favour of Design Insight Architects (Proprietary) Limited in respect of:
CERTAIN Piece of land being Lease Area 2531-KO;
SITUATE in the Gaborone Administrative District;
MEASURING 91 m2 (Ninety One Square Metres)
All persons having objection to the issue of such copy are hereby required to lodge the same in writing with the Registrar of Deeds, Private Bag 0020 Gaborone, within three (3) weeks of the last publication of this notice hereof.



Plot 4853 Independence Avenue, Ext 11
P. O. Box 70567, Gaborone (UB)
Tel: 390 7052/Fax: 390 7061
VR/wm/Y007

#WinYourCase - Bosupi ke Kgang. Kgang ke Bosupi.”

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General Consultancy – Ask us your questions—we’ll help you find answers. Let’s get you courtroom-ready the smart way.
Call/WhatsApp 72351929

#WinYourCase - Bosupi ke Kgang. Kgang ke Bosupi.”

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

Master’s Reference: **ESHGB 000012/25**

IN THE ESTATE of the Late **BASIKWA PHUTHE** who died at Scottish Livingstone Hospital, Molepolole, Kweneng District, Republic of Botswana on **2nd January 2025**.

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.

Executor Dative
Gareosenyé Ramaeba
P O Box 876
MOLEPOLOLE
CELL: 71767522

LOST TITLE DEED

NOTICE is hereby given that the undersigned intends applying for a certified copy of **MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT OF LEASE No. 473/92** dated the **17th** day of **November 1992** made in favour of **NEO LESOTLHO**, in respect of **TRIBAL LOT 677 MOGODITSHANE**.

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

DATED AT GABORONE ON THIS 20th DAY OF MAY 2025

BOOKBINDER BUSINESS LAW

Applicant’s Attorneys
9th Floor iTowers North
Lot 54368, Gaborone Central, Gaborone
Private Bag 382
GABORONE
Our Ref: CONV/cmj/M06383

APPLICATION FOR CERTIFIED COPY OF LOST TITLE DEED

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned intends to apply for certified copy of Deed No 389/2008 dated **25th February 2008** made in favour of **THE LATE TIMOTHY KELAOTSWE** in respect of

CERTAIN: piece of land being Lot 21038,Gaborone
SITUATE: in Gaborone West Extension 5
MEASURING: 715m2 (Seven Hundred and Fifteen Square Metres)
HELD UNDER: 20/1984 dated 23rd January 1984

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

DATED AT GABORONE ON THIS 21st MAY 2025

BIKI & ASSOCIATES
(Attorneys, Notaries & Conveyancers)
Plot 5659 Unit F30
Broahurst Industial
P O Box 405353 GABORONE

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

Master’s Reference:-**ESHFT 000150/25**

IN THE ESTATE of the late **Catherine Khethiwe Garebatho** who died at Sedilega Private Hospital, Gaborone, Gaborone District, Republic of Botswana on the 13th February, 2025.

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.

VERONICA NOMBHULELO KINGSLEY, Executor Dative, PO BOX 165 BCR Mogoditshane,Cellphone NO:74222406

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

Master’s Reference:-**ESHGB 000824/23**

IN THE ESTATE of the late **MOGOMOTSI LETSILE BALESENG** who died at Princess Marina Hospital, Gaborone, Gaborone District, Republic of Botswana on **28th July 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.

Executrix Dative
Rashida Mpho Khan
P O Box 124 OTSE
CELL: 71647000/75800345

DAILY NEWS TO BE PUBLISHED ON A MONDAY

EXPERIENCED FEMALE MOTSWANA MAID WANTED IN BROADHURST SUBURB, GABORONE

- New born baby sitter and children care
- Works on Sundays, and can stay for 1 month stretch
- Long driving experience with a valid license
- Service to a family of 4 in a 4 bedroom house
- Good cook
- Gardening, washing laundry, cleaning, etc
- Age of 45 and above, and must be a neat person
- We offer a competitive salary

Only SMS/ WHATSAPP in English (No calls) to 74807040 stating how you qualify and your expected salary

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA HELD AT FRANCISTOWN ESHFT-000162-23

FIRST AND FINAL DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT

IN THE ESTATE of the Late **GALEBOPIWE BATHOEN ESHFT-000162-23** who died at **NYANGABWE HOSPITAL FRANCISTOWN DISTRICT** on the 15th January 2023.

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

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 21ST DAY OF MAY 2025

EMILY BATHOEN
EXECUTOR DATIVE
P O BOX 20037
MONARCH
FRANCISTOWN

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

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
BATUNI LETSHOLATHEBE	ESHFT-000293/25	16-07-2025	0900HRS	DRM

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 7th DAY OF APRIL 2025

MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

Newspaper Ad
POSITION:

PROJECT COORDINATOR FOR ELEPHANTS FOR AFRICA

Elephants for Africa, a registered international charity committed to fostering human-elephant coexistence through research, education, and community outreach, is seeking a mature, energetic, and experienced individual to lead and oversee all aspects of its field-based projects in remote and challenging environments. The ideal candidate will have a minimum of 10 years of international field experience in related project management and research. A minimum of a Master’s degree in biological sciences is essential, along with a proven track record of managing international teams, large grants, and high-value assets. Candidates must possess strong communication, administrative, and computer skills, be fluent in both written and spoken English, and hold a valid driver’s license with extensive 4x4 driving experience.

The successful applicant will be enthusiastic, hard-working, self-motivated, and capable of problem-solving under pressure. This is a full-time 50% field-based position requiring a passion for conservation and community development bordering wildlife areas.

Only successful candidates will be contacted

Email: admin@elephantsforafrica.org
Post: P. O. Box HA148 HAK, Maun, Botswana
Applications close 6 June 2025

Notification of Intention to Dispose Tribal Land to a Non-Citizen

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN in terms of the Tribal Land Act 2018, section 34, subsection (1) (a to e), that a transaction is proposed to be entered into with a non-citizen in respect to the following property:

PROPERTY: piece of land being Tribal Grant
SITUATE: at Medie
MEASURING: 10Ha (Ten Hectares)
WHICH PROPERTY: is held under a Certificate made in favor of William Dithlong

The transaction is between William Dithlong and Edith Mazhakunda for the sum of P90 000, 00 (Ninety Thousand Pula only). Any citizen William and able to likewise conclude may, make a similar offer through the undersigned with thirty (30) days of this publication.

THUS done and sign by me on this 21st May 2025.
WILLIAM DITLHONG, P O Box 994 AAD, GABORONE, Email: william@samtwecreation.com

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
WETSHO KOMBANI & A. D KOMBANE	ESHFT-000017-25	05-08-2025	0900HRS	SARM

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 28TH DAY OF APRIL 2025

MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that by virtue of section 31 of the 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
LETHOKWA MOTSOKONO	ESHFT-000847-24	02-09-2025	0900HRS	ARM

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 19TH DAY OF MAY 2025

MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT



Our acknowledgment and Thank you

The Keitheile Family wishes to express our heartfelt appreciation for your unwavering support following the passing of our beloved mother, **Mme Gabagake Gaobotswe Keitheile**. Your prayers, presence, and compassionate gestures have provided us with immeasurable comfort and strength during this challenging time.

We are deeply moved by the outpouring of love and support from each one of you. Your kindness has been a profound source of solace as we navigate through our grief. May the good Lord continue to bless you abundantly.

With sincere gratitude,

The Keitheile Family

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

May 20, 2025

Bango Trading (Pty) Ltd is engaged in the construction and general maintenance of bitumen paved roads including new construction and surfacing works with its headquarters in Phakalane. The company urgently requires the services of the following personnel:

CONTRACTS MANAGER

MAIN DUTY: To ensure that all contractual aspects of a project are managed effectively and efficiently.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Facilitate project closure and handover.
- Manage Project Managers, Site Agents and their teams.
- Set objectives together with site teams and ensure they are executed.
- Ensure that projects stay within budget and manage any financial discrepancies.
- Monitor contract performance to ensure compliance with all set terms and conditions.
- Plan the necessary workforce and ensure optimal resource allocation and management.
- Applying the principles for monitoring and controlling minor and major construction activities.
- Maintain detailed records of all contracts, including amendments and communications.
- Handle any disputes or conflicts that arise during the project and facilitate resolutions with stakeholders.
- Execute any other morally reasonable assignments to meet the exigencies of service.

