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Shake up at Btv

Removal of Tsheko from Mass Media complex angers some staff

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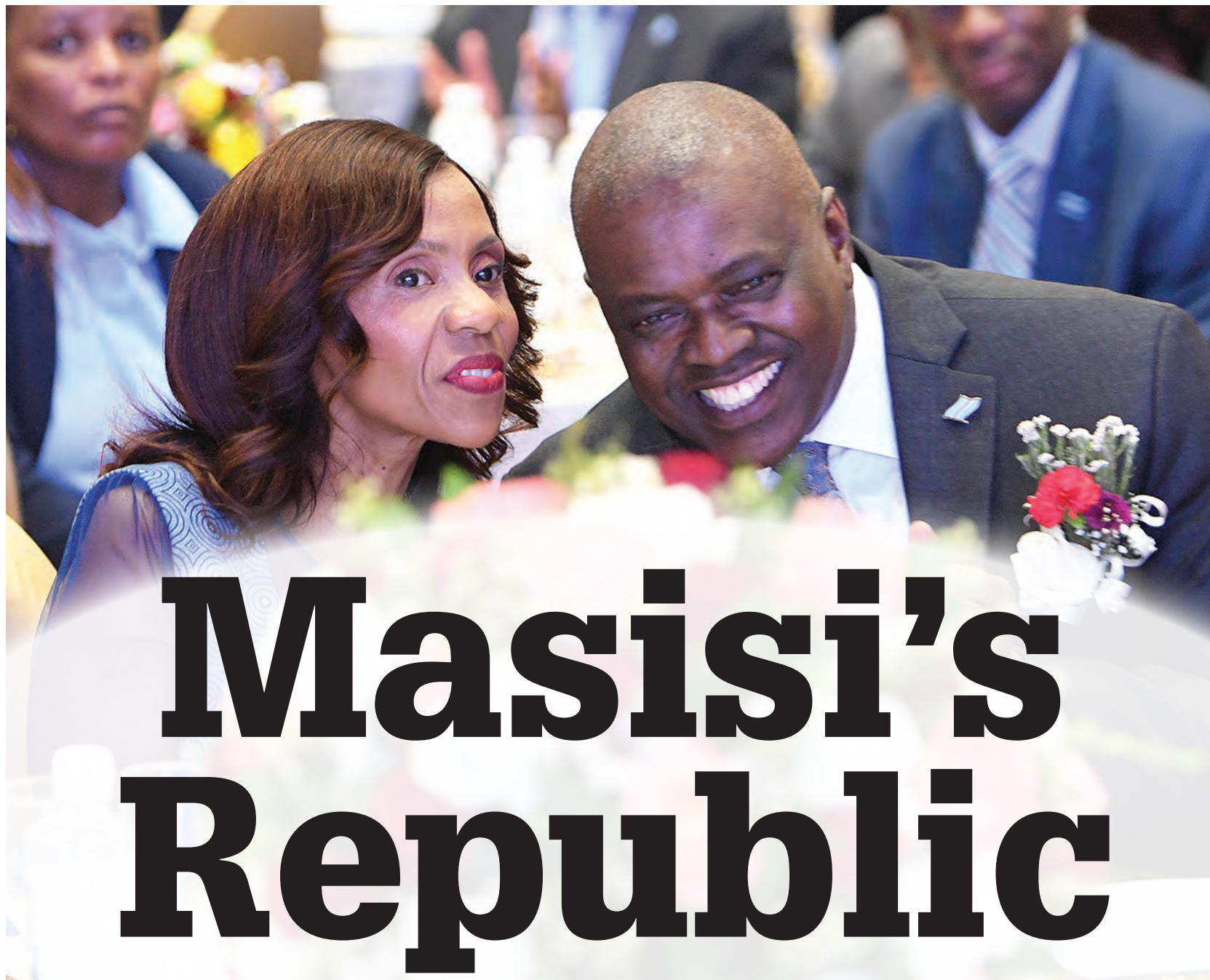
THERE IS ONGOING SHAKE-up at the Mass Media Complex which has allegedly resulted with the transfer of the Director of Broadcasting Services, Raymond Tsheko. Sources say he has been re-assigned to the Department of Wildlife.

Staff morale has been shaken at the department where other officers are equally being re-assigned within the units. The reason for Tsheko's removal has not been made clear, though sources believe that he differed with his supervisors who preferred 'Yes-men'.

Vuyani Zongwani has reportedly been appointed to act on the Director's position; though he recently denied any knowledge of the developments.

Contacted for a comment on Friday, Deputy Permanent Secretary for Information and Broadcasting in the Ministry for State President Oshinka Tsiang referred this publication to PS Government Communications Montlonyane Baaitse who could not comment as she was attending a media briefing by President Mokgweetsi Masisi and Dame Cynthia Alexandria Pratt, Governor General of the Commonwealth of Bahamas on Friday at Sir Seretse Khama International Airport.

Tsheko could not be reached for comment.



Masisi's Republic

... AND HIS CHILDREN

- His children to benefit from his state-funded benefits
- Children under 18 years of age
- Those born out of wedlock
- Adopted children
- Secured himself a P19 373 constituency allowance in December
- His total tax-free monthly package exceeds P130 000
- Now he wants more retirement benefits for himself and the Vice President

AT A TIME WHEN THE diamonds sales have fallen by over 49 per cent in the past six months; unemployment rate has reached worrying proportions and the IMF has cut the country's forecast growth prospects to just 1 per cent, President Mokgweetsi

Masisi has thrown caution to the wind in a brazen attempt to secure the future of his children by getting them mouthwatering benefits.

Masisi is asking Parliament to approve the President and Vice President's retirement packages, that includes having their children covered with the current Vice

President Slumber Tsogwane becoming the first Vice President to be covered.

This comes just a few months after he secured himself an unprecedented constituency allowance of a whopping P19 373 per month though he doesn't have a constituency.

His salary was raised to P110,425, excluding allowances at the same time.

Opposition political parties and general public has reacted with shock and condemnation to Masisi's attempt at increasing his benefits at a time when the economy is facing a serious downfall.

WARNINGS OF NEWS BLACKOUT

MPs to debate President, VP Benefits Bill in secret

- Internet shutdown could be order of the day when bill is debated
- Outrage as Masisi, Tsogwane families are headed for a big payout

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IT IS LIKELY THAT A Parliamentary session during which the controversial retired President Benefits, Pension (Amendment) Bill would be tabled and debated will be held without media coverage – as it happened when transmission was jammed during the debate on President Mokgweetsi Masisi's constituency allowance and increment of MPs salaries.

The bill proposed by the Minister for State Presidency Kabo Morwaeng has caused stir across the country, and observers say it has the potential to tarnish Botswana's image as it amounts to dictatorship and political elite's greed.

Impeccable sources at Government Enclave say the government is feeling the pressure due to criticism from the public and more so that there is now a circulating video clip in which President Masisi apologised and regretted for amending the same law in the past to suit the desires of former president Ian Khama. Masisi at the time said it was big mistake.

"There are suggestions to continue with the bill despite heavy criticism on the government, but it would proceed and be tabled before Parliament. Some government officials advised Masisi that the bill could backfire more so that it is elections season and Botswana Democratic Party (BDP) can suffer," a source said.

It is said that there could be internet connectivity glitches when the MPs debate the bill and that members of the public would also not be allowed to attend Parliament proceedings as it's a norm. Debates



Morwaeng

of a similar bill in 2017 took place at night.

It is said OP is devising plans on how to explain the Parliament live beaming blackout on government media channels being Botswana Television, Radio Botswana and Parliament livestreaming platforms.

MPs late last year moved on to swiftly to pass the bill that amended their salaries and allowances, with live broadcasting of Parliament halted after which government cited technical glitches, but it was clear that the MPs were afraid of public criticism. MPs are expected to get another new salary increase soon.

Last year, Masisi caused another stir when Parliament through BDP majority adopted a bill that proposed that he gets P20 000 constituency allowance per month on top of the high presidential perks he enjoys.

Now, Masisi takes a monthly salary of P110 425.73 excluding allowances. Tsogwane's current take home salary per month is P96 864 71.

In an interview, MP for Ngamiland

TO PAGE 4

NEW KFC ALL STARS

75.90 EACH

Masunga leaves BTC



THE BOTSWANA Telecommunications Corporation Limited's (BTCL) Board of Directors has announced the departure of the company's Managing Director, Anthony Masunga – saying it was as a result of a mutual separation agreement between the parties. Masunga will be leaving his position as Managing Director effective August 2, 2024, having been with BTCL for 16 years.


The Board statement said: "Since assuming this role on January 1, 2017, Mr. Masunga has been instrumental at BTC, overseeing a period of transformation for the company post-listing on the Botswana Stock Exchange.

Under his leadership, BTC has seen accelerated investment in technology resulting in expanded service offerings in

the market, thus strengthening BTC's position in the telecommunications industry within Botswana.

Throughout his tenure, Mr. Masunga has shown a passion and commitment to excellence and fostering a culture of innovation and collaboration within the organisation.


As Mr. Masunga prepares to embark on the next chapter of his career, we extend our deepest gratitude for his outstanding service and leadership. During this transition period, Ms. Boitumelo Paya, Chief Financial Officer, will assume the responsibilities of the Managing Director in an acting capacity with immediate effect. The Board of Directors will in due course appoint a substantive Managing Director". [bse.co.bw]



PUBLIC NOTICE

Missed call facilities of number **397 5385** will be **discontinued** with effect from **31.08.2024**.

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BANK OF BOTSWANA

31 July 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE AND INVITATION TO TENDER

The BANK OF BOTSWANA invites local Companies to tender for supply, installation, commission and testing of Lenovo/IBM/Equivalent servers for Bank of Botswana
Contract No: **BOB/2024/05/15**


1. The Procurement Method is Open Domestic Bidding.
2. The Evaluation method is Least Cost Selection.
3. Tenderers must, in order to be considered for award of this contract, be registered with Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA) under Code: 120 ICT Technical Support Services, Sub code(s): 02 Server Management and Maintenance Services or Code 203 Electrical, Electronic, Mechanical and ICT supplies, Sub code(s) 01 Electrical and Electronic Equipment, Spares and Accessories (includes ICT, photographic equipment and others).
4. Interested companies may purchase the tender documents for a non-refundable fee of P350.00 (Three Hundred and Fifty Pula, VAT inclusive). The payment can be done by Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT) or cash at the Bank's Banking Hall in Gaborone, or at Francistown Branch Banking Hall, from 29 July 2024 to 13 August 2024, Monday to Friday at 0900 to 1400 hours in Gaborone and from 0900 to 1245 hours in Francistown Branch during weekdays. The 50% price discount for purchase of the tender document will be applied to companies owned by youth, women and people living with disability who should provide proof of the same to qualify.
5. Companies are advised to email proof of payment to selokon@bob.bw who shall send the complete tender documents electronically.

Bank Details for EFT payments

Bank	:	Bank of Botswana
Account Name	:	Accpac Sundry Receipts
Account Number	:	0000110900001
Branch Code	:	910167
Branch Name	:	Gaborone
SWIFT Code	:	BBOTBWGX

Please include reference (Company Name)

6. Enquiries and clarifications relating to this tender may be addressed to enquiries20240515@bob.bw.
7. The tender will be closed on **14 August 2024, at 1000 hours**. The tender submissions will be opened on **16 August 2024, at 1015 hours**, or later as the Bank of Botswana may advise.



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Key Performance Areas

- Serve as the primary point of contact for all employee relations issues, including grievances, disputes, and disciplinary actions
- Develop and implement policies and procedures related to industrial relations.
- Provide guidance and support to managers and employees on labor laws and regulations.
- Handle grievances and complaints from employees in a fair and timely manner.
- Conduct investigations into employee misconduct or complaints, and recommend appropriate actions.
- Collaborate with external stakeholders, such as labor unions or government agencies, on industrial relations issues.
- Monitor and analyze trends in industrial relations, and make recommendations for improvement.
- Develop and deliver training on industrial relations topics for managers and employees.
- Keep up-to-date with changes in labor laws and regulations, and ensure compliance within the organization.
- Maintain accurate and up-to-date records of all industrial relations activities and communications.
- Conduct thorough investigations into employee claims and complaints, ensuring a fair and just resolution is reached
- Develop and implement strategies to promote a positive and inclusive work culture, fostering employee engagement and satisfaction
- Collaborate with management and HR to develop and implement organizational development initiatives, such as training programs and performance improvement plans
- Keep abreast of relevant employment laws and regulations, ensuring compliance with all legal requirements
- Compile and analyze data related to employee relations and organizational development, providing insights and recommendations for improvement
- Coordinate with other departments to ensure accurate and timely communication on HR and payroll matters
- Assist in the recruitment and onboarding process of new employees, permitting process

Eligibility Requirements

- Bachelor's degree in human resources, labor relations, or a related field.
- At least 5 years of experience in industrial relations or a similar role.
- Knowledge of relevant labor laws and regulations.
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills.
- Ability to handle sensitive and confidential information with professionalism.
- Excellent problem-solving and conflict resolution skills.
- Experience working in a fast-paced and dynamic environment.
- HR certification (e.g. SHRM-CP, PHR) preferred.
- Bilingual proficiency (English/Setswana).

Only candidates who meet the above requirements need to apply by following the link below:
<https://wilderness.simplifyhr/vacancy/preview/7chcvt>

PLEASE NOTE THAT ONLY SHORTLISTED CANDIDATES WILL BE COMMUNICATED WITH

Closing date: 16 August 2024

Govt denies elephant poaching claims

‘EWB count natural death carcasses as part of poached elephants’ – DWNP

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ELEPHANT WITHOUT Borders (EWB) has warned that there could be rising incidents of poaching in NG15 and NG18, shortly following a report by Centre for Advanced Defense Studies (C4ADS) titled “Intercepted: Using Seizure Data to Evaluate Trends in Elephant Ivory and Rhino Horn Trafficking”.

The C4ADS report links neighboring Angola and Namibia as countries with the highest number of elephant ivory seizures that continue between trans-continental Africa-to-Asia trafficking routes.

Angola and Namibia share the elephant home range that transcends neighboring states such as Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The C4ADS reports that Southern African states continue to play a key role as hubs for elephant ivory trafficking network operations.

The report indicates that the highest seizures of elephants between 2016 and 2023 were



Elephantologist Mike Chase examines an elephant whose face was hacked off by poachers in Botswana

[PIC:DAVID MCKENZIE/CNN]

linked to Angola and Namibia where 266 total cases were reported. The report further states that illicit wildlife trade is not a static enterprise as it is constantly evolving in response to the barriers and opportunities that arise.

EWB recently wrote to the Director of Wildlife and National Parks (DWNP) expressing concern over their inaction over allegations of 105 incidents of elephant poaching linked to ivory in the past 10 months. EWB

Director, Mike Chase expressed disappointment in the letter. “For the last ten months, I have consistently reported cases of elephant poaching to your office, yet, disappointingly, have not received any response from you,” wrote Chase.

Chase reported the discovery of 19 carcasses of elephants suspected to have been poached for ivory in a well-known poaching hotspot (NG15 and NG18). “This area has been repeatedly targeted by poachers over the past ten months.

Some of the carcasses are fresh. Poachers may still be active in the area,” warned Chase, adding that the elephant carcasses clearly indicate ivory poaching as the cause of death, ruling out natural causes.

Chase said the elephant carcasses are in remote locations, far from human settlements and in photographic tourism concessions. He warned that this frequent elephant poaching for ivory and targeting of elephant bulls with large tusks continues to

be a source of worry. He said that with the recent discovery of 19 elephant carcasses seen last week, the number have skyrocketed to 105 poached elephants observed in the past ten months to 105. Chase remained resolute that they will continue to be committed in assisting the DWNP with the detection and reporting of the harmful activities of elephant poachers despite their silence and inaction.

When quizzed about allegations of rampant elephant

poaching, Public Relation Officer at the Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources Conservation and Tourism, Lesego Kgomyane said they are currently verifying the allegations with relevant authorities.

Although he did not want to be drawn into EWB allegations that they have not been responding to poaching incidents, Department of Wildlife National Parks Director, Moremi Batshabang said: “It would be unfair to discuss what is contained in the EWB letter that Chase wrote to me in his absence”.

Batshabang could not state the exact number of poached elephants in the past 10 months in NG15 and NG18, saying the numbers need to be collated to give a true picture. He said law enforcement officers are always deployed to verify poaching incidents when they are reported, reiterating that elephants that EWB claim to have been poached could be way less than 105 as reported.

“We have established that some of the incidents that are reported as poaching are not reflecting the true picture of poached elephants. We usually harvest ivory from elephants that succumbed to natural deaths and EWB could be counting those elephants as part of poached elephants,” said Batshabang, adding that the number of poached elephants were far less than 105 as reported by EWB.

Matsheka not resigning from BDP

I will bounce back strong, he declares
Rejected UDC, BPF offers to represent them in Lobatse-claim



Matsheka

“I would like to put it on record that I am nearing the end of my term as a Member of Parliament for Lobatse Constituency and will not seek reelection back into this Honourable House. In economics its free entry and FORCED exit. I was abused and forced to exit,” said Matsheka.

Political analyst, Kitso Morekisi said Matsheka’s departure was a big loss for the BDP.

