

POLICE BOSS ARREST SHAKES THE STATE

- Defence Minister Mmusi confirms that Makgophe reached out to him before arrest
- Former BDF commander says the nation should now be worried
- "His greatest sin is challenging the DIS to be professional and respect the Police" - Khama
- Former BDF Commander is concerned

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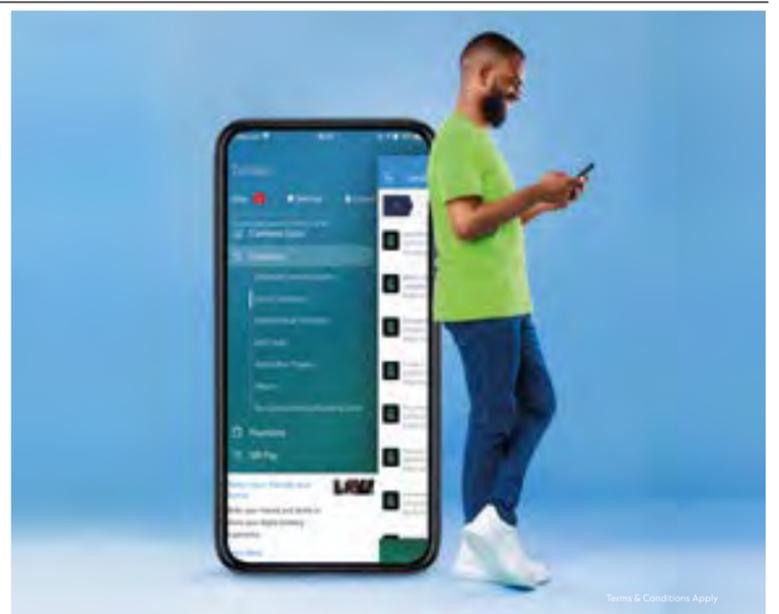
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Malema sustains attacks on Botswana about 'US Military base'

- EFF leader calls for closure of US military base in Botswana
- Says the military base is a security threat to southern Africa

GAZETTE REPORTERS

Julius Malema of South Africa's Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) has sustained his attacks on Botswana about the presence of an American military base that he says should be closed because it is a threat to the security of the entire sub-continent.

The outspoken opposition leader was speaking on South Africa's Human Rights Day March 21, that is also used to commemorate Sharpeville Day, the day in 1960 when apartheid police fired on an anti-pass demonstration and killed 250 people in the black township near Vereeniging that became a precursor to the banning of the ANC and PAC in April 1960.

News of an American military base in Botswana spread in 2007 following a report by the US Congressional Research Service (CRS) that listed Botswana as one of several countries in Africa that had shown an interest in hosting the Africa Command of the US military that is known by the short acronym of AfriComm.

The CRS reported that the US military has facilities known as lily pads or co-operative security locations in African states, among them Botswana, Algeria, Gabon, Kenya, Mali, Namibia, São Tomé and Príncipe, Sierra Leone, Tunisia, Uganda and Zambia.

But the Government of Botswana has always denied the presence of an American military base in the country.

Addressing the Russia-Ukraine conflict this week, the SA opposition leader Malema said his party stands with Russia. He charged at the United States and the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO), the intergovernmental military alliance of European and North American countries, for its expansionist stance.

"Today here in southern African we have American military base in Botswana which threatens our security," Malema said. "If they were to fly a fighter jet from that place to Union Buildings, it would take them two minutes to bomb the building. Why do you allow them to have a military base in Botswana because no one can prepare to de-

fend themselves in two minutes?"

"Once America declares war against us, they will do it in two minutes and finish the Union Buildings. That is why that base has to be closed because it is the security threat to the whole southern African countries."

He appeared on South African Broadcasting Corporation Television (SABC1) and other media outlets saying this.

This is not the first time that Malema has lashed out at Botswana. As an ANC youth leader during former president Ian Khama's tenure in 2011, he attacked the ruling Botswana Democratic Party and threatened to bring about regime change in Botswana.

"The ANC youth league intends on establishing a Botswana command team (to) work towards uniting all opposition forces in Botswana to oppose the puppet regime led by the Botswana Democratic Party (BDP)," he said. "The BDP is a foot stool of imperialism, a security threat to Africa and always under constant puppetry of the USA."

Always cantankerous, Malema was later suspended and eventually expelled from the ANC but for reasons that had nothing to do with his anti-Botswana outburst.

Claims of an American military base in Botswana have consistently been dismissed as untrue by the government. However, a 2013 newspaper report said Botswana had given the American military permission to start construction of facilities inside its Thebephatshwa Airbase.

"The United States, working with the Botswana Defence Force (BDF), has contracted the construction of facilities to support future, mutually-agreed bilateral and

multilateral exercises at Thebephatshwa Airbase, Molepolole, Botswana," the report quoted then American deputy ambassador to Botswana, Michael Murphy, as saying.

"The facilities, which will cost close to P100 million, will be the first known involvement of American military presence inside Thebephatshwa."

IS US AFRICOM BASE IN BOTSWANA CLOSED?

However, information gathered by this publication suggests that the Botswana outpost was slated for closure around 2019. A respected muckraking investigative report by The Intercept claimed: "The 2019 Africom planning documents provided information on five bases slated for closure, including a long time enduring site in Gaborone, Botswana and four contingency locations, or CLs, in Faya Largeau, Chad; Lakipia, Kenya; Benina, Libya; and Gao, Mali."

Shuttering the CLs, according to the documents, is part of an effort to "seek efficiencies by consolidating functions at a reduced number of posture locations," while the removal of Gaborone was chalked up to "a lack of DoD (Department of Defence) property or routine DoD presence" and the fact that Botswana does not acknowledge or desire any formal DoD access at the international airport.

At the time of going to press, efforts to solicit comments from the Minister of International Affairs and Cooperation, Dr Lemogang Kwappe, proved futile. The Minister of Defence Kagiso Mmusi was also not available to comment.

POLICE BOSS ARREST SHAKES THE STATE

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TEFO PHEAGE

Hardly a month following the Law Society of Botswana (LSB)'s call for government to protect the Police Service from what it termed the Directorate of Intelligence Services (DIS) abuse, the intelligence agency has struck again. This time by arresting and detaining the man in the Police's highest office, Commissioner Keabetswe Makgophe in an exercise that has left the government exposed and some state agents embarrassed.

Before his arrest for questioning, reportedly in connection with licenses of weapons of war allegedly granted to former President Ian Khama, Makgophe reached out to his Minister Kagiso Mmusi for counsel and probably counseling, this is according to highly placed sources. Minister Mmusi confirmed this to this publication, "yes, Commissioner Makgophe informed me that he has been summoned to the DIS detention centre in Sebele. My advice to him was that he should just go

and hear what they have to say. For now, I can just say we should wait and see what comes out of the meeting."

He said when he spoke to Makgophe's deputy around 6PM, he was informed that Makgophe was still at the notorious DIS offices. "Questioning is just questioning. I do not think we need to draw conclusions yet," concluded Mmusi who recently rebuffed LSB's concerns that the spy agency continues to operate above the law and in total control and abuse of other law enforcement agencies.

Making a presentation at this year's opening of the legal year, Tshekiso called on the powers that be to tame the DIS which is a law unto itself.

"The DIS continues to operate above the law. Other law enforcement agencies are helpless as the DIS seems to have usurped their mandate. There should be a clear line and definition of roles of all law enforcement agencies which have been created especially for certain purposes. The DIS should not be allowed to assume the powers of the Botswana Police Services when

it comes to investigations of criminal offences and DCEC when it comes to investigation of corruption or PPADB when it comes to adjudication of tenders," he said.

Following that the DIS responded angrily to the statement by the LSB disputing the remarks and saying such statements had the potential to mislead the public.

Khama responds to Makgophe's arrest

Responding to this publication on his reaction to Makgophe's arrest and the allegations surrounding his arrest, Khama said: "My first reaction is one of disgust, that someone who is at the head of the nation's top most security agency is arrested and illegally detained for an alleged administrative action. They could have simply met him in his office to mention the subject and deal with it there, instead of this heavy handed and illegal action."

He continued: "But we recall the commissioner who unlike them is a professional, almost lost his job a few months ago for challenging the DIS's attempts to control the Police. He is known to have

expressed his unhappiness in the way the laws of the country are being flouted. This is payback on Masisi's instructions. Having realized my weapons are legal and they failed to pin any unlawful weapons in my possession, they are resorting to retaliation against a weapon presented to me as a gift six years ago when I was in office. So why now?"

"These are the same weapons I volunteered to hand over to them when they came to me without a search warrant and they opted not to act so they could go around arresting people illegally. They will never recover from their 100 billion pula fabrication," charged Khama.

Former BDF commander speaks..

Reacting to the news of the arrest of the Police boss, the former Botswana Defence Force commander, Lieutenant General Gaolathe Galebotse expressed shock at the development, adding that, "but I am not surprised."

He continued: "This should be a cause for concern. An MP was recently arrested in full public glare and now the Police Commissioner. Where is this all heading. The Commissioner's arrest should concern us all. Who is next? I do not even think the DIS director, Peter Magosi should be the one doing all these considering his history, but I will leave it there."

The DIS chief, Magosi did not take this publication's calls at the time of going to press.



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BAYPORT
FINANCIAL SERVICES

DISS freezes Accounts of the Khamas

- All business accounts of the Khamas frozen in a multimillion pula probe
- Former president calls it a witch hunt and says they will sue

LETLHOGILE MPUANG

The Directorate of Intelligence and Security Service (DISS) and the Financial Intelligence Agency (FIA) have ordered for a temporary suspension of all banking accounts belonging to and associated with members of the Khama family, *The Botswana Gazette* has learnt.

Although both the Director General of DISS Peter Magosi and his Public Relations Officer Edward Robert have not responded to this publication's inquiry, Tshekedi Khama's wife Thea has confirmed that most, if not all, business accounts linked to various members of the family have been frozen.

Speaking to *The Botswana Gazette* before their arrest last Friday, Thea said the accounts were suspended on Tuesday (last week), leaving their holders in a dire financial situation.

This publication is informed that all business accounts held by Ian Khama, his younger brothers Tshekedi and Anthony, as well as the accounts of Tshekedi's wife Thea and their children, have been blocked.

However, the pension due to former president Khama has not been stopped.

The former president and Tshekedi were yet to respond to questions from *The Botswana Gazette* at the time of going to press.

The freezing of these accounts is said to be connected to ongoing investigations into the Khama family by DISS and FIA after the two agencies intercepted transactions of several offshore accounts linked to the Khamas that are believed to have been misappropriated from the government.

Tshekedi, his wife Thea and Anthony were recently taken in for questioning by DISS. Documents and laptops were also confiscated from Seleka Springs and other companies linked to the family. In a statement last Sunday, DISS described Tshekedi, Thea and Anthony as "cooperative" and said they understood the position of the law.

"Once the investigations are completed the procedure is such that whatever has been unearthed is shared with the Directorate of Public Prosecutions to determine a suitable charge or charges to press. That call is for the DPP to make."

"The DIS role in the matter is limited to investigation," the statement said. "Once the investigations are completed the procedure is such that whatever has been unearthed is shared with the Directorate of Public Prosecutions to determine a suitable charge or charges to press. That call is for the DPP to make."

Meanwhile, former president Khama has described the detainment of his brothers as another ploy by President Mokgweetsi Masisi to intimidate him and frustrate members of his family and said they will sue the government for "illegal and inhuman" detainment.

Accusing President Masisi and DISS of a witch hunt, the former president also denied allegations of misappropriating government funds.

He remains holed up in South Africa from where he has several times said he will return to Botswana.



(Pic:MONIRUL BHUIYAN/PRESS PHOTO)

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- Compliance with disposal guidelines and schedules
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- Ease and speed of retrieval of records (physical or electronic)
- Records (comprehensive, good physical condition, up to date)
- Quick response to external requests and internal records and management requests
- Quality of support and assistance to others
- Continuous professional development and application of innovative practices for work improvement

POSITION REQUIREMENTS:

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- At least 5 years similar experience post-qualification

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Masisi wins Debswana Boardroom Battle

- Debswana to appoint indigenous Motswana as MD next month
- Gov't has reportedly blocked appointment of Armstrong and other candidates
- Masisi also wants bigger share of Debswana stones
- HR, Head of Security quit amid P110m debacle

LETLHOGILE MPUANG

With Debswana set to appoint an indigenous Motswana to the position of Managing Director, President Mokgweetsi Masisi seems to be winning the battle for control of the boardroom of Botswana's pre-eminent parastatal, The Botswana Gazette has established.

The post of MD at Debswana has been vacant for over three years after

the death of Albert Milton in August 2019. In the aftermath, the company's Chief Financial Officer, Lynette Armstrong, has been serving as Acting Managing Director to-date.

It is understood that the delay in appointing a new MD has been due to the Government of Botswana and De Beers Group being at variance over the right candidate for the top post.

The Botswana Gazette understands that President Mokgweetsi and his cabi-



Debswana managing director Lynette Armstrong presenting a diamond to Masisi. (Pic: Monirul Bhuiyan/ PRESS PHOTO)

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COMPANIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Copy of company registration certificate certified by the Registrar of Companies. ii) Copies of share certificates and Identity Cards of shareholders certified by Registrar of Companies. iii) Certified copies of Certificates of Naturalization if shareholders were born outside Botswana. iv) Current payslip and 6 months recent bank statements of Directors. v) ITC clearance certificate of Directors. vi) Company resolution on renting of BHC property. vii) BURS Tax clearance.

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- Applicants who are indebted to BHC will not be eligible for consideration.
- Applicants are informed that they need to pass BHC vetting processes in order to be considered.
- Application Forms shall be obtained and completed from All BHC Offices (EXCLUDING BHC HEAD OFFICE) together with documents referred to 1 above.
- Only applicants who pass preliminary assessment will be required to pay non-refundable Administration Fee of P114.00 (VAT incl) and a service charge of P131.10 (VAT Incl) upon signing the lease agreement.
- Applicants are informed that their applications shall be specifically for the project advertised and shall not hold for other projects being rented by BHC.
- Notwithstanding anything contained in the foregoing, BHC is not bound to accept any application nor give any reason for not accepting the same.
- Viewing of properties should be arranged with Messrs S. D Limbo, and K. Bagai at telephone No. 4921075 at Palapye Office (Estates Section). The Officers could also be contacted in case there is need for any clarification.
- Applications closes on 30th April 2022 at 16:30 hrs.**

net have blocked a number of names put forward by De Beers, among them notables in South Africa's mining sector.

The President is also reported to have been against confirming Armstrong in the position while De Beers was keen have her succeed Milton on the strength of women empowerment. The position of the government has been clear that an indigenous Motswana able to withstand the sway De Beers' Western shareholders ought to take the position.

"As you might be aware, when you recruit someone for such a position, you first make an offer and it is up to the person to accept or reject it," said Permanent Secretary to the President and Chairperson of Debswana, Emma Peloletse. "At this point, we have made an offer to the person we have identified and are waiting for them to accept the offer."

Peloletse added that the appointment is expected to be announced soon. "Yes, it true that our candidate is an indigenous Motswana," she noted.

The Office of the President is also expected to make recommendations on appointments to vacant executive posts.

Meanwhile, inside sources say the Senior Human Resource Manager, the Head of Security and the Deputy Head of Security at Debswana quit their posts in July 2020 after Infotrac slapped the mining company with a P110 million lawsuit for unpaid spying services.

Masisi wants more in new diamond deal

Sources say one of the first assignments for the new MD will be to play a key role in negotiations between the government and De Beers Group regarding the sale of rough diamonds by Debswana.

The 10-year agreement between the government and De Beers, which was signed in 2011, was set to expire in 2020 but was extended by a year in December 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The deal was extended by an additional six months last December in order to give both parties more time to negotiate a new long-term deal.

It is said President Masisi wants an increase in the government's share of diamonds produced by Debswana from the 15% agreed in 2011 or to get a larger share of bigger stones. The government's share stood at 25% in 2020.



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Masisi's Name features in Women's Wing Spats

- The President allegedly wants Serame for top seat
- Opposing camp accuses Masisi of causing divisions

SESUPO RANTSIMAKO

One of two opposing sides in the women's wing of the Botswana Democratic Party (BDP) has complained that the use of President Mokgweetsi Masisi's name by the other side could cause instability and divisions within the women's wing ahead of the party's elective congress, The Botswana Gazette has established.

Masisi is accused of endorsing Minister Peggy Serame for the presidency of the BDP women's wing to the detriment of others aiming to compete for the same position.

So far Serame and former National Youth Executive Committee (NYEC) member Ponana Maano Gabanakgosi have declared their interest to run for the position. However, though campaigning is yet to be officially sanctioned by the party, supporters and sympathisers of the two are at each other's throats, mainly on social media platforms.

At the centre of the rift is an allegation that Serame's campaign team uses the President's name to intimidate the other camp. Gabanakgosi's team holds that use of Masisi's name by the Serame campaign has the potential to result in instability within the party.

Information reaching this publication suggests that although Masisi can-

not openly endorse either candidate, his heart is with Serame whom it is believed he wants to groom for candidacy of Goodhope Mabule constituency in the next general elections.

"We do not know how true it is that Masisi has endorsed Serame but democrats were long warned about this during former president Ian Khama's tenure,"

"We do not know how true it is that Masisi has endorsed Serame but democrats were long warned about this during former president Ian Khama's tenure,"



Peggy Serame (Pic: Monirul Bhuiyan/PRESS PHOTO)

says a source. "But true or not true, using the name of the President can be intimidating to opponents. Some of democrats who sympathise with Gabanakgosi are now uncomfortable that they may be seen as going against Masisi's preference."

But Gabanakgosi herself is sceptical that Masisi has endorsed Serame and says the rumours are hogwash. "I am aware that some people are using the President's name to campaign for Serame but I take that as hogwash," she told The Botswana Gazette.

"I do not want to believe that our President can endorse any candidate over others because he is aware of the impact. I want to believe that those people are doing that

in order to intimidate my potential supporters."

Although Serame's supporter Kaisara Sejoe, who is Deputy Secretary of the Gaborone region, said he could not discuss such issues openly because campaigning is yet to be officially sanctioned, he referred to Serame as the right candidate to lead the wing.

"I do not want to meddle in the affairs of the women's wing because the campaign is yet to be officially sanctioned," Sejoe said. "But I believe Serame is the right candidate. She is one person who believes in unity and she fits in all classes of across communities."