COMPETENCIES

- Leadership
- Planning and scheduling
- Project management skills.
- Problem-solving and analytical
- Good communication/report writing
- Ability to work under pressure and meet deadlines.
- Ability to work under minimal supervision

Qualifications:

- Degree in Civil Engineering/Highway Engineering or any related field
- Valid ERB practising certificate
- Valid Class B driver's license

Experience: Minimum of ten (10) years in civil engineering works of which five (5) years are related to road works as a Contracts Manager.

MATERIALS ENGINEER (Re – advertisement)

MAIN DUTY: To ensure the quality and appropriateness of materials

used in the projects match the set standards.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Conduct tests on materials to ensure they meet project specifications and standards.
- Maintain detailed records of material tests, approvals, and any corrective actions taken.
- Work closely with other engineers, contractors, and stakeholders to ensure smooth project execution.
- Assess and select appropriate materials for road construction based on their properties, cost, and project requirements.
- Identify and address any issues related to materials, such as defects or non-compliance, and recommend corrective action plan.
- Provide technical support and guidance throughout the construction process to ensure materials are used effectively and efficiently.
- Execute any other morally reasonable assignments to meet the exigencies of service.

COMPETENCIES

- Leadership
- Planning and scheduling
- Project management skills.
- Problem-solving and analytical
- Good communication/report writing
- Ability to work under pressure and meet deadlines.
- Ability to work under minimal supervision
- Qualifications:
- Degree in Civil Engineering or any related field
- Valid ERB practising certificate
- Valid Class B driver's license

Experience: Minimum of five (5) years in bituminous paved roadways and road works construction.

MEASUREMENT ENGINEER (Re – advertisement)

MAIN DUTY: To ensure accurate measurements and quantification of construction materials and work.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Accurately measure and quantify the materials and work performed to ensure proper billing and cost estimation.
- Prepare detailed cost estimates based on accurate measurements and project specifications.
- Keep precise records of measurements, calculations, and project progress to support financial and operational planning.
- Verify that all measurements and quantities meet the required specifications and standards.
- Collaborate closely with other engineers, contractors, and project managers to ensure consistency and accuracy in measurements.

- Identify and address any discrepancies related to measurements and quantities to ensure smooth project execution.
- Execute any other morally reasonable assignments to meet the exigencies of service.

COMPETENCIES

- Leadership
- Planning and scheduling
- Project management skills.
- Problem-solving and analytical
- Good communication/report writing
- Ability to work under pressure and meet deadlines.
- Ability to work under minimal supervision

Qualifications:

- Degree in Civil Engineering/Quantity Surveying or any related field
- Valid ERB practising certificate
- Valid Class B driver's license

Experience: Minimum of five (5) years in bituminous paved roadways and road works construction.

NO	POSITION	EXPERIENCE	ELIGIBILITY
1.	Asphalt Surfacing Foreman	Minimum of 5 years in Asphalt surfacing works, chip & spray works	Open for non-citizens
2.	Cold Recycler Operator	Minimum of 3 years in the same position	Open for non-citizens
3.	Slurry Asphalt Plant Operator	Minimum of 3 years in the same position	Open for non-citizens
4.	Asphalt Paver Operator	Minimum of 3 years in the same position	100% citizens
5.	Asphalt Screed Operator	Minimum of 3 years in the same position	100% citizens

Applications with detailed CVs, certified copies of certificates and traceable references should be addressed to:

The Human Resources Manager
Bango Trading (Pty) Ltd
P.O. Box 501662, Station Road
Gaborone
Or email to: bangorecruitment@gmail.com and cc: hbm.bango@gmail.com

High Court rules in favour of boarding masters, matrons

By Calviniah Kgautlhe

LOBATSE - The Lobatse High Court on Thursday passed a ruling that Boarding Masters and Matrons are entitled to benefit from C-Band multiple grading and titling positions as provided for in the Directorate of Public Service Management (DPSM) Savingram dated May 30, 2007 and Directive No.6 of 2008.

Justice Mathogonolo Phuthego passed the judgment in a case in which Ms Kamogelo Lekagane and 104 others had taken government to court over concerns of lack of implementation of multiple grading and titling of the C-band positions as well as lack of implementation of the scheme of service pertaining to them calling for the court to declare such conduct unlawful.

The boarding masters and matrons had contended that government introduced multiple titling and grading of all positions in the C-band through DPSM Savingram dated May 30, 2007 and Directive No.6 of 2008 documents as part of the broader strategy of improving public service capacity.

Thus a decision was made that all positions at the C-band be multi titled and graded being C1, C2,C3, and C4 to effectively create a pool of posts at the C-band and in addition provide ministries flexibility in the recruitment and filling of such posts.

Through their attorney, Ms Samantha Mbikiwa, they brought before court a complaint that despite their eligibility to benefit as per the savingram and directive, their respective permanent secretaries did not implement the two documents which they noted undermined the objectives which government sought to achieve, that as a consequence they were stuck at one C level for more than 10 years without progression whilst other C-band occupants benefited.

The High Court issued an order declaring unlawful government’s lack of extending the benefits of multiple grading and titling

of C-Band positions as provided for in the DPSM savingram dated May 30, 2007 and Directive No.6 of 2008 to Boarding Masters and Matrons.

Furthermore, the High Court issued an order directing government to implement the multiple grading and titling of posts in favour of the boarding masters and matrons, with retrospective effect, within one month from the date of the court order.

Additionally, the High Court ordered government to place boarding masters and matrons in the positions they would have been in, had multiple grading and titling of posts, as provided for in the DPSM savingram dated May 30, 2007 and Directive No.6 of 2008 been properly applied in their favour.

The High Court also issued an order directing government to pay the boarding masters and matrons salary arrears that resulted from their exclusion from multiple grading and titling of posts as provided for in the DPSM savingram dated May 30, 2007 and Directive No.6 of 2008 within one month from the date of the court order.

Justice Phuthego stated in his judgment that the Savingram and Directive did not stipulate that officers in the stand alone cadres were excluded from benefitting from the savingram therefore the contention by the defendant (government) that boarding masters and matrons could not claim entitlements to progress every two years from C4 to C1 because the said grades did not exist was not supported by any evidence that the government put before court.

“The plaintiffs had a legitimate expectation that there would be no discrimination in the application of the savingram and directive in issue of public officers who work for the same government, hold the required qualification and were in the C-band salary scales at the savingram in issue came into effect,” stated the judgment.

Furthermore, Justice Phuthego said government “had the power to put in place

a system that could have ensured that the plaintiffs were not disadvantaged more so that they had been absorbed from other cadres where progression was not a problem.

They should not be given a raw deal simply because they had been employed as boarding masters and matrons.”

“We have fought this battle since 2019 and we registered the case with the High Court in 2021. It was not an easy journey, we have

encountered a lot of challenges along the way but we did not give up and in the end we made it,” said Moshupa Senior Secondary School boarding matron, Ms Kamogelo Lekagane in an interview after victory in court.

She expressed optimism on implementation of the court judgment which she noted was not only victory for them as applicants but was victory for public servants in other cadres who were on C4 scale ceiling. **BOPA**



Ms Kamogelo Lekagane (second right) and members of the boarding personnel celebrating at Lobatse High Court on Thursday after emerging victorious in a case in which Justice Mathogonolo Phuthego made a ruling that Boarding Masters and Matrons were entitled to multiple C-Band grading. The case was brought against government by Ms Lekagane and 104 others. Photo: Calviniah Kgautlhe

SAVINGRAM

DATE 19th May 2025

TEL : (267) 3656683
FAX : (267) 3903508
TO : Radio Botswana

Rogers. Badiri Mangope
Principal Procurement Officer II

REF:MME/1/20/2 I

SPOT ANNOUNCEMENT

The public is informed that there will be an auction sale for unserviceable goods on the 11th June 2025 at Ministry of Minerals and Energy Headquarters in Gaborone, Fairgrounds Office Park, Plot 50676, Block C.