He observed that Matsheka just like former BDP Secretary General Mpho Balopi has been subjected to harassment inside the BDP and that was fueled by a crop of new members in the party who wanted to clear themselves to Masisi.

“Balopi and Matsheka are experienced and valuable. Both are experienced MPs whom president Mokgweetsi Masisi should have made sure that they contest Bulela Ditswe and guide new crop of BDP MPs going forward,” he added.

Those in the know say Matsheka was removed from finance because he rubbed Masisi the wrong way when he proposed that all COVID-19 funds should be audited, and a report be availed to Parliament for a review emphasizing that corruption level was high especially on government tenders during the pandemic.

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BOTSWANA DEMOCRATIC Party (BDP) Member of Parliament (MP) Dr Thapelo Matsheka has denied allegations that he intends to resign from the ruling party soon.

In an interview just after he presented a strong worded personal statement before Parliament on Friday condemning his arrest by Directorate of Intelligence and Security Services (DIS) few years back, Matsheka said he remains committed to the party and would support it in this year elections.

“The party and the government are big organisations. I have just decided to take a break in this elections cycle, and I don’t rule out the possibility of coming back in the future. I have heard lot of things being said about me, that I will quit BDP,” said Matsheka.

Matsheka confirmed that he would not be seeking reelection, a development that observers say indicates that he could be no longer interested in politics. Sources say Matsheka has also turned down a proposal by Umbrella for Democratic Change (UDC) and Botswana Patriotic Front (BPF) to be their candidates in Lobatse.

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Candidates who meet the above criteria should submit their applications to recruitment@bdc.bw. Applicants who previously applied are advised to reapply.

The deadline for applications is **16th August 2024**.

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Savings, Investments, Lending and Foreign Currency Rates

effective from 1st August 2024

Savings and Investments Rates

Description	Normal Interest Rates*	Effective Interest Rate*	Minimum Opening Balance (Pula)
Current	0.00% - 3.00%	0.00% - 3.00%	100
Call	0.00% - 3.00%	0.00% - 3.00%	10,000
Ipeele	0.25% - 1.80%	0.25% - 1.82%	1,000
SureSave 12 Months	3.25%	3.30%	100
SureSave 24 Months	4.75%	4.86%	100
SureSave 36 Months	4.60%	4.71%	100
Lebandia	1.85% - 2.35%	1.87% - 2.38%	1,000
EasySave	2.00% - 4.00%	2.02% - 4.08%	100
Fixed Deposit 91 Days	1.75% - 4.25%	1.77% - 4.34%	1,000
Fixed Deposit 6 Months	2.80% - 4.50%	2.84% - 4.60%	1,000
Fixed Deposit 12 Months	4.25% - 5.00%	1.75% - 4.25%	1,000
Fixed Deposit 24 Months	5.00% - 5.00%	5.00% - 5.12%	1,000

Lending Rates

Description	Nominal Interest Rate (%)	Average Effective Interest Rate (%)
Monetary Policy Rate (MoPR)	2.15%	
Bank Gaborone Prime Lending Rate	6.26%	
Mortgage Rate	Prime - Prime +8%	8.67%
Overdraft Rate (revolving credit lines)	Prime - Prime +13.50%	11.74%
Credit Card Rate	Prime + 10% - Prime +15%	18.32%
Lease loans	N/A	N/A
Personal loans (excluding overdrafts, mortgage, and credit cards)	Prime +3% - Prime +25.49%	12.92%
Other long term loan rates (Commercial loans)	Prime +4% - Prime +13.5%	11.24%

Foreign Currency Rates

USD rates						
Description	Range Nominal Interest Rates (Min)	Range Nominal Interest Rates (Max)	Range Effective Interest Rates (Min)	Range Effective Interest Rates (Max)	Minimum Opening Balance (Business)	Minimum Opening Balance (Individuals)
1 month	0.00%	1.50%	0.00%	1.51%	200	500
3 months	0.60%	2.10%	0.60%	2.12%	200	500
6 months	0.80%	2.30%	0.80%	2.31%	200	500
9 months	1.00%	2.50%	1.00%	2.51%	200	500
12 months	1.25%	2.75%	1.25%	2.75%	200	500
Call	0.00%	1.00%	0.00%	1.00%	200	500

*Rates apply to amounts from USD10K to USD1M. All rates for USD1M and above are negotiable

ZAR rates

Description	Range Nominal Interest Rates (Min)	Range Nominal Interest Rates (Max)	Range Effective Interest Rates (Min)	Range Effective Interest Rates (Max)	Minimum Opening Balance (Individuals)	Minimum Opening Balance (Business)
1 month	0.75%	3.75%	0.75%	3.82%	2000	5000
3 months	1.00%	5.00%	1.00%	5.09%	2000	5000
6 months	1.50%	6.00%	1.51%	6.09%	2000	5000
9 months	2.00%	6.25%	2.00%	6.30%	2000	5000
12 months	2.25%	6.50%	2.25%	6.50%	2000	5000
Call	0.00%	1.75%	0.00%	3.25%	2000	5000

*Rates apply to amounts from ZAR50K to ZAR1M. All rates for ZAR1M and above are negotiable

GBP rates

Months	Range Nominal Interest Rates (Min)	Range Nominal Interest Rates (Max)	Range Effective Interest Rates (Min)	Range Effective Interest Rates (Max)	Minimum Opening Balance (Individuals)	Minimum Opening Balance (Business)
1	0.20%	0.75%	0.20%	0.75%	200	500
3	0.50%	1.10%	0.50%	1.10%	200	500
6	0.75%	1.90%	0.75%	1.91%	200	500
9	1.15%	2.15%	1.15%	2.16%	200	500
12	1.20%	2.20%	1.20%	2.20%	200	500
Call	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	200	500

*Rates apply to amounts from GBP10K to GBP1M. All rates for GBP1M and above are negotiable

EUR rates

Months	Range Nominal Interest Rates (Min)	Range Nominal Interest Rates (Max)	Range Effective Interest Rates (Min)	Range Effective Interest Rates (Max)	Minimum Opening Balance (Individuals)	Minimum Opening Balance (Business)
1	0.20%	0.75%	0.20%	0.75%	200	500
3	0.25%	1.25%	0.25%	1.26%	200	500
6	0.50%	1.75%	0.50%	1.76%	200	500
9	0.75%	2.00%	0.75%	2.00%	200	500
12	1.00%	2.25%	1.00%	2.25%	200	500
Call	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	200	500

*Rates apply to amounts from EUR10K to EUR1M. All rates for EUR1M and above are negotiable

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CIPA promotes IP use in traditional medicine

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BOTSWANA STANDS AT CROSSROADS where the rich traditions of the past and the innovative potential of the future converge, forcing the country to harness the power of traditional medicines through intellectual property (IP). Last week, Companies and Intellectual Property Authority (CIPA) launched an IP and Traditional Medicines Project In Botswana, bringing together stakeholders under one roof to discuss strategies to protect and promote these age-old remedies on a global stage. CIPA is spearheading initiatives to register traditional medicine practitioners and their remedies to protect their valuable assets from exploitation and ensure that local communities benefit from their knowledge and resources. By registering traditional medicines, Botswana can prevent biopiracy, where foreign entities commercialize local resources without proper compensation to the indigenous communities. Botswana's commitment to protecting traditional medicinal knowledge is rooted in



the Industrial Property Act of 2010, which encompasses the protection of all forms of Traditional Knowledge (TK), including traditional medicine. The Act provides traditional medicine practitioners with exclusive rights to their knowledge, enabling them to prevent unauthorized use and commercialization of their products. "The Industrial Property Act offers comprehensive protection for traditional knowledge. Practitioners have the legal right to prevent third parties from reproducing, selling, or commercialising their products without consent. This legal framework is essential for safeguarding the intellectual property rights of traditional medicine practitioners," explained Timothy Moalusi, Registrar Industrial Property at CIPA.

Legislative Gaps

Despite the robust legal framework, there have been significant challenges in translating these protections into tangible economic benefits. "Previously, the lack of a guiding policy hindered the economic utilization of traditional knowledge. However, the adoption of the Botswana Intellectual Property Policy (BIPP 2022) has been a game-changer. This policy is driving current projects and fostering an environment conducive to integrating traditional medicine into the broader pharmaceutical industry," said Moalusi.

The BIPP 2022 envisions leveraging traditional knowledge for economic growth by promoting research and development (R&D) and facilitating the commercialization of traditional medicine. This approach aims to create sustainable business enterprises that can contribute to the national economy.

Currently, there are no proposed legislative changes specifically targeting the protection of traditional medicinal knowledge. However, CIPA is focusing on technological advancements to enhance accessibility. "We are developing an online system for the registration of intellectual property rights, set to go live in September 2024," shares Moalusi. "This system will allow practitioners to register their knowledge from anywhere in the country, addressing the accessibility gap for those in remote areas."

The government, through CIPA, plays a crucial role in ensuring the effective enforcement of intellectual property laws. Moalusi emphasises the importance of community involvement in the creation and implementation of these laws. "We consulted local communities and dikgosi (traditional leaders) when developing the law. These consultations are vital to ensuring the law meets the needs of Batswana."

To raise awareness among traditional healers, CIPA, in collaboration with international organisations like the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), has launched initiatives to train and mentor traditional medicine practitioners. These initiatives aim to enhance their understanding of intellectual property rights and the benefits of registration.

Landmark development

In a notable event held in Gaborone from July 24-26, 2024, the IP and Traditional Medicine Project was officially launched, marking a significant milestone in Botswana's journey towards a knowledge-based economy. Joel Ramaphoi, Caretaker Registrar General of CIPA, highlighted the project's genesis and its pivotal role in strengthening Botswana's IP ecosystem. Ramaphoi shared, "This project commenced in April 2024 with the appointment of consultants who engaged key local stakeholders to gather information about the status of traditional medicine practices in Botswana. The warm relations between President Masisi and WIPO Director General Daren Tang during a 2023 visit to Geneva were instrumental in the conception of this project."

He further acknowledged the support of the Minister of Trade and Industry, Mmusi Kgafela, and the involvement of international experts from WIPO, including Siddhartha Prakash and Fei Jiao, who provided valuable insights. The presence of distinguished speakers from Ghana and Ethiopia underscored the collaborative spirit of the event, as they shared their experiences in

integrating traditional medicine into public health systems.

Success stories

The journey of Johannes Visagie, who registered the traditional medicinal properties of donkey milk, stands out as a success story. "Visagie's knowledge has been commercialised into various products, including soaps and lotions. This case exemplifies how traditional knowledge can be protected and commercialised, creating sustainable businesses," notes Moalusi.

Botswana collaborates with international organisations such as WIPO and the African Regional Intellectual Property Organisation (ARIPO) to develop and implement effective IP protections. "The recent WIPO treaty on Intellectual Property, Genetic Resources, and Associated Traditional Knowledge marks a significant milestone," says Moalusi. "It ensures that indigenous communities are protected from misappropriation when their traditional knowledge is used in new inventions." Botswana also looks to best practices from countries like China, India, and South Korea, where traditional medicine is successfully integrated into mainstream medicine. These countries have demonstrated that traditional knowledge can be commercialised on a global scale.

Future Prospects

Looking ahead, CIPA envisions an ecosystem where all traditional medicine practitioners register their knowledge, supported by a cohesive government framework that fosters research, branding, and market access. The ongoing project with 25 traditional medicine practitioners is a testament to this vision. "Our goal is to develop a sector that contributes to economic growth and diversification. The practitioners are responding positively."

We aim to see their products on pharmacy shelves locally and internationally, which will enhance their livelihoods and create employment opportunities," Moalusi explained. Dumisane Keika of Dimata Dingaka and Leobo la Dingaka expressed gratitude to CIPA for the workshop lessons on IP and said that as traditional medicine practitioners their relationship with Ministry of Health is growing steadily as they are often invited for discussions and ideas exchange between them. He says that the COVID19 pandemic proved that a lot of work needs to be done in bettering relationships between them and the Ministry of Health as there was visibly a lack of connectedness which prevented them from contributing their ideas and skills in the effort to deal with the pandemic. "Our wish is to have an open and transparent relationship with both CIPA and the Ministry of Health so that in future we are better prepared and ready to deal with pandemics such as the COV119 should the need arise as a unit without one part pulling the other direction while the other pulls in a different direction," he stated.

As Botswana moves forward with this ambitious project, the protection and commercialization of traditional medicinal knowledge promise to unlock new economic opportunities, ensuring that the rich heritage of traditional medicine continues to thrive in the modern world. Traditional medicine in Botswana has a deep-rooted history, with an estimated 3,100 practitioners, predominantly in rural areas. Despite this, the integration of traditional practices into the mainstream healthcare system has been limited. Efforts are underway to change this narrative. The Ministry of Health has underscored the importance of scaling up the use of traditional medicine, especially given its potential to address a variety of health issues alongside conventional treatments. The World Health Organization (WHO) has also highlighted the importance of traditional medicine in its strategy for 2014-2023, encouraging countries like Botswana to explore and validate these natural remedies for broader use. This aligns with the recent National Health Research Symposium in Gaborone, which emphasized the need for increased research and development in this sector.

Deposit and Lending interest rates as at August 2024

Deposit rates

BWP - Botswana Pula

Types of deposit account	Nominal interest rate	Actual interest rates	Minimum opening balance (BWP)
Current	0.00%-0.75%	0.00% - 0.75%	50
Call	0.00% - 0.55%	0.00% - 0.55%	10,000
Savings	0.00% - 3.31%	0.00% - 3.36%	100
91 days fixed deposit	1.21%	1.22%	1,000
6 months fixed deposit	1.48% - 1.65%	1.49% - 1.66%	1,000
12 months fixed deposit	2.32% - 2.82%	2.32% - 2.82%	1,000
24 months fixed deposit	2.67% - 3.37%	2.67% - 3.37%	1,000
36 months fixed deposit	2.77% - 3.57%	2.77% - 3.57%	1,000

ZAR - South African Rand

Types of deposit account	Nominal interest rate	Actual interest rates	Minimum opening balance (ZAR)
Current	0.00% - 0.00%	0.00% - 0.00%	3,450
Call	0.00% - 2.50%	0.00% - 2.50%	3,450
Savings	Negotiable	Negotiable	3,450
91 days fixed deposit	Negotiable	Negotiable	3,450
6 months fixed deposit	Negotiable	Negotiable	3,450
12 months fixed deposit	Negotiable	Negotiable	3,450
24 months fixed deposit	Negotiable	Negotiable	3,450
36 months fixed deposit	Negotiable	Negotiable	3,450

GBP - British Pounds

Types of deposit account	Nominal interest rate	Actual interest rates	Minimum opening balance (GBP)
Current	0.00% - 0.00%	0.00% - 0.00%	300
Call	0.00% - 2.50%	0.00% - 2.50%	300
Savings	Negotiable	Negotiable	300
91 days fixed deposit	Negotiable	Negotiable	300
6 months fixed deposit	Negotiable	Negotiable	300
12 months fixed deposit	Negotiable	Negotiable	300
24 months fixed deposit	Negotiable	Negotiable	300
36 months fixed deposit	Negotiable	Negotiable	300

USD - U.S Dollar

Types of deposit account	Nominal interest rate	Actual interest rates	Minimum opening balance (GBP)
Current	0.00% - 0.00%	0.00% - 0.00%	500
Call	0.00% - 2.50%	0.00% - 2.50%	500
Savings	Negotiable	Negotiable	500
91 days fixed deposit	Negotiable	Negotiable	500
6 months fixed deposit	Negotiable	Negotiable	500
12 months fixed deposit	Negotiable	Negotiable	500
24 months fixed deposit	Negotiable	Negotiable	500
36 months fixed deposit	Negotiable	Negotiable	500

Lending rates

Lending rates	Nominal interest rate (%)	Average Effective Interest Rates (%)
Monetary policy rate (MoPR)	2.15%	2.15%
Mortgage Facility	Absa PLR + 1% - Absa PLR + 6%	10.48%
Overdraft facility (revolving credit lines)	Absa PLR + 10% - Absa PLR + 20%	23.76%
Credit card	24% - 36%	34.49%
Lease loans (VAF)	Absa PLR + 0.5% - Absa PLR + 6%	10.21%
Unsecured personal loans (excluding overdrafts, mortgage and credit cards)	Absa PLR + 2.5% - Absa PLR + 19.24%	18.83%
Other long-term loans	Negotiable	Negotiable
Absa Prime Lending Rate (Absa PLR)	6.26%	

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MPs to debate President, VP Benefits Bill in secret

FROM PAGE 1

Caterpillar Hikuama said the MPs are not aware if there is a plan for the President's Benefits Bill not to be debated in cameras, but said if it so, it will be a dark episode of Botswana's history and democracy.

"Before one can throw in his views regarding the pension for the President's adopted children, it is imperative to understand, one, what triggered the thinking or thought, two, what are the past experiences that necessitated the law, and what is it that we want to achieve by this kind of law," he said.

Hikuama said failure to get answers to the above questions, one will only be left to speculate and conclude by saying that its only a law influenced by greed and selfish.

He said not so long ago, the nation witnessed Masisi crying for being given a constituency allowance of P20 000 per month, adding that such was promulgated and has been enforced.