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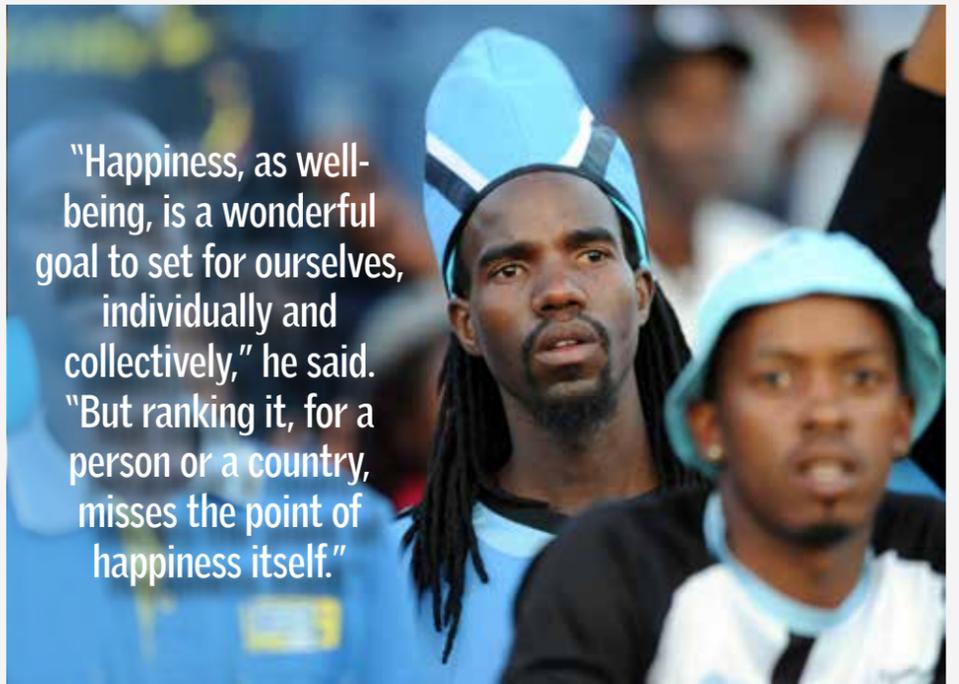
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SAD NATION: OP dismisses Happiness Index

- Botswana languishes at 5th worst spot of 136 countries
- Struggles to upgrade from red zone of war-torn and impoverished countries
- Expert says ranking happiness like counting Olympics medals makes little sense
- OP calls it mere unscientific perceptions



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TEFO PHEAGE

Once again Botswana has been named among some of the world's unhappiest countries, wallowing in the bottom five on the Happiness Index of 146 countries and maintaining its consistent failure to rise from the gloomy precinct.

However, the Office of the President is not in the least bothered by the umbral portrayal of the country and has dismissed the findings as mere perceptions of experts.

"We are aware of the report and our view is that its findings are just a compilation of unscientific perceptions by experts. We do not know how they measure all those perceptions," said government spokesman John Dipowe, who added that the OP is not necessarily concerned about the report.

Dipowe was unmoved when it was pointed out to him that the government often uses similar reports to its advantage as a mark of good governance.

Published by the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network, the World Happiness Report evaluates levels of happiness by taking into account factors such as GDP, social support, personal freedom and levels of corruption in each nation. The point of these indices is to motivate policymakers to improve their ranking.

Finland topped the list for the fifth time in a row in the latest World Happiness Report, which is the 10th edition. Finland is followed by Denmark, Iceland, Switzerland and the Netherlands. Among other Western countries, while the United States managed

to bag the 16th position, Britain is ranked 17th and France 20th.

People in war-torn and impoverished countries like Afghanistan are the most unhappy, followed by people in Zimbabwe, Rwanda, Botswana and Lesotho.

The rankings are once more attracting criticism from some quarters in lowly-placed countries where many are rejecting them. Noah Feldman, a Harvard law professor, public intellectual and author has written that ranking happiness like a medal count at the Olympics makes little sense.

"To begin with, ranking comparative happiness is only logically coherent if we have an agreed-on conception of what it is," Feldman said. "We don't. It isn't an abstractly measurable quantity. To talk about it, much less purport to measure it, is to express a belief about what it should mean."

"Self-reporting from different countries therefore doesn't reflect standards that are common from place to place. It reflects the way people in those countries conceptualise happiness and the way they measure themselves against their own conceptions."

According to the Harvard scholar, ranking happiness, or trying to, expresses a fantasy that it is some attainable quantity - and that someone else might have more than we do. "Happiness, as well-being, is a wonderful goal to set for ourselves, individually and collectively," he said. "But ranking it, for a person or a country, misses the point of happiness itself."

Mmusi explains use of soldiers in policing duties

- Says it is an operational necessity legally provided for
- Lawmaker Kapinga had complained it traumatises people

GAZETTE REPORTER

Deployment of the military to assist the police is an operational necessity provided for by the laws of Botswana and the Botswana Defence Force Act in particular, the Minister of Defence, Justice and Security, Kagiso Mmusi, told Parliament recently.

“It should be appreciated that both the Botswana Defence Force and the Botswana Police Service exist to provide security to the lives and property of the people of Botswana,” Minister Mmusi said. “They are both therefore at the disposal of government to deploy as found necessary to address any threat to the safety of Botswana.”

He was answering a question from the MP for Okavango, Kenny Kapinga, who had asked why the government finds it normal for the military to be deployed in policing duties, even for patrol duties, when this “traumatises members of the public” because the soldiers are always armed.

Kapinga raised the question at a time when members of the public have also been complaining about unpleasant experiences with armed state security agents, especially those escorting private cash-in-transit vehicles.

In response, Mmusi said Section 32 A of the BDF Act states that in the interests of national security, the army shall cooperate and work with other security organs in the discharge of their mandate. Section 33.1 empowers the Commander of the BDF to authorise use of any member or unit of the army to give support to Botswana Police Service (BPS).

The Commander can do this upon request of the Commissioner of Police and with the consent of the President to facilitate discharge of police duties under Section 6 of the Botswana Police Act.

Minister Mmusi said another reason for drawing the military into policing is manifestation of crime in a manner that has blurred the lines between crime and threats to national security.

“The recent spate of cash in transit where criminals use weapons of war, the systematic poaching challenge, trans-national crimes together with the threat of terrorism are some of the manifestations which (have) compelled joint efforts between all security agencies,” he pointed out.

He described the “partnership” between the BDF and the BPS as “an operational necessity” not unique to Botswana and is not necessarily a measure to plug resource constraint on either party, although that may also often be the case.

“It is extended to complement civil authorities when the resources are stretched by abnormal circumstances such as spike in certain crimes, (especially) armed robberies,” the minister said. “Military aid to civil powers is a common practice in almost all countries, including the developed countries.”

In the course of the deliberations, Kapinga’s follow-up questions indicated acceptance of the minister’s answer. The legislator spoke of inadequate policing personnel resulting in desperation to engage the military.

Whereupon Minister Mmusi noted that tasks at hand are continuously reviewed to determine the nature of assistance needed. He added that deployment of armed soldiers is not a matter of choice in the circumstances.

Meanwhile, police spokesman Dipheko Motube says growing crime in Botswana includes illegal firearms coming into the country. “We are quite worried about the influx of illegal firearms into the country,” Motube said. “Our suspicion is that they (criminals) source them from other countries.

“We are particularly concerned about arms of war because we have realised that there is trans-national crime as criminals cooperate to carry out their activities.”



(Pic: Monirul Bhuiyan/PRESS PHOTO)



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MAKGATHO OR MAGANG TO REPLACE BALOPI?

With Balopi out of the way as a prohibitively strong candidate to compete with, more names may go into the hat

GAZETTE REPORTER

Mpho Balopi's decision not to run for the powerful position of Secretary General of the Botswana Democratic Party (BDP) that he will vacate at the next elective congress of the party sometime this year has prompted speculation about a few notables to replace him.

One of these is former chairman of the BDP Youth Wing, Lesang Magang, who has always been open to the idea of oust-

ing Balopi from the position with inside sources indicating that President Mokgweetsi Masisi prefers him to Balopi.

Balopi was on Masisi's lobby list in the lead-up to the last elective congress but is reported to have fallen out of favour, hence his resignation from the cabinet last year.

Writing in his verified Facebook account last year, Magang said he would soon announce his strategy for the position. "Some six months ago I set up this page to share ideas about our country and



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party," he wrote. "In fact, to also share our journey to the Secretary General of the BDP and work towards prosperity for all our people."

The Botswana Gazette caught Magang on the wrong when the newspaper contacted him this week. "I am currently in South Africa and have been here since Thursday for a business meeting and I am about to board a flight to Gaborone," he said briefly.

Former cabinet minister Dorcas Makgatho, who is currently Botswana's Ambassador to Australia, is another name that has been linked with interest in Secretary General position. Makgatho's tenure in Australia ends in June this year and she is reported to be planning a massive return to politics after serving one term as MP for Sefhare-Ramokgonami and as Chairperson of the BDP Women's Wing.

Sources say she was approached by President Masisi for her assertive and oft aggressive personality that fits today's woman in politics. "Makgatho will be coming back home just before the congress and she is open to the idea of replacing Balopi as the next Secretary General of the party," said a source.

With Balopi out of the way, more names are likely to be thrown into the hat because some viewed him as a prohibitively strong candidate to stand against.

In 2020, former cabinet minister Dr Alfred Madigele publicly announced his withdrawal as a candidate for the position but did not give reasons.

Efforts to speak to Madigele to know whether he still holds the same position proved futile as his phone was not available.

Meanwhile, BDP Chief Whip Liakat Kablay has confirmed that Balopi has informed the party caucus of his decision to not defend his position at the BDP elective congress. "You will also understand that he has served the party as Secretary General for more than 11 years," Kablay said.

He would not be drawn on whether Balopi's decision may be influenced by persistent reports of having fallen out with President Masisi. "I suppose if there are any hidden reasons why he is not defending his position then he would tell me or the party," Kablay said.

"As far as I am concerned, Balopi has his constituency that he wants to serve diligently. The position of Secretary General is a high profile one in the party, given that it is also taxing as the person should be able to traverse the country to know whether the party is still relevant."

The Domkrag chief whip was not forthcoming regarding Balopi defending his Gaborone North parliamentary seat. "I guess it depends on him to deciding whether to defend his constituency or not but he has not told me anything," Kablay said.

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CHOBE LANDBOARD TO AWARD PLOTS FOR RE- DEVELOPMENT PLAN

A total 126 plots for commercial, light industrial, tourism, townhouses and multi-residential development are due for allocation in a plan that encourages citizen participation in a more resilient economy of the district famous for tourism. **KATLEGO RAKOLA** reports

Chobe Land Board is assessing applications for 126 plots across different categories in Kazungula and other villages in the district as a part of the region's Re-Development Plan (RDP), The Botswana Gazette has established.

A tender that was floated in February has attracted over 1 500 applications which are currently being evaluated by a committee of select stakeholders.

The plan seeks to resuscitate and diversify the economy of Chobe after the devastating effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the tourism, which is the mainstay of the district.

According to the Chairman of Chobe Land Board, Johane Chenjekwa, the evaluation should be completed in a month's time after which allocations will begin. Chenjekwa said the tender aims to involve citizens in the economy of the Chobe and enable them to compete with foreign companies.

He disclosed that many companies have begun setting up adjacent to Kazungula Bridge, which is expected to attract more businesses as a prime enclave. "Many Batswana bought the tender that has had at least 1 500 applications," he said. "A technical committee is being put together for the evaluation of business plans so we award the plots swiftly."

Once the committee has shortlisted plans deemed viable, a board will invite the hopefuls for oral interviews and decide who eventually gets the plots. A total of 126 plots for commercial, light industrial, tourism, townhouses and multi-residential development will then be allocated in the villages of Parakarungu, Satau, Kavimba, Mabele, Kazungula and Lesoma.

Chenjekwa said the plan is to allocate more plots by the end of this year after town planners provide a new layout for Kazungula. He added that part of the RDP is to safeguard the economy of the Chobe against eventualities like COVID-19 pandemic in future.

He disclosed that Chobe Land Board is about to make prime land available for tourism by relocating government offices, parastatals and residences that are currently near tourism areas. "There are government offices, for example, occupying prime land which have been targeted for relocation so that that land is reserved for tourism facilities," said Chenjekwa.

He added that 30 government offices were moved last December as part of this plan. "Those to be relocated in Kasane will be engaged again so that plans for the area may also be initialised soon."

BCP COUNCILLORS WANT ANSWERS FOR UDC INSTABILITY

GAZETTE REPORTER

Councillors of the Botswana Congress Party (BCP) in the central region have asked the party's central committee to explain why the BCP is on "shaky ground" in the Umbrella for Democratic Change (UDC).

Councillors who spoke to The Botswana Gazette complained that they were not consulted about the BCP fielding a council candidate for Bophirima Ward.

The Councillor for Xhosa 1 in Mahalapye East, George Andreck, said there should have been a leadership forum to consult all party members about competing against the UDC in the bye-elections and that compromise is necessary in order to protect the coalition movement.

This, because Batswana regard the UDC as a government-in-waiting and are disap-

pointed that the BCP's failure to compromise, may deal a blow to their hopes for the coalition, he added.

"We need each other and therefore all party leaders within the UDC should swallow their pride and fix existing problems because as it stands, this has paralysed the party," said Andreck, adding that the BNF should have been allowed to field a candidate as a compromise to protect the UDC brand.

"We were only told that we will receive communication about party decisions via a press release without any prior consultation," he said.

The Councillor for Shoshong South, Samuel Mphoyakgosi, said it is unfortunate that cooperating partners are competing against each other and that this has the potential to collapse the coalition project. He added that it is ideal to always have a

leadership forum to solicit members of the party for views.

At Madiba Ward in Mahalapye West, Councillor Kamogelo Kgotsile said although he cannot say much because he is due to meet with BCP president Dume-lang Saleshando this week, differences within the UDC could spell doom for the opposition ahead of the 2024 general elections if they are not resolved.

"It is okay to send a message of protest because whatever decisions are made will affect voters directly," he added

But Kgotsile said MPs of the BCP met with the central committee before a decision was taken.

Saleshando is expected to meet with BCP councillors and other party members this week to brief them on the state of the party and its future in the UDC.



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

DESIGNATED SERVICE PROVIDER NETWORKS

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BPOMAS invites registered service providers to submit proposals for inclusion in the following;

1.1. Designated Service Provider Network for Chronic Medication Dispensing to BPOMAS Members: **BPOMAS/RFP/01- 2022/CHRONIC MEDICATION DISPENSING**

1.2. Designated Service Provider Network for HIV/AIDS Disease Monitoring Laboratory Tests: **BPOMAS/RFP/02-2022/HIV & AIDS DISEASE MONITORING**

2. REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) DOCUMENTS

Interested Providers must email their requests for the applicable RFP Documents to dsptender@bpomas.co.bw and any related queries must be forwarded to the same email address.

3. CLOSING DATE

The closing date for the proposals is **08 April 2022**.

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Geoscience Report crushes BaLete Land Hopes

- Report says potentially habitable land is relatively small
- High plasticity clay, marshy and swampy soil characterises much of the land
- Scope covered Ramotswa, Boatle and Otse

TEFO PHEAGE

A report compiled by Botswana Geoscience Institute (BGI) may have dealt a big blow to

over 20 000 residential plot applicants on the waiting list of MaLete Land Board with its findings that only a small portion of the land targeted may



Paramount chief of BaLete Kgosi Mosadi Seboko. (Pic: Monirul Bhulyan/Press Photo)



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- 1.3. Fraud, Waste & Abuse Risk Management Solutions - **TENDER BID NO: BPOMAS/05/2022/FWA**
- 1.4. HIV/AIDS Disease Management Program - **TENDER BID NO: BPOMAS/06/2022/HIV & AIDS DMP**

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2.2. **Proof of payment** must be emailed to **tenders@bpomas.co.bw** and payment should only be done through the bank as **cash shall not be accepted**.

3. TENDER BID DOCUMENTS

Tender Bid Documents, inclusive of detailed **Terms of Reference** for each of the tenders, will be distributed to Prospective Bidders via email upon receipt of proof of payment. Any queries regarding the tenders must be forwarded to the above email address.

4. TENDER SUBMISSION & CLOSING DATE

Each of the above tenders shall be submitted electronically on or before **10:00am on 18 April 2022**.

be habitable.

This means that potential areas of residential expansion and forms of development may be much smaller than initially anticipated.

Commissioned by MaLete Land Board, the scope of the investigation covered the Ramotswa, Otse and Boatle territories with a sharp focus on geological, geotechnical, hydrogeological and topographical aspects.

BGI notes that the aim was to survey habitable land for future expansion and development of the areas.

Commissioned by MaLete Land Board, the scope of the investigation covered the Ramotswa, Otse and Boatle territories with a sharp focus on geological, geotechnical, hydrogeological and topographical aspects

According to the report, prohibitive factors in Ramotswa, for instance, are that about 71 percent of the area is covered by high plasticity clayey soils with dangers of causing cracks in houses. In Boatle, identified challenges are a marshy and swampy environment of the Taung River flood plain.

The report says it would take a lot of upgrading to make it habitable, and that even then there are concerns that this may not work in some instances.

Some areas were considered high flood risk and may need further assessment. In Otse, almost the entire area assessed (91.6 percent) was found to be covered by silty sand dipping down to depths greater than 0.8m.

In the report, physical planning experts recommend that under such circumstances authorities should come up with strict guidelines for development as failure to do so may attract catastrophic consequences.

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BVI recognised by the African Union for its contribution in Rinderpest eradication

Botswana Vaccine Institute Limited (BVI), joined the livestock industry under "The African Union Inter-African Bureau for Animal Health (AU-IBAR)" in commemoration of the AU-IBAR 70th Anniversary as well as the 10th Anniversary of Rinderpest Eradication held in Nairobi Kenya. The event also saw the launch of the Pan Africa Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR Programme 2022-2026).

In 2011 the Veterinary fraternity and all its stakeholders celebrated the declaration of the eradication of the first ever livestock disease from the planet, Rinderpest. The disease had over many decades afflicted significant mortalities and losses to the livestock keepers of the World to the extent that it was given the notorious name "Cattle Plague".

Recognizing the detrimental impacts of the disease and its ability to arrest reverse any gains made in the livestock sector, the leading animal health bodies and various stakeholders embarked on a significant drive of eradication of the first livestock disease rinderpest through vaccination and surveillance through the program named the Global Rinderpest Eradication Program (GREP). BVI alongside other globally players produced and supplied millions of doses of high-quality Rinderpest vaccines over decades through its Pestobov 100

vaccine as well as improving this vaccine to offer a version that could be kept outside refrigeration Pestobov- 50T and still maintain its potency.