The auction will start at 0830hrs until 1600hrs.
Viewing of items will be on the 9th to 10th June 2025 between 0830hrs -1245hrs to 1345hrs 1600hrs.

ONLY BOTSWANA CITIZENS ARE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE.

PAYMENT SHALL BE ALLOWED FROM 0800hrs to 1245hrs TO 1345hrs 1530hrs.

CASH NOT ACCEPTED BUT ONLY ELECTRONIC FUND TRANSFER- (EFT) WILL BE ACCEPTED.

KITSISO

Sechaba se itsesiwe fa lephata la Ditswamong le Kgotetso le tlaabo le rekisa dithoto ka palabalo ka kgwedi ya Seetebosigo e tlhola malatsi a le lesome le motso nako ya borobabobedi le metsotso ele masome a mararo mo mosong.

Thekiso e tla bo e tshwaretswe ko lephateng la Kgotetso le Ditswamong mo Gaborone, Fairgrounds Office Park, Plot 50676, Block C.

Dilwana di tla simolola go bonwa kgwedi ya Seetebosigo e le matsatsi a le bofereabongwe le matsatsi ale lesome, nako ele ya masome a mararo go tlogela nako ya boraba bobedi mo mosong go fitlhela nako ya bone mo tshokologong.

GO TLA AMOGELWA MADI KA MARENYANE A DITUELO E SENG KA SEATLA.

GO SIMOLOLA KA NAKO YA METSOTSO ELE MASOME A MARARO GO TLOGELA NAKO YA BOFERA BOBEDI MO MOSONG GO FITLHELELA KA NAKO YA MASOME A MARARO GO TLOGELA NAKO YA BORARO MO TSHOKOLOGONG.

GO LETLELELWA BATSWANA FELA GO REKA.

JoinTHEteam

HEAD OF PRICING AND PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT

JOB PURPOSE

The successful candidate will be responsible for providing pricing and product development support as well as technical assistance for long term insurance products.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Contribute to the implementation of the Hollard Life product strategy.
- Contribute to the overall effectiveness and delivery of work within the Actuarial Services team.
- Design and pricing of new and existing products in line with the product development control cycle.
- Generate and review product documentation for new and existing products, documenting the processes followed as well as the current status quo.
- Perform on-going systems set-up, updates and maintenance.
- Perform risk reporting and monitoring for all products.
- Deliver ad-hoc support services as requested from business units relating to research and data analysis activities.
- Ensure customers are treated fairly. Maintain a high level of service to customers (internal and external) according to the service standards as set by the company.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Fellow member of the Actuarial Society of South Africa (FASSA) or international equivalent, preferably specialising in Life insurance.

REQUIRED EXPERIENCE

- Minimum of 5 to 10 years' experience in long-term insurance pricing and product development.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS:

- Strategy Management
- Stakeholder Management
- Judgment and Decision Making
- Critical and Analytical Skills
- Negotiation & Advocacy
- Change Management
- Communication Skills
- Leadership
- Teamwork
- Proficiency in basic computer applications (including MS Microsoft Suite products Excel, Word and PowerPoint)

Interested candidates are advised to apply in writing with a detailed CV and copies of relevant certificates to the address below:

CONTACTS:
Chief of People
Hollard Botswana

Email: vacancies@hollard.co.bw
Closing Date: 06th June 2025

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H.

Zambia to tackle post-harvest losses

LUSAKA - Zambia launched a major project on Friday to address post-harvest losses in the agricultural sector.

The initiative is being led by the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) in cooperation with Zambia's Ministry of Agriculture, supported by a US\$15.37 million contribution from the Green Climate Fund and AGRA.

Maziko Phiri, country manager for AGRA in Zambia, said the initiative represented a bold commitment to solving one of Africa's most persistent and under-addressed agricultural challenges.

"Our mission is to catalyse inclusive agricultural transformation in Africa by increasing incomes and improving food security for smallholder farming households," Phiri said at the launch.

The project aims to develop, test, and scale up climate-resilient technologies and practices to reduce food losses, specifically in Zambia's maize and soybean value chains. It will provide farmers with improved post-

harvest handling, drying, and storage solutions, strengthen market systems to ensure that reduced losses translate into increased incomes, and promote the use of climate-smart technologies.

John Mulongoti, permanent secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture hailed the new initiative as a significant step toward reducing post-harvest losses in Zambia.

He noted that Zambia lost between 30 and 40 per cent of its maize and soybean harvests every season.

"These losses are primarily due to inadequate storage facilities, poor handling practices, and limited access to affordable preservation technologies," he explained.

Mulongoti stressed the timeliness of the project, saying it came at a crucial moment for Zambia as the country recovered from a severe drought.

"The drought not only impacted food production but also exposed the inherent vulnerabilities in our entire agricultural system," he added. *Xinhua*

UNECA urges African brands to boost global visibility

ADDIS ABABA - Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), Claver Gatete has called on African countries and businesses to intensify efforts to enhance the global visibility and competitiveness of African brands.

Gatete made the call on Friday during the unveiling of the 'Brand Africa 100: Africa's Best Brands 2025' ranking in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia which highlighted the continent's most admired brands.

With Africa's rising middle class propelling the continent's consumer market, which is projected to surpass US\$2.2 trillion by 2030, Africa's branding story was equally diverse and dynamic across the continent, Gatete said.

He cited examples of African innovation and value addition, such as Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire

in cocoa processing, Kenya in mobile banking, Nigeria's creative industries, Rwanda's green transformation initiatives, and South Africa's industrial base.

Gatete underscored the continent's demographic advantage, with more than 70 per cent of its population under the age of 35, calling it far-reaching implications for sustainable development.

Despite this potential, he acknowledged that only a handful of African brands have achieved meaningful global visibility, a challenge that must be addressed through coordinated action.

"It is imperative that we keep in mind that what defines a brand is not merely a logo or a slogan. An authentic African brand must straddle the embodiment of Africa's stories, culture, and aspirations," he said. *Xinhua*



ABIDJAN - A staff member watering the vegetable seedlings on display during the 7th International Exhibition of Agriculture and Animal Resources at the Abidjan Exhibition Centre, Cote d'Ivoire on Friday. China and Cote d'Ivoire held a joint exhibition to deepen agricultural partnership, especially in technical training, resource sharing and supply chain integration. Photo: Xinhua

Africa-China ties can reduce tariff risk - experts

ABUJA - Africa and China's pragmatic cooperation can minimise risk and overcome distractions from the current tariff challenges, which have disrupted the flow of international trade, experts have said.

Speaking at a recent dialogue organised by the Center for China Studies, an Abuja-based research institute, experts discussed future opportunities and measures to strengthen Nigeria-China relations and Africa-China ties amid the tariff crisis.

"This irreducible and non-negotiable category in Nigeria-China bilateral cooperation opens the expressway for fruitful and productive bilateral engagement that leverages the opportunities of the current time," said Charles Onunaiju, the center's director and convener of the dialogue.

"Nigeria and China are currently at a historic high of their bilateral cooperation, with even more prospects for the frontiers to expand and deepen." Onunaiju said that the current cooperation mechanisms, such as the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation and the Belt and Road Initiative, have contributed to the structural pillars that enhanced resilience and sustainability for Nigeria and other African economies to withstand the shocks of Washington's disruption of international trade. In the face of such global trade tension, Nigeria must take deliberate steps to fortify its institutional frameworks, upgrade public infrastructure, and maintain clarity in its development policies, said Retson Tedheke, an agronomist, while emphasising

that Africa must look inward and see genuine partners like China.

Noting that China has continued to reaffirm its commitment to constructive partnerships globally and its willingness to work closely with Nigeria, Sheriff Ghali Ibrahim, head of political science and international relations department at the University of Abuja, said China's engagement with Africa had been consistent and pragmatic, especially in times of need.

Beyond bilateral ties, Ibrahim said that the Nigeria-China partnership could have a broader implication for global trade realignment, adding that Africa had a huge market that China could tap and explore, citing Nigeria's large population and strategic economic position. *Xinhua*

Khartoum records 2 500 cholera cases

KHARTOUM - Sudanese Minister of Health Haitham Mohamed Ibrahim on Saturday announced a surge in cholera cases in the capital, Khartoum, amid reports of at least 2 500 cases being recorded during May.