"What can you term this, if not greedy or abuse of power by the current president Masisi regime," he said.

Questions sent to the Press Secretary to the President Masego Mosate had not been answered at the time of going to print.

The proposed amendments of the bill are

that children of presidents and vice presidents as starting from 2019 should benefit from presidents' pension and retirements salaries that are not subjected to taxation.

The bill reads that the spouses of former presidents should also benefit from the president's pension and retirement benefits post the presidency and further notes that even if the retired president passes away his or her children and their partners should continue receiving the welfare from the retirement benefits.

The Leader of Opposition in Parliament (LOO) Dithapelo Keorapetse said the bill shows Masisi's greed.

Keorapetse said Masisi's greed is on steroids and that he has absolutely no iota of decency, adding that the law must be rejected as it is embarrassing, unreasonable and huge cost to taxpayers. As the UDC in Parliament, Keorapetse said they are not surprised at all by the bill because Masisi has exuded greed since he has ascended to the high office of president.

"He has allocated himself a state farm, he recently sponsored a law to pay himself a constituency allowance when he has no constituency and he is taken care of by the state including transportation, accommodation and food," Keorapetse asserted.

Man and his money: The uneasy romance

IN A SHORT SPACE OF NINE months – October 2023 to July 2024 – Masheleng’s Facebook page has seen a 200 per cent jump in followers – from 50 000 to over 150 000. Their Tik-tok account has equally grown swiftly to over 70 000 followers. As you read this, the numbers would have changed drastically.

Seatla Ratshosa is a much sought after man for his electrifying, inspiring and eye-opening discussion on personal finance – addressing the over-indebtedness disease that is driving some locals to mental breakdowns and civil imprisonment.

The country’s household debt stood at P68.5 billion as at December 2023.

He rightly compares himself to a church pastor. “I have to repeat my message over and over again for people to begin to understand and change their relationship with money. At the beginning I told people this will be a 40-year project. I believe it will take this long to begin to see the fruits of my work – when our people’s relationship with money improves,” he enthuses.

Operating under IGYNTWealth, Masheleng serves as a vital arm, bolstering IGYNTWealth’s mission to educate and empower the masses through innovative digital content creation.

COMMUNICATION

To make his business appeal to reach fever pitch, Ratshosa realised that engaging only the privileged elite was not sufficient. He changed and repackaged his communication strategy. He eased off; cut the uptight-ness and engaged in both English and Setswana; almost as casually as in any natural conversation. He engaged on common matters that affect individuals and families when they make money decisions.

“Our message is hitting the right nerve. Business news is often the most boring. We are among the few that have managed to repackage our content in such a way that people love it. Our videos reach over a million people every month – this is more people than those who actually subscribed to follow our page. I have always desired to create products that serve the masses,”

At his first-floor office at The Office block at Fairgrounds in Gaborone Seatla Ratshosa has launched a war of sorts to save man from himself – from drifting into the excesses of conspicuous consumption that leads to his/her peril with possible mental breakdown, the humiliation of civil imprisonment and at worst, suicide. Through IGYNTWealth, trading as Masheleng, Ratshosa is steadfast in winning over souls. **Writes STAFF WRITER**



he declares. His is not a game of attracting more people for the sake of it but primarily to positively impact on their lives by helping them make good decisions with their financial resources. “This gives us a lot of hope that things can really change for the better for our people,” he declares.

THEIR WORK

Masheleng offers personal finance education and post training support for clients. They assist individuals with debt restructuring and counselling and have a programme through which they help filter candidates to be offered a new loan based on their participation in a debt counselling programme.

He is happy that over the years Botswana Teachers Union (BTU) has been their biggest supporter, enrolling teachers for personal finance training and guiding them on how to make best decisions with their money.

“This was somehow God-ordained because before this we met a lot of individual teachers who appeared excited about our service. So, we are glad that

BTU has stood with us over the years,” he declares, adding that they have another product that includes Bank Gaborone and BTU. “The catch here is that for the bank to offer any teacher – particularly those who were so overindebted that they received nothing at the end of the month – a facility they had to enrol for a counselling service with us. The product offers at least P2000 as net pay (take home) for those that have received our programme and done well to be recommended,” he says.

He maintains the programme has worked well, affording people who would otherwise not receive any Thebe at month end some money to carry. “This programme has worked wonders. At least 34 people who enrolled have reported having started income generating projects,” Ratshosa celebrates.

WEALTH GENERATION

At the core of his work, is teaching the Principles of Wealth Generation which cover the key areas of – Earning (salary); Saving; Investing; Risk Management; Giving and Estate Planning. His dominant

message is that people should learn a habit of not using their salaries for lunch dates, and buying small things that are often not budgeted for. “People ought to get into a habit of learning how to sell almost anything that helps them supplement their income,” he says – warning against any temptation of getting into any debt that does offer an individual more than what the lender makes. Debt, he insists, is only worth it if affords one to start something that is income generating – increases one’s value.

On the saving issue he is clear that it can never be easy to invest unless one has saved. “If you are emotionally weak you won’t get rich – you won’t save a business because you ought to make tough decisions to grow the business,” he warns.

It is only after one has built investments that are able to sustain him/her that he would be in a position to offer a hand to others who need assistance. “You can’t give people money from your primary income – you need to set up investments

that can offer perpetual income,” he says.

He maintains that it is important for one to have a will that covers the distribution and management of his/her investment in the event that they pass on. “Do a will and register it the High Court. You ought to know that the Law doesn’t have emotions and once you are gone those you love the most might lose out,” he cautions. It is through these principles that Ratshosa has anchored his game plan of helping locals turn into wealthy individuals.

IMPACT

These days Ratshosa doesn’t enter into public places without getting unsolicited attention of people acknowledging his work and even asking for an opportunity to be under his wing. He has a special story to tell about petrol attendants and tellers in some shops.

“The impact is so huge that it sometime shocks me. We don’t consider ourselves to be celebrated people. However, as we travel throughout this country, the most touching

feedback has come in some quarters from petrol attendants and tellers in some shops who say we have heard you and that has helped us in budgeting better and we are now having some savings even as they earn so low,” he appreciates.

They have never hosted a training for petrol attendants or tellers but are humbled by their response, mostly after watching their Tik-tok videos. “The important issue here is that we are talking their language and they understand us. We raise matters that affect them daily, speaking at their level. They are a group that often do not enjoy any big increase in their payments and are too often stuck in one place. We are looking at ways of coming with more relevant programmes for this group,” he assures.

Masheleng’s messaging has reached thousands through videos and word of mouth referrals out of people who shall testimonies about how their own lives have been transformed by taking heed of their counsel.

“We have hit the right nerve

among our people, just as we wanted,” he proclaims; regretting only that most companies take little heed of the value of giving life skills to their employees.

“The greatest disappointment is companies that house these people. They think it is an individual’s call to educate themselves particularly on Personal Finance. Most organisations see enrolling their employees for our programme as a Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative, which comes only after other key issues are addressed.

“To us Financial Education is a key to unlocking productivity and innovation. A happy employee exceeds expectations at work as compared to one who is worried about personal debt problems,” he insists.

FUTURE

Ratshosa envisions a future where Personal Finance Education will be part of the learning culture in schools. Currently they have not had any formal partnerships with tertiary institutions and have only worked finance clubs at Botswana Accountancy College, Botho University and the University of Botswana.

“We want to set a Financial School that offers credit bearing courses by engaging financial experts on the ground. People relate well with our programmes because of their practicality. We teach them what they want to be taught and not what we want to teach them,” says the Personal Finance guru who started off in the insurance business space.

They are advanced at rolling out a Kids Financial Programme. Having subscribed to the Botswana Qualifications Authority (BQA), they have registered Financial Management courses that they want to run. He remains worried that the absence of set training Framework is creating a chaotic situation where anyone can claim to be qualified to render personal finance programmes. “People are taking advantage – the standards ought to be set and controlled well. A framework ought to be in place to monitor and enforce standards in this space,” he contends.

Equally he agitates for a Credit Control Law that grants the Power of Attorney for

Personal Finance experts that enforce debt rehabilitation. “In serious case scenarios the law should allow us to take full control of one’s account until we are convinced that one is in a position to handle their finances responsibly,” he maintains, declaring matter of fact – “there are people who shouldn’t touch money”.

While their programme has become a hit locally, they are well aware of the limitation imposed by the limited market. For this reason, they have already started offering their services in South Africa.

“We are working on a strategy of scaling our presence including entering the regional market without necessarily having physical offices in those areas. In the next two to three years, we intend to dominate social media space in content and accelerate growth,” he declares.

Next week, he says, they will have a networking breakfast session with leaders in the corporate sector to reflect on their offerings and the expectations of the market with the aim of aligning their priorities with such entities.

MANAGING RISK

Like any businessman, Ratshosa has to ensure that he diversifies the business enough to outlast him. Almost in all Masheleng videos, he is the one that is featured eloquently counselling on debt management. He is quick to point to the fact that like any other businessman of note like Richard Branson, Elon Musk, Steve Jobs he has to lead from the front and set a tone and direction of how things must be done. Running a well-established speaking career as well – there is no other better person placed to do the work as shown by the huge follower base he commands. “Masheleng is well diversified with a competent team. I have other trainers who can do the job just as good as myself. We are coming up with strategies to mitigate against any risk. However, like any other leader io will remain the face of the company as long as I can,” says the prayerful family man who concedes that he grants family time when he escapes the clutches of work.

Currently his total staff count, including freelancers, is 20.

Business and Leadership Expo 2024

A dynamic exchange of ideas



THE RECENTLY HOSTED BUSINESS AND Leadership Expo at BA ISAGO University in Gaborone proved to be a phenomenal success. The event, a confluence of industry professionals, thought leaders, and aspiring entrepreneurs, created a vibrant atmosphere of learning and networking. With a focus on the diverse dynamics of business and leadership in Botswana, the Expo offered a unique platform for sharing insights, experiences, and strategies. Mokgethi Ramolelekwane, the event’s organiser, expressed his gratitude to all participants. “We are thrilled with the

success of this year’s Expo,” he said. “Our heartfelt thanks go out to our sponsors, speakers, panellists, moderators, and everyone who attended.

Your contributions have made this event a resounding success and provided learnings to ensure we have an even bigger event next year. We are especially grateful to Orange for sponsoring the internet and to Leap Frog for their exceptional work with the stage, sound, lights, and graphics.”

The event featured a series of panel discussions, including a standout session titled “Women in Marketing: Breaking Barriers and Shaping Strategies to

Advance the Field.” Bomaids’ Corporate Communications Manager, Tshepo Maphanyane who was a panellist in this discussion, shared her enthusiasm:

“An absolutely incredible two days spent engaging in great conversations about the diverse dynamics of business and leadership in BW. Kudos to the Business & Leadership Expo organizers for bringing together countless professionals from various industries to share not only their companies’ mandates but also firsthand experiences, creating rich, applicable messages for both the young and seasoned.”

The attendance which was free was also a

drawcard that saw many young people starting out in the work of work, recent graduates, tertiary students, and even high school learners attending the expo. As part of Bomaids’ mandate to encourage health screenings, attendees were encouraged to take advantage of the Abby machine to do their health screenings and engage with the Bomaids team over the plethora of available health plans to suit everyone’s rhythm of life.

This integration of health and business underscored the importance of holistic well-being in professional success.

The Expo also featured business stalls that allowed the audience to engage with local product and service owners, most of whom were young entrepreneurs.

This setup provided a wonderful opportunity for attendees to explore innovative solutions and support local businesses. Overall, the Business and Leadership Expo 2024 was a resounding success, fostering a spirit of collaboration and innovation. As Mr. Ramolelekwane highlighted, the event’s success is a testament to the power of community and the importance of creating spaces for meaningful dialogue and growth.

Bank of Baroda (Botswana) Ltd.

Month - August 2024

Effective from 1st August 2024

Type of Deposit Account	Nominal Interest Rates (%)	Actual Interest Rates (%)	Minimum Opening Balance
BWP	(Lowest-Highest)	(Lowest-Highest)	(P' 000)
Current	0.00-0.00%	0.00-0.00%	3000
Call	0.00-1.00%	0.00-1.01%	1000
Savings	0.00-2.00%	0.00-2.03%	100
91-Days Fixed Deposit	1.25-1.25%	1.25-1.26%	500
6 months	1.50-1.50%	1.50-1.51%	500
12 months	3.75-3.75%	3.75-3.82%	500
24 months	4.00-4.00%	4.00-4.07%	500
Over 24 months	4.25-4.25%	4.25-4.33%	500
USD	(Lowest-Highest)	(Lowest-Highest)	(USD)
3 months Fixed Deposit	0.00-0.25%	0.00-0.26%	No Minimum Balance
6 months	0.00-0.50%	0.00-0.52%	5000
Over 12 months	0.00-0.75%	0.00-0.76%	5000
ZAR	(Lowest-Highest)	(Lowest-Highest)	(ZAR)
6 months	1.75-1.75%	1.75-1.76%	1 million
Over 12 month	2.75-2.75%	2.75-2.78%	1 million
Baroda Prime Lending Rate (BPLR) 6.26% p.a. w.e.f 13.06.2024			
Lending Rates	Nominal Interest Rates (%)	Average Effective Interest Rates (%)	
MoPR	2.15%	2.15%	
Baroda Prime Lending Rate	6.26%	6.26%	
Mortgage Facility	6.26-11.75%	9.78%	
Overdraft Facility (Revolving Credit Lines)	6.26-11.50%	9.32%	
Credit Card	NA	NA	
Lease Loans	NA	NA	
Unsecured Personal Loans (excluding overdrafts, mortgages, and credit cards)	8.25-14.50%	11.51%	
Other Long-Term Loans	6.26-11.50%	9.52%	

Bank of Baroda (Botswana) Ltd. is a member of Deposit Insurance Scheme of Botswana

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WE'LL HELP YOU TO SAVE FOR A BETTER TOMORROW

'I was abused and forced to exit'

***HON THAPELO MATSHEKA (PHD)**

1 HONORABLE SPEAKER and Members of this House as per standing order 43.1 I approached the office of the speakership to seek consent to deliver a personal statement. I met with the Honorable Speaker, on the 31st July 2024, to share the personal statement that I wished to make as per the rules of the house and was granted permission to make the statement as I hereby do.

2. Mr. Speaker I am making this statement as I noticed consistent and passive references to the events that happened to me and the various innuendos made in defense of an injustice done to a Citizen of Botswana and a Member of the National Assembly of Botswana. I think such incidents cannot be defended by any Member of Parliament nor the Executive or Cabinet.

Today marks exactly two years since my arrest by the Directorate of Intelligence and Security Services. I took an oath in this august house to defend and protect the Constitution of Botswana in order to ensure the peace and tranquility of Botswana. We all love our country irrespective of the positions we occupy in society.

I would like to put it on record that I am nearing the end of my term as a Member of Parliament for Lobatse Constituency and will not seek reelection back into this Honorable House. In economics its free entry and FORCED exit. I was abused and forced to exit.

I want, once again, to thank the young and old people of Lobatse for the faith that they placed on me to be their Member of Parliament. Little did they know that it would be the same people that they had put in power who would cause me pain and frustrate the developments that we had planned for our town? I will use any opportunity to thank you the People of Lobatse whilst in this House and beyond.

Mr. Speaker I was born and raised in a democratic and peaceful Botswana. I would like future generations to repeat these words and confirm that we bequeathed a healthy and vibrant democratic state where there are no threats to one's life when they hold a different view from others and even to authority.

It can never be in a democratic state where people and even representatives in this house are afraid to participate in a debate or differ. We are citizens first and then we can belong to any formation legally recognized.

Just for the record Mr. Speaker I was born in Mahalapye exactly where the bus rank is now situated. I also had the privilege of growing up in Kazungula when my late father was working in Kasane. I spent my youth days in Lobatse and Molepolole. I stayed at Mokgalong ward at Rre Mahatelo's house and completed my secondary education at Kgari Sechele 11. Molepolole is my second home. My mother worked at the Cooperative Store in Molepolole.

I have never at any stage of

my life been suspected nor asked to account for any wrong doing. I still do not do any wrong to warrant arrest by law enforcement let alone the DIS. I have lived peacefully and contributed to this economy and country for the last 40 years. I am still contributing and hope to set an example to young people to follow in my footsteps and not succumb to hatred and jealousy. To young people of Botswana "Your future is in your hands".

“ I have never at any stage of my life been suspected nor asked to account for any wrong doing. I still do not do any wrong to warrant arrest by law enforcement let alone the DIS ”

Mr. Speaker (two) 2 years ago, on the 2nd of August to be precise, after attending a virtual meeting of Parliament members of the DIS stormed my house with sirens and a lot of cars to arrest me. I asked them why they were at my house and they refused to state the reasons and only said that I shall hear when we get to their offices at Sebele along the Francistown road. They further refused with their identity stating only that the DIS ACT protects their names



Dr Thapelo Matsheka

[PIC:PINO KILANO]

and identity. We all know them.

There was a young man that I had sent to do errands for me whom they also arrested and was told equally that he will know why he is also being arrested. It was indeed strange in our country. They also arrested a lot of my network of friends and subjected them to torture and abuse seeking to force them to implicate me in their plan. It is important to surround oneself with men and ladies of principle. Sellouts feed out of dead carcasses.