At a prestigious event organized by AUIBAR, BVI was recognized through an Award for its significant contribution in Rinderpest eradication.

At the same meeting the second five-year plan for global eradication of Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) disease 2021-2026 was launched.

PPR is the second livestock disease targeted for Global eradication. BVI is amongst leaders in PPR vaccine production having started producing the vaccine in 1998 and having being the first World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), PPR vaccine Bank for Africa (2012-2016) and is currently the European Commission PPR vaccine Bank (2018-2022). BVI is primed for the eradication of the second disease as it was one of the first laboratories in the World to develop a thermotolerant PPR Vaccine that could be kept out of refrigeration at 40 degrees Celsius for five days. This improvement on the regular vaccine will ensure access of potent vaccines to the hardest to reach areas especially within the African continent thus ensuring that furthest and most remote areas are not left out on this noble programme. BVI currently has capacity to produce 100 million doses of PPR Vaccines annually.



Dr Mohammad Mahmoud Abubaker, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development Nigeria, handing over the Certificate of appreciation to BVI General Manager Mr Andrew Madeswi.



Dr Mohammad Mahmoud Abubaker, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development Nigeria, handing over the Trophy of appreciation to BVI General Manager Mr Andrew Madeswi.



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HOW SERIOUSLY SHOULD BANGWATO THREATS BE TAKEN?

It is now crystal clear that the BaNgwato tribesmen have fallen out with President Mokgweetsi Masisi and his government. They believe that Masisi did not just disrespect them but also took them for a ride when he said he was eager to resolve his differences with former president Ian Khama at a Kgotla meeting in Serowe late last year.

President Masisi instructed that the mediation talks be led by the uncles of the former president but after several attempts by the family to engage with him, the meeting is yet to materialise. Following last Friday's turn of events which saw Ian Khama's younger brothers detained and questioned for two days by DISS, Bangwato are fed up with what they deem state harassment on their Kgosi Kgolo and his family.

During an emergency meeting called last week by Khama's uncles at the main Kgotla in Serowe, it was clear that most of BaNgwato tribespeople have grown extremely frustrated and their threats against the state seemed serious. Some threatened to find first-rate witchdoctors to cause Masisi and his government much harm and untold misery while others spoke of civil war.

The biggest question that arises is how seriously these threats should be taken and how the government should treat them. A recently released Bertelsmann Stiftung's Transformation Index (BTI) 2022 report emphasised that the continued dispute between President Masisi and former president Khama could destabilise Botswana and its institutions. "The public dispute between President Masisi and Ian Khama, which emerged in 2018 soon after Masisi succeeded Khama, eventually led to Khama being pushed out of the ruling party in May 2019," the BTI country report on Botswana said. "The public dispute between Masisi and Khama could lead to instability."

Khama also told a local radio station this week that his top priority is to ensure that President Masisi and the ruling Botswana Democratic Party (BDP) do not retain power and that he is willing to go to great lengths for the purpose.

At things stand, it is clear that the situation is not getting any better but is actually worsening. The variables on the table of public accountability by the Khamas, application of the rule of law by the Masisi government and the complex balancing act of politics involved in pursuit alleged stolen funds do stand at cross purposes with finding a compromise. While some say that it is time for President Masisi to aim for a compromise and settle all his differences with Khama for the good of the nation, a good section of Batswana that believes that the rule of law and justice must apply on the Khamas and that they ought to be brought to book like everyone else. But others yet fear an outbreak of civil unrest should this not be handled poorly.

However, with South Africa's Jacob Zuma protesting his innocence before the courts rather than not squaring up for a bare knuckle fight with President Cyril Ramaphosa, perhaps Khama should have a similar opportunity. These are principles, not prescriptions.

Men and states may not lend themselves easily to comparison. Even so, years ago a former American secretary of state cautioned against the NATO-Russia-Ukraine standoff by saying this: People familiar with both the men (and the politics) will know that not all of the variables will be palatable to all the parties. The test is not absolute satisfaction but balanced dissatisfaction. If some solution based on these or comparable elements is not achieved, the drift toward confrontation will accelerate. The time for that will come soon enough. The conflict which has been bubbling under since the Cold War has metamorphosed into a full blown military war and, like the Khama-Masisi debacle, both men at the centre have gone too far and it is hard to come back. Whatever the outcome, what we have learnt throughout history is that no one wins in any protracted conflict.



United For Wildlife Hosts Conference On Combatting Illegal Wildlife Trade In Southern Africa

- The Royal Foundation and British High Commission co-hosted a United for Wildlife conference in Botswana to build networks and share knowledge on the illegal wildlife trade
- Representatives joined from Angola, Botswana, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe

The Royal Foundation's United for Wildlife and The British High Commission in Gaborone co-hosted a United for Wildlife conference in Kasane, Botswana. Supported by Zambesia Conservation Alliance, the event brought together leaders from the finance, transport, government, law enforcement and conservation organisations from the region with a common purpose of addressing Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT) in Southern Africa.

The UK government presented new research on the impact of COVID-19 on the illegal wildlife trade and the role of gender in illicit trafficking of wildlife products. A new financial sector toolkit developed by the UK government in partnership with WWF and Themis was launched at the event. The toolkit is a free resource for the financial sector to support their work on combatting illicit finance flows linked to wildlife trafficking and can be accessed online.

The conference marked the first meeting of the South African Regional Chapter, providing an opportunity to build on the efforts of United for Wildlife's Southern Africa Chapter, sharing best practices in combatting IWT, while also discussing potential frameworks to assist future efforts in the region. The event comes as United for Wildlife (UfW) partners strengthen the regional response to the illegal wildlife trade, expanding the successfully established South Africa Regional Chapter to encompass more partners across Southern Africa. Representatives from across the region joined this Chapter for the first time, including Angola, Botswana, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe. They will join this growing network to further enhance the regional response to the illegal wildlife trade.

Prince William founded United for Wildlife with The Royal Foundation to raise awareness of this serious and organised crime and bring motivated leaders across business, law enforcement and charities together to ensure the response is greater than conservationists alone. This Regional Chapter will continue to work with UfW's international Financial and Transport Taskforces to share information and resources, strengthen existing partnerships and better respond to support local priorities.

Countries all over the world are making a collective

effort to tackle the issue and the regional expansion of the Taskforces is key to this success. There are currently five regional chapters, including Southern Africa, East Africa, Hong Kong, Southeast Asia and Australasia, and the Middle East and North Africa.

The UK government presented new research on the impact of COVID-19 on the illegal wildlife trade and the role of gender in illicit trafficking of wildlife products.

David Fein, Chairman of the United for Wildlife Financial Taskforce, said: "The illegal wildlife trade is a serious organised crime carried out by ruthless cross-border criminal networks. It robs communities today of their future sources of income – it must be met with a united and global response. By convening and working collaboratively with the transport and finance sectors, building key partnerships with NGOs, and sharing information and best practices across the sectors, we will disrupt this criminal network."

Sian Price, British High Commissioner to Botswana and Special Representative to SADC, said: "The UK as a nation is passionate about combatting the illegal wildlife trade. Worth £23bn annually, the illegal wildlife trade knows no borders. Financial crime is at the heart of the illicit trade. Air and shipping routes facilitate the movement of illegal products from Africa to Asia. We cannot combat the illegal wildlife trade without working regionally, and engaging the finance and transport sectors. This conference is a milestone in bringing senior leaders from finance and transport industries across Southern Africa together to disrupt wildlife trafficking."

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Dead Man denied Entry into CKGR

- Says Gaoberekwe was not among 189 BaSarwa who won the right of return in court in 2006
- Council says Gaoberekwe should be buried in New Xade where he was registered for social relief

SESUPO RANTSIMAKO

Despite an order by the Lobatse High Court for Pitseng Gaoberekwe to be buried in the Central Kalahari Game Reserve (CKGR), the Department of Wildlife and National Parks (DWNP) has denied the family entry into the park, *The Botswana Gazette* has established.

After a long dispute over where to bury the 75-year old, the Ghanzi District Council (GDC) and the family of the deceased finally settled the matter out of court to lay Gaoberekwe to rest inside the CKGR in accordance with the wishes of the family. Following the settlement, the court ordered the burial to take place within nine days.

"In your application letter you indicated that Oteng Moilwa will be transporting the deceased Gaoberekwe's corpse for burial in CKGR," Senyatso wrote in response to the application.

However, trouble started when the family's application for a CKGR entry permit was rejected by the Director of DWNP, Dr Kabelo Senyatso, on the grounds that Gaoberekwe was not among 189 applicants in the 2006 "Roy Sesana and Others" case that BaSarwa won to return to their ancestral land in the CKGR.

"In your application letter you indicated that Oteng Moilwa will be transporting the deceased Gaoberekwe's corpse for burial in CKGR," Senyatso wrote in response to the application.

"Please note that only 189 applicants in the 2006 Roy Sesana and Others case can be buried in CKGR, and the deceased is not part of the list. In brief, your request for Moilwa to transport the corpse of the late Gaoberekwe into CKGR is not acceded to."

Tension between BaSarwa and the

government mounted in the 1990s when BaSarwa were forcibly relocated from the CKGR. BaSarwa challenged this, saying that the sole reason for their eviction was that the government wanted to exploit mineral resources discovered in the CKGR.

In 2006, 189 of them challenged the evictions in the Botswana High Court and won. Gaoberekwe died on the eve of Christmas last year and his corpse has been lying in a mortuary as the dispute over his burial place ensued between his family and the council.

While the family wanted him buried in the CKGR, the council opposed it for the reason that he was enrolled for social relief in New Xade and was therefore considered a resident of New Xade where his body should be buried.



Water Utilities Corporation (WUC) briefed the media on the planned shut down Oodi-Mmamashia North South Carrier pipeline to fix a major leak on the pipeline. The shutdown will start from 24 March until 26 March 2022, resulting in water supply interruption in Mochudi, Lobatse, Gaborone and surrounding areas. WUC chief executive officer Gaselemogwe Senai briefed the Media at site where the fixing will take place. (Pic:PRESS PHOTO)

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About Us

Acumen Property Group (APG) is a real estate development, and management firm with decades of experience in delivering high quality, cost effective, built for purpose developments of any magnitude.

To complement its growing team, APG is looking for suitable candidates to join its **Gaborone office**.

1. HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICER - Ref - 001/GBE/APG/2022

Vacancy: 1

Location: Gaborone

Qualifications and Experience Required:

- Bachelor's Degree in Social Sciences, Business Management or any related discipline with 4 years' experience.
- Or a Diploma in Human Resources or Business Management with 6 years' relevant experience.
- Experience working with Packages like Pastel VIP Softline, VIP HR System, Premier HR, and Accpac will be given preference.

Job Responsibilities

As a HR Officer you will be acting as a Business Partner/Liaison Officer for the Acumen Property Group in the following HR processes:

- Payroll and Salary Administration
- Recruitment
- Staff Training and Development
- Staff Welfare and wellness
- Grievance and Disciplinary Process
- Employee Records Management
- Maintenance of VIP Premier HR System.

To apply for the abovementioned vacancy, please follow the link below:

<https://bothouniversity.applytojob.com/apply>

Closing date for this vacancy is on April 5, 2022.

Please note that only applications submitted through JazzHr link will be accepted. Short-listing of candidates will be based on academic qualifications, relevant experience and general disposition. Only the shortlisted candidates will be called for an interview.

ACUMEN PROPERTY GROUP

First floor, Otse Building
Botho Education Park – Gaborone
Behind Game City, Gaborone, Botswana.

Tel: +267 7230 2821

Email: info@acumen.co.bw

Web: www.acumen.co.bw



BOTSWANA BUREAU OF STANDARDS

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for the following position:

1. SENIOR PROCUREMENT OFFICER VACANCY NO. 9/2021/2022.

JOB SUMMARY AND REQUIREMENTS

The successful candidate will be expected to assist the Manager Finance in the development and execution of the procurement strategy and policies, liaise with appropriate strategic partner organisations, both in the public and private sector. Furthermore, to negotiate facilitate and provide quality procurement services to meet the service level demands of the Bureau, and to develop appropriate operational processes and procedures for the delivery of procurement services and solutions to the rest of the organisation in the most cost effective, value driven way.

The successful candidate will have a Degree in Procurement, Supply Chain Management or equivalent and be an associate member of the Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply (CIPS). The candidate should have a minimum of five (5) years' experience with at least two (2) years at supervisory level.

A detailed CV, names of three referees and certified copies of certificates should accompany applications which should be emailed to: recruitment@bobstandards.bw not later than 31st March 2022.

For any enquiries do not hesitate to contact Human Resources at Telephone Number: 3903200/3645564/3645561



Avoid Tax Penalties Via Extension Of Time Applications

Year ends are usually a busy period for most corporates as they prepare to finalise financial records in preparation for numerous reports including accounting reports and fiscal returns. Accordingly, corporates are required by the tax laws to comply and submit their annual income tax returns by the last day of the fourth month following year end. Consequently, failure to adhere to such statutory obligations attracts penalties of P100 per each day the return remains outstanding. VAT returns carry the heaviest late filing penalties of 10% of the tax payable per month and this may swell to 100% in ten months. A fixed P 500 is charged for late nil or VAT returns bearing refunds.

Usually, some taxpayers find the four-month income tax period to be inadequate as they battle to put their financial and fiscal records in order. Consequently, this results in failing to meet the statutory deadline and incurring penalties. It is therefore vital for taxpayers to understand that the tax laws permit BURS to extend the time within which a return should be submitted on request. If approved, the extension abolishes any possible late submission penalties that would have been levied on the return. To be considered for an extension of time to submit tax returns, a taxpayer should make the request in writing to BURS in advance. The request should clearly indicate 'just cause' such as operational circumstances resulting in failure to meet the deadline. It should be noted that an application of extension of time is not restricted to corporates only but is also available to individuals.

However, it is also vital to note that an approved extension of time to submit a tax return is not an extension of time to pay tax. Accordingly, the due dates for payment of taxes remain the same and late payment penalties and interest will be levied where the tax is not paid on time.

This article is of a general nature and is not meant to address particular matters of any person. Please contact us on the details in this article for tax consulting or to join our free Tax WhatsApp group.

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CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

About Us

Botho University (BU) is an ISO 9001:2015 certified organisation. It was established in Botswana in 1997 and has rapidly evolved over the years to become a leading multidisciplinary high quality tertiary education provider in the SADC region. Botho University has physical campuses based in Lesotho, Namibia and eSwatini. It has also got a Blended and Distance Learning Campus (BDL) which is online.

Botho University is a dynamic University implementing programs that are unique and relevant to Africa. The University's mission is to provide quality education and produce globally employable and entrepreneurial graduates.

The University is looking for suitable candidates to fill the following positions at its **Gaborone Campus**.

1. Dean – Faculty of Health and Education Vacancy – 1

Ref: 22FHE001GBE

Qualifications and Experience Required:

- Possession of a PhD in Health or Health related disciplines. Candidates having more than 6 years of experience in handling similar roles in a University environment will be given preference.
- Experience in dealing with regulatory affairs and quality audit processes within the higher education community.
- Experience in research and fundraising.
- Membership to any professional bodies relevant to the role to showcase knowledge and exposure to the latest trends across the world.

Job Responsibilities

The Dean – Faculty of Health and Education is the executive head and academic leader responsible for positioning the Faculty strategically according to the University strategy. The responsibilities attached to this position comprises the following amongst other things:

- Promote the Faculty locally, regionally and in the global market by ensuring the Faculty offers high quality accredited programmes that meet market demands.
- Quality assurance and enhancement for the Faculty.
- Manage human resources for the Faculty.
- Ensure the financial sustainability of the Faculty.
- Ensure that the Faculty produces relevant, impactful research backed by external funding.
- Manage the Faculty's community engagement initiatives.
- Maintains his/her expertise as a classroom teacher by being actively involved in curriculum development, facilitation and assessment.

Competencies

- Strong leadership skills with a strategic thinking mindset.
- Knowledge of the implementation of innovative teaching and learning strategies.
- Ability to conceptualise and drive projects in a complex environment
- Ability to motivate the team.
- Research and Financial Management skills.

2. Institutional Research (IR) Officer Vacancy – 1

Ref: 22OQM002GBE

Qualifications and Experience Required:

- Candidates must possess a Master's degree in Education – Research & Evaluation, and or Related.
- A minimum 5 years' experience in a similar or higher position.
- Should have excellent data analysis and presentation skills.
- Experience and interest in policy planning in higher education.

Job Responsibilities

- Botho University Institutional Research (IR) Officer shall collect, analyse and disseminate data and information to provide the University's internal and external constituencies with accurate and timely information to support decision-making, planning, policy formulation and institutional effectiveness.
- Collect, document and analyse the Research output data of the University
- Collect data from internal and external sources and store it in a central database to ensure proper reporting activities.
- Works with various university departments to conduct surveys in any areas where institutional research is required.
- Responds to diverse requests for data from the internal and external constituencies.
- Provides support for the analysis of data for use in decision-making and policy formulation.
- Monitors the University Research Performance Index.
- Provides support for the analysis of surveys for use in decision-making.
- Provides support for the analysis and dissemination of information for strategic planning.
- Provides support for institutional projects such as the Botho Graduate Profile project, the Botho University International Research Conference etc.
- Supports in the preparation of University publications by providing any relevant data.
- Supports staff and students in their research initiatives.
- Work with the entire Library, Teaching & Research Excellence (LTRE) team to deliver on the mandate of the department.

Competencies

- Good communication skills.
- Highly intuitive individual.
- Ability to find efficient and effective ways to resolve challenges and problems.
- Ability to be innovative in planning, developing, and producing quality instruction and support services delivered via technology.
- Demonstrate computer competence, willingness, and ability to learn administrative tools, software, web-based applications, and programming commands.

To apply for the abovementioned vacancy, please follow the link below:

<https://bothouniversity.applytojob.com/apply>

Closing date for this vacancy is on **April 5, 2022**

Please note that only applications submitted through JazzHR link will be accepted. Short-listing of candidates will be based on academic qualifications, relevant experience and general disposition. Only the shortlisted candidates will be called for an interview.