Ibrahim said in a statement that the recent spike in cholera cases had averaged between 600 and 700 cases per week over the past four weeks.

He attributed the outbreak

to worsening environmental conditions and limited access to safe drinking water, driven by the growing number of returning residents following the liberation of Khartoum State.

The Sudanese army announced earlier this month that it had regained control of Khartoum from the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF). Sudan has been engulfed in a brutal conflict between the Sudanese

army and the RSF since April 2023. The Sudanese minister expected that cholera infection rates would decline in the coming weeks, with the upcoming launch of a vaccination campaign across several localities.

He noted that the Khartoum State government, United Nations agencies, and international organisations have established eight cholera treatment centers throughout the state. *Xinhua*

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Republic of Botswana

MINISTRY FOR STATE PRESIDENT

DISASTER MANAGEMENT RELIEF

Following the heavy Floods which affected communities countrywide, the Private Sector and different Organisations came forth to offer support both in cash and in kind to assist Government of Botswana to make a difference in the lives of all those affected.

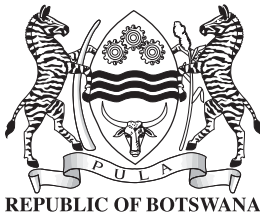
Update as at 8th May 2025

NO	NAME OF THE COMPANY/ORGANISATION	DONATION/CONTRIBUTION
1	Botswana-China friendship Association (BOCFA) and 1 Pula Foundation	-Food hampers
2	T-connect	-Internet Connectivity gadgets
3	Huawei Botswana	-P100,000.00 worth of jet fuel,500 Blankets,12000 bottles of water and Food parcels
4	China Civil engineering construction corporation and Zhong Gan companies	-Food hampers, bottled water and blankets , Storm water drainage equipment services
5	FEI DA (PTY) LTD	-Food hampers, 200 blankets,2000 bottled water and 100 pairs of shoes
6	Liquid Intelligent Technologies	-Liquid Leo Satellite
7	Orange Botswana	-P100,000,00 in which P54 ,000 .00 will be used for Jet Fuel while P46 000.00 will be used for food and Accommodation, Airtime worth P20 ,000.00 , One thousand (1000) five (5) litres of water.
8	Letshego	-P100,000.00 for Jet Fuel
9	Tau grading	-P100,000.00 for Jet Fuel
10	Drones for Africa	-P500,000.00 worth of drone services, Arial footage, Photography and Videos
11	TEE-PEE Transport	-30 food hampers (combo – 10kg Maize meal, 10kg sorghum, 10kg rice, cooking oil, 700ml Tomato sauce, 2kg macaroni, 750ml mayonnaise)
12	Prime Communications powered by Hytera	-P60,000.00 worth of Radio Communication services
13	Tsetseng Retail Group (SPAR)	-32 bales of toilet paper, Sanitary Pads 32x24x8, Conned beef 432x6 buckets, 500g Spaghetti 900x20packs, 196x5kg Rice, 2080 Baked beans, 2L cooking oil 540 and bottled water 2040
14	SAMAB Investment	-Water Pumping services
15	Drone Technology Centre	-Drone services (arial photography, thermal imaging and live broadcast)
16	Diagnofirm	-250 blankets
17	Mohamed Ismael family	-P25 ,000.00 worth of food vouchers
18	World group of Companies (Trade world)	-250 food packages, Bath soap 250, 2L cooking oil 250, Soup 250, 5kg Rice 250, 5kg white sugar 250, 5kg flour 250, 5kg sorghum 250
19	Botswana Teachers Union	-504 bottled water, P50, 000. 00 for disaster Management Relief
20	Pedros	-100 meals
21	Hungry Lion	-100 meals
22	Chinese Enterprises Association	-100 mattresses,100 blankets,2000 liters of water,100 by 10kg Rice,100 by 12.5kg flour and 100 by 12.5kg maize meal
23	Developer Circle	-App developing services and digital platform developers
24	ZAC Construction and Gaborone United FC	-70 Mattresses; Combo (12.5kg Maize Meal, 10kg Rice, 2kg Macaroni, 2L Cooking oil, 700ml Tomato sauce and 750ml Mayonnaise) x 70
25	DE BEERS GROUP COMPANIES Kewen Group (Pty) Ltd Represented by Farai Bobo (Sales Director)Gravitas Investments T/A Sally's	-450 cases of bottled water; 100 bottles of Sally's Hypo Yoghurt
26	Arona Natural Foods	-230 Arona Cooking Oil 750ml, 20 Arona Cooking Oil 20L, Loaves of Arona Bread, 100 Brown and 100 White
27	Botswana Telecommunications Corporation (BTC)	-P100, 000.00 Relief Funds
28	Syntech Parts	-2000 Bottles of water 500ml
29	Kapula Drones	-Drone Services
30	FloTek and Motovac Represented by Vijay Naik and Anil Kumar	-P100 000.00 for Disaster Management Relief
31	Desert Sands Motel and Sister Companies Limpopo Feed and Fencing Megasave and Fencing All Based in Palapye Represented by Nazia Nadat	-100 Vouchers worth P20.000.00 -25 Vouchers worth P5, 000.00 -25 Vouchers worth P5, 000.00
32	Agentos De Restaraucion Y Rehabilitacion Represented by Etelelang T. Serumola (Director)	-1 tonne maize meal, 60 Blankets, 5kg Sugar x30,5l Cooking Oil x30, -5kg flour x30, 5kg sorghum x30 and 384 rolls of toilet paper
33	Senn Foods Represented by Trevor Watson	-2808 Canned beef and chicken 450 bottled water (500ml)
34	Woolworths Botswana Represented Gorata Abotseng Lekau	-Clothing for men, women and children together with Food hampers worth P800, 000.00, Kiddies wear and shoes 569 (10 boxes), Ladies wear and shoes 1048 units (23 boxes) -Men's wear and shoes 532 units (14 Boxes), Homeware 146 units (3 boxes)
35	Chinese Embassy Represented by Huang Yue	-100 Mattresses,100 Blankets and 400 pairs of rain gumboots
36	XL Skyways Travel Represented by Chebukani Mfanyane	-700 Mosquito nets
37	F. Ismail Group of Companies Represented by Faizel Ismail (Managing Director)	-Chicken Licken Supplies, Optimum Health Medical Laboratories Services and Natures Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Distribution, Grocery Vouchers worth P30 000.00
38	Hytera (Hycomms) Amafrans Investments (Pty) Ltd Represented by Mr. Sentebale Mokgethi	-600 blankets worth of P216, 000.00, Food Hampers worth of P21, 000.00 -Two Way Radio and 1 DMR Adhoc portable repeater worth P137, 010.10
39	Crown Manufacturing & Group represented by Director Mr. Iqbal Patel and	-100 Food hampers worth P40 000.00
40	Unik Construction Mr.Yun Sun	-P1 000 000.00 -13 000 Bottled water. (500ml)
41	Bank of Baroda Botswana Ltd represented by Mr. Sanjay Jashi	-P100 000.00 cash , Food Hampers-Combo 70 (Cooking oil 2l, Mayonnaise & Tomato Sauce, Rice 10kg, white star 12,5kg, Mabele 10kg, macaroni 2kg -Blankets x 70
42	AIP Botswana (Fuel & transport logistics company) represented by Ms. Kefilwe- Sefalana Moreki	-Water bowser (1400litres) -supply of drinking water to evacuation centres
43	The Bulb World represented by Bakang Makoko	-Toiletries x100 families , Toilet Papers 10packages x100 , Bath Soap 4packages x100 , Toothpaste 2packages x100 , ELight (Rechargeable Light) x100
44	Jindal Africa Represented by Neeray Saxena	-P100 000,00
45	TRANS represented by Group Head of Marketing & Communications	-Food hampers & non- foods worth over P100 000.00
46	ASANTE Tech Group represented by Justice William	-Food hampers- Combo x150units ,Blankets x 150units , Water 2700 litres, Shoes 200 units & Chairs 150
47	Gaborone University College of Law & Professional Studies (GUC)	-100 Food hampers ,50 Blankets , 1 Cow & 2 Goats , Fruits & vegetables , Total cost P50,000.00
48	Pro-Halt Represented by Kagiso Kwelagobe	-Pot holes repair Value: P100 000.00
49	Business Botswana in collaboration with Black Oak & Legae Academy	-55 packs of toilet paper , 23 packs of sanitary Pads &Food hampers
50	Cherry Splash	-P300,000.00 (P150, 000.00 for Jet fuel , P150,000.00 Transport Fuel)
51	Tranwin Holding T/A Galaxy Cash n' Carry & Bagaetsho Medical Centre	-Food hampers x60 worth P20, 400.00