I had actually heard way before that there was a plan to do this the way they did it. I did not believe that this could happen in this country. But then again many have been arrested before and denied freedom only for nothing to happen.

The culture of falsifying or fabricating charges or arbitrary arrest should not be acceptable for any reason even political. Any system holding itself to the highest standard of the rule of law would not be so silent on the face of all that has been happening to citizens at the hands of the DIS. The silence beats me as well many who hear statements about the commitment to the rule of law.

The whole situation started weeks before with the Director of DIS addressing Kgotla meetings in Lobatse and the District Commissioner not alerting the office of MP of the meeting. The DIS, Mr. Speaker, is responsible for the riots and damage to property that took place in Lobatse.

Mr. Speaker the principle of separation of powers is the corner stone of a democratic

and rights based constitution. It is designed to restrict over reach by the different arms of government. I stand here Mr. Speaker a direct beneficiary of this basic principle. I witnessed, as did the whole country and indeed the whole world, when it emerged that there were attempts to influence the court process to have me detained illegally.

There were alleged calls that were made to a Judge of the high court by a member of the executive seeking to influence them to pass judgment away from the law. It was even scary for me when the judge made allegations against the Chief Justice.

The Law Society joined the fray to voice against such conduct as unacceptable to say the least. It is unknown what action was taken save to say a deal has clearly been made to sweep the matter under the carpet. There was no judicial inquiry into this grave matter. It is business as usual Mr. Speaker. There is no rule of law.

These type of things should receive the scorn of all those that profess to protect and defend the constitution of Botswana. Where are the addicts of the rule of law when these happen within government? Why do these things go unpunished in our country? They must receive the strongest condemnation from all proponents of the constitution. They should never be rewarded as they currently are.

Mr. Speaker I spent 5 days behind bars being moved around different police cells

sleeping on the floor and wonder what I had done to be treated like this by the government. I prayed and said the Lord will fight my corner.

Mr. Speaker as I was being driven to the high court in Lobatse the BTV was being called by the officers who had me in custody to make sure that they are at court. It was well staged by the DIS and Government. They made sure to put leg irons on me and create the image of a wrongdoer.

I would like to thank those that stood with me during these trying times and witness the worst form of political persecution. It is the first in the history of Botswana that a former minister and legislator has suffered this type of mistreatment.

Mr. Speaker the people to thank are too many to be mentioned in this statement. I would like to thank DITSWANELO for reporting this clear case of arbitrary and false detention to the UN. This is to bring awareness that not all is well as reported about my country.

I remain clear in my spirit and conscience about the falsehoods that were spread by the DIS and its handlers. I pray that Batswana wake up to this reality and accept that AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL! And NOBODY IS SAFE UNTIL WE ARE ALL SAFE.

**Hon Thapelo Matsheka (PhD), the former minister of Finance and current MP for Lobatse made the statement in Parliament on Friday.*

DEPOSIT & LENDING INTEREST RATES

As at August 2024
Interest earned is Tax-free

DEPOSIT RATES

Type of Deposit Account	Nominal Interest Rate (Lowest - Highest)	Actual Interest Rate (Lowest - Highest)	Minimum Opening Balance (Pula)
Current	NIL	NIL	
Savings			
Sesigo	1.75% - 2.75%	1.76% - 2.78%	200.00
Ordinary	1.75% - 1.75%	1.76% - 1.76%	50.00
SAYE	1.25% - 2.00%	1.26% - 2.02%	200.00

Fixed Deposits	Nominal Interest Rate	Actual Interest Rate	Minimum Opening Balance
3 months	0.80% - 1.00%	0.80% - 1.00%	1,000.00
6 months	1.40% - 1.75%	1.41% - 1.76%	1,000.00
12 months	1.85% - 2.20%	1.87% - 2.22%	1,000.00
24 months	2.25% - 2.55%	2.27% - 2.58%	1,000.00
Over 24 months	3.35% - 3.80%	3.40% - 3.87%	1,000.00

PRIME LENDING RATE 6.26% 6.26% 6.26% 6.26%

LENDING RATES

Lending Rates	Nominal Interest Rate	Average Effective Interest Rate
MoPR	2.15%	2.15%
Prime Lending Rate	6.26%	6.26%
Mortgage Facility	Prime to Prime + 4.50%	Prime to Prime + 4.59%
Overdraft Facility (Revolving credit lines)	N/A	N/A
Credit card	N/A	N/A
Eezi Auto	Prime +3.50% to Prime +5.50%	Prime +3.56% to Prime +5.64%
Lease Loans	N/A	N/A
Unsecured Personal Loans (excluding overdraft, mortgage and credits cards)	Prime +12% to Prime +22%	Prime +12.68% to Prime +24.36%
Other Long - Term Loans	N/A	N/A

Contact Us Now on: 367 0001 or Visit a BSB branch near you for more information.

Member of the Deposit Insurance Scheme of Botswana



www.bsb.bw



VACANCY

We're hiring!!!!

Are you a strategic thinker with a passion for developing and expanding markets, Strides of Success (Pty) Ltd is seeking a dynamic and experienced Regional Market Development Manager to lead our expansion efforts and drive growth in the Sub Saharan Region. If you believe this opportunity is for you, our recruitment team wants to hear from you!

POSITION: REGIONAL MARKET DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

RESPONSIBILITIES/ DUTIES

- Conducting market research to identify customer needs and trends in the industry.
- Developing and implementing marketing strategies and plans for the company's paper products.
- Developing and managing relationships with distributors, retailers, and other industry professionals or stakeholder.
- Creating and overseeing marketing campaigns, including advertising, promotions, and public relations.
- Analyzing and reporting on sales data and customer feedback.

REQUIREMENTS/QUALIFICATIONS

- A Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration, Marketing or Equivalent
- Proven experience in paper manufacturing or related products
- Proficient in Microsoft office.
- Great written and verbal communication skills.
- Strong problem solving and prioritization abilities.
- Excellent time management skills.
- Based in the Sub Saharan Region (Botswana, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Zambia/ South Africa)

Please forward your applications (Cover letter, CV, Copies of Qualifications) to suresh@pulpnpaper.co.bw/kpsuresh.874@gmail.com referenced "Regional Marketing Development Manager"

not later than **16th August 2024.**

Opinions, Reviews & Analysis

Is the retirement benefit for VP created for his soft landing?



ADAM PHETLHE
ON SUNDAY!

THE FORMER VICE PRESIDENTS (Pensions and Retirement Benefits) Bill No 13 of 2024 is set to be debated and concluded in the current meeting of the National Assembly. It is the first time in Botswana's political history that retirement benefits are created for a former Vice President by the Botswana Democratic Party (BDP) government on the eve of a general election. It is the political optics and the timing of this Bill that has attracted so much attention.

By the time the National Assembly is dissolved and Batswana ready themselves to elect the next government, this Bill would have been signed into law with the commencement date determined. There will always be many conspiracy theories thrown around and one such is that His Honour the Vice President Slumber Tsogwane could be relieved of his position after the 2024 general election in the likely event the BDP wins it. It is hard for me to outrightly dismiss this conspiracy theory. The VP's boss His Excellency M.E.K. Masisi has publicly given conflicting statements on the VP's position. At one point, he says the VP is his chosen man while on the other side he says he has not promised anyone any position. This double-speak certainly brings in uncertainty and confusion not least to the VP himself.

Context is always important and so it does to the matter under discussion. During the former President Q.K.J. Masire's administration, the BDP was at some point during his administration undergoing some level of internal political strife owing



Tsogwane

to palpable factional battles. The factional battle was precipitated by the desire of either faction to have the control of the party. As a compromise to stabilise the party, Q.K.J. devised the current automatic succession plan where the sitting Vice President automatically succeeded the outgoing President. In fact, it was Q.K.J.'s condition that he stepped with Rre Festus Mogae taking over from him.

This dispensation was adopted by the BDP in 1995 and incorporated into the country's Constitution in 1997 hence the Vice President of the Republic automatically succeeding the sitting President after the mandatory two-term threshold. Former Presidents Festus Mogae, Ian Khama and Masisi have benefitted from the automatic succession dispensation with Tsogwane looking forward to do the same when Masisi's second term expires. In the past, there has not been any controversy to smooth transition from the outgoing President to the incoming Vice President to assume the office of the President of the Republic. But there is a possibility flowing from the irresistible conspiracy theory I have alluded to above that this smooth transition from Masisi to Tsogwane could be disrupted through a 'palace

coup' of sorts. And this 'palace coup' will be effected by the former not appointing the latter to the position of Vice President. Should this conspiracy theory come to pass, Tsogwane will be out in the political wilderness.

To ensure he does not fall on hard ground, the BDP has moved mountains to ensure Tsogwane softly lands with minimum damage to his political ambitions hence the hastily crafted mouth-watering former Vice Presidents (Pensions and Retirement Benefits) Bill No 13 of 2024. The retirement benefits for Tsogwane will include inter alia: (a) tax-free monthly pension equivalent to (b) the monthly basic salary attached to the office at the time he ceased to hold office OR, 75% of the incumbent VP's salary whichever is greater; (c) staff benefits which includes six security officers, office accommodation; medical care, transport which includes five motor vehicles and funeral cover which includes State funeral benefits for himself and his spouse; (c) benefits to his dependent children born in and out of wedlock. These benefits, by and large, do not differ substantially with those of the now enhanced former Presidents'. Will these benefits be attractive enough to persuade

Tsogwane to let go of his political ambitions of being the next President after Masisi vacates office in the event the BDP wins in October?

It is difficult to tell at this stage. But I must make this point before it escapes my mind. It will be grossly unfair for Masisi to break the tradition he himself benefitted from by dropping Tsogwane. The argument proffered for the likelihood of dropping him is borne out Masisi's desire to appoint a woman VP. There could be some truth because Masisi has upped the ante in appointing women to key leadership positions. I argue he had the opportunity to do so immediately he became the President because there were a number of women to choose from. It is further argued Tsogwane wanted to leave active politics at the end of Khama's administration and was persuaded by Masisi to stay on. In the public eye, Tsogwane has routinely and viciously defended Masisi with all he has; just as Masisi defended Khama. This is the loyalty Masisi desperately requires from those around him. I am not oblivious to the saying that there are no permanent friends but permanent interests in politics. But to have 'used' Tsogwane and dump him when he is a stone away from the ultimate ambition of any politician is grossly unfair as I have said.

I don't think Tsogwane will be persuaded by the retirement benefits to let go of his biggest political ambition to be the President of the Republic. Expectedly, he has built support within the BDP structures where any attempt to dislodge him from the presidency could resuscitate the otherwise quiet factions. That said, his biggest hurdle

is to retain his parliamentary seat failure to which that ambition will be as good as gone. He will take comfort in the fact that he has won that constituency ever since he became an MP and crucially, that his constituents will double their efforts to ensure he wins comfortably in October. Bear in mind that he faced stiff competition from an opposition candidate in 2019.

While on the face of it retirement benefit for former VPs is not a bad thing barring in my view, the excessive and obscene benefits, it obtains in other democracies. The timing and political optics of the one under discussion are

not far off from the view that it was crafted as a soft-landing pad for Tsogwane on account, as the conspiracy theory goes, that he is on his way out. Something hard-to-ignore package had to be quickly created otherwise it would have been a significant departure from the finer things of high office resulting in him falling on hard ground. The results of the General Election and the composition of Cabinet with respect to the BDP in the event it wins will give me a hint of where Tsogwane's fate lies. I am prepared to be persuaded otherwise as always. Judge for Yourself!
adamphetlhe08@gmail.com

Botswana must learn from UK free and fair elections

PART 2

THIS WEEK, WE SHALL CONTINUE OUR discussion on how the UK recently carried out its general election and the feelings of rival political politicians in its aftermath. The transfer of power from the outgoing Conservative administration to the incoming Labour administration after the election was orderly and peaceful. The first results started trickling in at around 11.30 pm, just one and a half hours after the polling stations had closed.

At around 5 am on 5th July – the day after the election – Rishi Sunak conceded defeat to Sir Keir Starmer even before Labour had officially secured a majority of seats (326). In his resignation (as Prime Minister) speech later that morning outside the official residence of all British prime ministers – 10 Downing Street, Sunak apologised to Conservative voters and those parliamentary candidates who had lost

their seats in the election. He told them that he has heard the voters' anger and disappointment and that they have sent a clear signal that the government of the UK must change. Furthermore, he told them that he takes full responsibility for the cataclysmic collapse of the Conservative vote in the election. His words were also echoed by those Conservative candidates who had lost their seats and cabinet posts – "we have failed and have let you down."

Sunak continued by saying: "Whilst he has been my political opponent, Sir Keir Starmer will shortly become our Prime Minister. In this job, his success will be our successes and I wish him and his family well. Whatever our disagreements in this campaign, he is a decent public-spirited man who I respect. He and his family deserve the best of our understanding as they make the transition to new lives behind this door and grapple with the most demanding of jobs in an increasingly unstable world."

His speech showed that Sunak offered support to the new prime minister and expressed hope that he would be successful in carrying out his mandate – let us get behind him!

Shortly afterwards, Sunak left Downing Street for the last time. He was driven to Buckingham Place, the official residence of the reigning monarch, King Charles III. Here he was ushered into the presence of the King for a private audience fit for the two most powerful figures in the land – head of state and head of government. Sunak then asked the King to accept his resignation as his prime minister. The King accepted and immediately Sunak was no longer the prime minister of the UK. In doing so, Sunak had passed government power to the King who now held the reins of government. He then asked Sunak who should be the next prime minister and he replied saying Sir Keir Starmer. Once Sunak had given his answer, palace staff then immediately contacted Starmer inviting him to the palace for an audience with the King. Within an hour, Starmer arrived at the palace where, during a private audience with the King, he was asked if he could form a government. Starmer replied saying that he could do so. At that moment, the king passed on government power to Starmer who automatically became the next prime minister. Believe it or not, not a single document was signed during these audiences! And the procedure went so smoothly without a hitch.

Starmer then was driven to Downing Street where he addressed the world media for the first time as prime minister. In his speech, Starmer was gracious enough to pay tribute to Sunak saying "His achievement as the first Asian Prime Minister of our country should not be underestimated by anyone." And he also recognised "the dedication and hard work he brought to his leadership." Starmer then continued by saying that he invited all to join his government of service to the country.

Later the same day, Starmer invited to Downing Street those people whom he had chosen to appoint as ministers in his Cabinet.

Plus, he held a press conference. So, we can see that the whole electoral process and the transfer of power took place in just two days!

And the morning of the following day, 6 July, the new Cabinet met for the first time. The first meeting of the new Parliament took place on July 9, during which the Speaker was elected. As MPs left the chamber, Starmer and Sunak walked side by side along the aisle during which time Starmer laid his hand on Sunak's shoulder, the two men engaging in light polite conversation. Later, MPs were sworn in by oath. One week later, on July 17, the State Opening of Parliament took place, a ceremonial event which formally marks the beginning of the new session of parliament. At its core was the King's speech and only after then can parliamentary business proceed. From this article, we can see the amount of courtesy and respect that was shown by the outgoing prime minister towards his successor, and vice versa. They also showed humility, especially Sunak who admitted that he was largely to blame for his party's poor performance in the election and did not pass the buck onto someone else. Instead, he said that the buck stops with him. Hence, there were no bad feelings between the two politicians. Both men believed that this was so necessary for stability and unity in the country.

But in Botswana things are very different. In the 2019 general election, Duma Boko's UDC lost to President Masisi's ruling BDP. However, at the time Boko showed a cordial dislike for the president; also, he was not willing to swallow his pride, become more humble, and take any responsibility for his party's defeat in the election. Instead, after five years he still continues to pass the buck for his loss by insisting that the elections were rigged in favour of the BDP, even though he has up to now not provided any hard facts to back up his claims. Boko cannot cry over spilt milk forever; the 2019 elections are now history. What a contrast to Rishi Sunak!

And Boko can also learn something from South Africa's recent election in which the ruling African National Congress government lost much support, especially to the recently formed uMkhonto Wesizwe [MK] party led by former president, Jacob Zuma. Unlike Boko, South African President Cyril Ramaphosa has admitted that his party must share most of the blame for the marked drop in the ANC vote in the election.

In 2018, Masisi succeeded former president, Ian Khama, as head of state. Since then, we have seen a bitter feud develop between the two men which shows no sign of abating. Instead, Khama shows no degree of respect for Masisi as head of state and, in spite, formed a new political party, the Botswana Patriotic Front (BPF). He has also labelled Masisi a liar and coward and tries hard to destroy the BDP, the very party that his father, Sir Seretse Khama, worked so hard to set up before independence. Furthermore, Khama has run Botswana down by visiting foreign Western embassies and countries in an attempt to show

Masisi's administration in a bad light and so discourage foreign investors from investing in Botswana. Khama remains a bitter man and holds a grudge against Masisi. What a contrast to Rishi Sunak!

Such hate speech, according to Masimba Tafirenyika, Director of the United Nations Information Centre, poses a significant threat to social cohesion and stability in any nation, including Botswana. Already we see this in divisions that have emerged amongst Bangwato regarding Khama's claims. Khama is patron of the BPF which, according to some, is little more than a hate club which was founded by disgruntled former BDP members who lost the party's primaries in 2019.