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SA National Compelled to take Booster Shot Dies

Gov't backtracks on 'no vaccine, no entry' policy



Photo Credit: Matt Rourke/AP



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KBL & UNDP BREW SUSTAINABILITY WITH KICKSTART BENEFICIARIES

Kgalagadi Breweries (Pty) Ltd (KBL) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) have partnered to support citizen-owned youth businesses in Botswana. The Kickstart-Youth Connekt collaboration is a hybrid initiative that will see the brewing giant fund the participation of former beneficiaries of the Kickstart grant programme to participate in UNDP's multidimensional entrepreneurship and capacity development programme, Youth Connekt.

For the next eight months, 15 Kickstart alumni from various business sectors, including agriculture, health and manufacturing, will partake in the entrepreneurial experience of a lifetime. The benefits to programme participants include:

- Access to the UNDP Supplier Development Programme – designed to connect SMEs and larger Buyers locally and internationally. Local UNDP-certified consultants will work with the participants to ensure effective, quality and growing supply chains between these SMEs and their Buyers. The participants will have access to competitive lending rates through partner banks, such as Stanbic, ABSA, FNB, Bank Gaborone, Standard Chartered Bank, NDB and CEDA;
- Enrollment in capacity building trainings; and
- 5 months-long mentorship with prolific business leaders.

KBL's Head of Corporate Affairs, Masegonyana Madisa, described the partnership as a refreshing and necessary change to the Kickstart programme, founded in 2004. "It was time to do something different after 17 years, especially given the current economic climate. Where Kickstart is crucial in helping to establish and expand youth businesses, this partnership with the UNDP will help further capacitate these entrepreneurs and almost guarantee business longevity."

UNDP Botswana's Resident Representative, Balazs Horvath, seconded Madisa's sentiments, adding, "Our partnership can only elevate what KBL has built throughout the years with Kickstart, by connecting young Botswana to business leaders, skills and resources to promote entrepreneurship and employment opportunities. As UNDP, we also believe that this partnership meets our renewed strategy to not only work more with the private sector but to also facilitate public-private partnerships in all we do. The MYSC-BIDH-KBL link epitomizes that".

About Kickstart

Youth Entrepreneurial Development Programme launched in 2004, to assist Botswana youth aged between 18 and 40, to either establish or expand their existing businesses. Kickstart's primary focus is to instill a culture of entrepreneurship amongst young people. For more than a decade, Kickstart became one of the largest entrepreneurship development projects run by a private sector company in Botswana. As our flagship sustainable development programme, Kickstart has delivered first-class results over the years, and made a positive difference to the lives of young people all over Botswana, from the entrepreneurs themselves to the people they employ and the customers they serve – not to mention their families. Creating the possibilities for young Botswana to determine their own future through Kickstart is such a fresh and vibrant reality because it gives our young people the capacity to truly hope for a better tomorrow. Programme finalists qualify for grants ranging between P10,000 and P200,000, with sixty (60) percent of the grants reserved for women. Finalists also receive coaching and mentorship to ensure sustainability for 12 months.

About YouthConnekt

The YouthConnekt programme was initially established by UNDP in Rwanda and has since been rolled out to more countries as a key offer to Africa and its young generation. The platform enables young women and men to connect with leaders, role models, peers, skills and resources to promote employment and entrepreneurship opportunities. It coordinates and nurtures collaboration between youth empowerment initiatives and hubs through a continental network of youth empowerment experts across Africa. YouthConnekt focuses on providing an integrated approach in support of entrepreneurship, awareness raising, engagement in national policy and development dialogues, engagement in community development, innovation challenges and awards and with a strong focus on ICT to allow for virtual engagements. The YouthConnekt programme was launched in Botswana in July 2021, as an extension of UNDP's flagship Supplier Development Programme (SDP). It is a partnership between United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture (MYSC), Botswana Innovation Hub (BIH) and the Private Sector.



GAZETTE REPORTER

The South African national who has been hospitalised in Botswana after reacting to a COVID-19 booster jab at a port of entry has died, the South African High Commissioner to Botswana, TP Shope-Soumah, has confirmed.

Bongani Mbongani was part of renowned rapper Siyabonga "Slikour" Metane's crew that came to attend a creative workshop in Gaborone recently. After taking the compulsory vaccine, Mbongani was soon complaining of an intense headache and fainted.

"He got vaccinated and I think he reacted to the vaccination. We don't know why he reacted but he died yesterday (last Thursday). The mother is here and I am going to console her and pay my last respects," the SA High Commissioner said at the Tourism Trade and Investment Gauteng show in Gaborone.

Sources say he was rushed to Princess Marina Hospital where he was admitted in the intensive care unit. Mbongani was later moved to Gaborone Private Hospital where he was reported certified brain dead, having fallen into a coma.

He got vaccinated and I think he reacted to the vaccination. We don't know why he reacted but he died yesterday (last Thursday). The mother is here and I am going to console her and pay my last respects," SA High Commissioner.

Although it is not known if the two developments are related, the government issued a statement last Friday backtracking on its 'no vaccination, no entry' policy. The new changes at ports of entry now allow partially vaccinated or unvaccinated people to enter the country if they comply with the testing requirements.

It is only when not fully vaccinated and not willing to undergo COVID-19 testing at ports of entry that a traveller will be charged and/or fined or taken to a court of law.

"Due to discordant periods for taking booster shots between Botswana and other countries and for purposes of smoothing international travel, the definition of being fully vaccinated in Botswana will no longer include a booster shot," the Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Health and Wellness, Christopher Nyanga, said in a media statement.

"Having completed the primary vaccine series will be considered sufficient for one to be allowed entry, without the need to present a negative PCR test result."

BOITEKANELO COLLEGE LAUNCHES CENTER FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

In his remarks, Boitekanelo College Provost Dr Tiroyaone Mampane highlighted that they have acquired a 12 hectare plot where they will expand their services. "This we do as we want to continue to play a significant role in our country in terms of career development and achieving both education and health industry sector goals in the country," Dr Mampane said, adding "I would like to encourage all healthcare professionals to come and experience our short courses."

Boitekanelo College, a citizen owned private tertiary institution

was established in 2007 and it offers healthcare programmes. The College has grown over the 15 years of its existence from offering one certificate course to now offering 5 degrees, several healthcare diplomas and certificates. It is accredited by Botswana Qualification Authority, Botswana Bureau of Standards and intends to transition into a university status. It has been proven by the number of 6500 market ready graduates since 2007 that there is a need for healthcare qualifications such as those offered by Boitekanelo College.



Boitekanelo College Provost Dr Tiroyaone Mampane highlighted that they have acquired a 12 hectare plot where they will expand their services.

The 15-year-old Boitekanelo College launched its Center for Professional Development Studies at the Tlokweng Campus. The launch is in line with the college's intentions to start in-house training, targeting practicing healthcare professionals.

"I would like to encourage all healthcare professionals to come and experience our short courses." Dr Mampane

The college has partnered with Gordon Institute of Business Science to bring high quality and credible healthcare leadership, management and clinical practice programmes so to close existing gaps in managerial and leadership skills in the profession. These customized courses seek to develop and inspire healthcare professionals with industry driven competencies to become world class leaders, better clinicians, and resource managers in their areas of practice.

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- » HND** Pharmacy Technology
- » Occupational Health and Safety
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- » Healthcare Management
- » Emergency Care Technology
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- » Emergency Medical Care
- » Occupational Health and Safety
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ND* : National Diploma
HND** : Higher National Diploma

Closing Date: 30th June 2022

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CENTRE FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

Tailor made Short Courses for in-service-training for healthcare Professionals

Leadership in Healthcare Management

The course covers leadership theories, concepts and equips one to lead self, teams & organizations in the healthcare industry. It covers topics like the role of leaders in building organizational culture, system thinking and leading change in the healthcare setting.

Who Should Attend?

- Healthcare professionals e.g. Doctors, Nurses, and all allied healthcare professionals
- Academics & Researchers in the Healthcare Industry
- Managers & Administrators in the healthcare environment i.e. Matrons, DHMT leaders.
- Other Professionals in the healthcare industry

Benefits of the Course:

- Become a self-aware 21st century leader
- Build high performing Teams
- Lead a diverse healthcare workforce using leadership models and styles appropriate to the healthcare setting.
- Ability to become strategic while ensuring operational activities are through your leadership styles.
- Confidence and skill to build a thriving organisation

Duration: 3 days

On Campus Fees : P4 800 Online Fees: P3 800

Dates	Gaborone	Francistown
March	21 - 23	24 - 26
April	7 - 9	28 - 30
June	9 - 11	23 - 25

*Online will be offered when a minimum of 20 students have registered



Effective Communication

This course provides healthcare professionals with the skills to effectively communicate organisational goals and objectives. It is about learning different communication styles when addressing various healthcare stakeholders. The course will cover report writing, presentation skills, usage of technology & communication mechanisms.

Who Should Attend?

- Healthcare professionals e.g. Doctors, Nurses, and all allied healthcare professionals
- Academics & Researchers in the Healthcare Industry
- Managers & Administrators in the healthcare environment i.e. Matrons, DHMT leaders, Supervisors and Middle Managers.
- Other Professionals in the healthcare industry like Personal Assistants, Secretaries, Executive PAs

Benefits of the Course:

- Build strong relationships with various stakeholders to strategy buy-in
- Deliver powerful presentations, use active listening and questioning skills to engage colleagues
- Inspire, motivate & mentor individuals to achieve a high performance culture

Duration: 2 days

On Campus Fees : P3 500 Online Fees: P2 800

Dates	Gaborone	Francistown
March	24 - 25	17 - 18
April	21 - 22	9 - 10
June	22 - 23	14 - 15

*Online will be offered when a minimum of 20 students have registered



People Management in Healthcare Settings

This course equips participants with the skills, attitudes and insights to manage people, mainly healthcare professionals and administrators working in the volatile and complex Healthcare environment. It will help leaders and managers get the best out of their teams, be inclusive and promote diversity.

Who Should Attend?

- Healthcare professionals e.g. Doctors, Nurses, and all allied healthcare professionals
- Academics & Researchers in the Healthcare Industry
- Managers & Administrators in the healthcare environment i.e. Principal, Matrons, HOD, chief officers & DHMT leaders.
- HR officers and managers
- Training & Development Managers
- Owners of private clinics & health centers
- Other Professionals in the healthcare industry

Benefits of the Course:

- Lead and manage people, build an inclusive and diverse work environment to make individuals thrive
- Effectively manage employees through their work-cycle right from recruitment, selection, on boarding to performance management using the latest tools & strategies of human resource management
- Inspire, motivate and mentor individuals to achieve a high performing culture

Duration: 3 days

On Campus Fees : P4 800 Online Fees: P3 800

Dates	Gaborone	Francistown
March	27 - 28	25 - 26
April	3 - 4	25 - 26
June	6 - 7	17 - 18

*Online will be offered when a minimum of 20 students have registered



Finance for Healthcare Managers

This course blends theory with practical tools health professionals need to make sound financial decisions in the most complex settings. The course covers topics such as financial statements analysis, time value of money, budgeting, working capital management, capital investment, and healthcare funding.

Who Should Attend?

- Healthcare professionals e.g. Doctors, Nurses, and all allied healthcare professionals
- Academics & Researchers in the Healthcare Industry
- Hospital Managers & Healthcare Administrators
- Procurement & Supplies officers, Matrons, DHMT leaders.
- Entrepreneurs in the healthcare industry
- Private clinics & health center Owners
- Other Professionals in the healthcare industry

Benefits of the Course:

- Develop and analyse financial statements in driving organizational performance
- Prepare and implement budgets aligned to Organisational Strategy
- Optimally plan, control and manage resources using financial ratios

Duration: 4 days

On Campus Fees : P5 800 Online Fees: P4 800

Dates	Gaborone
March	31 - 3 April
April	28 - 1 May
May	26 - 29
June	23 - 26

*Online will be offered when a minimum of 20 students have registered



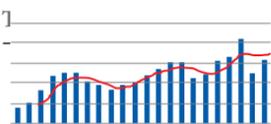
Contact

Tel: +267 398 0500

Cell: +267 747 984 52 / 78 143 772 / 72 332 560

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BSE-listed bank Standard Chartered intends to go wholly digital and provide all its banking services online by the end of this year. Pic:www.acfcs.org

125-Year Old Stanchart To Go 100% Digital

- Aims to migrate all services to its digital platform by year's end
- First in Botswana is also first with Renmimbi for its Asian clients

GAZETTE REPORTER

BSE-listed bank Standard Chartered intends to go wholly digital and provide all its banking services online by the end of this year.

This follows a digitisation strategy that the bank adopted some years ago to set itself apart in the financial services sector where it already offering close to 200 formerly traditional banking services for both retail and corporate clients digitally.

Having reduced its branches by half from 22 to 11, StanChart now intends to focus less on brick and mortar and become a fully digital bank.

Speaking at an Editor's Forum briefing on Monday night, the bank's Chief Executive Officer Mpho Masupe said Standard Chartered has been able to transition from incredible losses, sustaining and growing operations, to now focusing on sustainability and being a part of green solutions. This new drive underpins the bank's ambition to fully digitise its services.

"The biggest thing we want to see about this bank is digitisation, and we are very aggressive about it," Masupe said.

Head of Corporate Banking, Asuquo Nkposong, told The Botswana Gazette in an interview that there are two

phases involved in the process of providing end-to-end services virtually. The first is providing traditional banking services virtually to retail clients while the second phase is providing services to corporate clients.

"The biggest thing we want to see about this bank is digitisation, and we are very aggressive about it," Masupe said.

Nkposong said the pillar of executing these two components is setting up a platform as a digital bank, which has successfully been done already.

"The second step is now providing that financial mall where increasingly different services provided to clients manually are now being migrated to the platform," he said.

He added that StanChart has already migrated many services to this platform, including 74 retail services and at least 80 percent of all manual services provided to corporate clients. What will come next is processing loans through the platform. Services like providing clients with

information on their loans, repayment profiles and outstanding balances are already being done digitally.

Meanwhile, StanChart recently launched a Renminbi product for its growing Chinese client base. This means the Asian population living in Botswana can now access their home currency at the bank and conduct transactions directly with the currency.

This is the 6th exchange that Standard Chartered has introduced for transactions at the bank and is the first bank in Botswana to introduce such a product. This product too is available online.

These developments come at a propitious time when StanChart is celebrating 125 years in Botswana this year. It first set foot in the country in Francistown and worked with the founding fathers of Botswana to come up with the Pula in August 1976.

StanChart is expected to release its 2021 financial results at the end of this month.

TIRED OF SHARING?



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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Motor Vehicle Accident Fund invites qualified companies with the following expertise to submit their proposals as follows:

Procurement Requirements: **Procurement of Consultancy Services**

1. RFP-04-2022 - Brand Perception Survey for MVA Fund

PPADB registration: Code 317- Other Consultancy Services- Sub code: 01 or 02 or 05

Prescribed Reservation Schemes: **100% citizen owned companies**

Tenders Closing: **20th April 2022**

2. RFP-05-2022 - Production of Road Safety Television Educational Documentary (Setswana Version) for MVA Fund

PPADB registration: Code 128 - Media Services- Sub code 02

Prescribed Reservation Schemes: **100% citizen owned companies**

Tenders Closing: **Date changed from 18th April 2022 to 19th April 2022**

3. RFP-06-2022 - Development of MVA Fund's Strategic Plan (2023 - 2027)

PPADB registered: Code 317- Other Consultancy Services, Sub code: 01 or 02

Prescribed Reservation Schemes: **CEE Policy, EDD Policy, and Local PS**

Tenders Closing: **26th April 2022**



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- Owes govt P1.3bn
- Search for CEO ongoing

GAZETTE REPORTER

Botswana Meat Commission (BMC) made a loss of P106 million in the year ended 31 December 2021 compared to a profit of P3.2 million in the prior year, the Assistant Minister of Agricultural Development and Food Security, Molebatsi Molebatsi, has said.

Speaking in Parliament recently, Molebatsi said 19 671 cattle were slaughtered at BMC operations in Lobatse and Maun last year. He noted from 1st January 2022 to 28 February this year, 3 029 cattle were slaughtered at the BMC operations as compared to 561 in the same period last year.

“This resulted in increased revenues of P20.1 million

as compared to P11.4 million of the prior year,” he said. “This significant increase shows that BMC is operative and doing well.

Molebatsi told Parliament that BMC owes government “a worrying” P1.3 billion factor that needs a formidable strategy to turn the parastatal into a profitable organisation.

Molebatsi told Parliament that BMC owes government “a worrying” P1.3 billion factor that needs a formidable strategy to turn the parastatal into a profitable organisation.

He said the process of hiring a Chief Executive Officer for BMC, a position that has been vacant for months now, is ongoing. “Cabinet will approve the appointment of the CEO before the end of this month,” he said. “The position

of CEO is undoubtedly important for BMC’s turnaround.

“I can confirm that there is a fully fledged Board of Directors appointed to the BMC, a bench of executive management and support from the ministry management to make sure that all that is required within the BMC’s operational environment is taken care of.”

Molebatsi disclosed that BMC has developed an organisational strategy termed Meriting 2022-2025 to address urgent matters at the organisation. He said if successful, the strategy will relieve BMC of overreliance on the government and turn it profitable, ensure its long-term financial sustainability and drive export-quality standards.

With a head office in Lobatse, BMC is a parastatal established in 1965 to promote development of the country’s livestock industry and export beef and related products globally. The premises are an integrated complex housing an abattoir, a cannery, a tannery and plant for byproducts. In addition to its three abattoirs in Botswana, BMC has cold storage facilities in South Africa and marketing subsidiaries in the United Kingdom.

BoB To Tighten Grip On Inflation With Reformed Monetary Policy

- Says using bank rate left commercial banks with excess cash
- Banks will now trade their excess funds BoB certificates with interest



The Bank of Botswana (BOB) says beginning 1st April it will implement a 7-day Bank of Botswana Certificate to replace the bank rate in an attempt to have more influence on inflation.

KATLEGO RAKOLA

The Bank of Botswana (BOB) says beginning 1st April it will implement a 7-day Bank of Botswana Certificate to replace the bank rate in an attempt to have more influence on inflation.

According to Director Research and Financial Stability Dr. Lesedi Senatla, the bank rate, which currently stands at 3.75 percent, has had little impact on controlling inflation as commercial banks had excess funds and were not borrowing from the central bank.

But with changes to BoB’s monetary policy, banks will turn in their excess funds to BoB in exchange for the certificates and earn an interest on them. Senatla stated that the prime lending rate, which stands at 5.25 percent, will be at

the discretion of commercial banks, opening the financial sector to a more competitive environment.