52	Suits Africa Represented by Mr. & Mrs. Amos	-School stationery worth P15,000.00
53	Asphalt Botswana (PTY) LTD , Represented by Mr Pius Mphathwa	-P3000,000.00
54	Khato Civils , Represented by Ishmael Maposa and Mongezi Mwyani	-P1 100,000.00
55	Motor Centre Group Represented by Mrs Zaheera Essof	-P 500, 000.00
56	Royal Assembly Ministries International Mrs Kgalalelo Ramogapi	-P10, 000.00
57	COSPHARM Botswana Represented by Nametso Sebetlelela	-40 Mattresses, 40 Blankets , 48 * 20 Toilet Papers & 20 Latex Gloves
58	Standard Chartered Education Trust Dr Didi Biorn	-P600, 000.00 and Psychosocial Support Services to the affected
59	Builders Dept , Represented by Zain UR Rehman & Zeeshan U Mohammad	-Food Hampers *85 @ P30,500.00 , Water Pumps *5 @P9500.00 , -P40, 000.00
60	China Jiangsu International ,Botswana (PTY) LTD	-Food Hampers @P24,995.00
61	Shiyu Li	-Children's Clothes * 40 pieces
62	Overview Radio Represented by Joey Badubi	-P100 000.00 Airtime , 100 Sanitary Pads, 300 bottled water, Food hampers worth P10 000.00
63	Softlife TissueRepresented by Myson Mbengwa	-960 units of Toilet Paper
64	NADIR and Grand Stone Investment Represented by Altaf	-100 blankets , 240 sanitary pads (10 boxes)
65	Shaanxi Construction Engineering and Top International Engineering Botswana , Represented by Zhao Shuanghai	-P200 000.00
66	Botswana National Front Women's League	-P5 000.00
67	KLI Water Bowsing Services , Represented by Thapelo Monyere	-20 000L of drinking water
68	Hill View Church Represented by Pastor Rankgate	-32 mattresses, Sanitary Pads, Cartons of water (35 bottles x 6 , 24 bottles x 2), Assorted clothing, Food hampers (rice, samp and spaghetti)
69	Botswana Hindu Society	-50 Blankets and food hampers worth P12,000.00
70	Faheb Holdings	-190 towels, bedsheets and pillows worth P17,900.00
71	Duke Holdings	-P20,000.00
72	Legae Primary English Medium School	-Books amounting to P207 000,00 in value
73	B4U Discount Centre	-8 Washing Powder, 8 Fabric Softeners, 12 Colgates, 12 bath soaps, 20 blankets
74	Alex Forbes	-Cash P50,000.00
75	Bokomo Botswana	-Cash P100,000.00 & Food hampers P50,000.00
76	Stanbic Botswana	-Cash P2,000,000.00
77	Liberty Life	-Cash P50,000.00
78	Pep Stores	-Clothing & Blankets P10,000.00
79	Protea Masa Hotel	-Cash P5,000.00
80	Inq Digital Botswana	-Cash 10,000.0
81	Bolux Botswana	-Food Hampers (Maize Meal). P156,000.00
82	Clover Botswana	-Food Hampers (Dairy) P54,000.00
83	Woolworths Botswana	-Food & Clothing Hampers P850,000.00
84	CA Sales & Distribution	-Food & Toiletries Hampers P300,000.00
85	PST Sales & Distribution	-Food & Toiletries Hampers 60,000.00
86	Kalahari Training Institute	-Food & Toiletries Hampers 10,000.00
87	ABSA Botswana	-Cash P1,000,000
88	Flotek/Motovac Group	-Cash P100,000.00
89	Unik Construction	-Cash P1,000,000.00 and drinking water P13,000.00
90	Afrivet	-10 Knapsacks
91	Dutch Reform Church Clothing	-Clothing vauled P5,000.00
92	Botswana Fujian Overseas Chinese Association	-Relief cash fund of P100,000.00 and domestic items worth P140,193.00.

93	Greater Hope Life Change Charity Society	-6 water pumps, 200 mosquito nets, 20 heavy-duty torches, & food & toiletries valued at P40,000.00.
94	HLB Botswana	-8 combo meal packages, assorted toiletries, 50 fleece jackets, & 250 bottles of 330ml water.
95	Cellphone Warehouse	-Donated a DJI Avata Drone.
96	Jackson Pools	-Contributed 3 life jackets, 3 life rings, 5 horseshoe life buoys, and 3 cushion ,buoyancy A10.
97	Puma Energy Botswana	-Donated P100,000.00 worth of jet fuel.
98	Moffat James Bango Trading Pty Ltd	-Donated P100,000.00.
99	University of Botswana Academic & Support Staff Union (UBASSU)	-Donated P10,000.00.
100	Botswana Chapter of International Women Judges Association	-Donated P10,000.00.
101	Khoemacau Copper Mining	-Pledged to repair potholes, design Segoditshane River & culverts at a value of P2,500,000.00.
102	Mobile and Electric Retailers Association of Botswana	-Cash P100,000.00
103	Kalcon PTY LTD	-Cash P100,000.00
104	Stargems Botswana Pty Ltd	-Cash P50,000.00
105	Glazing Botswana	-Cash P40, 000.00
106	Botswana Doctors Union	-CashP15,000.00
107	Business Botswana in collaboration with AGS Botswana	-18 packets of sanitary pads, 33 bottles of 5l water, 14 bags of 10kg maize meal, 14 bags of 2kg macaroni, 14 bottles of 2l cooking oil, 14 bottles of 750ml tomato sauce, 14 bottles of 750ml mayonnaise & 3 power banks.
108	Botswana Fibre Networks (BOFINET)	-Cash P100,000.00
109	Human Resources Professionals' Society of Botswana:	-Food hampers worth P5,500.00
110	Botswana Gujarati Samaj	-150 food hampers
111	Legae Academy	25 mosquito nets, 25 mattresses, hygiene kits, and food hampers
112	Priceless Connection represented by Alamaan Q. Hamdani	50 Headlamps and 20 Torches
113	Korea Community Association	300 blankets, 70 first aid kits, 2 generators, 2 chainsaws, 10 solar searchlights, and 50 protective gloves
114	Holy Ghost International Church - Bethesda TV & Partners	20 blankets
115	Fairprice Group of Companies	Clothing for children and adults valued at P15,000.00.
116	Bible Life Ministries	A financial contribution of P70,000.00.
117	Mohammed VI Foundation	100 food hampers valued at P42,630.00.
118	Dulux Botswana	P75,000.00
119	ZIMBOTS Golf Society	P3,500.00
120	Morning Star Apostolic Church of Christ (Tutume)	17 blankets





MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM

EXTERNAL RE-ADVERTISEMENT

VACANCY CIRCULAR NO 10 of 2025

REF: ENT 4/26/11 IV (77) **DATE:** 05 May 2025

TO: All Permanent Secretaries, All Heads of Departments

VACANCY: COORDINATOR – COMMUNITY BASED NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT – (CBNRM) - E1 SALARY SCALE

The Ministry of Environment and Tourism’s overall goal is to develop and implement policies, strategies and programs to provide leadership and professional guidance on all matters pertaining to the conservation and management of the country’s environment and its natural resources for sustainable development and tourism.

A talented, experienced, proactive, innovative, and self-driven citizen of Botswana is sought to fill the above-mentioned position in the Ministry of Environment and Tourism – Department of Corporate Services - Gaborone.

Salary Scale: E1 - (P512, 148 – P532, 860) per annum

Benefits: (i)Optional Contributory Medical Aid Scheme (Government pays 50% and employee pays 50%).