Botswana will be going to the polls in a few months' time. Let us say that the UDC will win the general election. How will the present president react to this? Will he offer support to Boko and will he accept some responsibility for his defeat? Or will he pass the buck by blaming Botswana alone for voting against his party? And now that Boko will be the new president, will he be humble enough to graciously acknowledge the achievements of the previous BDP administration? The answers to these questions will determine whether the transfer of government power from the BDP to the UDC will be orderly and without any hitches or bad feelings.

Let us now assume that the BDP will win the election. Will Boko once again accuse the BDP and the Independent Electoral Commission of vote rigging despite the fact that the UDC has won many recent by-elections? Only time will tell. Let us hope that, no matter the outcome of the election, our party leaders will follow in the footsteps of Rishi Sunak and his successor, Sir Keir Starmer.

In these articles, we have seen that Botswana can learn much from how the UK carried out its recent general election and the feelings of rival political leaders in its aftermath.
Grahame McLeod

IN THE HIGH COURT OF BOTSWANA HELD AT LOBATSE CASE NO: CVHGB-000132/24

In the matter between:

TLHABOLOGO SANTHUMA	PLAINTIFF
and	
VINISH SOLUTIONS (PTY) LTD	DEFENDANT

SUBSTITUTED SERVICE

TO: The Defendant is **VINISH SOLUTIONS (PTY) LTD**, a body corporate registered in accordance to the laws of Botswana whose address for purposes of this suit is **P O BOX 80964 GABORONE.**

(Hereinafter referred to as the "Defendant")

TAKE NOTICE THAT by summons issued by this court you have been called upon to give notice within Fourteen (14) days after publication thereof, to the Registrar at Lobatse High Court and to the plaintiff's Attorneys of your intention to defend (if any) in an action wherein the Plaintiff seeks the following reliefs:

- Payment of the sum **P64 000.00.**
- 10% per annum *tempora morae*;
- 10% collection commission on the capital amount
- Costs of suit;
- Further and/or alternative relief.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT in the event you fail to give such notice within the aforementioned time frame, judgment as set out above may be granted against you without any further reference to you.

DATED AT GABORONE THIS 25th DAY OF JULY 2024

ASHFORD KGOMOTSO AND ASSOCIATES
Plaintiff's Attorneys
Plot 150 Ext 3, Opp. Catholic Church
P O Box 1634 ADD, Poso House
Gaborone
Tel: 3114460

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA HELD AT GABORONE MLHGB-000217-24

In the ex-parte application of:

AMBROSIA PATRICK	APPLICANT
In re:	
AMBROSIA PATRICK	PLAINTIFF
and	
PATRICK CHIRADZA	DEFENDANT

ORDER

Before the **Honourable Justice Dr Zein Kebonang** at **GABORONE** on the 27th day of May 2024
UPON HEARING: Plaintiff in person and there being no appearance for the Defendant and having read the documents filed record.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

The Order is granted in terms of the draft order:

- Leave to effect substituted service is hereby granted

BY ORDER OF THE COURT
REGISTRAR OF THE HIGH COURT

H/W MOREMI-RAMAKOLOI

IN THE MAGISTRATES' COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF GABORONE HELD AT BROADHURST CASE NO: CCMBR-000537-23

In the matter between:

GOBOPAMANG PETSO	PLAINTIFF
And	
BAFENYI BONIFACE PETSO	DEFENDANT

SUBSTITUTED SERVICE
(In terms of Order 8 Rule 1 of the Rules of the Magistrates' Court, 2011)

TO: BAFENYI BONIFACE PETSO, an adult male of full legal capacity whose address for purposes of this suit is **PLOT 16595, BOBIDIDI WARD, MOLEPOLOLE** and whose full and better particulars are to the Plaintiff unknown.

TAKE NOTICE that a Plaintiff's Response to Defendant's Exception issued to you in this Court by **GOBOPAMANG PETSO** whose address for purposes of this suit are c/o **NOGA AND COMPANY**, Attorneys, Notaries and Conveyancers, **PLOT 8884, AFRICAN MALL, RIZKA HOUSE, UNIT 7, P O BOX 1777 AAD, POSO HOUSE, GABORONE.** Plaintiff's Response to Defendant's Exception is as follows:

Defendant has prior to taking exception failed to comply with Order 15 Rule 1 and 2 of the Rules of the Magistrates' Courts, 2011.

Order 15 Rule 3 (1) provides:
"The Defendant shall prior to taking the exception, deliver a notice giving the Plaintiff 5 days within which to remove the cause for complaint."

Order 15 Rule 3 (2) provides:
"A Defendant raising an exception to the summons shall apply to the court for directions, setting out clearly and concisely the ground upon which the exception is founded."

WHEREFORE Plaintiff prays that Defendant's exception be dismissed with costs.
DATED AT GABORONE THIS 22ND DAY OF JULY 2024.

NOGA AND COMPANY
Plot 8884, African Mall
Rizka House, Unit 7
P O Box 1777 AAD, Poso House
GABORONE

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

Master's reference: ESHGB - 000220/24

IN THE ESTATE of the late **LAWRENCE TETI MASIE** who died at Gaborone Private Hospital, Gaborone, Gaborone District, Botswana on the 9th day of July 2023.

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

DATED at Gaborone on this 1st day of August 2024.

The Executor
Tuelo Vincent Sethapo
Akoonyatse Law Firm
P O Box 25058
GABORONE
TEL: 3937360/72208334

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We invite readers to write Letters to the Editor on various issues, be they social, political, economic or entertainment related. Although we support and encourage healthy debates and sharing of alternative views, we will not publish any letter that is slanderous or libelous.

Please write to us:
Plot 28562, Unit F3, Fairgrounds Mall,
Tel: +267 318 7951 / 40. Fax: +267 318 7952
Postal: P O Box 404583, Gaborone, Botswana or
email to dibeela@thepatriot.co.bw /
ditiro@thepatriot.co.bw

Before: J. MOTHABI

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA HELD AT GABORONE

In the matter between:

CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA) Plaintiff

and

PHOFUETSILE RAMMELANE Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to a judgment granted by the above Honourable Court, the following property shall be sold by public auction by Deputy Sheriff Uyapo Mafika to the highest bidder as follows:

Date of Sale: 7th September 2024
Venue: Tribal Grant 11-JN Gasekhukhu Lands, Gasita
Time: 11:30a.m

Property to be sold: A piece of land being Tribal Grant 10-JN, Gasekhuhu situated in the Bangwaketse Tribal Territory, measuring 7.7862 Ha held under the Agreement of Grant of Lease No. TG 33/2010 dated 18th day of February 2010 made in favour of Phofuetsile Rammelane subject to the reservations and conditions contained in the aforesaid Lease together with developments thereon being a three roomed rectangular house.

Terms of Sale: STRICTLY CASH or BANK GUARANTEED CHEQUES.

Conditions of sale: Details and conditions of the sale may be inspected with the Deputy Sheriff at 71696997 .

DATED AT GABORONE THIS 12 DAY OF JULY 2024.

.....
DEPUTY SHERIFF UYAPO MAFIKA: CELL NO. 71696997, C/O CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA), FOUR THIRTY SQUARE , PLOT 54350 PG MATANTE ROAD, CBD PRIVATE BAG 00504, GABORONE (CEDA.Legal.Col.00875)

KEBONAG J.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA HELD AT GABORONE

In the matter:

CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA) Plaintiff

and

HOPOLANG RAMOGAPI Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to the judgment granted by the Honourable Court, the following will be sold by public auction by Deputy Sheriff Nonofa Mabina to the highest bidder as follows:

DATE OF SALE: 25th September 2024
TIME: 10:30 am
PLACE OF SALE: Tribal Lot 20746, Palapye

PROPERTY TO BE SOLD: A certain piece of land being Tribal Lot 20746, Palapye, situated at Bangwato Tribal Territory, measuring 1852m2 (One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty-Two Square Metres), which property is held under Memorandum of Agreement of Lease No. FT TL 653/2014 dated 7th day of July 2014 made in favour of Hopolang Ramogapi, subject to the reservations and conditions contained in the aforesaid lease being 22 rooms with fitted toilet & shower, Screen wall and Sliding Gate.

TERMS OF SALE: Cash or Bank guarantee cheques immediately after sale.

Conditions of Sale: Detailed and conditions of sale may be inspected at the office of the Deputy Sheriff Nonofa Mabina, cell no. 71657100

DATED AT GABORONE THIS 12 DAY OF JULY 2024.

.....
DEPUTY SHERIFF NONOFO MABINA
 CELL NO. 71657100
 C/O CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA)
 FOUR THIRTY SQUARE
 PLOT 54350, PG MATANTE ROAD, CBD
 PRIVATE BAG 00504
 GABORONE
 (LEGAL.COL.01957)

Before: J. Dambe

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA HELD AT GABORONE

In the matter between:

CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA) Plaintiff

and

MPHO RAMMELANE Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to a judgment granted by the above Honourable Court, the following property shall be sold by public auction by Deputy Sheriff Uyapo Mafika to the highest bidder as follows:

Date of Sale: 7th September 2024
Venue: Tribal Grant 9-JN Gasekhukhu Lands, Gasita
Time: 10:30am

Property to be sold: A piece of land being Tribal Grant 10-JN, Gasekhuhu situated in the Bangwaketse Tribal Territory, measuring 8.6095 Ha held under the Agreement of Grant of Lease No. TG 34/2010 dated 18th day of February 2010 subject to the reservations and conditions contained in the aforesaid Lease together with developments thereon being a four roomed rectangular house, an L Shape three roomed house use as a storeroom and pit-latrine.

Terms of Sale: STRICTLY CASH or BANK GUARANTEED CHEQUES.

Conditions of Sale: Details and conditions of the sale may be inspected at the Plaintiff's office or with the Deputy Sheriff at 71696997 .

DATED AT GABORONE THIS 12 DAY OF JULY 2024.

.....
DEPUTY SHERIFF UYAPO MAFIKA: CELL NO. 71696997, C/O CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA), FOUR THIRTY SQUARE , PLOT 54350 PG MATANTE ROAD, CBD PRIVATE BAG 00504, GABORONE (CEDA.Legal.Col.00874)

MAPHAKWANA J.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA HELD AT FRANCISTOWNE

In the matter between:

CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA) Plaintiff

and

ROKETS A FRIQUE HOLDINGS ESTATE OF THE LATE ROBERT NJELO MUZILA 1st Defendant
 (Herein represented by **Kerorapetse Muzila** and **Tawana Muzila** in their capacities as the Joint Executors of the Estate of the Late Robert Nijelo Muzila) 2nd Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to a judgment granted by the above Honourable Court, the following property shall be sold by public auction by Deputy Sheriff Uyapo Mafika in the manner hereinafter set out:

Date of Sale: 9th September 2024
Venue: Lot 20476, Francistown
Time: 14:30 p.m

Property to be sold: A certain piece of land being Lot 20476, Francistown, situated in Francistown Administrative District, measuring 1230m2 (One Thousand Two Hundred and Thirty Square Meters), held under Deed of Transfer No. FT 603/2012 dated 3rd day of August 2012, made in favour of Robert Nijelo Muzila with developments thereon being incomplete double storey house (no roofing, no windows, not plastered and fenced

Terms of Sale: STRICTLY CASH or BANK GUARANTEED CHEQUES.

Conditions of sale: Details and conditions of sale may be inspected at the Deputy Sheriff Uyapo Mafika's office, Cell: 71696997

DATED AT GABORONE THIS 12 DAY OF JULY 2024.

.....
DEPUTY SHERIFF UYAPO MAFIKA
 CELL NO. 71696997
 C/O CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA)
 FOUR THIRTY SQUARE, PLOT 54350
 PG MATANTE ROAD, CBD
 PRIVATE BAG 00504
 GABORONE
 (LEGAL.COL.01659)

DAMBE J.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA HELD AT GABORONE

In the matter between:

CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA) Plaintiff

and

BELGINTEC (PTY) LTD 1st Defendant
ALFRED TAUNTLE PHOTONONO 2nd Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to a judgment granted by the above Honourable Court, the following property shall be sold by public auction by Deputy Sheriff Queen Khame to the highest bidder as follows:

Date of Sale: 18th September 2024
Venue: Tribal Lot 268, Mathethe
Time: 14:30 p.m

Property to be sold: a certain piece of land being Tribal Lot 268, Mathethe, situated in the Bangwaketse Tribal Territory, measuring 2696m2 (Two Thousand Six Hundred and Ninety Six Square Metres), held under Memorandum of Agreement of Lease No. TL 432/2009 dated 22nd of June 2009, made in favour of Alfred Tauntle Photonono, subject to the reservation and conditions contained in the aforesaid lease with developments thereon being a two rooms, pit-latrine toilet, fence with security fence.

Terms of Sale: STRICTLY CASH or BANK GUARANTEED CHEQUES.

Conditions of sale: Detailed conditions of sale may be inspected at the Plaintiff's offices or with Deputy Sheriff Queen Khame's on 72670000

DATED AT GABORONE THIS 12 DAY OF JULY 2024.

.....
DEPUTY SHERIFF QUEEN KHAME
 CELL NO. 72670000
 C/O CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA)
 PG MATANTE ROAD, CBD
 PRIVATE BAG 00504
 GABORONE
 (CEDA.COL.01243)

MOTHABI J.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA HELD AT GABORONE

In the matter between:

CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA) Plaintiff

and

ALLEGRO ENTERPRISES (PTY) LTD 1st Defendant
ALLY KOKORWE 2nd Defendant
GODIRAONE KOKORWE 3rd Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to a judgment granted by the above Honourable Court, the following property shall be sold by public auction by Deputy Sheriff Nonofa Mabina to the highest bidder as follows:

Date of Sale: 26TH September 2024
Venue: Tribal Lot 22 Dibete
Time: 14:30pm

Property to be sold: A certain piece of land being Tribal Lot 22 Dibete situated in the Bangwato Tribal Territory held under Memorandum of Agreement of Lease No. FT TL 15 / 2008 dated 31st January 2008, measuring 3713m² (Three Thousand Seven Hundred and Thirteen Square Metres) made in favour of Ally Kokorwe subject to the reservations and conditions contained in the aforesaid lease being an undeveloped plot.

Terms of Sale: STRICTLY CASH or BANK GUARANTEED CHEQUES.

Conditions of sale: Details and conditions of sale may be inspected at Deputy Sheriff Nonofa Mabina's office, on 71657100

DATED AT GABORONE THIS 12 DAY OF JULY 2024.

.....
DEPUTY SHERIFF NONOFO MABINA
 CELL NO. 71657100
 C/O CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA)
 FOUR THIRTY SQUARE
 PLOT 54350, PG MATANTE ROAD, CBD
 PRIVATE BAG 00504
 GABORONE
 (LEGAL.COL.01785)

DAMBE J.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA HELD AT GABORONE

In the matter between:

CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA) Plaintiff

and

BELGINTEC (PTY) LTD 1st Defendant
ALFRED TAUNTLE PHOTONONO 2nd Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to a judgment granted by the above Honourable Court, the following property shall be sold by public auction by Deputy Sheriff Queen Khame to the highest bidder as follows:

Date of Sale: 18th September 2024
Venue: Tribal Lot 2, Pitsane Potlokwe
Time: 11:00 a.m

Property to be sold: a certain piece of land being Tribal Lot 2, Pitsane Potlokwe, situated in the Borolong Tribal Area, measuring 1,8606Ha (One Comma Eight Six Zero Six Hectares), held under Memorandum of Agreement of Lease No. TL 433/2009 dated 22nd of June 2009, made in favour of Alfred Tauntle Photonono, subject to the reservation and conditions contained in the aforesaid lease, an undeveloped plot.

Terms of Sale: STRICTLY CASH or BANK GUARANTEED CHEQUES.

Conditions of sale: Detailed conditions of sale may be inspected at the Plaintiff's offices or with Deputy Sheriff Queen Khame's on 72670000

DATED AT GABORONE THIS 12 DAY OF JULY 2024.

.....
DEPUTY SHERIFF QUEEN KHAME
 CELL NO. 72670000
 C/O CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA)
 FOUR THIRTY SQUARE, PLOT 54350
 PG MATANTE ROAD, CBD
 PRIVATE BAG 00504
 GABORONE
 (CEDA.COL.01243)

TAFA J.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA HELD AT GABORONE

In the matter between:

CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA) Plaintiff

and

BATHUSI RAMOGOTSI Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to a judgment granted by the above Honourable Court, the following property shall be sold by public auction by Deputy Sheriff Uyapo Mafika to the highest bidder as follows:

Date of Sale: 17th September 2024
Venue: Tribal Grant No 402-JO, Sedibeng
Time: 11:00 a.m

Property to be sold: A certain piece of land being Tribal Grant No.402-JO, situated at Sedibeng in the Bangwaketse Tribal Territory, measuring 16,1632Ha (Sixteen Comma One Six Three Two Hectares) held under Memorandum of Agreement Lease No. TG 94/2011 dated 17th day of May 2011 made in favour of Bathusi Ramogotsi, subject to the reservations and conditions contained to the aforesaid Lease together with developments thereon being a horticultural farm with borehole and reservoir.