“The bank sought a more potent instrument that we can use to transmit monetary policy,” Senatla explained. “After a detailed study, we identified the 7-day Bank of Botswana Certificate. This is a tool we (will) use to mop up excess liquidity.”

Dr Senatla said certificates will replace the bank rate from 1st April will be referred to as the Monetary Policy Rate. This comes after a long time of the central bank using the bank rate to steer demand-driven inflation to a desirable range. However, he explained, because of excess liquidity in the banking system, commercial banks had no desire to borrow from BoB.

“That rendered the bank rate incapable of affecting the structure of interest rates and this turned to weaken monetary policy implementation,” Dr Senatla noted.

He believes that once the Monetary Policy Rate is in effect, all other interest rates will fall in line with BoB’s expectations that this will have a direct impact on inflation. Dr Senatla noted that when the policy rate is adjusted for whatever reason, it will be felt immediately in loan repayment interests that consumers of financial services will note.

“By its very nature, a more effective monetary policy needs to operate through affecting bank deposits (because) that is the liability side of the commercial bank’s balance sheet and not the asset side, which is what we had been doing in the past,” he said.

He emphasised that with the new reforms, the prime lending rate will be at the discretion of commercial banks. The central bank, he added, will no longer be paying attention to this rate. “We have no desire as a central bank to interfere in the free play of money and credit markets,” Dr Senatla said.

The 7-day BoB rate will be determined by models that the central bank runs to determine where it should be, given the impact it is expected to have on inflation at a particular time when BoB be looking to either raise or lower inflation.

“That rate would then influence inflation in the following way: if we decide that we need to curtail the growth rate of inflation, we would have to increase that rate which will then restrict the money supply and ultimately reduce inflation,” he explained. The reverse is also true that when we reduce the rate, we would be pumping money into the system and in the end inflation would increase.”



Tlou pens Transmission Line Contract

- Has secured first tranche of BPOPF funds to get Zismo started
- Can now connect Lesedi Power Project to the country’s electricity grid

GAZETTE REPORTER

Tlou Energy has announced that the contract for the construction of the transmission line to connect the Lesedi Power Project to the Botswana electricity grid has been signed.

The company is focused on delivering power solutions to Botswana and southern Africa to alleviate some of the chronic power shortage in the region. It is aiming to do so through its Lesedi Power Project which is located approximately 100km from the existing electricity grid in Botswana.

“The first stage of development will be the erection of wooden poles fitted with an overhead 66kV transmission line, capable of supplying up to 25MW of power into the grid,” said Managing Director Tony Gilby in a statement released recently.

“The line will commence at Lesedi and run across the outskirts of the Serowe township where the line will join the existing grid. Zismo Engineering has been engaged to construct the transmission line and it is expected to mobilise plant and equipment onsite in the coming weeks. The project is expected to take approximately 15 months to complete.”

Gilby says commencement of transmission line construction represents a new and exciting phase for the company aimed at delivering the huge gas-to-power potential and starting the monetisation process for the company’s considerable gas reserves.

To Page 21

Minergy's Opportunities to Supply SADC Region Gain Momentum

- Minergy is shortlisted for Botswana's Greenfields Coal-Fired Power Plant
- Has 30-year contract to supply power plant
- Minergy is uncertain about supplying Eskom

GAZETTE REPORTER

Minergy Botswana's opportunities to supply coal into Botswana's neighbouring countries is garnering increasing interest, the company's CEO, Morne du Plessis, says in the financial results for the six months ended 31st December 2021 released recently.

Minergy is a coal mining and trading company committed to becoming the supplier of choice to industrial customers and power utilities across southern Africa. According to Du Plessis, the company is not far from attaining that dream.

He says supplying into Eskom and the power generator's future strategy remains unclear, given ambiguous messages broadcast by South Africa's power utility in recent months. "No further updates or clarifications have been received from Eskom, with the process on hold for now," he says.

Minergy is a coal mining and trading company committed to becoming the supplier of choice to industrial customers and power utilities across southern Africa. According to Du Plessis, the company is not far from attaining that dream.

Du Plessis has disclosed that Minergy is one of three shortlisted bidders tendering for a 300MW (net) Greenfields Coal-Fired Power Plant in Botswana as an Independent Power Producer. "The closing date for the bid has been extended to 27 April 2022," he notes.

"In addition, Minergy will be responsible for providing coal to the power plant for the duration of the Power

Purchase Agreement of 30 years, essentially de-risking the investment and providing a diversified and stable income stream. The bid preparation is on track.

"Importantly, Minergy is the only bidder to have an operational mine, a reserve large enough for the benefit of the power plant, has demonstrated the experience to operate within Botswana as well as being a fully incorporated Botswana company with a staff complement made up of 95 percent Botswana."

Meanwhile, Minergy's recorded a operating loss of P54.9 million, a 12 percent decrease compared to P48.3 million of the comparative period. On a cash basis, Earnings Before Interest, Tax and Amortisation (EBITDA) amounted to a loss of P40.4 million against, a comparative loss of P51.7 million which is an improvement of 22 percent.

"Both positive changes in the metrics were supported by the 50 percent increase in sales volumes and higher average prices stemming from a more economical product mix, a stable South African Rand and price increases," says du Plessis.

"It should be noted that revenue includes transport, all provided by local Botswana-owned operators, which also increased in Pula terms by 50 percent. A reciprocal cost increase is included in the cost of sales as mentioned below."

Minergy is the holding company of the Minergy which aims at becoming a mid-tier southern African coal mining company. Minergy is registered and listed on the Botswana Stock Exchange, with a proposed listing on a second international stock exchange planned.

Minergy's 100 percent owned Masama Mine, located in the Mmamabula Coalfield of Botswana, is the Group's cornerstone asset.

Lucara Edges Closer To Operationalising Underground Mine

- Company is currently placing ventilation shafts
- Aims to start underground operation in 2026



Diamond mining company Lucara Diamond Botswana is getting closer to transitioning into its underground mine in Karowe from its current open pit operation which comes to an end in 2025.

KATLEGO RAKOLA

Diamond mining company Lucara Diamond Botswana is getting closer to transitioning into its underground mine in Karowe from its current open pit operation which comes to an end in 2025.

Last week the company successfully placed the first sec-

tion of a ventilation shaft headgear on the underground mine. Ventilation shafts, also known as airshafts or vent shafts, are vertical passages used in mines and tunnels to move fresh air underground and to remove stale air.

Commenting on the development during an interview with this publication, Botswana Managing Director Nas-eem Lahri explained: "This is one of the many milestones

well as exploring further ways of monetising our enormous gas reserves."

He added that the existing two production pods continue to flow gas and perform in line with expectations, given that there are only two pods in a very large basin. "Additional wells should assist the dewatering process and result in higher gas flow rates," Gilby noted.

"Tlou has 100 percent ownership of a very large quantity of gas which will become increasingly valuable with time as a cleaner and reliable source in this part of Africa. Step by step, we are making solid progress towards becoming a leading clean energy supplier in the region."

to be delivered in commissioning this project."

Updating reporters at a press conference in Gaborone recently, the Manager of the underground mine project Leo Marumo said Lucara aims to fully operate the mine in 2026 and that these recent developments are edging it closer to that target.

Marumo added that the project is time-sensitive and is looking to breaching the end of life of the open pit mine with the start of the underground operation.

The ventilation shaft will be developed to 733 metres below surface while the main production shaft will be mined to a depth of 767 metres. The production shaft is the main mine work space.

Lucara has secured P6.2 billion for the project, which is expected to bring P47 billion in revenues while in operation until 2040. Marumo said 5.1 million carats are expected to be excavated from the mine where construction activities started in 2020 for production to start in 2026.

Marumo also added that the mining method for the underground project is a hybrid model or long wall shrinkage method that combines block caving and vertical crater retreat. "It's a bottom-up approach," he explained.

"We drive our developments all the way to the bottom, drift across to the kimberlite pipe, and then mine it going upwards until it reaches its economic limit."

He noted that construction of the mine up to operation has different working phases with varying engagements of labour and skilled personnel. Though all employees currently involved at their ongoing open pit mine will be absorbed, the mine will not need a significant workforce once in full operation.

"Our mine is a very small footprint and as such we will have very limited working areas beyond the project development phase," Marumo said. "From 2026 it is not going to be labour intensive, especially coupled with the technology that we are going to be using."

Other works around the mine include a 28km powerline from Letlhakane to Karowe to provide 132 kilo volts of power to the mine.

Meanwhile, Lucara recently released its financial results, reporting revenues of just over \$230.1 million. This is up by 84 percent compared to the previous financial results.

Managing Director Lahri attributed this performance to the ongoing recovery of the diamond industry in which Lucara has sold over 230 special diamonds.

A bulk of the company's revenue was driven by its polished side of the business that it recently went into through a partnership with polishing company HB Antwerp that Lucara hopes to extend when it expires this year.

Tlou

From Page 20

"We look forward to working with Zismo on transmission line construction and achieving first revenue," Gilby said. "It has taken a long time but what has been achieved to this point is outstanding. We are extremely grateful to our stakeholders and investors for staying the course."

"Having secured the first tranche of BPOPF funds allowing us to get Zismo started on the transmission line, we are now progressing additional power off-takers as

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Soul Fill Up Festival requires P1.2m

- Organisers have raised only 40% of amount required
- Franco will perform three times
- Organisers strive for incident-free event

GOSEGO MOTSUMI

With only a few days left until local rumba sensation Franco Lesokwane makes another historic move of filling the National Stadium with revellers, the organising team has raised only 40% of the required budget, *Time Out* has established.

The festival requires a huge financial outlay of P1.2 million and the organising team is pulling out all the stops to stage the much-anticipated show.

“We still a huge challenge of money and are knocking on doors,” said the event’s sponsorship coordinator, Gaone Dixon. “If I look at the money we have been able to raise, it does not even cover 40% of the budget. So we encourage everyone who all the help.”

Slated for 2 April at the National Stadium in Gaborone, First National Bank Botswana has committed P250 000 for paying all the local artists performing alongside the much-acclaimed King of Kwasa, the Department of Broadcasting Services (Btv and RB2) has pledged P220 000 worth of airtime while a South African company, PSI, has committed R150 000 to the show.

Other sponsors of the music festival are Sebege Attorneys, Colours of Sounds, Native Events and LED Works.

Said Dixon: “The Ministry of Youth had sponsored the event with P120 000 before it was postponed in 2020. We suffered a huge setback when it was postponed, thanks to the advent of COVID-19.

“The event faced new challenges when the industry was re-opened because some sponsors who had showed interest were crippled by the pandemic and the re-opening of the industry required us to comply with the new COVID-19 regulations that come at a cost.”

Because of the increasing crime rate in the country and at entertainment spots, the festival brought Security Systems on board as another sponsor to ensure an incident-free show. To bolster the security of patrons further and raise the PR and marketing of the event, Godwin Sebina says flying drones will capture footage.

“Security is our top priority,” Sebina emphasised. “We are also living in the times of social distancing so we will not therefore be filling the stadium to capacity. Tickets are selling like hot cakes. We had sold 5 000 tickets before the postponement and they are still valid.”

For his part, the indomitable Franco says he is ready for his three performances at the show. His first performance is scheduled for 5pm, the second at midnight and the final one staged at 5am.

“This does not mean I will give any performance less attention,” he told *Time Out*. “I just want those who can’t stay until midnight or early morning to also have a chance to see me perform.

“We have also partnered with the Ministry of Health and I will be spreading vaccination messages throughout. It is important that we get vaccinated because I don’t want my show to spike infections.”



PUBLIC NOTICE

CLOSING DATE FOR SUBMISSION OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT FUND REIMBURSEMENT CLAIMS FOR THE YEAR 2021/2022.

1. All companies wishing to submit claims for reimbursement from the HRD Fund are informed that the deadline for submission of reimbursement claims to HRDC will be the **30th June 2022** for training that took place from **1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022**.
2. Clients are advised to visit the HRDC website (www.hrdc.org.bw) to download the current reimbursement form (issue 3) and for other details relating to reimbursements from the HRD Fund.

For more information on the claims process contact HRDC at:

Physical Address: Plot 60113, Block 7, Ext 48, Gaborone, Botswana
Postal Address: Private Bag BR 108, Gaborone, Botswana
Contact Centre Direct line: +267 3162169
Contact Centre extensions: +267 3646361/67/73/6293
Email: hrdfclaims@hrdc.org.bw



OUR PEOPLE · OUR FUTURE



Masa (Pic: www.marriott.com)

Gaborone gets a Taste of the Gauteng Experience

From the rooftop nightlife experience, the iconic music and food festivals, the picnics and the business opportunities, the Botswana market was reminded of South Africa's tourism offerings before COVID-19 hit. StaffWriter **GOSEGO MOTSUMI** reports

Once tourists have had their share of the scenic beauty and shopping experience, a range of fun awaits them in South Africa's vibrant daytime picnics and nightlife.

In their bid to reinforce that positioning in the Botswana market, Gauteng Tourism last weekend staged a glimpse of its nightlife rooftop experience on the rooftop of Protea Hotel in Gaborone.

With panoramic views of the city, perfect for sundowners or a night out, the experience emulated the South African culinary rooftop restaurant and bar, Rooftop BBQ, situated at Maboneng

and Sandton. The Protea Hotel rooftop experience fused expertly curated food, good music and people with breathtaking views of Gaborone in the night time.

Living in an era where people look for experiences, the spokesperson of Gauteng Tourism, Barba Gaoganele, said rooftop experiences are making a huge comeback and are an elevated draw.

"We have already made contact with Protea Hotel to revitalise their rooftop, and that means more opportunities for Botswana," he said. "The rooftop was not operating until we came in and the venue is fully operational now."

To wrap up its activation in Botswana, Gauteng Tourism staged a picnic at the new Serasa Farm in Mmamashia. The picnic was a re-introductory platform with local brands because there had been a disconnection caused by the pandemic. The event also offered revellers a feel of daytime fun activities that are on offer as part of the South African tourism product.

Gaoganele noted: "Botswana are our bread and butter market but we have been under lockdown for 19 months during which there was no business and travel. This has been a devastating blow not just for Gauteng but Botswana. We are not taking for granted the influence Botswana

have on our province and their contribution.

"We have already made contact with Protea Hotel to revitalise their rooftop, and that means more opportunities for Botswana," he said. "The rooftop was not operating until we came in and the venue is fully operational now."

"We are here to re-connect and re-introduce ourselves and confirm that business still exists in South Africa. This is what will ultimately lead to tourism recovery and we can only recover if we trade among ourselves and do not only rely on the international market to buy our tourism."

SA envoy calls for special mechanisms for tourism SMMEs

- Gauteng Tourism invades Gaborone
- Pandemic-related tourism trends emerge
- SA signature events have opportunities for Botswana

GOSEGO MOTSUMI

A sure sign that the tourism industry is regaining its beat back was the invasion of Gaborone by Gauteng Tourism Authority last weekend.

On an international marketing drive to reintroduce Gauteng as a tourism, trade and investment destination to Botswana, the Visit Gauteng in Botswana followed the reopening of borders between the two countries after travel restrictions were imposed to curb COVID-19.

Said the spokesperson of Gauteng Tourism, Barba Gaoganele: "We were operating in this market before COVID-19 and are coming back to reintroduce ourselves. We reignite the tourism sector for the prosperity of the entire region."

"In 2019 we saw a decrease in personal shoppers, business travellers and other tourist categories while conventions and exhibitions drove the slight increase in Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Events (MICE). Hospitality, good service and good infrastructure are the main highlights for Botswana's tourists and we are here to reinforce that positioning."

While the weekend-long event

was an opportunity for Gauteng Tourism to reconnect with the travel trade, it also presented an opportunity for Botswana to secure opportunities in the province's signature events like the iconic Rand Show and the Delicious International Music and Food Festival. One of Botswana's biggest highlights of visiting South Africa before the pandemic hit was exploring the arts and culture landscape and its neighbour's business opportunities.

Sihle Dube of the Rand Show was also present: "Following two years of a notable absence due to COVID-19, one of Johannesburg's proudest and longest-standing traditions is back," she said. Rand Show 2022 returns to Nasrec in the week of 13 to 18 April 2022. The show has now evolved to entertain 21st Century audiences with an eclectic mix of music, shopping, family entertainment and adrenaline-fuelled rides. I can also confirm that there are exhibition opportunities at the show."

While South Africa's tourism sector is bouncing back and is ready to host again, local operator Keбалatsetse Keбалatsetse of Easy Escape Travel also confirmed that they are currently

experiencing a burst of bookings spurred partly by the emergence of pandemic-related new tourists trends.

"What is currently happening in Botswana and elsewhere is that people are looking for experiences with family and friends," he said. "COVID-19 made us appreciate family more and we want to tag along with everyone to COVID-compliant spaces that will give them a good time together."

Also speaking at Visit Gauteng in Botswana, the South African High Commissioner to Botswana, TP Shope-Soumah, highlighted that in May 2020 the United Nations World Tourism Organisation anticipated a 58% to 78% decline in tourist arrivals and SMMEs were more impacted.

Shope-Soumah cited a survey conducted by the Botswana Enterprise Regulatory Authority covering 332 SMMEs that shows that the tourism sector had suffered a 72% revenue loss by May 2020. "These SMMEs working capital is largely financed through pre-paid bookings" she said. "Consequently, as clients cancelled their bookings due to COVID-19, they could not afford refunds."

"This initiative that we are launching is important for the tourism industries of Botswana, South Africa and the region because it is necessary to put in place mechanism that will enable tourism SMMEs to bounce back."

"We were operating in this market before COVID-19 and are coming back to reintroduce ourselves. We reignite the tourism sector for the prosperity of the entire region."



SAY NO TO AUDITION FEES

... report those auditioners instead!

DONALD MOLOSI

As I reflect on two decades of my professional stage career, I realise that mine is an unexpected story, having grown up in a Botswana without TV but aspiring to one day be on TV.

My professional theatre practice for the past 21 years meant that I necessarily lived most of it outside Botswana because to this day there are no professional theatres in Botswana. But this column is not about me who is retiring from professional theatre, but rather about those who are coming up.

Actors must never pay for an audition in order to be considered for casting. Can you imagine the ethical slippery slope that exchange of money for assessment of talent can create? And yet in Botswana people somehow get away with publicly advertising that they charge audition fees, which is publicly declaring that they are scamming. It remains wrong and I encounter it too often as I mentor young people through my theatre company.

I have lived and auditioned on every continent in the world except Antarctica, and in all my two decades in international professional theatre, I never paid for a casting audition because no one should. The only time I have paid for an audition was for drama school in London years ago because an education institution can charge application fees. It is not for casting.