Leave:30 working days per annum.

Contract Duration: 36 months contract

Qualifications: Degree in Natural Resources Management/Environmental Science/ Biological Sciences/Natural Resources Economics.

Experience: Applicants must have at least minimum of sixteen (16) years relevant work experience, two (2) years of which should have been served at E2 salary scale or equivalent in the field of natural resource conservation or equivalent in a reputable public or private institution.

Main Purpose of the Job

To coordinate the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of Community Based Natural Resources Management (CBNRM) Policy.

Key Performance Areas

- Provides strategic leadership in the development and implementation of the strategic plan for the Unit.
- Interprets CBNRM Policy program to stakeholders and communities to facilitate effective implementation of programs, as well as monitoring and evaluating their execution.
- Initiates and develops long, medium and short term plans for implementation of the CBNRM programme at all levels (National and Local level).
- Develops and maintains operational guidelines for implementation of CBNRM programme.
- Directs and coordinates research in all activities relating to CBNRM in an effort to seek solutions to problems hindering implementation.
- Drafts briefs in response to Parliamentary questions on matters relating to CBNRM.
- Develops Linkages for community based organisations enhance their capacity and promote partnerships.
- Represents the Ministry/Unit at various fora on community based natural resources management forums.

COMPETENCIES

- Policy Formulation skills
- Strategic Planning & Management skills
- Financial Management skills
- Negotiation and lobbying skills
- Leadership skills
- Financial Management
- Time Management
- Project Management

Applications:

Applicants should quote the reference number and vacancy circular number and provide:

1. Detailed and updated Curriculum Vitae.
 - Certified copies of Certificates (Academic and Professional) and at least two (2) recent work related references
2. Serving Public Officers should indicate:
 - Date of first appointment, present position and appointment thereto.

Important:

All applications from serving Public Officers should be routed through their Heads of Department and Permanent Secretaries.

VACANCY CIRCULAR NO 11 of 2025

REF: ENT 4/26/11 IV (78) **DATE:** 07 May 2025

VACANCY: ASSISTANT MANAGER – REFORMS – D2 SALARY SCALE

The Ministry of Environment and Tourism’s overall goal is to develop and implement policies, strategies and programmes to provide leadership and professional guidance on all matters pertaining to the conservation and management of the country’s environment and its natural resources for sustainable development and tourism.

A talented, experienced, proactive, innovative, and self-driven citizen of Botswana is sought to fill the above-mentioned position in the Ministry of Environment and Tourism – Department of Corporate Services - Gaborone.

Salary scale: D2 (P337 008.00 – P371 628.00) per annum.

Benefits: Optional Medical Aid Scheme with the Botswana Public Officers Medical Aid Scheme (BPOMAS – Government pays 50% and Employee pays 50%)
Contributory Pension Fund (Government pays 15%, Employee pays 5%)

Leave: 30 working days per annum.

Qualifications: Candidates must have a Degree in Social Sciences, Public Administration, Strategic Management or related field.

Experience: Applicants must have at least ten (10) years relevant work experience of which two (2) years must have been served at D3 salary scale.

Main purpose of the job: To monitor and manage the implementation of reforms initiatives introduced by Government and provide advice and guidance to the Ministry.

Key Performance Areas and Responsibilities

- Provide strategic leadership and direction for the achievement of the Ministry’s vision and mission.
- Plan, manage and coordinate the performance improvement initiatives within the Ministry.
- Prepare and monitor budget for the operations, development and maintenance of the Unit.
- Introduce, monitor the implementation and evaluate the overall effectiveness of performance improvement initiatives applicable to the Ministry.
- Prepare regular reports on the progress and constraints of the Public Service Reforms and submit to the supervisor.
- Analyse and convert measurement data into knowledge to facilitate decision making by the Permanent Secretary.
- Cascade performance improvement initiatives to the whole staff members through training and ensure that all staff members are reviewed through the new appraisal system.
- Ensure capacity building for performance management skills at all management levels.
- Undertake any other related duties as directed by management.

Competencies:

- Analysing
- Formulating Strategies and Concepts
- Deciding and Initiating Action
- Working with people
- Writing and Reporting
- Planning and Organising
- Delivering results and meeting customer expectations
- Adapting and responding to change

APPLICANTS

Quote the reference number of this Vacancy, giving the following details: -

Full name, address, Date and place of birth

Brief summary of careers with duties (Curriculum Vitae)

Certified copies of Certificate(s) and Omang (National Identification Card)

Date of first appointment

Present post and date of appointment thereto

Two references (not older than 3 months)

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

Applications should be addressed to:

Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Environment and Tourism
Private Bag BO 199
Gaborone

Or hand delivered to Ministry of Environment and Tourism - Head Quarters - Records Management Unit - Office No. 205.

Applications from serving officers should be routed through their Heads of Departments and Permanent Secretaries. Applications not so routed will not be considered.

NB: Applications which do not meet the requirements stipulated in the advertisement will not be responded to.

Closing Date: 13th June 2025

For further information required please contact: Human Resources at Telephone No. 3647995/3647951



CAPE TOWN - People taking part in a water-based tug-of-war during the Dragon Boat Festival in South Africa on Saturday. The Dragon Boat Festival, also known as the Duanwu Festival, traditionally falls on the fifth day of the fifth month in the Chinese lunar calendar. It will be celebrated on May 31. Photo: Xinhua

Southern African bloc reaffirms commitment

HARARE - The Southern African Development Community (SADC) on Friday reaffirmed its commitment to environmental conservation to ensure sustainable development in the region.

According to a communique issued at the end of the one-day SADC Transfrontier Conservation Areas (TFCAs) International Conference and Summit held in the Zimbabwe, the summit emphasised the need for continued and strengthened collaboration among stakeholders.

SADC member states were urged to continue with collaborative efforts to maximise the trade and tourism benefits of TFCAs, and to embrace innovative and sustainable financing mechanisms to ensure that TFCAs continued to deliver socio-economic and conservation benefits to the SADC region, the communique said.

According to the communique, the summit urged member states to promote the establishment of coastal and marine TFCAs for enhanced benefits to local communities and regional economies, and it also called for the development of a regional carbon market framework.

There are 13 TFCAs within the SADC region spanning both terrestrial and marine environments, covering 7 per cent of the region's surface area.

The SADC is a 16-member southern African regional bloc, comprising Angola, Botswana, the Comoros, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, eSwatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. *Xinhua*

Egypt repatriates 71 from Libya

CAIRO - Egypt has repatriated 71 of its citizens from Libya amid rising tensions in Tripoli, Egypt Foreign Ministry said on Saturday.

In a statement, the ministry said the operation was fully funded by Egypt government, placing no financial burden on the returnees.

The evacuees were flown home aboard an EgyptAir flight, the country's flag carrier.

The repatriation followed directives from President Abdel-Fattah al-Sisi to monitor the conditions of Egyptians living in Libya, ensure their safety and facilitate the return of those wishing to come home, the ministry said.

Tensions have surged in Tripoli since on May 12 after heavy fighting erupted between the Stability Support Apparatus (SSA) and the 444 Brigade, a militia loyal to Libyan Prime Minister Abdul-Hamid Dbeibah.

Violence broke out following the reported killing of an SSA commander inside a facility controlled by the 444 Brigade.

A truce was reached last week, and a Joint Truce Committee was established by Libya's Presidential Council and the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) to de-escalate tensions, prevent renewed conflict, and protect civilians. Libya has remained fragmented and volatile since the 2011 NATO-backed uprising that toppled longtime ruler Muammar Gaddafi.

The country is divided between two rival governments: the internationally recognised Government of National Unity (GNU) based in Tripoli, and an eastern administration aligned with the Libyan National Army (LNA) led by commander Khalifa Haftar.