Terms of Sale: STRICTLY CASH or BANK GUARANTEED CHEQUES.

Conditions of sale: Details and conditions of sale may be inspected at Deputy Sheriff Uyapo Mafika's office, on 71696997 / 3165097

DATED AT GABORONE THIS 12 DAY OF JULY 2024.

.....
DEPUTY SHERIFF UYAPO MAFIKA
 CELL NO. 71696997 / 3165097
 C/O CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA)
 FOUR THIRTY SQUARE
 PLOT 54350, PG MATANTE ROAD, CBD
 PRIVATE BAG 00504
 GABORONE
 (LEGAL.COL.02016)

Before J. Sechele

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA HELD AT GABORONE

In the matter between:

CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA) Plaintiff

and

ALIKER VINCENT AWICH Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to a judgment granted by the above Honourable Court, the following property shall be sold by public auction by Deputy Sheriff Uyapo Mafika to the highest bidder as follows:

Date of Sale: 7th September 2024
Venue: Tribal Grant 10-JN Gasekhukhu Lands, Gasita
Time: 11:00am

Property to be sold: A piece of land being Tribal Grant 10-JN, Gasekhuhu Land, Gasita, situated in the Bangwaketse Tribal Territory, measuring 7.5257 Ha held under Agreement of Grant of Lease No TG 36/2010 dated 18th day of February 2010 made in favour of Aliker Vincent Awich, subject to the reservations and conditions contained in the aforesaid Lease together with developments thereon being a three roomed castle type house.

Terms of Sale: STRICTLY CASH or BANK GUARANTEED CHEQUES.

Conditions of sale: Details and conditions of the sale may be inspected at the Plaintiff's office or with the Deputy Sheriff at 71696997 .

DATED AT GABORONE THIS 12 DAY OF JULY 2024

.....
DEPUTY SHERIFF UYAPO MAFIKA: CELL NO. 71696997, C/O CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA), FOUR THIRTY SQUARE , PLOT 54350 PG MATANTE ROAD, CBD PRIVATE BAG 00504, GABORONE (CEDA/LEGAL/COL.00876)

MOTUMISE J.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA HELD AT GABORONE

In the matter between:

CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA) Plaintiff

and

SPRING JOY HOLDINGS (PTY) LTD 1st Defendant
SIMON SENKHU 2nd Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to a judgment granted by the above Honourable Court, the following property shall be sold by public auction by Deputy Sheriff Queen Khame to the highest bidder as follows:

Date of Sale: 27th September 2024
Venue: Tribal Lot 1205, Lephephe
Time: 11:00am

Property to be sold: A certain of land being Tribal Lot 1205, Lephephe, situated at Lephephe in the Bakwena Tribal Territory, measuring 20,6272 ha (Twenty comma Six Two Seven Two Hectares) which property is held under Memorandum of Agreement of Lease No. TG 215 / 2020 dated 26th day of November 2020 made in favour of Simon Senkhu, subject to the reservations and conditions contained in the aforesaid Lease together with developments thereon being a Farm with Borehole, Pit-latrine, Cattle Kraal and Fenced.

Terms of Sale: STRICTLY CASH or BANK GUARANTEED CHEQUES.

Conditions of sale: Detailed conditions of sale may be inspected at the Plaintiff's offices or with Deputy Sheriff Queen Khame on 72670000

DATED AT GABORONE THIS 12 DAY OF JULY 2024.

.....
DEPUTY SHERIFF QUEEN KHAME
 CELL NO. 72670000
 C/O CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA)
 FOUR THIRTY SQUARE
 PLOT 54350 PG MATANTE ROAD, CBD
 PRIVATE BAG 00504
 GABORONE
 (CEDA.COL.02672)

The Patriot on Sunday

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Business

BPOPF assets surge to P108.8 billion

- BPOPF AUM portfolio value grew by 15 percent from P94 billion
- Paid P4.3 billion as the benefits to the Fund members in 2024
- Fund bullish about investment diversification, Executives upbeat

BAKANG TIRO

editor@thepatriot.co.bw

BOTSWANA PUBLIC OFFICERS Pension Fund (BPOPF) has seen its assets value jump 15 percent in 2023-24 to reach P108 billion from P94.7 billion.

BPOPF Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Moemedi Malindah said this growth speak to how great the year was for them in terms of performance, adding that in 2024 the pension fund has paid P4.3 billion in benefits.

According to Malindah, the local equities have been the main driver of growth as they realised P16 billion growth in 2023-24 as compared to P13 billion in the corresponding year.

On the other hand, the offshore equities value was P59.7 billion; signaling 11 percent growth as compared to P53.9 billion in past year.

Malindah said BPOPF will continue to diversify its portfolio by expanding its investment in other sectors such as technology and property, adding that the Fund is committed towards contributing to the country's economy.

He said the three main areas of a pension fund are receiving contribution, growing investment and paying benefits.

Meanwhile, BPOPF Board Chairperson Gaone Macholo said over the past year, the fund navigated a complex and dynamic financial landscape.

Despite the challenges, Macholo said BPOPF has demonstrated resilience and strong performance.

She said the Fund's financial health remains robust, underpinned by prudent investment strategies and rigorous risk management.

"Our diversified investment portfolio has mitigated risks and enhanced returns, ensuring stability even in volatile markets. As you may be aware a while ago, we introduced Tshomarelo Member Portfolio for members who are closer to retirement," said Macholo.

She said BPOPF maintains a strong funding ratio of 100.08%, demonstrating its ability to meet current and future obligations, adding that effective cost management practices have enabled them to optimise operational efficiency, ensuring maximum value for the Fund members.



BPOPF Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Moemedi Malindah

[PIC: PINO KILANO]

Looking ahead, Macholo said they remain cautiously optimistic about the future, adding that their strategic priorities for

the current year include accountability and performance, risk management, increased investment returns on member funds and

member value. "We will focus on delivering exceptional value to our members through competitive

returns, enhanced services and robust financial health, who at the end will have solid post career life.

We will continue to pursue sustainable growth through diversified investments and strategic asset allocation," said Macholo.

Botswana's diamond market suffers major blow

... as sales drop by 49% in first half of 2024

- Sales of rough diamonds in Botswana have dropped significantly in the first half of 2024 as demand for gems slowed in the wake of global economic uncertainty.



ACCORDING TO BOTSWANA'S central bank data, sales of rough diamonds at Debswana Diamond Company fell by 49.2%, amounting to \$1.29 billion compared to \$2.54 billion in the same period last year.

In local currency, sales of rough diamonds

decreased by 47.3% to 17.555 billion pula compared to the same period last year.

This decline in sales is a major blow to the South African nation, which derives 30%-40% of its revenue, 75% of its foreign exchange earnings, and a third of its national output from sales of rough diamonds.

The report highlighted the downturn in the global diamond market as the primary reason for this sharp decline.

In response to the weak consumer demand, Anglo American cut its diamond production by 19% in the first six months of the year.

Botswana derives 30%-40% of its revenue, 75% of its foreign exchange earnings, and a third of its national output from sales of rough diamonds.

Reuters reported that the company also revised its output guidance for De Beers down to 23-26 million carats from the previous 26-29 million carats.

The Debswana Diamond Company is a joint venture between the government of Botswana and Anglo American Plc's De Beers. Anglo American Plc's (AAL.L) De Beers sells 75% of its output to De Beers, while the balance is taken up by the state-owned Okavango Diamond Company (ODC).

Despite the current economic challenges, Botswana and De Beers signed a ten-year diamond sales agreement in June.

This deal will gradually see the share of Debswana's output sold by the state-owned company (ODC) increase from 25% to 30% before it goes up to 40% in five years and eventually 50% by the end of the new contract.

According to the key points in the agreement, this strategic move aims to boost Botswana's revenue from its diamond resources. [africa.businessinsider.com]

Botata Energy gets 100% ownership of Serowe CBM Project

- The company announces takeover of remaining 30% stake

BAKANG TIRO

editor@thepatriot.co.bw

The Botswana Stock Exchange (BSE) listed energy company, Botata Energy Limited has announced that it has taken the full ownership of the multimillion Serowe Coal Bed Methane (CBM) project.

The energy company revealed in its quarterly update report this week that it has increased its investment in the project by acquiring the remaining 30% of Serowe CBM Project.

Located in Serowe in Central District, the CBM project consists of 420,000 hectares of prospecting licenses in the Karoo-Kalahari Basin.

Botata Energy has identified an independently certified 2C Resource of 454 billion cubic feet (bcf) in the immediate vicinity of 11 wells drilled within these tenements, and a total prospective resource of more than 7 trillion cubic feet (tcf) within the total area of the Serowe project.

Commenting on the new developments, the CEO of Botata Energy Kris Martinick said the quarter under review has been transformative for Botata, highlighted by their strategic acquisition of the remaining 30% interest in the Serowe CBM Project. He said this consolidation significantly enhances their operational control and positions Botata Energy optimally to attract development partners.

According to Botata Energy, this strategic acquisition consolidates their asset base in Botswana, enhancing operational control and increasing potential revenue from the project.

It said the consolidation is crucial for engaging prospective strategic partners and positioning Botata favourably to potentially



CEO of Botata Energy Kris Martinick

farm-out a portion of the recently acquired stake to a major development company (though for completeness, no binding terms have been agreed and there is no guarantee that any such transaction will materialise on terms favourable to Botata, or at all).

Solar Partnership
Meanwhile, the company said it has signed a binding Heads of Agreement (HOA) with AAAS Energy BV to develop 250MW (Stage-1 of this 500MW solar project) of solar photovoltaic capacity at the Leupane Energy Hub and Industrial Park.

It noted that pursuant to the HOA, AAAS will farm-in to 50% of the project by contributing A\$1million on development costs, including a Bankable Feasibility Study

(BFS) and to a Final Investment Decision (FID).

"They will also assist in securing future funding. This arrangement allows Botata to advance significant opportunities without incurring initial project development costs, and leverages AAAS's extensive solar project development expertise," Botata affirmed.

Looking forward, Botata Energy said it remains committed to advancing its flagship Serowe CBM Project and related renewable energy initiatives.

In addition, it indicated that the award of a 4MW solar project by the Botswana Power Corporation was announced to the Australian Stock Exchange (ASX) on 18 July 2024.

Bank Gaborone sponsors Ghanzi show

BANK GABORONE CONTINUES TO demonstrate its dedication to supporting the Ghanzi Agriculture Show, which celebrates its 50th anniversary this year. As a leader in agribusiness banking solutions, Bank Gaborone has

sponsored this year's show with over P315,000, making them the Platinum Sponsors.

The Bank Gaborone sponsorship includes the construction of a multipurpose shelter for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)

at the show grounds. This permanent structure aims to provide SMEs with a conducive environment to showcase their products and services, fostering business growth and community development. SMEs represent a key sector for driving Botswana's

economic diversification and sustainable growth plan. According to studies by the World Bank and the OECD, SMEs make up a significant part of emerging market economies. Outside the agricultural sector, they account for 95% of all firms - in Botswana, specifically they make up 35% of the GDP and contribute 75% to formal sector employment. In the SME space, the Bank has extended payment platforms such as Easy-2-Pay to young and small-scale farmers enabling them to easily collect payments at an affordable cost. Easy-2-Pay has no rental fees and can be accessed at any location as long as there is network. This platform helps clients to manage their cash flow which is very important in running any business. In a nutshell, Easy-2-Pay converts the Household farmer into Commercial farmers and prepares them for future borrowings with access to financials and proper banking.

In addition to the multipurpose structure, the Bank sponsored the livestock section, as it has done for the past 14 years, awarding



Bank Gaborone Managing Director Olebile Makhupe [R] with one of the winners

trophies and ribbons to recognize excellence in livestock breeding and management. Sponsoring the livestock section is vital because quality livestock forms the major capital reserve of farming households and, in general, it enhances the economic viability and sustainability of a farming system. Livestock farming produces food, enhances crop production, and provides additional economic goods and services as well as cash income. The inclusion of livestock farming therefore helps diversify and increases total

The theme for the show was "Ghanzi Show at 50: Sowing Seeds of Innovation for Agricultural Transformation."

Speaking at the Ghanzi Show, Bank Gaborone Managing Director Olebile Makhupe stated, "We are delighted to

contribute to the success of the Ghanzi Show and to support our local farmers and SMEs since 2010." Speaking about the multipurpose hall that the Bank has constructed, she added, "What excites us at Bank Gaborone is that beyond the Ghanzi Show, the multipurpose hall will be used for various activities, generating income throughout the year. This, ladies and gentlemen, is what we are passionate about as a Bank—sustainable impact. Our sponsorship underscores our dedication to the economic and social development of Botswana."

For his part, the Chairman of Ghanzi Show Trust, Thuso Mackenzie indicated that they are grateful for Bank Gaborone's continued 14 years of a solid relationship and support of the Ghanzi Show.



Know Your Corporate Leader

Full Name: Carol Kgafela
Position: Marketing and Communications Manager
Institution: BA ISAGO University
Date Started: January 2024
Nature of business: Tertiary Education

International Ombud Expo 2024

• Botswana Ombud office hosts successful, impactful Expo



Vice President of The Republic of Botswana, Slumber Tsogwane



Mr. Stephen Tiriyakgosi, Ombudsman of Botswana



Ombudsman staff



Exhibitors engaging with visitors



The Botswana Ombudsman Office this week successfully hosted the second International Ombud Expo at Ditshupho Hall in Gaborone, attracting high number of participants from across the world. The 2024 expo brought together over 500 ombud offices, human rights bodies, grievance handlers, integrity organisations, and related oversight and regulatory institutions from over 100 countries who put their heads together to discuss ways of tackling wide ranging governance concerns, righting injustices, and bolstering the performance and productivity of governments and organisations. The Expo was held from the 29th of July 2024 to 2nd August 2024 under the theme "Trusted Institutions: Righting Injustices, Bolstering Quality Governance". The IOE is an unparalleled unique platform where there is exhibition of the different Ombud offices in existence

around the world. It also offers an unparalleled insight into how these institutions execute their roles and make a difference in governments and organisations across the globe; one-on-one interaction and sharing of experiences with Ombud leaders and diverse functionaries etc. The official opening of the show was conducted by Vice President Slumber Tsogwane on Tuesday, who applauded Botswana Ombudsman office for successful hosting of the Expo. Tsogwane said Government is committed to promote democracy through good governance and strive to uphold peace and tranquility that Botswana is known for. He said without good governance, human rights cannot be respected and protected in a sustainable manner, adding that the implementation of human rights relies on a conducive and enabling environment.

"In most developing countries, the government controls the ownership of many natural resources. If the government institutions are weak to begin with, there is a strong likelihood that the resources may not benefit large members of the community," Tsogwane added. For his part, Ombudsman Advocate Stephen Tiriyakgosi said the Ombudsman in Botswana just like in other jurisdictions discharges its functions independently. However, Tiriyakgosi bemoaned that the Ombudsman still faces a challenge from heads of ministries who do not want to implement or abide by the decisions of the Ombudsman hence sometimes he had to issue subpoena to heads of ministries. He said the pioneers of Ombudsman in different countries worked in a hostile environment and therefore it was important to have information on them and compare their situation to that of the present Ombudsman.

BTC Enterprise Summit empowers businesses



Masunga

BOTSWANA TELECOMMUNICATIONS Corporation Limited (BTC) hosted the fourth (4th) installment of the BTC Digital Shift BW Enterprise Summit, an exclusive event tailored to meet the digital transformation needs of businesses in Botswana. This year's event, themed "Tech Transformations: Empowering Business through Technology Evolution," underscored BTC's commitment to guiding businesses through the adoption of cutting-edge technologies such as Artificial Intelligence, Cloud Computing, and Cybersecurity.

In today's rapidly evolving business environment, the symbiotic relationship between innovation and business growth has never been more pronounced. Harnessing the potential of cutting-edge innovative technology and solutions is not just a competitive advantage, it is a strategic imperative that supports business transformation and sustainability. By leveraging state-of-the-art technologies, organisations can proactively confront emerging challenges, seize opportunities, and deliver customer-centric solutions.

The Digital Shift BW Enterprise Summit 2024 positions BTC as a purposeful and

innovative customer-focused digital solutions provider. The event featured insightful panel discussions engaging with industry experts and thought leaders as they shared insights on digital transformation trends and best practices. The engagement also showcased the latest technological advancements and how they can be applied to drive business success.

"We are excited to host the 4th BTC Digital Shift BW, a platform that not only highlights the transformative power of technology but also demonstrates BTC's dedication to empowering businesses in Botswana through innovation," said BTC Managing Director, Mr Anthony Masunga. He further stated that BTC's goal is "to provide businesses with the knowledge and tools they need to thrive in today's digital age".

BTC Digital Shift BW Enterprise Summit aligns with Botswana's reset agenda and mindset change by promoting digital literacy, fostering an innovative culture, and encouraging a forward-thinking approach in both the public and private sectors. By supporting these national initiatives, BTC is contributing to the overall development and modernisation of Botswana's economy.

Retail Group expands footprint ... Launches in Maun with 3 new restaurants



THE DINING SCENE IN MAUN WAS transformed last week with the successful grand opening of three beloved restaurant chains: Steers, Wimpy, and Milkylane. The event marked a significant milestone for the town's culinary landscape and local economy. Steers and Milkylane made their debut in Mall of Maun, bringing their signature flavours while Wimpy, already a local favorite, relocated to the prime spot to offer customers an enhanced dining experience.