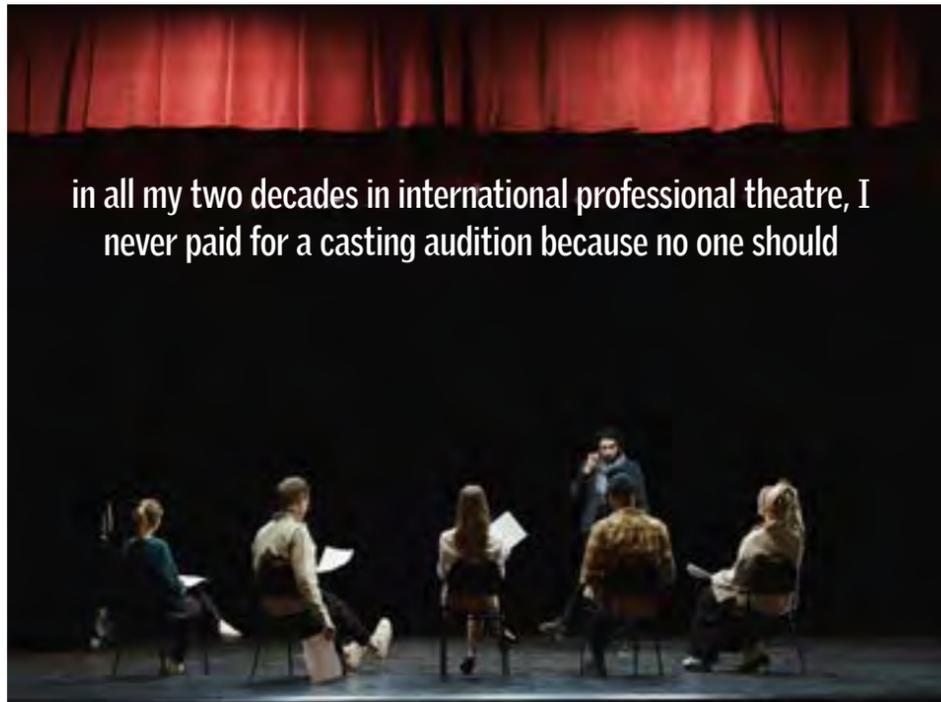
With auditions applying in Botswana for casting for film and theatre, the practice is like paying for a job interview to benefit a filmmaker personally. An application to enter a drama school is not an interview for a role in a play; that is the difference. I don't have enough column space to elucidate more, but please do not pay for casting auditions. Report those auditioners instead.

With auditions applying in Botswana for casting for film and theatre, the practice is like paying for a job interview to benefit a filmmaker personally. An application to enter a drama school is not an interview for a role in a play; that is the difference

I have more than a decade performing off-Broadway from the mid-2000s. Even there, on the most prestigious theatre stages in the world, no one will ask for a penny to audition you. Even in film, no one should take a penny from you to audition you. Perhaps this should be one of the first items on the agenda for the much-expected Botswana National Arts Council: to mitigate the abuse of performers in the corrupt name of audition fees.

**Donald Molosi is an award-winning actor. He is star of the upcoming film, Station Road, which is currently filming in Kingston, Jamaica. He is president of the Upright African Movement.*

in all my two decades in international professional theatre, I never paid for a casting audition because no one should





Healthcare educator Boitekanelo College will offer 45 free scholarships across different disciplines to mark its 15-year milestone of existence, *The Botswana Gazette* has established.

Boitekanelo College Gears Up To Celebrate 15-Year Milestone

- Founder says its graduates are working in Botswana, Zambia and eSwatini
- Boitekanelo is on cusp of becoming a university
- Boitekanelo to offer 45 scholarships gratis

KATLEGO RAKOLA

Healthcare educator Boitekanelo College will offer 45 free scholarships across different disciplines to mark its 15-year milestone of existence, *The Botswana Gazette* has established.

The college interacted with journalists ahead of the celebrations on 7 May. The journalists heard how the college, which started as a desire to address the scourge of HIV in Botswana through its founder Dr Tiroyaone Mampane, first began as a training institution offering a healthcare assistance course.

Boitekanelo has now transitioned into a full fledged college offering several healthcare courses at certificate and degree levels. Updating the media on this journey at a press conference in Tlokweng last Friday, Dr Mampane said there was a big gap to fill healthcare human capital because some professionals were opting to leave the country at a time when HIV was on the rise in the early 2000s.

He believed an education centre like Boitekanelo could help Botswana. "If you're held by a paramedic, a clinical technologist and a SHE officer in private healthcare within Botswana, Zambia and eSwatini, that person is likely to be a Boitekanelo College graduate," he said.

He added that this leadership

in healthcare education within the region was also made possible by collaborations with several institutions in SADC and elsewhere such as South Africa's Stellenbosch University, the University of Cape Town and eSwatini's Ministry of Health.

Since inception, the college has graduated 6 500 students, 4 000 of whom are now employed. "We are currently at the top when it comes to employability of our graduates," said Mampane.

Boitekanelo College currently houses just over 2 200 students and 180 staff, 100 of whom are academic and the rest in important support roles. Dr Mampane said 90 percent of this staff are citizens.

Since inception, the college has graduated 6 500 students, 4 000 of whom are now employed. "We are currently at the top when it comes to employability of our graduates," said Mampane.

In his engagements with the Tlokweng community where Boitekanelo is located, Mampane has established that the college has had a lot of positive impact on the community. He said sectors such as transport, retail, services, accommodation, hawkers and infrastructure are having a direct benefit from existence of the college.

As part of celebrating the 15-year milestone, Boitekanelo College will award 45 scholarships across different disciplines. Dr Mampane said these comprise of 15 degree scholarships worth P4 million, 15 certificate programmes worth P450 000 and 15 short courses for families worth P200 000.

"We have talked to the Ministry of Local Government to identify 15 deserving students from vulnerable and disadvantaged families for us to sponsor for the entire four-year degree programme," he disclosed.

"We have also identified 15 students from Mochudi where I am descended for the certificate programme. Lastly 15 families will be trained in first aid in partnership with youth radio station YaronaFm."

A line up of events has been prepared for the commemoration. It includes short marathons, motorcades and gala dinners. For the future, Dr Mampane revealed that Boitekanelo College will introduce a School of Rehabilitation Sciences and a School of Nursing as new additions to its programmes. Boitekanelo College also wants to transition into a university and a plot to undertake this new project has already been identified.

PUBLIC TENDER NOTICE

The **Non-Bank Financial Institutions Regulatory Authority (NBFIRA)** invites service providers to submit proposals for the tender listed below:

TENDER NO: NBFIRA 011/2021-22: PROCUREMENT OF SERVICES FOR THE ENGAGEMENT OF A CONSULTANT/CONSULTANTS TO ASSESS THE SCOPE FOR LIBERALISING THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK TO ALLOW MORE WITHDRAWALS FROM RETIREMENT SAVINGS AND THE IMPLICATIONS ON THE RETIREMENT FUNDS AND MEMBERS OF REGISTERED FUNDS

The tender documents containing the details of the requirements will be emailed to potential bidders during working hours **between 0800 hours and 1700 hours** from **25th March 2022** for a non-refundable fee of **P500.00** (Five hundred pula only). *Proof of payment* will be required for issuing the tender documents and should be sent to: procurement@nbfira.org.bw.

Youth companies shall purchase the Invitation to Tender (ITT) at 50% of the fee as per Presidential Directive CAB 14 (B)/2015.

Payments must be made directly to the bank account below:

Account name : Non-Bank Financial Institutions Regulatory Authority
Account number : 9060001296510
Bank name : Stanbic Bank Botswana Limited
Branch : Fairgrounds Branch
Branch code : 064967
Swift code : SBICBWGX
Reference : "011 - Your Company Name"

Bidders are required to submit their tenders **not later than 1200hrs** on the **22nd April 2022** to the following email address:

Non-Bank Financial Institutions Regulatory Authority
3rd Floor Exponential Building
Plot 54351 New CBD, Off PG Matante Road
Gaborone

TENDERERS ARE INFORMED THAT THERE WILL BE NO PUBLIC TENDER OPENING SESSION. The tender opening results will be shared with the bidders through email.

Any further information relating to this tender should be directed to the Tender Committee Secretary who may be contacted on procurement@nbfira.org.bw

3rd Floor Exponential Building | Plot 54351 New CBD, Off PG Matante Road,
 Opposite Mafisa Centre | Gaborone | Botswana
 Private Bag 00114 | Gaborone | Botswana
 Telephone: +267 310 2595 / 366 6106 | Fax: +267 310 2390 / 310 2391
 Website: www.nbfira.org.bw

NBFIRA
 Non-Bank Financial
 Institutions Regulatory
 Authority

VACANCY



Are you ready to take a leap of faith and join a results oriented, commercially focused and highly innovative financial services Company? If yes, then BDC is looking to source adynamic, zealous and a highly profiled executive with exceptional work ethic, and with a desire to drive successful investments in Botswana and across the world. .

CHIEF INVESTMENT OFFICER

Reporting to the Managing Director, this position is central to the development and implementation of investments and client relationship management strategies in accordance with BDC's mandate and strategy - locally, regionally and internationally. A dedicated focus to execute sustainable, commercially viable, and profitable investments to maximize shareholder returns is required.

As the driver of revenue and operations, your responsibilities will include: Execution of BDC corporate strategy; formulating market research and deal origination; identify investment opportunities, modelling and appraisal, due diligence, divestment, and risk management. You will be highly competent in the utilization and structuring of various instruments, including debt, mezzanine and equity. Ultimately, you will invest in sustainable and profitable businesses and assets in Botswana and across the world.

You will possess a bachelor 's degree in Finance, Business, Economics/ Commerce, and a professional qualification such as ACCA, CFA, CIMA or a master's degree in any relevant field, with a proven investment track record. To succeed in this highly strategic role, you will have a minimum of 10 years' experience in the financial services sector with at least 5 years being in a senior/executive management role overseeing private equity, venture capital, development finance and investments.

REMUNERATION

BDC offers a commensurate package with attractive benefits.

Only candidates who meet the above requirements need to apply by submitting their curriculum vitae and copies of certificates to recruitment@bdc.bw not later than 31 March 2022.



Country Technical Manager - Botswana

EM Tyre Specialists (Pty)Ltd is urgently looking for an experienced tyre manager to fill the role of a Country Technical manager. The candidate is required to have extensive mining tyre management experience of no less than 15 years, backed by hands on knowledge in both LDV and OTR wheels and tyres,

PLEASE NOTE

1. Only if you are suitable for a specific vacancy and have the skills and experience required, you may apply!
2. We will only respond to candidates with the necessary requirements.
3. Application info will be provided. If you don't receive a reply, it means you do not have the necessary requirements.

Requirements:

- Knowledge and proven experience in running and managing multiple tyre mining operational sites, including open pit and underground operations.
- Knowledge in conducting Periodic Technical tyre surveillance audits, including but not limited to V-Box studies, Heat Studies and Site Severity Surveys.
- Knowledge and proven experience in the field of training, development and designing of safety procedures and policies.
- Relevant Qualification in Training and Assessing, and knowledgeable in designing and developing tyre training material, with relevant experience specifically to tyre training.
- Relevant Business Management Administration qualification.
- Knowledgeable in Microsoft Office programs (i.e., Word, Excel, PPT, MS Access and MS Project).
- Minimum of 15 years' experience

Responsibilities:

- Be responsible for Operations and Projects plans (i.e. long-term and short-term)
- Be responsible for health, safety and environment within all operational sites
- Overall management and of the client's and/or in-house tyre management operating systems.
- Determine and define project scope and objectives
- Predict resources needed to reach objectives and manage resources in an effective and efficient manner
- Prepare budget based on scope of work and resource requirements
- Track operations and projects costs in order to meet budget
- Develop and manage a detailed project schedule and work plan
- Provide project updates on a consistent basis to various stakeholders about strategy, adjustments, and progress
- Manage contracts with vendors and suppliers by assigning tasks and communicating expected deliverables
- Utilize industry best practices, techniques, and standards throughout entire project execution
- Monitor progress and make adjustments as needed
- Measure operations performance to identify areas for improvement

Closing Date: 13th April 2022

Address your application to;
The Manager
Emtyres Specialists (Pty)LTD
P O BOX 272, Molepolole
Email: admin@emtyres.co.bw

COVID-19 Pushes More Children into Poverty – UNICEF, World Bank

“The share of households reporting total income loss is significantly higher in households with children, compared to households with no children.”

RORISANG MOGOJWE

The COVID-19 pandemic threatens to roll back years of progress in protection and promotion of children's rights, leaving children deprived of essential services and families struggling, a report by UNICEF and the World Bank has warned.

The analysis is based on only 35 countries, with the majority of these countries in the sub-Saharan Africa region.

The new report, which looked at the impact of COVID-19 on the welfare of households with children, shows that at least two thirds of households with children have lost income since the pandemic hit two years ago.

At the onset of the pandemic, Botswana experienced a surge in cases of violence against children, especially sexual violence. The country recorded an increase in rape cases of children from 474 to 734 with the youngest victim being a 2-year-old. Defilement cases increased from 1825 to 2033, while violence cases grew from 134 to 238 during the same period.

“Some of the measures put in place to halt the spread of COVID-19, such as lockdowns and school closure, disrupted the children's routine as well as their social support,” UNICEF Representative, Dr. Joan Matji, says in the report. “Some children were left unattended for lengthy periods of time, making them more vulnerable to all forms of abuse.”

According to the report, the modest progress made in reducing child poverty has been reversed in all parts of the world by COVID-19 with the pandemic pushing an additional 150 million children into multi-dimensional poverty at the height of the pandemic by the end of 2020.

“When asked how total household income changed since the start of the COVID-19 outbreak, the average share of households experiencing total income loss is 55% among households with no children, 68% among households with few children, and 76% among households with many children,” the report notes. “The share of households reporting

total income loss is significantly higher in households with children, compared to households with no children.”

Over time, the report states, the percentage of households reporting total income loss shows a decreasing trend, which signals a partial recovery from the crisis. However, there is no statistically discernable difference in terms of recovery speed or pattern between groups.

“Some of the measures put in place to halt the spread of COVID-19, such as lockdowns and school closure, disrupted the children's routine as well as their social support,” UNICEF Representative, Dr. Joan Matji, says in the report.

“At the initial onset of the crisis, households with many children were substantially more likely than households with no children to report a decline in total income (76% versus 55%) and more likely to report an adult who did not eat for a full day (24% versus 14%),” it says.

“Both of these results are robust to controlling for residence and respondent education. After the initial impact, trends appear to be broadly similar for households with many and few children, after controlling for region of residence and education. There is insufficient data, however, to estimate these trends precisely.”

The report reinforces UNICEF and other partners' call to action to ensure that schools are opened. Both households with few and many children had low participation in any education activities since school closure due to COVID-19, with only 11% of households with few children and 4% of households with many children had access to mobile learning applications.



Launching the project over the weekend, Vice President Slumber Tsogwane described it as a clear testimony of what transformational partnership between the public and the private sectors can do to facilitate access to ICT.

FCC, BoFINert launch Ghetto Free WiFi Ngina mu Space

- VP hoists project as an example of what PPPs can do
- Plan is to cover 203 villages with public WiFi

SESUPO RANTSIMAKO

In partnership with Botswana Fibre Networks (BoFINet), Francistown City Council (FCC) has launched Ghetto Free WiFi Ngina mu Space, which offers free WiFi connectivity as a part of its Smart City Initiatives.

The Internet service will be provided at seven strategic locations around Botswana's second city, namely Francistown Bus Rank, Galo, Nswazi, Nzano Mall, PG Matante International Airport and Central Post Office.

Launching the project over the weekend, Vice President Slumber Tsogwane described it as a clear testimony of what transformational partnership between the public and the private sectors can do to facilitate access to ICT.

The initiative reaffirms the government's commitment to develop the country's two main cities. Through it, the VP said, FCC will be able to facilitate broadband uptake and utilisation in Botswana, disseminate information to the public about its services, implement e-government and improve access to on-line services.

"The provision of free Internet hotspots in strategic areas will go a long way in ensuring that the residents, visitors and tourists access information," said Tsogwane. "This will enhance creativity and innovation, which is necessary for the city's economic diversification."

"This initiative will also facilitate our movement into the Fourth Industrial Revolution commonly known as Robotics, Artificial Intelligence, Nanotechnology, Quantum Computing and Biotechnology. It is worth noting that the realisation of (this) requires the infrastructure like the one we are gathered here to launch."

Tsogwane added that the initiative is so consistent with the national policy pronouncements like Vision 2036 and the Economic Recovery and Transformational Plan under Priority No3 on digitalisation.

As part of the government broadband strategy, Tsogwane said, the plan is to cover 203 urban, sub-urban and villages with public WiFi through the Smart Bots Village Connectivity Project. The project will cover schools, health facilities and tribal administration offices.

"The provision of free Internet hotspots in strategic areas will go a long way in ensuring that the residents, visitors and tourists access information," said Tsogwane. "This will enhance creativity and innovation, which is necessary for the city's economic diversification."

For his part, the Mayor of Francistown Godisang Radisigo said that the Ghetto Free WiFi platform is in alignment with the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development's new strategic direction.

"As the nation, we made a commitment that by 2036 we will be a moral, tolerant and inclusive society that provides opportunities for all," said the Mayor.

"The provision of free WiFi at areas within Francistown that receive the highest volumes of foot traffic on a daily basis is a major step towards achieving this inclusivity."

BONU Prevails against Gov't in Call to Duty Case

- Court says gov't has not been compliant with Employment Act.
- Rules that Call to Duty constitutes working time and should be paid for

SESUPO RANTSIMAKO

The Botswana Nurses Union (BONU) has emerged victorious in a case in which it wanted the government to discontinue Call to Duty or any arrangement in which nurses and midwives are expected to report for duty beyond their working hours.

Delivering his ruling on Monday, Justice Galesite Baruti of the Francistown Industrial Court agreed with the union's argument that the employer has not been in compliance with the Employment Act.

Justice Baruti ruled that any time that a nurse or a midwife is rostered to be on-call constitutes working time and must therefore be paid accordingly.

Further, the time during which a nurse or a midwife accompanies a patient on referral from one medical facility to another and back constitutes working time for which he or she

must be paid for, otherwise the arrangement defies the Employment Act.