In Tripoli and other areas controlled by the GNU, armed groups continue to operate with relative impunity, frequently clashing over territory, resources and political influence. *Xinhua*



TIGRAY - Merdiya Nigus, 23, and her mother Mahra Abdurahman, 50, smiling after Merdiya's nine-month-old twins Hassen and Husein received vaccinations at the Adi Gudom Primary Hospital in Tigray. Ethiopia is now facing one of the worst droughts in decades, and rising rates of malnutrition are leaving children vulnerable to infectious diseases, including measles. Photo: Xinhua

Ethiopia vaccinates over 11 million against measles

ADDIS ABABA - Ethiopia has vaccinated more than 11 million children as part of a nationwide campaign to contain the spread of an ongoing measles outbreak, local media reported.

The immunisation campaign, which targeting 17.5 million children aged between nine months and five years, is being rolled out across all regions of the East African country, the state-affiliated Fana Broadcasting Corporate quoted Ministry of Health officials as saying on Thursday.

"The immunisation drive is not only aimed at protecting children from measles, but also at identifying those at risk due to malnutrition, vitamin A deficiency and gaps in routine vaccination," the report said.

Measles, a highly contagious viral illness spread through respiratory droplets and direct contact, continued to remain endemic in Ethiopia, with new cases reported annually, the World Health Organisation said.

The disease primarily affects children and can cause serious complications such as fever, dry cough, runny nose, and sore throat.

It is preventable through timely immunisation, the organisation added. *Xinhua*

China embassy donates to orphanage

HARARE - The Chinese Embassy in Zimbabwe on Friday donated a batch of daily necessities to Hossana Love in Africa Children's Home in Hatcliffe, Harare.

The donation brought joy to the children ahead of International Children's Day, celebrated on June 1.

The orphanage was built in 2016 with the support of several Chinese businesses operating in Zimbabwe.

Speaking at the handover ceremony, Lyu Renhong, wife of the Chinese ambassador to Zimbabwe, said the donation from the embassy and the Loving Moms, a Chinese charity group, marked China's enduring friendship and solidarity with Zimbabwe.

"The Chinese embassy and our vibrant community in Zimbabwe have always held a profound belief, which is leaving no one and no place behind. This principle guides our efforts to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with the Zimbabwean people, particularly our young friends," she said.

Lyu encouraged the children to embrace challenges and dream big, pledging continued support from the embassy, including scholarships, to help them pursue their education and improve their lives.

She also noted China's long-standing commitment to development in Zimbabwe, highlighting efforts to build schools, clinics, and roads across the country.

"China and Zimbabwe are more than partners. We are brothers and sisters in the pursuit of progress."

Several teachers at the orphanage expressed gratitude, saying the donation would significantly help support the children's daily needs. *Xinhua*



Kgomotso Jongman

It is possible - Jongman

By Benita Magopane

GABORONE - When Kgomotso Jongman first announced plans to launch his multinational motivational seminar back in 2015, he faced skepticism. “Debswana cannot even gather a crowd on a weekend, and you think you can?” was the response of a friend, to which he replied, “Yes, I am going to do it.” More than a decade later, Jongman, widely known by his personal development brand, Jo Speaks, has proven the doubting Thomases wrong. From packaging and delivering motivational content rooted in social welfare, to reaching a broad and diverse audience, his success is undeniable. His upcoming seminar, themed: It’s Possible, marks a full-circle moment, reflecting the spirit of that conversation 10 years ago. The event, set for August 16 at Ave Maria in Gaborone,

will feature high-profile guests including Minister of International Relations, Dr Phenyio Butale, alongside specialists in trauma recovery, resilience, and spiritual wellness. For Jongman, founding Jo Speaks was born out of a deep desire to restore human dignity, through motivation, counselling, life coaching, and authorship. His mission took on even greater urgency in the face of troubling national statistics. The World Happiness Report has consistently ranked Botswana among the least happy countries globally. In 2024, the country was placed 137th out of 143 nations, slipping from 132nd in 2023. The 2025 report paints an even starker picture, placing Botswana at 142nd out of 147. “Instead of questioning or complaining about the methodology of the report, I looked around, at the streets, at families falling apart and I saw the sadness for myself,” Jongman explained. “That’s when I made

it my mission to get out there and talk about social work in a way that captured people’s attention, some positively, some not.” He admitted that his approach was not always welcomed. “Of course, I was criticised. People said I was getting paid just to listen to others’ problems. It was unfamiliar territory for many, but that didn’t mean it couldn’t be done.” Speaking about his upcoming seminar, Jongman emphasised that it was for anyone who felt stuck or believed their goals were out of reach. “My panel and I will guide attendees through lessons on resilience, healing from trauma, and spiritual growth,” he said. “Everyone will also receive a complimentary book to continue their journey, a guide that covers mind-set change and affirms that anything is possible, regardless of whether you are a woman or man, young or old. What I am saying is, whatever you believe, you can achieve.” **BOPA**

Resurrection director wins Cannes festival special award

CANNES - Chinese director Bi Gan on Saturday won the Special Award at the 78th Cannes Film Festival for fiction feature *Resurrection*, known in Chinese as *Kuang Ye Shi Dai*. Festival organisers introduced *Resurrection* as a work that showcased the continued evolution of Bi’s creativity, while staying true to the sensory and poetic qualities that defined his unique cinematic style. Introducing the first award of the evening in Cannes, France, Jury President Juliette Binoche described *Resurrection* as ‘an exceptional movie.’” In his acceptance speech, Bi thanked the festival and his cast. He also expressed his gratitude for all those who have constantly contributed to the development of cinema. *Resurrection*, directed by the 35-year-old Bi premiered late Thursday night. He used this two-hour and forty-minute film to show his love for cinema, starting the movie with a silent movie style. For French film critic Gerard Marion, *Resurrection* was like a universe. “It issomething that I rarely saw in cinema, especially by a Chinese director. Bi took the audience to a very particular universe where we should just let the sound, image, motion and decor take us there,” Marion said.

In his review, Peter Bradshaw of *The Guardian*, called Bi Gan’s *Resurrection* “bold and ambitious, visually amazing, trippy and woozy in its embrace of hallucination and the heightened meaning of the unreal and the dreamlike.” Bi first attended Cannes in 2015 with his debut feature film. Since then he has since established himself as a major player in shaping and defining the new generation of Chinese arthouse cinema. In the press conference after the closing ceremony, Binoche said that all members of the Jury agreed to award Bi with the Special Award, because *Resurrection* “is like a UFO, an amazing invention.” For her, *Resurrection* was so different. “Visually, it really moved me. I found it extraordinary. This film allows for dreams, subtexts that we feel and that are real. It’s full of poetry and allows us to feel something within ourselves,” she said. For his part, Bi explained why he created *Resurrection*. “There should be a film about the cinema that can comfort people in this world full of changes,” he said. During the closing ceremony, all the awards of the competition section were announced. Iranian director Jafar Panahi’s

film *A Simple Accident* was crowned the Palme d’Or. The Grand Prix was given to the film *Sentimental Value* directed by Joachim Trier. The Jury Prize was shared by two movies, *Sirat* directed by Oliver Laxe, and *Sound of Falling* directed by Mascha Schilinski. Brazilian movie *The Secret*

Agent (Portuguese: *O Agente Secreto*) was the big winner of the night, taking home Best Director (Kleber Mendonca Filho) and Best Performance by an Actor (Wagner Moura). The Jury gave Best Performance by an Actress to Nadia Melliti for her role in *The Little Sister* (French: *La Petite Derniere*).

Belgium’s famous Dardenne brothers won Best Screenplay for *Young Mothers* (French: *Jeunes Meres*). This year, a total of 22 feature films were selected to compete for the festival’s highest honour, the Palme d’Or. The 78th Cannes Film Festival ran from May 13 to 24. **Xinhua**



CANNES - Cast members of the Chinese film *Resurrection* arriving at the closing ceremony of the 78th Cannes Film Festival in France on Saturday. The film Director Bi Gan won the festival’s Special award for *Resurrection*. Photo: Xinhua



Minister of Sport and Arts, Jacob Kelebeng (second left), Botswana Football League chairperson, Peter Kesitilwe (third left), First National Bank Botswana CEO, Steven Bogatsu (second right) and Botswana Football Association president, Tariq Babitseng (right) celebrating with Gaborone United players and management after the team won the inaugural FNB Premiership title on Saturday. Gaborone United beat Township Rollers 2-0. Photo: Thompson Keobaletswe

GU receive league title dues

By Moshe Galeragwe

GABORONE - Gaborone United has completed their league winning season in style and equally claiming bragging rights by defeating city arch-rivals, Township Rollers 2-0 on Saturday at the National Stadium.