The expansion proves to be more than just new and improved dining experiences, it provides a substantial boost to the local job market. Retail Group employs well over 1200 Batswana nationwide.

"We're thrilled with the warm welcome we've received from the Maun community," said Bose Tladinyane, Group Head of Marketing. "Not only have we brought popular brands to the area, but we've also created valuable job opportunities. Our commitment goes beyond serving great food; we're invested in the community's growth and prosperity."

The grand opening celebration featured special promotions, tastings, and activities that were enjoyed by the community.

Local resident and employee, Sihle Showa, commented, "I'm grateful for this opportunity. It's not just a job; it's a chance to be part of something new and exciting in our town."



المعرض الدولي للمنظمات التي تتعامل مع المظالم
 International Ombud Expo
 Exposition Internationale de Médiateurs
 Exposición Internacional del Defensor de los Derechos Humanos
 政府控制和上诉机构展览
 Gaborone 2024



Botswana in a fix over De Beers after Anglo's exit move

DUMA GOUBULE

AT INDEPENDENCE IN 1966 BOTSWANA was one of the world's poorest countries. There were just 12km of paved roads; 22 Botswana had graduated from university and 100 had completed secondary school. In 1967 De Beers geologists discovered diamonds, which have generated the resources to finance the country's economic growth miracle. From 1967 to 2008 Botswana's economy grew by 8.8% a year. Yet the country still has a high unemployment rate and has suffered from "Dutch disease" — a failure to diversify from diamonds. Botswana is now at a pivotal moment

The Manufacturing Industry: An integral cogwheel in Botswana's future

HAROLD MATENGE & DAVID MPARUTSA*

AFOCUS ON DEVELOPING LOCAL manufacturing capability is key towards driving economic diversification in many commodity-based economies across the continent. This is particularly important as commodities are often finite resources which operate in specific cycles where demand and price can vary significantly impacting sustainable economic development. To this extent, manufacturing is a critical sector as it aides in providing employment opportunities, developing local skills base, driving revenue from exports and building local supply chains. According to the World Bank, Botswana's manufacturing sector contributed approximately 5.6% to the country's GDP in 2023 and remains modest due to a limited domestic market and heavy reliance on imported supplies. The Botswana government has however implemented several initiatives to stimulate growth in manufacturing sector and enhance competitiveness.

The Industrialisation policy coupled with the Economic Diversification Drive focus on diversifying the economy away from mining dependence and includes measures to support the manufacturing sector. There are various training and capacity building interventions such as the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) curriculum, which supports many an Industry including manufacturing.

Lessons learnt from countries with high manufacturing output such as China and India highlight the following key attributes are required to cultivate a successful manufacturing environment which Botswana and any other country with similar aspirations needs to consider.

A stable and continuous energy supply is fundamental for manufacturing operations. Interruptions in energy availability can disrupt production processes, leading to costly delays, and damage of essential equipment. In Botswana, the energy sector is expected to be bolstered by the Independent Power Producers (IPPs), who have become an important part of the generation mix, providing additional power to the grid which then subsequently supports Industry.

Proximity to or easy access to raw materials is important for minimizing supply chain disruptions and reducing transportation costs. Efficient logistics and well-developed infrastructure are crucial for the seamless movement of raw materials and finished products. Botswana being a land-linked country will need to invest in rail, road and warehousing infrastructure to enable efficient transportation of goods predominantly to and from ports within the region such as Mozambique, Namibia and South Africa. The recent signing of the landmark agreement for the development of the new Techobanine deep water port in Mozambique and the Limpopo Railway Line which will run across Zimbabwe and connect Botswana and Mozambique is certainly a step in the right direction. The quality of the workforce is pivotal to manufacturing success. A skilled labour force, equipped with the necessary technical expertise and knowledge, enhances productivity, ensures high-quality output, and drives innovation. Investment in education and vocational training is essential for developing a capable workforce that is skills ready and adaptable to the ever-changing technological advancements of today. Over and above this, it is also necessary to attract the right skills into the market and immigration policies need to support this.

Embracing advanced technologies and fostering a culture of innovation are essential for maintaining a competitive edge in the manufacturing sector. Integrating innovative technologies, such as automation and digital tools, improves efficiency, enhances product quality, and drives technological advancement.

With an existing global dominance of manufactured goods from Asia, Europe and the Americas, careful consideration needs to be made about the sectors, markets and goods to target for manufacturing. The mining sector, which is currently the largest contributor to GDP in Botswana could act as catalyst for growth of manufacturing as it has a large value chain which requires a diversified range of manufactured goods ranging from chemicals and lubricants, protective clothing through to specialized equipment. With strong support already in place to support local buying in the sector, further investment into manufacturing capability makes sense. Mining is also the dominant economic driver in neighboring countries including South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe and through trade agreements such as Africa Continental Free Trade Agreement there could be an opportunity to develop a regional market to support specific products manufactured in Botswana for use in mining value chains.

Funding for manufacturing activity will need to be supported by various players across the ecosystem. Developmental Financial Institutions will play a big role in providing the capital required for start-up projects via debt, equity or grant funding. Banks will need to focus on

Government has no option but to raise its stake in the diamond miner at a time of weak GDP growth

in its history after Anglo American's decision to exit its investment in De Beers through a sale or listing. The government of Botswana has no option but to increase its stake in De Beers while the country's trend GDP growth rate has collapsed and the long-term prospects for the industry have deteriorated sharply, partly due to growing competition from synthetic diamonds. From 2009 to 2023 the GDP growth rate plunged to 3% a year, but Botswana is still Africa's third-richest country after Mauritius and Gabon, with a GDP per capita of \$7,738. The government has legal ownership of 15% of

understanding the manufacturers' working capital cycle as well as offtake agreements to ensure financing is provided across the entire value chain. Governments can also play a role in attracting Foreign Direct Investments to bolster the manufacturing sector through political stability, policy certainty and incentives such as tax breaks.

Big picture thinking, investment in infrastructure, skills development, leveraging trade agreements will all be required to drive manufacturing in Botswana and across the continent at large. At face value, it may seem easier to continue to import goods from developed nations with proven track records of delivery of quality goods at affordable prices. The question is, what is the opportunity cost of continuing to do this?

Next Areas of Focus for the Manufacturing Industry in Botswana

As the economy looks to tilt from heavy dependency on mining and government as the Country's biggest employer, the manufacturing industry stands a great opportunity to be the key driver of this economy going forward. Some of the most opportune spaces to invest into as a way of supporting this industry include.

Developing a value-added agricultural products environment, or simply put agro-processing space is a key area worth considering by the manufacturing industry. This involves processing raw agricultural products into finished goods, which can increase their market value and create new revenue streams. The recent vegetable importation ban by the government also supports the agro-processing industry due to the increased supply of produce that is also easily accessed by those in industry.

Adding value to the country's rich mineral resources through processing and manufacturing can significantly boost the sector. The buzzword here has been mineral beneficiation which includes activities such as cutting and polishing diamonds and other minerals. The pharmaceutical industry is also one growth area to be considered in the manufacturing space. The local production of pharmaceuticals, including ARVs, has been identified as a significant growth area. This can help meet local demand and reduce import dependency.

At some point, Botswana had a thriving textiles and apparel industry that was supported by the Africa Growth & Opportunity Act (AGOA). This largesse that was extended by the United States government to Botswana and other African countries including Lesotho and Eswatini, went a long way in helping set up a thriving industry. This was however not fully optimised as the local industry collapsed due to importation of cheaper goods and a burgeoning Chinese market that positioned itself as the textiles and apparels hub of the world.

Now armed with deliberate localization policies like CEEP, Absa Bank Botswana is of the view that this industry can be resuscitated to play its part as a key employer through encouraging the manufacturing of textiles and garments like school uniforms, PPE wear for the mining industry, and other related items as local production is now supported due to import restrictions in place.

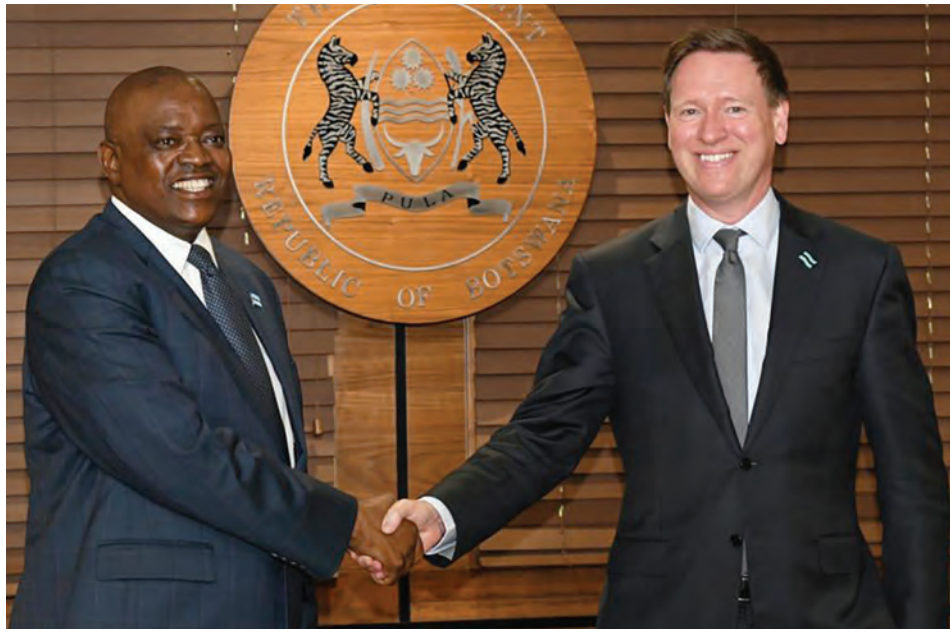
Strategies for local businesses to penetrate International Markets

With the above achieved, there will also be a need for the local manufacturing industry to have a global view eventually. Certain strategies will need to be employed for local businesses to scale up and be able to penetrate the international markets. Enhancing product quality and standards is key to being competitive. Local businesses must ensure their products meet international standards. This can be achieved through certifications, quality assurance processes, and continuous improvement in manufacturing practices.

Adopting advanced manufacturing technologies and investing in research and development (R&D) can increase efficiency, reduce costs, and create innovative products that appeal to international markets. Utilizing Special Economic Zones (SEZs) like the Selibe-Phikwe Economic Diversification Unit (SPEDU) can provide businesses with incentives, better infrastructure, and simplified regulations, helping them scale up operations.

Businesses should actively seek opportunities in regional and global markets. This includes participating in international trade fairs, building networks with foreign buyers, and understanding the market demands of target countries. This speaks to export market development, a key component in aiding local manufacturers to be global players. We believe that with these strategies in place, not only will the Botswana manufacturing industry grow and be a significant contributor to the GDP, but the industry will also open the country up to opportunities of FDI as other more established economies seek growth and partnerships while looking at those countries that have well laid policies that support industry.

*Harold Matenge is the Head of Ecosystem Banking at Absa Bank Botswana Limited while David Mparutsa is the Head of Enterprise & Supplier Development Absa Bank Regional Office



President Masisi with De Beers CEO Al Cook

De Beers. It also has a 50% stake in Debswana, a joint venture with De Beers. Anglo has reduced its valuation of De Beers to \$7.6bn. Using this valuation, Anglo's 85% stake in the company could cost \$6.5bn and Botswana would have to pay \$2.7bn to increase its stake to 51%. With

sovereign debt of about \$4bn, Botswana has a low debt-to-GDP ratio of 20%. But there is an upper statutory limit of 40% for the debt ratio.

Share swap

Keith Jefferis, an economist who used to be deputy governor of Botswana's central bank, says De Beers is a unique mining company because it also has expertise in marketing and sales. An ideal partnership would need to combine three skills sets: mining, marketing and sales, and finance. But De Beers is probably too small to attract the mining majors. And Russian company Alrosa, which is under sanctions, is the only other large diamond producer. A vanity purchase by a luxury goods company or a sovereign wealth fund would add little value to De Beers. There has been talk of a return of the Oppenheimer family, but getting back with the ex is seldom a good idea. A possible way out of this predicament is for the government of Botswana to go it alone with the current management team, which is led by respected CEO Al Cook, and exchange its 50% share in Debswana — which accounts for 77% of group production — for a share in De Beers. "This would be a share swap and no cash would change hands," an investment banker says.

According to the latest Anglo annual report, De Beers' economic interest in Debswana is 19.2%. Therefore, the Botswana government's economic interest in the joint venture is 83.7% and Anglo's is 16.3%. The difference between legal and economic ownership is probably due to the taxes and royalties Botswana receives in addition to dividends. This means the government's economic interest in De Beers is 64.4% using production figures. The difference between Anglo's 85% legal ownership and its 35.6% economic interest in De Beers may be another deterrent to a direct sale. A dilution of Botswana's voting rights in Debswana in exchange for control over a larger group that also has mines in SA, Namibia and Canada would be a small price to pay to get such a historic transaction over the line and create a new African diamond champion headquartered in Gaborone.

The downside is that the volatility of the diamond industry may require periodic cash calls on the government of Botswana and make it difficult to make the new De Beers an attractive proposition for a listing on the JSE. [businesslive.co.za]

* Gqubule is research associate at the Social Policy Initiative. He writes in his personal capacity.

Debswana celebrates the courage, strength, and determination of Team Botswana. Shine bright in Paris!

Pula!

Debswana is a proud sponsor of the BAA.



Botswana International University of Science & Technology

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The University is looking for qualified and experienced individuals for the following positions:

The positions are tenable at BIUST Campus, Palapye.

PROFESSOR COMPUTING AND INFORMATICS

COMPUTING AND INFORMATICS

Main Purpose of the Job

To contribute to teaching within the department/School, this will include course development and innovation, lecturing, conducting seminars and supervising undergraduate and/or graduate students. To contribute to the University's performance in research and innovation through publications and other mechanisms. To supervise students' projects (both undergraduate and postgraduate levels). To conduct individual research or work on collaborative projects. To source external research funding from national and international donors. To do community engagement. To demonstrate and foster excellence in research, teaching, and service. To advance the image of the University in the community locally, nationally, and internationally through quality teaching, research, and scholarly pursuits. To manage the efforts and performance of the team.

Qualifications

A PhD in Information Systems, Computer Science Education or its equivalent with preferable areas of specialization in Information Systems, E-Learning, Health Informatics, Business Informatics and Digitalization.

Experience

- At least 10 years post doctoral experience in teaching/lecturing and research at tertiary level or developing and mentoring junior research staff
- A track record of successful research supervision at all levels including doctorate
- A national and international record of excellence in research and publication
- Record of recent/continuing publications (min of 30 peer-reviewed publications of ISI journals)
- Experience of obtaining substantial research funding, of conducting administrative duties efficiently and effectively, and in the development/revision of teaching curricula, programmes and qualifications

Competencies and Skills

- Negotiation, persuasion, advocacy, networking, relationship building and stakeholder management.
- Organizational (planning, budgeting, time management, work prioritization)
- Project / contract / procurement management
- Research, critical thinking, analytical and problem-solving.
- Strategy and policy development
- Apply interpersonal styles/methods to develop, motivate and empower individuals to achieve goals.
- Maintain quality whilst working under pressure and adhering to deadlines.
- Conceptual and practical thinking

If you meet the requirements of the above stated position, please send your application letter and a detailed Curriculum Vitae including at least two (2) recent professional referees, certified copies of certificates to:

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For any further enquiries, you may call Ms Taolo @ 4931305 or Ms. Mosinyi@ 4931317

LECTURER MATERIALS AND METALLURGICAL ENGINEERING

DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICAL, MATERIALS AND METALLURGICAL ENGINEERING

Main Purpose of the Job

To teach and educate undergraduate and graduate students in an academic discipline and to build the knowledge base of the discipline through research and publication. To administer teaching and research activities within the discipline of Materials and Metallurgical Engineering To give leadership in the University, the School of Earth Sciences & Engineering and the Department and developing the next generation of academics. To play a leading role in improving the teaching and research infrastructure of the Department, School of Earth Sciences & Engineering and University. To be active in some form of professional service.

Qualifications

- A PhD degree in either Materials Engineering, Materials and Metallurgical Engineering or Metallurgical Engineering
- A MSc (Eng) or MEng degree in either Materials Engineering, Materials and Metallurgical Engineering or Metallurgical Engineering
- A BEng (Hons) or BSc (Eng) degree in either Materials Engineering, Materials and Metallurgical Engineering or Metallurgical Engineering
- Registered with Engineering Registration Board (ERB)
- Registered with BQA as assessor and moderator or eligible to register within 1 year of assumption of duty.

Experience

- At least 2 years' experience in either teaching/lecturing/research or industry experience in the relevant field or discipline is an added advantage.
- Good research record or evidence of research potential or industry experience or at least two research papers, one of the publications in a reputable refereed journal.
- Experience of teaching at the Undergraduate/Post Graduate levels is an added advantage.