"The employer shall, when computing overtime entitlement for the employees, take into account the time they were rostered and shall fully comply with Section 95(5) of the Employment Act," said the judge. "Where the overtime worked exceeds the 30 percent commuted overtime allowance, the employees so entitled shall be paid the excess after the overtime has been calculated using the formula stipulated at Section 95(5) of the Employment Act."

In their argument before court, BONU had submitted that Call to Duty is illegal, encroaches on its members' rest period and is therefore an arrangement of abuse.

In addition, BONU argued that sometimes the nurses or midwives are forced to travel with patients and help them beyond the stipulated working hours of public servants.



The Botswana Nurses Union (BONU) has emerged victorious in a case in which it wanted the government to discontinue Call to Duty or any arrangement in which nurses and midwives are expected to report for duty beyond their working hours.

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT FRANCISTOWN**

CASE NO: CVHFT 000 567/2020

In the matter between:

**ABSA BANK BOTSWANA LIMITED
formerly BARCLAYS BANK OF
BOTSWANA LIMITED**

Plaintiff

And

MONOSI IDAH MADISAKWANA

Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to a Writ of Execution issued out of the above Honourable Court in the above matter, the following immovable property of the Defendant will be sold by Public Auction by Deputy Sheriff Ookeditse Masolotata to the highest bidder as follows:

DATE OF SALE : 7th April 2022
VENUE : Tribal Lot 5971, Tonota
TIME : 1000 Hours

PROPERTY TO BE SOLD : Piece of Land being Tribal Lot 5971, Tonota, measuring 2076m² (Two Thousand and Seventy Six Square Metres), held under Memorandum of Agreement of Lease No. FT TL 881/2015 dated the 16th day of September 2015 and made in favour of **MONOSI IDAH MADISAKWANA**, together with developments thereon, consisting of a 3 bedrooomed residential house (master ensuite, separate bath and toilet, dining room, sitting room, and kitchen. A two and half, storeroom, chicken coup and a pit latrine. The yard is fenced.

TERMS OF SALE : Cash or bank guaranteed cheques only.

CONDITIONS OF SALE may be inspected at the offices of the hereunder mentioned Deputy's Sheriff's offices at Lotsane Ward, Gampone's Complex, Next to Standard Chartered Bank. He can be contacted at 74724543

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN ON THIS THE 17TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2022



VAN NIEKERK ATTORNEYS
Plot 4660, Area G, Ditau Street
P.O Box 37, Francistown
Telephone No. 241 3421

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT FRANCISTOWN**

CASE NO: CVHFT 000 822/18

In the matter between:

**ABSA BANK BOTSWANA LIMITED
formerly BARCLAYS BANK
OF BOTSWANA LIMITED**

Plaintiff

And

THAPELO GLADWIN TLHAPISO

Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to a Writ of Execution issued out of the above Honourable Court in the above matter, the following immovable property of the Defendant will be sold by Public Auction by Deputy Sheriff Bathusi Billy to the highest bidder as follows:

DATE OF SALE : 5th April 2022
VENUE : Tribal Lot 12579, Molepolole
TIME : 1030 Hours

PROPERTY TO BE SOLD : Piece of Land being Tribal Lot 12579, Molepolole, measuring 999m² (Nine Hundred and Ninety Nine Square Metres), held under Memorandum of Agreement of Lease No. TL 2758/2012 dated the 5th day of November 2012 and made in favour of **THAPELO GLADWIN TLHAPISO**, together with developments thereon, consisting of a 3 bedrooomed residential house with kitchen, sitting room, dining room, TV room, toilet and bathroom.

TERMS OF SALE : Cash or bank guaranteed cheques only.

CONDITIONS OF SALE may be inspected at the offices of the hereunder mentioned Deputy's Sheriff's offices at Nkoyaphiri Industrial, Tshepho Tile Products Offices, Plot 1154. He can be contacted at 71607940

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN ON THIS THE 17TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2022



VAN NIEKERK ATTORNEYS
Plot 4660, Area G, Ditau Street
P.O Box 37, Francistown
Telephone No. 241 3421



PLOT FOR SALE G/NORTH

**536m², serviced with
water and sewer.**

**Title deed P345 000, being
sold by owner- 71870023**

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT FRANCISTOWN**

CASE NO: CVHFT 000 568/2020

In the matter between:

**ABSA BANK BOTSWANA LIMITED formerly
BARCLAYS BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED**

Plaintiff

And

EUNICE MAGADI RATSHIPA

Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to a Writ of Execution issued out of the above Honourable Court in the above matter, the following immovable property of the Defendant will be sold by Public Auction by Deputy N. Ookame to the highest bidder as follows:

DATE OF SALE : 7th April 2022
VENUE : Tribal Lot 1245, Mogoditshane
TIME : 1030 Hours

PROPERTY TO BE SOLD : Piece of Land being Tribal Lot 1245, Mogoditshane, measuring 1823m² (One Thousand Two Hundred and Twenty Three Square Metres), held under Deed of Cession and Delegation No. MA 248/2014 dated the 19th day of March 2014 and made in favour of **EUNICE MAGADI RATSHIPA**, together with developments thereon, consisting of a 3 bedrooomed residential house (master bedroom ensuite with bathtub, shower, double vanity with granite top, walk through closet, 2 bedrooms fitted with built in closet, common bathroom with bathtub and shower, kitchen fitted with granite top, lounge with glass door, dining room, TV room. 2 bedrooomed cottage (master ensuite, spacious second bedroom, common bathroom, open sitting room, dining and kitchen, store room. The yard is walled, electric fence and 2 sliding gates.

TERMS OF SALE : Cash or bank guaranteed cheques only.

CONDITIONS OF SALE may be inspected at the offices of the hereunder mentioned Deputy's Sheriff's offices at Plot. 1239, Office No. 7, Gaborone West Industrial. He can be contacted at 3938567/72879169/77435503

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN ON THIS THE 17TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2022



VAN NIEKERK ATTORNEYS
Plot 4660, Area G, Ditau Street
P.O Box 37, Francistown
Telephone No. 241 3421

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT FRANCISTOWN**

ESHFT000 026/22

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

IN THE ESTATE of the late **CLIFFORD PAUL DANIEL VAN ECK- ESFHT 000026/22** who died in Pretoria, South Africa on the 27th September 2021.

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

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 15TH DAY OF MARCH 2022

Paul Eric Van Eck
Executor Dative
c/o Chingwara Law Chambers
P.O BOX 2129
SELEBI PHIKWE

Citadel Fiduciary (Proprietary Limited)
Executor Dative
SOUTH AFRICA



AND TO: MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT
Private Bag F13
FRANCISTOWN

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

CVHGB-003202-20

In the matter between:
STANBIC BANK BOTSWANA LIMITED
and
CALVIN MACHAYA
KUTLWANO MACHAYA

Plaintiff
First Defendant
Second Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to a Judgment granted by the above Honourable Court, the following immovable property will be sold by public auction by **DEPUTY SHERIFF NTSHWARELANG OOKAME** to the highest bidder as follows:-

DATE OF SALE : 3RD MAY 2022
TIME : 10:00AM

VENUE : TRIBAL LOT 7128, RAMOTSWA

PROPERTY TO BE SOLD : Certain piece of land being **TRIBAL LOT 7128, RAMOTSWA**, in the **BAMALETE TRIBAL TERRITORY**, measuring **817m²** (Eight Hundred and Seventeen square metres), held under Notarial Deed of Cession No. **MA 824/2016** dated **24TH NOVEMBER 2016** and made in favour of **KUTLWANO MACHAYA**, together with the developments thereon being a two (2) Bed- roomed house, master ensuite, sitting room, fitted kitchen, bathroom, toilet, visitorsbathroom and toilet, screen walled with electric fence, shower with toilet.

TERMS OF SALE : Subject to Conditions of Sale.
Only cash or bank guaranteed cheques will be accepted.

DATED AT GABORONE ON THIS THE 10TH DAY OF MARCH 2022.

OSEI-OFEI SWABI & CO.
Plaintiff's Attorneys

First Floor, Unit 18 Kgale Mews, Gaborone International Finance Park
P O Box 403506

GABORONE

(Ref: DS.gno.012397)

Deputy Sheriff Ntshwarelang Ookame) Cell no. 72879169



APPLICATION FOR LOST TITLE DEED

NOTICE is hereby given that the undersigned intends applying for a certified copy of the Memorandum of Agreement of Lease **No. 178/92** dated **23rd day of April 1992** passed in favour of **CYNTHIA KELAEGILE CHINYOKA** in respect of the following:

CERTAIN : piece of land being Tribal Lot 960, Tlokweng;

SITUATE : at Tlokweng in the Batlokwa Tribal Territory;

MEASURING : 419m² (Four Hundred and Nineteen Square Metres);

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



PAUL & PARTNERS
The Courtyard, Plot 54513, unit 6
P.O. Box 885 ABG
GABORONE

PAUL & PARTNERS

Tel: +267 311 3186
Fax: + 267 311 3187

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT FRANCISTOWN**

CASE NO: CVHFT 000 568/2020

In the matter between:
ACCESS BANK BOTSWANA LIMITED formerly
AFRICAN BANKING CORPORATION OF
BOTSWANA LIMITED t/a BANC ABC
And
UAPENDURA CLARA KAHAKA

Plaintiff

Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to a Writ of Execution issued out of the above Honourable Court in the above matter, the following immovable property of the Defendant will be sold by Public Auction by **Deputy Phillip Maitseo** to the highest bidder as follows:

DATE OF SALE : 5th April 2022
VENUE : Tribal Lot 1357, Maun
TIME : 0900 Hours

PROPERTY TO BE SOLD : Piece of Land being Tribal Lot 1357, Maun, measuring 767m² (Seven Hundred and Sixty Seven Square Meters), held under Memorandum of Agreement of Lease No. 406/99 dated the 19th day of August 1999 and made in favour of **UAPENDURA CLARA KAHAKA**, together with developments thereon, consisting of a house with 8 rooms (master bedroom, 2 bedrooms, toilet, bathroom, study room, sitting room, dining room, kitchen), double door garage with store room.

TERMS OF SALE : Cash or bank guaranteed cheques only.

CONDITIONS OF SALE may be inspected at the offices of the hereunder mentioned Deputy's Sheriff's offices at Unit 1, Multichoice Centre, Old Mall Extension, Maun. He can be contacted at 6862020/73237602

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN ON THIS THE 17TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2022

VAN NIEKERK ATTORNEYS
Plot 4660, Area G, Ditau Street, P.O Box 37, Francistown
Telephone No. 241 3421

**FIRST AND FINAL LIQUIDATION AND
DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT**

Master's Reference: E116/01

IN THE ESTATE of the Late **ALETTA CATHERINE BRUWER** who died at Bloemfontein, Republic of South Africa on the 8th day of August 2001.

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

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

The Executor
c/o **KALUZI & ASSOCIATES**
Attorneys, Notaries and Conveyancers
The Courtyard, Plot 54513, Unit 7, Village
P.O. Box 26083
Gaborone, Botswana
Phone [+267] 3181839

**FIRST AND FINAL LIQUIDATION AND
DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT**

Master's Reference: ESHLB 000114-10

IN THE ESTATE of the Late **STEPHANUS C. BRUWER** who died at House No. 4677, Thema 1, Lobatse, Lobatse District on the 07th day of July 2010.

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

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

The Executor
c/o **KALUZI & ASSOCIATES**
Attorneys, Notaries and Conveyancers
The Courtyard, Plot 54513, Unit 7, Village
P.O. Box 26083
Gaborone, Botswana
Phone [+267] 3181839

**FIRST AND FINAL LIQUIDATION AND
DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT**

Master's Reference: ESHGB 000179-19

IN THE ESTATE of the Late **SCHALK WILLEM BRUWER** who died at Molale Ward, Mabutsane, Mabutsane District on the 27th day of July 2013.

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

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

The Executor
c/o **KALUZI & ASSOCIATES**
Attorneys, Notaries and Conveyancers
The Courtyard, Plot 54513, Unit 7, Village
P.O. Box 26083
Gaborone, Botswana
Phone [+267] 3181839

**FIRST AND FINAL LIQUIDATION AND
DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT**

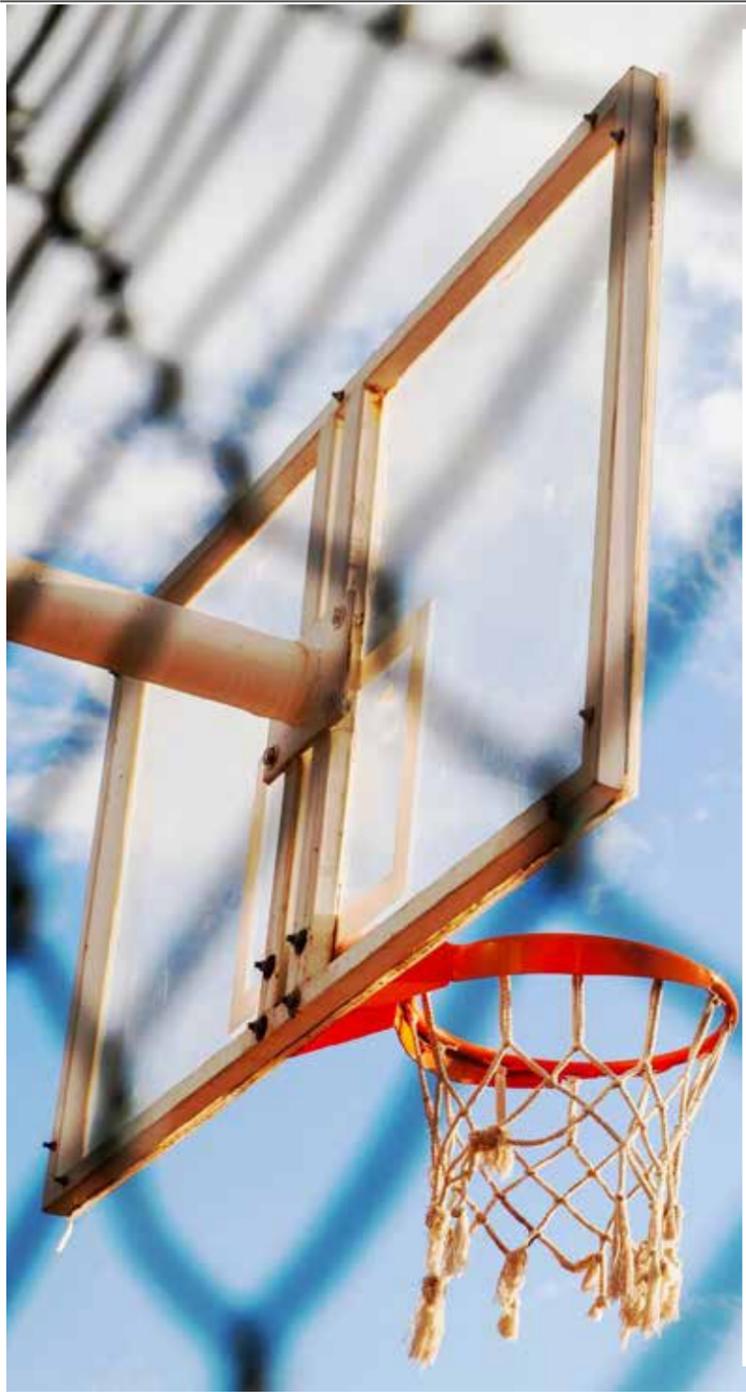
Master's Reference: E22/92

IN THE ESTATE of the Late **PHILIPPUS WILHELM BRUWER** who died at Motokwe Village, Botswana on the 15th day of November 1991.

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

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

The Executor
c/o **KALUZI & ASSOCIATES**
Attorneys, Notaries and Conveyancers
The Courtyard, Plot 54513, Unit 7, Village
P.O. Box 26083
Gaborone, Botswana
Phone [+267] 3181839



10 YEAR SPONSORSHIP-LESS BASKETBALL LEAGUE RETURNS NEXT MONTH

GAZETTE REPORTER

Botswana Basketball league will stretch its 10 year period of failing to attract a sponsor when it returns to play next month following COVID-19 break in 2020.

Botswana Basketball Association (BBA) Technical Director Tirafalo Matsetse told *Gazette Sport* that the league is scheduled to begin second weekend of April without a sponsor.

Matsetse said although the league will commence without a sponsor, a team assembled by the Association is working hard to source sponsorship.

“It’s very difficult as we all know the financial status of most companies during COVID-19 but we are optimistic that we will find some sort of support. Our clubs are basically the ones sponsoring the league hence the Executive board together with the League Committee are working together to find a sponsor.”

“I think the last time we had our league sponsor was 10 years ago and sadly I am not in a position to say what really happened to the sponsorship deal.”

“At the moment we don’t have any plans to help our clubs finan-

cially as the grant we get from Botswana National Sport Commission (BNSC) is not enough to help clubs,” said Matsetse.

He said they continuously rely on grants from BNSC adding that since they are towards the end of the current financial year it would be difficult to source financial aid from the sport commission.

He further said it is not going to be difficult to carry on with the league as it is something that they have done before even though they know that teams and players need some sort of motivation to continue playing.

“Yes we have approached BNSC to assist us with extra funding for the league and we remain hopeful that in the next financial year we will get extra funds to help clubs cushion the cost of playing in the league.”

“Our league is a 2 round format and yes it will be the first league since COVID-19 and we have 16 clubs affiliated to the federation and only 6 have both men and women teams,” added Matsetse.

He further said despite a tough a financial climate, they have continued to assist clubs where they can adding that they have trained club coaches and COVID-19 Protocol Officers.

“We also committed to help them with COVID-19 essential like masks and sanitizer. We also train game officials for the smooth running of the league and all this cost are covered by the Association.”