The goals came in the first half from Thatayaone Kgamanyane.

Following the match that, among other league encounters, completed the league season, the inaugural FNBB Premier League Champions received a mouth-

watering cheque of P1.4 million, a trophy and were draped with Gold medals.

In a post match interview, GU coach, Dimitar Pantev said the team was determined to succeed, no wonder they started the league on a high note.

Pantev said commitment, dedication and team spirit were behind their league success.

Besides chasing earlier contenders for the league title, Pantev said GU remained confident with executing what they knew and had learnt to execute

some winning combinations from the technical team.

He said the determination saw GU either getting the vital three points or settling for a draw with those that were a threat to the league title.

Coach Pantev said there was nothing much to say about the coming season, even though he was of the view that the team would need to acquire about three or four experienced players to bolster the squad and guide the young players.

Sua Flamingos, TAFIC and

Jwaneng Galaxy are equal on 59 points and have finished second, third and fourth respectively as they were separated by the number of goals scored.

Mochudi Centre Chiefs finished fifth with 56 points while Rollers are sixth with 54 points.

Morupule Wanderers (42 points), Orapa United (40) and VTM FC (35) finished in the top eight. The trio of Security Systems, Chadibe FC and Uniao Flamingo Santos have been relegated and will play in the first division league in the coming season. **BOPA**

Police XI cruise past Notwane Football Club

By Booster Mogapi

OTSE - Police XI brought smiles and ecstasy to their supporters when they marched over the ailing Notwane Football Club 3-0 at Otse's Botswana Police College on Saturday.

A brace from Lethabo Ogotseng in the 42nd and 64th minute as well as one from Vincent Lekorwe in the 88th minute gave Police XI the much needed win and shattered Notwane's hope of making a quick comeback.

Paradzayi Mandivenga boys win solidified their return to the premier league, a dream they have been chasing without looking back as the top flight league opens more doors of opportunities coupled with many benefits.

Police XI head coach said he was happy that they had earned crucial points, which made sure they wrap up the league with championship and promotion to the big league.

"This is what we worked for and I am happy that we have achieved it," said Coach Mandivenga.

He said even though they still had a game left against Holy Ghost to complete the league encounters, the chances of youngsters ever coming back were close to none.

The head coach thanked the management for their support together with the fans, whom he said supported them throughout and was grateful that the team did not disappoint, but came to the party with desired results.

The coach said even though they played with one man down after their striker, Tshepan Molefe was given a red card on the 38th minute, he told his players during recess that the game plan did not change, but they should work as team and win the game.

Coach Mandivenga said he told them that being one man down did not mean that they were thin on the ground, as the same thing

happened when they played Tlokweng United, where they managed a 3-1 win.

Toronto Boys head coach, Daniel Nare said his team started poorly, adding that they bore the brunt of coming late to the game as they did not warm up, which affected his players psychologically.

He said he thought his players would take advantage of Police XI's ill luck of losing one man, but they failed.

Coach Nare said there were some elementary mistakes that could have been avoided to stop Police XI from scoring.

He said in the second half he believed they had the game in control, but then the mistakes happened again, adding that Police XI's second goal dampened his boys' spirits even further, leading to own defeat.

"When they played Magosi last week they were a better team, but this time around they did not

come to the party. In preparation for next season, I will look at the players and pick those who can help them do better next season," he said with optimism.

Police XI deserves a tap on the back as they roared with pride to the top flight league after their display with Notwane showed that they intended to send a strong message to other teams that they meant business.

The combination of Takudzwa Bande, Lethabo Ogotseng and Vincent Lekorwe were the deadliest that left Notwane defence in shambles.

Notwane captain, Mphoyamodimo Keiponye worked overtime to try and save his team, but his efforts lacked back up of his team mates, who disappointed on the day.

Despite scoring opportunities for the Toronto boys, their chances were wasted as none hit the desired mark, leading to more frustrations. **BOPA**

Calendar Stars set sight on playoffs

By Kelebogile Taolo

FRANCISTOWN- Calendar Stars FC is determined to secure a second-place finish in the First Division North league, which would grant them a chance to compete in the promotional playoffs. Their chance came after walloping Tshinyega Tigers FC 3-0 during a match held on Saturday at the Francistown City Council Stadium.

With the win, Calendar Stars FC accumulated 36 points, climbing to second place in the standings after Tsabotlhe FC which was on position two, suffered a 1-0 defeat to Makungulupeswa FC.

In a post-match interview, Calendar Stars FC Coach Joseph Mokgacha expressed satisfaction with his team's performance, stating that they executed their game plan effectively. He emphasised the importance of securing maximum points in their remaining matches, noting that neither draws nor losses were acceptable at this stage.

"We have planned to win all our remaining games; we treat every match as a final. It's been a while since we scored multiple goals in a game, and we are fighting hard and we remain hopeful," said Coach Mokgacha.

Tshinyega Tigers FC Coach Kebby Tshitego acknowledged his players' efforts, but pointed out their shortcomings to not converting scoring opportunities. "We played well but unfortunately didn't win. My boys executed our game plan effectively, but after a goalless first half, we lost our momentum in the second half," he reflected.

The match displayed strong tactical play from both teams, with Calendar Stars demonstrating a more aggressive approach. Tshinyega Tigers found themselves on the defensive for much of the match, managing to limit Calendar Stars' scoring chances in the first half, which ended in 0-0.

The second half saw a shift in momentum as Calendar Stars displayed urgency to score. They broke the deadlock just two minutes after the restart, with Goitseone Mponang converting a free kick in the 47th minute. As the match progressed, Calendar Stars continued to put pressure on their opponent, with Moemedi 'Mizer' Mphuchane doubling their lead in the 79th minute.

Towards the dying minutes of the second half, Tshinyega Tigers FC succumbed to the relentless pressure, resulting in an own goal in the 90+1 minute, sealing a convincing 3-0 victory for Calendar Stars FC. With their sights set on the promotional playoffs, Calendar Stars FC will look to maintain their momentum in the upcoming fixture. **BOPA**

Botswana wins big

By Anastacia Sibanda

GABORONE - Botswana athletes has once again made the nation proud, this time securing five prestigious awards at the Regional Annual Sports Awards (RASA) held in Harare, Zimbabwe on Saturday.

Botswana's sprinter, Letsile Tebogo delivered two awards that include the Sportsman of the Year beating Akani Simbine and Zimbabwean Tapiwamnashe Makarawu.

For the Sportsperson of the Year, he won against Malawian footballer Tabitha Chawinga and Zimbabwean Tapiwamnashe Makarawu.

Collen Kebinatshipi, the country's 400 metres runner was recognised as Junior Male Sportsperson of the Year, out shining Luca Fraser from Eswatini and Zambian chess player Rafael Sharon.

The Team of the Year Award went to Botswana 4 x 400 metres men's relay team, outclassing Zambia's 4x400 metres men's relay team, and Malawi's Under-19 women's cricket team.

Athletics coach Kebonyemodisa Mosomanyane beat Namibian rugby coach Pieter Benade and Zambian athletics coach Douglas Kalembo to be crowned Coach of the Year.

However, Oratile Nowe of athletics lost the Sportswoman of the Year award to Malawian footballer Tabitha Chawinga,

Chess player Natili Banda also lost the Junior Female Sportsperson of the Year to Zambian footballer Mercy Chipasula. Botswana Athletics Association (BAA) vice president Oabona Theetso said out of the five categories they were nominated in, they managed to win four, adding that such was a sign of growth.

“We are happy and proud of the athletes, this shows that as a country, we are not only recognised locally but regionally and internationally as well. They had other competitors but they emerged victors, it means a lot to the athletes and the country,” he said.

Theetso said the awards would inspire athletes in different parts of the country, adding that he was confident that more athletes would continue to represent the country with pride. “Credit should also go to all the coaches and supporting staff, who work tirelessly in ensuring that the country unleashes the best athletes,” he said. **BOPA**



Letsile Tebogo



Collen Kebinatshipi



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