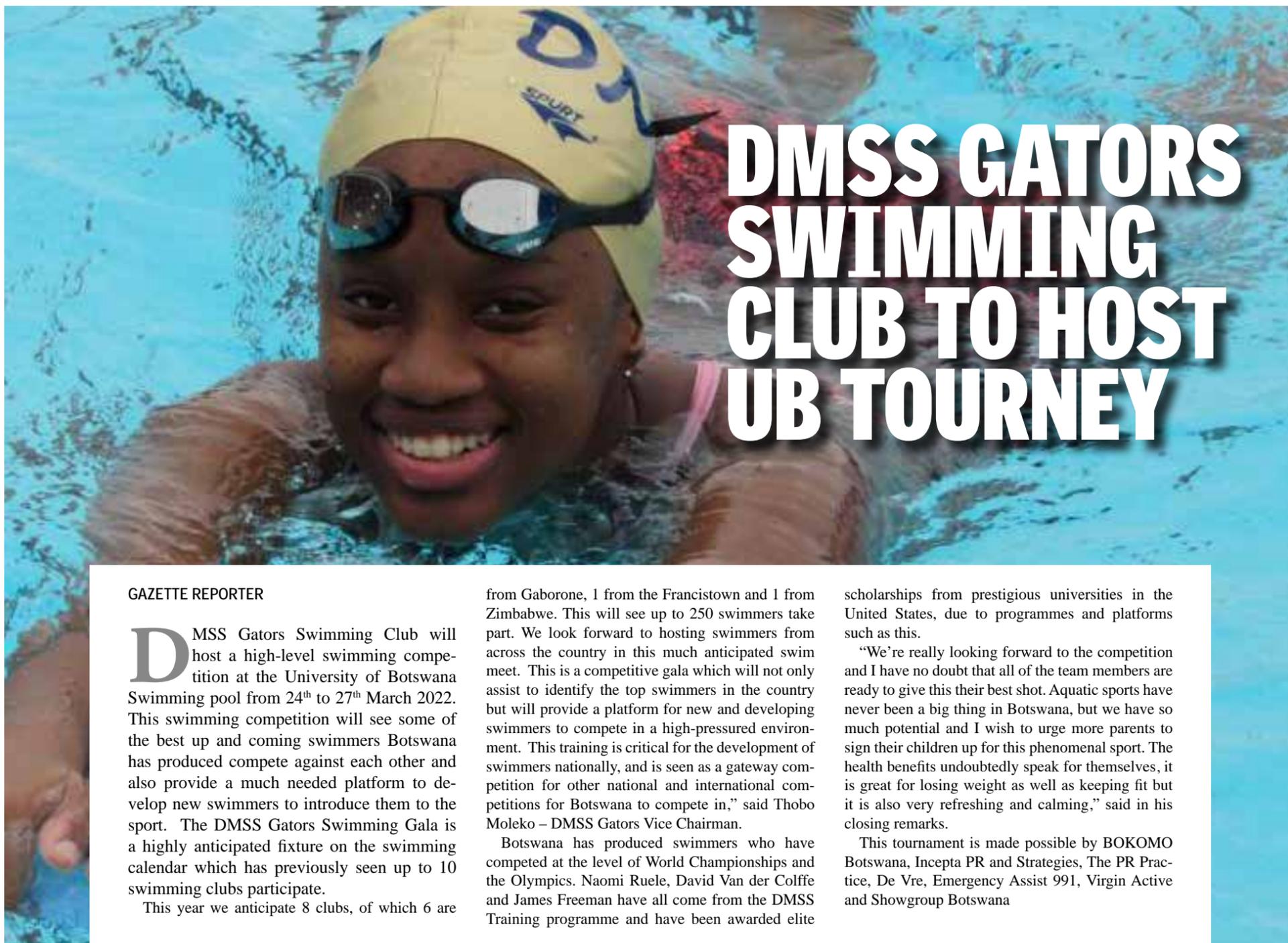
“The help that we can give to clubs is to train their personnel (management) as we also encourage clubs to find their own sponsors,” added Matsetse.

He highlighted that preparation of the start of the league are at the advance stage as they have already met with the affiliates twice this year to discuss all the logistics.

He also said they had a preparation tournament last month which was open to all clubs.

Matsetse stated that they are also planning to divide teams into northern and Southern part in order to cushion their travel and logistics expenses.

“We have teams from the north namely Flames from Francistown, Knights from Selebi-Phikwe and BIUST from Palapye. We have plans to divide the league as this is part of our Strategic plan. We still need to amend the League Bye-laws,” said Matsetse.



DMSS GATORS SWIMMING CLUB TO HOST UB TOURNEY

GAZETTE REPORTER

DMSS Gators Swimming Club will host a high-level swimming competition at the University of Botswana Swimming pool from 24th to 27th March 2022. This swimming competition will see some of the best up and coming swimmers Botswana has produced compete against each other and also provide a much needed platform to develop new swimmers to introduce them to the sport. The DMSS Gators Swimming Gala is a highly anticipated fixture on the swimming calendar which has previously seen up to 10 swimming clubs participate.

This year we anticipate 8 clubs, of which 6 are

from Gaborone, 1 from the Francistown and 1 from Zimbabwe. This will see up to 250 swimmers take part. We look forward to hosting swimmers from across the country in this much anticipated swim meet. This is a competitive gala which will not only assist to identify the top swimmers in the country but will provide a platform for new and developing swimmers to compete in a high-pressured environment. This training is critical for the development of swimmers nationally, and is seen as a gateway competition for other national and international competitions for Botswana to compete in,” said Thobo Moleko – DMSS Gators Vice Chairman.

Botswana has produced swimmers who have competed at the level of World Championships and the Olympics. Naomi Ruele, David Van der Colffe and James Freeman have all come from the DMSS Training programme and have been awarded elite

scholarships from prestigious universities in the United States, due to programmes and platforms such as this.

“We’re really looking forward to the competition and I have no doubt that all of the team members are ready to give this their best shot. Aquatic sports have never been a big thing in Botswana, but we have so much potential and I wish to urge more parents to sign their children up for this phenomenal sport. The health benefits undoubtedly speak for themselves, it is great for losing weight as well as keeping fit but it is also very refreshing and calming,” said in his closing remarks.

This tournament is made possible by BOKOMO Botswana, Incepta PR and Strategies, The PR Practice, De Vre, Emergency Assist 991, Virgin Active and Showgroup Botswana

Court Spoils the Fun at BVF Tournament

GAZETTE REPORTER

Local volleyball teams have applauded Botswana Volleyball Federation (BVF)'s efforts to revive the sport in the country but condemned the facility that played host to their first indoor tournament since 2020. The tournament that was graced by all 19 (10 men and 9 women) teams was hosted at Sir Seretse Khama Barracks (SSKB) outdoor courts which players deemed obsolete and unfavourable to play to their level best.

The game of volleyball has long evolved from being played outdoor to indoor facilities which BVF has been practising for the longest time especially during official tournaments. They have been using Molepolole Institute of Health Sciences (IHS), Lobatse Stadium indoor hall and Serowe College of Education as they are of the required standard by the volleyball international governing body (FIVB). Players said they are happy with the return of the sport, but the setup doesn't excite them that much because it is more of a degrade from our standard. "Teams are happy to

have returned to the courts and are looking to make volleyball fashionable again but with the current setup it is unlikely to even attract sponsors because of the setup. We believe that BVF will reconsider their decision especially when the league begins but all in all we applaud them for their efforts," said a player Kutlwano Volleyball Club.

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In an exclusive interview with *The Gazette Sport*, BVF Vice president technical George Kootsene said they have resorted



to the outdoor facilities setup to curb the spread of covid-19 and to accommodate spectators at the games. "It is important that we continue to observe the covid 19 protocols more so that the aim of this competition is to trial the return to play as we aspire to come back strong and compliant as far as covid-19 is concerned. We also want to accommodate spectators so that they can be safe too, we also realised that these indoor facilities are mostly out of town and the attendance is usually low so resorting to SSKB was a better option for us and it was reflected by our week 1 fixtures that attracted the biggest number of spectators that we have ever got in a

long time. We will consult with the teams for feedback and see how we can all advance together in our quest to revive the sport to a standard that it is well known of."

Meanwhile teams revealed their latest signings which attracted more attention and excitement of the competition. Phemelo Lekoko moved from Kalavango to BDF VI, Tshiamo Chakalisa left Kutlwano to Police VI, Kebabonye Phofedi joined Magstimela from Kalavango where as Tracy Chaba and Caroline Rodger remains loyal to Kutlwano.

Oatthotse and Masaiti Headline Chess National Team



Providence Oatthotse and Notha Moakofi competing during the national chess team selection in Gaborone on 19 March 2022. (Pic: Monirul Bhuiyan/PRESS PHOTO)

GAZETTE REPORTER

International Master (IM) Providence Oatthotse and Woman Fide Master (WFM) Besa Masaiti emerged the champions of the recent Botswana Chess Federation (BCF) national team selection tournament that was held in Gaborone at the weekend. The duo dominated their respective categories to earn slots in the national team that is set to represent the country at the upcoming continental and international tournaments billed for this year such as World Chess Olympiad.

The open section was contested by a total of 9 men and IM Oatthotse conquered the section with a total of 6.5 points after a tightly contested final against Gomol-

emo Rongwane who finished second with 5.5 points. Enroute to the finals Oatthotse faced Oratile Kgotlane, Bojosi Sabure and Keletshabile Monnatsheko. Candidate Masters (CM) Ndawana Mosenya and Thuso Mosutha missed out in the national team after finishing on position 7th and 9th respectively.

The women contest was ruled by the Botswana National Sports Commission (BNSC) elite scholarship recipient Masaiti who is based in United States of America (SA) after amassing a total of 5.0 points. Her category was made from 6 players after the other 5 failed to show up for the tournament including veteran players Women Grand Master (WGM) Tuduetso Sabure and Women International Master (WIM)

Onkemetse Francis. WFM Naledi Marape, Woman Candidate Master (WCM) Natalie Banda, WCM Arona Moshoboro and Ruth Otisitswe were also selected in the national team after finishing in top 5.

In a post-match interview with *Gazette Sport*, Masaiti said she is happy that she managed to come back home to compete fairly for her spot into the national team despite minor challenges she encountered in process. "I am disappointed about the controversy of senior national team players who decided not to come and play with us, it affected us emotionally because their presence always motivate us. Nonetheless I am happy with the performance of the young girls who showed potential and made it to the team, I believe that we have

what it takes to represent our country at the world Olympiad. I have been working hard in USA in my efforts to better my performance in academics and sports and I am also happy that my coaches notice the improvement and progress that I have made so far," she said.

"We had a few challenges that almost delayed the start of the tournament where some players boycotted the tournament due to some technical reasons that are before the executive committee"

For his part BCF mouthpiece, Dave Thabo Motshabi said the tournament was a success despite starting on a low note after some senior players boycotted the tournament. "We had a few challenges that almost delayed the start of the tournament where some players boycotted the tournament due to some technical reasons that are before the executive committee. We are also thrilled with the performance that the youngsters displayed, and we can safely say the team that we have selected will represent us well". He concluded.

GU capitalizes on Rollers' slip up

BONGANI MALUNGA

Premier League log leaders Gaborone United responded to title rivals Township Rollers' weekend defeat in emphatic fashion as they thumped Prisons XI 7-0 on Sunday. As a result, GU has opened up a four point gap over Rollers with a game in hand and they have an opportunity to extend their lead to seven points if they win their spare game.

Prior to this weekend's league action GU and Rollers were only a point apart but Rollers' 1-0 defeat against Masitaoka FC has tipped the scale in Moyagoleele's favour with seven games to go.

Goals from Thatayaone Kgamanyane (brace), Thero Setsile (brace), Mpho Kgaswane, Onkabetse Makgantai and Ronel Manyanga saw the Reds outclass Prisons XI at the Molepolole Sports Complex. Debutant

Manyanga made an instant impact as he scored in his first game for the club while mid season capture Setsile continued his fine start in GU colours. The club's top scorer, Kgamanyane, is currently on 17 league goals for the season and he is close to surpassing the 20 goal mark for the second time in his career.

Surpassing the 20 goal mark has proved difficult in the last few years as leading scorers have ended towards the 18 goal tally. Kgamanyane is enjoying his best season so far and he seems destined to continue making the net bulge in the final stretch of the league season. Setsile is also in double figures for the season as his goal tally currently stands at 13.

On a collective front, GU has significantly improved this season to stage a serious title challenge and they have won more than 15 games in a league season for the time since the 2015/2016 season.



Gaborone United (Pic:MONIRUL BHUIYAN/PRESS PHOTO)

SPORT BRIEFS
With Bongani Malunga



1 DROPPED POINTS LEAVE DITLHOKWE'S UNITED SCRAMBLING FOR THE TOP EIGHT

Thatayaone Dithlokwe's club, Supersport United, could face an uphill task to finish within the top eight after dropping points in their last two games. Supersport lost a midweek game against Orlando Pirates last week (3-2) before recording a 1-1 draw against TS Galaxy last Saturday. Dithlokwe's team is facing a challenge from the likes of Sekhukhune United, Amazulu, Marumo Gallants and Golden Arrows for a place in next season's MTN8. The aforementioned teams all have a point differential of just two points.

2 ZEBRAS PLAYERS REPORT FOR CAMP

The senior national men's football team, the Zebras, reported for camp yesterday (Tuesday) to prepare for the AFCON 2023 Qualifiers. Botswana has been given a bye into the qualification group stage after preliminary round opponents Eritrea withdrew from the qualifiers tie. The Zebras will lock horns with Tanzania this Saturday.

2 BOTSWANA PREMIER LEAGUE RESULTS

Notwane	0	1	MR Highlanders
Prisons XI	0	7	Gaborone United
Township Rollers	0	1	Masitaoka FC
Security Systems	0	1	Morupule Wanderers
Sua Flamengoes	2	0	Extension Gunners
Gilport Lions	0	4	Orapa United
Police XI	0	1	BDF XI



AMOS' DECISION PENDING IOC APPROVAL FOR 2024 OLYMPICS

- IOC Executive Board will make the final decision
- Numerous athletes have taken the independent route in previous competitions

BONGANI MALUNGA

African 800m champion and 2012 Olympic silver medalist Nijel Amos' decision to become an independent athlete is still subject to final approval from the International Olympic Committee if he is to compete at the Paris 2024 Olympics as an independent athlete.

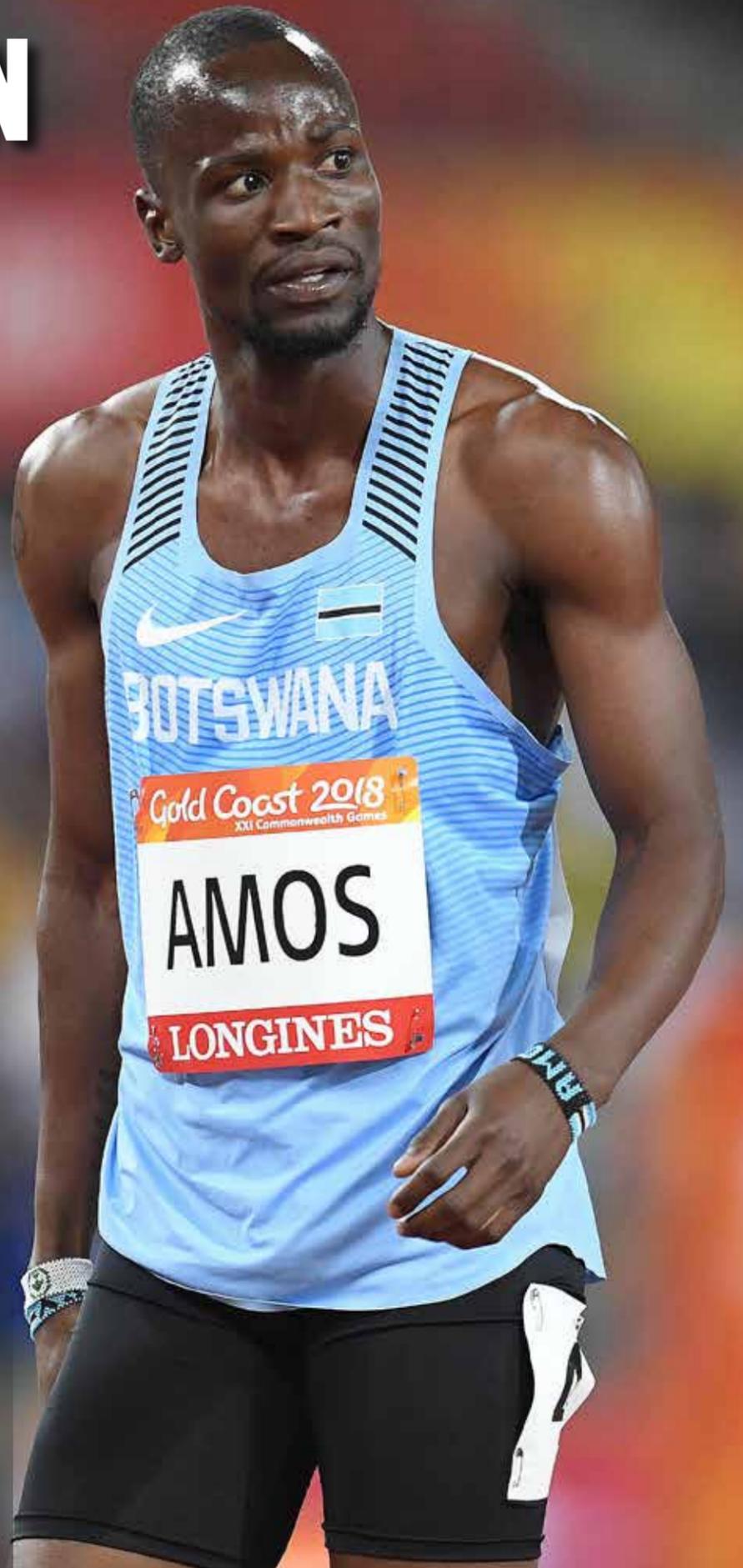
Amos released a public statement on Sunday announcing his intention to compete in future international competitions as an independent athlete due to a lack of administrative support.

"Please include me in your prayers for my next phase as a professional athlete. Sadly, I am pursuing going into the scene as an independent athlete, it's what's best for my family and I. When you don't feel appreciated and undermined you (have) got to stand (up) for yourself. Botswana National Olympic Committee, thank you so much for all the years you have been in my corner," said Amos in his public statement on social media platforms.

Although Amos has made his intentions clear about being independent, the IOC Executive Board will make the final decision on whether or not his wish will be granted. The IOC Executive Board will make a resolution after Amos has forwarded his reasons for taking the independent route.

There have been numerous cases of athletes taking the independent route in previous Olympic competitions. Athletes such as Guor Marial, Liemarvin Bonevacia and Philippine van Aanholt among others have competed at the Olympics as independent

According to the Olympic Charter (Rule 40-41), "Any competitor in the Olympic Games must be a national of the country of the NOC which is entering such competitor. A competitor who is a national of two or more countries at the same time may represent either one of them, as he may elect. However, after having represented one country in the Olympic Games, in continental or regional games or in world or regional championships recognised by the relevant IF, he may not represent another country unless certain circumstances."



NEW

ALL IN ONE

109⁹⁰

5 Pcs Original Recipe
4 Wings
1 Large Chips
1 Regular Coleslaw
1 Regular Mash & Gravy



Glassware for display purposes only.