Competencies

- Should have the skills of coaching and mentoring students
- Should be able to communicate well orally and in writing
- Should possess the skill of time management and be self-motivated
- Be a team player and also be able to work independently

If you meet the requirements of the above stated position, please send your application letter and a detailed Curriculum Vitae including at least two (2) recent professional referees, certified copies of certificates to:

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Debswana to construct classrooms through proceeds from OLDM GM's charity walk

DEBSWANA'S ORAPA, Letlhakane, and Damtshaa Mines (OLDM) will construct a classroom block comprising two classrooms at Mmea Primary School in Mmea Village, Boteti District, using proceeds from the 2022 and 2023 GM's Charity Walks.

This announcement was made by OLDM General Manager Mogakolodi Maoketsa during the project unveiling ceremony last Friday.

The P2.6 million project aligns with Debswana's Building Forever Strategy, which aims, in part, to improve the performance of government schools in its area of influence.

Speaking at the event, Maoketsa reiterated Debswana's commitment to supporting the Boteti District, which falls under OLDM's area of influence, through impactful socio-economic development projects that enhance community livelihoods and wellbeing.

"This construction of classrooms is part of our efforts to support the ongoing initiatives by the

Government of Botswana to facilitate educational enrichment by creating a conducive learning environment," he said.

"We have learned that many classes are conducted under trees in this region, including at Mmea Primary School, due to a shortage of classrooms."

He emphasized that Debswana's support was essential, considering that the demand for services and infrastructure often exceeds the resources available to the government.

Maoketsa thanked all the GM's Walk sponsors and expressed his deepest gratitude to Komatsu, a Debswana Business Partner and the main sponsor of the 2023 GM's Charity Walk.

He mentioned that the sponsor's support enables Debswana to undertake high-impact projects like the Mmea Primary School Classroom Block.

Komatsu Operations Manager Bakganetswe Kudubane also spoke

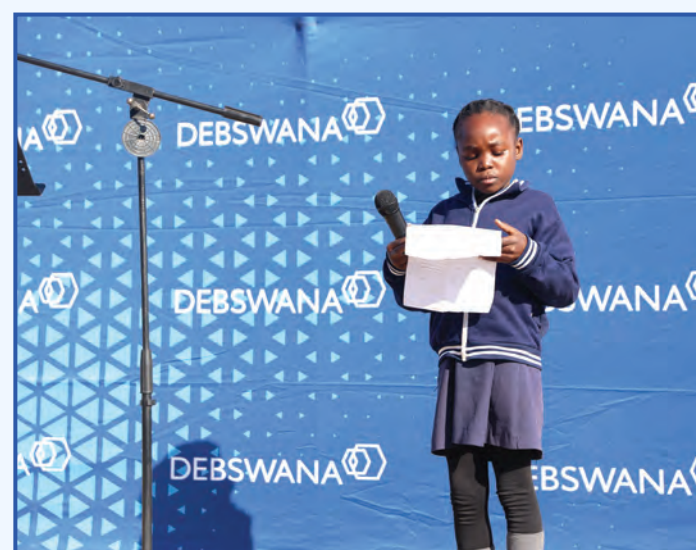
at the event, affirming his company's commitment to improving lives and maintaining a partnership with companies like Debswana.

"It is our commitment to improve the quality of life, develop people, and grow the society," Kudubane noted.

Deputy District Council Secretary in Boteti District, Raiphus Seshoka, remarked that the new classroom block would significantly support the school, which has been experiencing a shortage of classrooms.

The Mmea Classroom Block project is part of a series of infrastructure projects Debswana has implemented in the past to support the Ministry of Education and Skills Development

Some of these projects include classrooms and an administration block at Mokoboxane Primary School, a classroom block at Supang Primary School, five fully furnished classrooms at Seaseole Primary, and classrooms at Orapa Junior Secondary School and Tsienyane Special Education Classroom Block.



lifestyle

Jazz reflections with Nono Siile

NANCY RAMOKHUA
editors@thepatriot.co.bw

BRINGING THE WARMTH of music to the world of jazz lovers, local songbird Boitumelo Nono Siile on the 6th July 2024 presented the first of its kind, 'Jazz Reflections with Nono Siile' music event at Social, CBD in Gaborone. Marking the jazz musician's first ever solo session, the show was hosted to promote and create an up close and personal experience for the audience with the artist as she reflects and shares stories behind her songs.

The event launch was captivating and an intimate music experience. Featuring guest artist of note Mpho Sebina, Jazz reflections intends to host such sessions periodically for the fans of Nono Siile's music to witness the raw talent and emotional depth of the songstress. As shared by the artist manager Tshepo Ngakaagae, the audience will experience the magic of the legendary artist up close and capture the essence of her music in a unique and intimate setting.

Adding further she shared that the launch and subsequently upcoming sessions will leave an unforgettable music scene that will leave a memorable and long lasting impression.

"In these exclusive sessions, Nono Siile will showcase her soulful melodies and heartfelt lyrics in a stripped-down, acoustic setting that showcases her artistry like never before in celebration of her unique sound and storytelling as she shares personal anecdotes and connects with the audience on a deeper level allowing



Local songbird Boitumelo Nono Siile

for a connection with the audience," explained Ngakaagae. She said through Jazz reflections they intend to promote local music and have the audience discover the beauty and power of live music in its purest form.

As shared by the event host herself, what is most peculiar about jazz reflections is that the music sessions are rooted in her personal experiences and creative expression, revealing that each song that will be performed holds a special meaning to her.

Adding further she indicated that Jazz reflections is a crucial stepping stone into her long-term career as it will provide a platform for experimentation and growth. "I want to create a space where I can share my story through music and

connect with others who may also resonate with the emotions and themes explored in my songs in a close knit setting to bring back the jazz music resonance. I intend to hold these sessions to fully reflect on my musical journey," the jazz artist shared.

With over 17 years of recording music and singing, Nono currently holds to her name 4 albums, 2 singles and 3 collaborations and prides herself with the quality of her craft, from independently writing songs to her vibrant stage presence.

With a diverse list of songs that cater for a wide range of musical taste particularly in the Jazz scene, Nono's motivation stems from her originality whereas her resilience has always been the driving force behind her success. However most importantly, her passion for jazz genre has been largely influenced by the experience of having worked closely

with a master in the field, the late Duncan Senyatso as a backing vocalist to the jazz legend. This exposure inspired a deeper appreciation for the complexities of jazz music, leading to Nono exploring the genre further and potentially incorporating elements of jazz into her own expression. The lifetime experience has since instilled a sense of tradition, authenticity and musical sophistication which motivated her to delve deeper into the world of jazz music.

"My music career is currently in a very exciting phase. Therefore by honoring my craft and exploring new sounds and dynamics during Jazz reflections sessions, I aim to solidify my place in the music industry and build a sustainable career that allows me to evolve further as an artist. As such, my plans for the future involve continuing to create music that resonates with my audience and pushes creative boundaries."

YTV launches Teen Series "Tikula"

YTV IS THRILLED TO announce the premiere of its latest teen series, "Tikula," which will air from August on Fridays at 19:30hrs. Viewers can catch this captivating show on any free-to-air decoder, the Freeview decoder available at all Furrmart stores nationwide, and on DStv channel 291.

About "Tikula" "Tikula" which means, 'we are growing,' is an engaging 8-part series that follows the lives of three female characters at the fictional Skywood High School in Lusaka, Zambia. Each character, coming from diverse

backgrounds, navigates life and its challenges in unique ways, influenced by each other to make both positive and negative decisions. The series delves into themes of choice, self-discovery, and staying true to oneself.

With over 13 million views from Zambia and other countries, the show portrays the journey of its characters as they strive to fit in, grapple with their identities, and confront issues such as negative peer pressure, alcoholism, and gender-based violence. Ultimately, "Tikula" highlights the importance of friendship and the strength found in supportive



relationships.

Background and Production "Tikula" is a TV adaptation of the well-known Botswana radio drama, "Matswaka Bae." Since February of last year, YTV has enjoyed a successful partnership with Sky Girls, delivering high-quality and engaging content to our audience. This collaboration has already brought two popular shows from Sky Girls: "The Mix" and "Sure ka Rafiwa," which have both been well-received and have enriched our programming with diverse and captivating stories. We are now thrilled to further this partnership with the launch of

our new teen series, "Tikula." This compelling series is produced by the talented team at Media 365, a partnering agency of SKY Girls BW in Zambia.

Tune In Don't miss "Tikula" Fridays at 19:30hrs on YTV from August. Join us on a journey of self-discovery, challenges, and the unbreakable bond of friendship. Ensure you have your Freeview decoder from Furrmart for only P330 or tune in on DStv channel 291 to catch every moment of this exciting new series.

For more information, please visit our website at www.ytv.co.bw or follow us on Facebook, X, Instagram, TikTok, LinkedIn, YouTube, and WhatsApp.



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Motswasele II premieres

-in 2024 Dithubaruba Music and Cultural Festival launch

BOTSWANA, RENOWNED for its rich cultural heritage and vibrant traditions, is set to host a two-day cultural extravaganza featuring the premiere of "Motswasele II," a theatrical page-to-stage adaptation, and the Dithubaruba Music and Cultural Festival.

In response to pressing challenges that threaten the essence of Botswana's cultural landscape and contribute to societal decay, "Motswasele II page 2 stage production" has been created as a transformative initiative. Brainchild and masterminds behind this fantastic showcase, Wame Waves Production, is dedicated to bridging the growing gaps in cultural knowledge, sharing and consumption. They aim to maintain a reliable media repository and upscale indigenous treasures nationwide in the face of unfettered erosion and erasure.

Leveraging today's expansive social and mass media platforms, Wame Waves Production creates multi-faceted content, including short films, documentaries, social media content, and page-to-stage adaptations. These efforts educate, inform, and engage the public on cultural issues of local, national, and



Dithubaruba Music and Cultural festival

international importance.

Their rigorous research, community involvement programs, and national initiatives support culturally diverse lifestyles, echoing the sentiment: "Tshaba e senang ngwao, ke moka e e lathgegileng" (A nation without culture is a lost nation). As the production house of "Motswasele II,"

they specialize in developing and adapting content into motion pictures, high standard theatrical presentation and other art forms, focusing on preserving and celebrating cultural heritage. Wame Waves Production is thrilled to announce that this year's Dithubaruba Music and Cultural Festival will be a two-day event. It will

commence on September 6, 2024, with the theatrical page-to-stage adaptation play "Motswasele II," followed by the Dithubaruba Music and Cultural Festival event on September 7, 2024. This extended format promises a richer and more immersive cultural experience for all attendees.

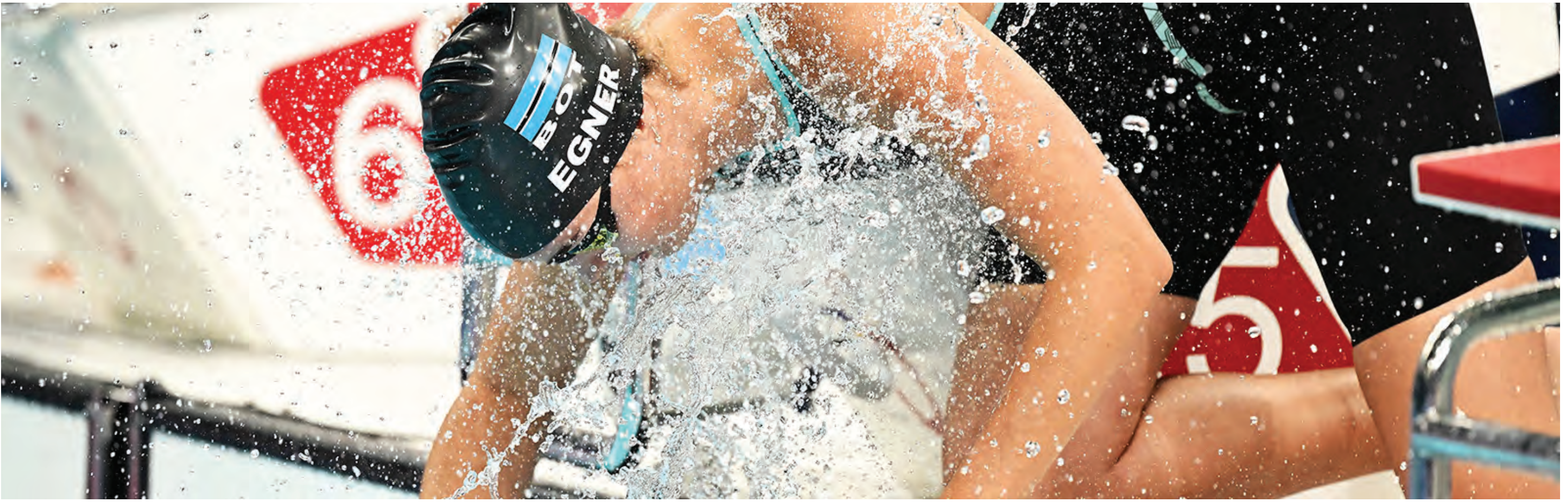
This year's festival is set to be

a landmark event, celebrating the cultural richness of Botswana while addressing the challenges faced by our society.

"Motswasele II page 2 stage production" promises to captivate audiences with its powerful storytelling and cultural significance, setting the stage for an unforgettable experience. Ishmael Komanyane, Wame Waves Production Managing Director, expressed his enthusiasm, saying, "We are excited to bring 'Motswasele II page 2 stage production' to life as part of this year's two day event of Dithubaruba Music and Cultural Festival."

This initiative underscores our commitment to preserving Botswana's rich cultural heritage and addressing the societal challenges we face today. Through our collaborative efforts, we aim to inspire, educate, and engage the public, fostering a deeper appreciation and understanding of our cultural identity."

Mark your calendars for September 6th and 7th, 2024, and join us in celebrating Botswana's cultural heritage at the Dithubaruba Music and Cultural Festival. Stay tuned for more updates and exciting announcements as we build up to this momentous event.



DTCB powers swimmers



[PIC: PINO KILANO]

KGAOTSANG MATTHEWS*

WE GATHER HERE TODAY TO MARK a significant milestone in our journey, one that promises to elevate the sport of swimming to new heights. This year, BSSA is celebrating a very BIG year, after it was registered as a Society at the Registrar of Societies on 20th October 2004. In October 2024, we will be celebrating 20 years of the existence of the BSSA.

Relatively young as it is the BSSA has achieved much in the 20 years. Within 4 years of existence, the BSSA sent its very first Olympians Sam Paxinos and James Kamyuka to the 2008 Olympics in Beijing, and thereafter to every Olympic Games save for the 2012 games, with swimmers such as Naomi Ruele, David Van Der Colf and James Freeman meeting qualifying times.

Meeting qualifying times is not child's play. The qualifying times met by our swimmers 8 years ago are being swam by our swimmer now, yet the qualifying times keep getting tougher and tougher as the world standard gets higher and higher, and it is becoming increasingly difficult to qualify for international competition, let alone Olympic games.

What this tells us, as a Federation, is that we need a National Plan. We need to work together as a Federation and our coaches and stakeholders to up our standards and elevate our athletes from a young age to reach their full potential and meet the challenges of ever-increasing qualifying times. This challenge starts when the swimmer is young and at the development stage.

NATIONAL PLAN / STRATEGY

We were here last year at the end of August 2023 to bid farewell to our Junior Team that was competing at the Junior World Aquatic Championships in Natenya Israel, when DTCB graciously agreed to sponsor our team to the tune of P100 000.

DTCB is very clear in its direction, that their interest is the swimmer. We loved this! This was exactly what we were looking for. A sponsor who knows what they are looking for. A sponsor who knows what sports is and what to look out for. This of course fell directly in line with our Strategic Objective of IMPROVING ATHLETE PERFORMANCE. To achieve our desired strategic goal of: Qualify swimmers with minimum "B" times at international competitions; Medalling swimmers at continental and international competitions; Qualifying swimmers at the highest level at SA competitions.

This sponsorship from DTCB comes right at the right time, at the start of an Olympic Cycle, to support our swimmers to aim to reach qualifying times for 2028 Olympics.

THE SPONSORSHIP

This sponsorship from DTCB is going to support two Groups of swimmers: Development Squad (Juniors - ages 12 - 15) - 20 Athletes; and Senior Squad - 10 Athletes. The support we will be giving will be to provide the necessary enablers

to support the athletes to thrive, such as; High Performance Camps at the High-Performance Center in Pretoria, with by world renowned Olympic Coach Rocco; Provisions of Strength and Conditioning Support, Sports Psychologist support; and Physiotherapy support.

A key component for us as the BSSA, is our Coaches. This programme can never be a success if we do not consider that at the center of the Athlete's success is the coach behind the swimmer. There is no point building all this support around the swimmer when we are not working with the coach.

The Coach is pivotal to the Programme, as the implementer. We as the BSSA have therefore had a fruitful workshop at the High-Performance Center in Pretoria with our coaches where they discussed all the technical components that need to be in place for this programme to work. When our swimmers go to the High-Performance Center, they will be accompanied by a coach from their club, so that whatever they learn at the HPC is continued when the swimmers return home.

An upskilled coach helps to change the landscape of swimming in Botswana!! In that way, not only will the swimmers on the programme benefit, but all the swimmers registered under the BSSA, who will have the benefit of working with a coach who, will be working with a coach who, as of next week, we will be seeing 5 of his swimmers swimming at the Olympic Games in Paris, coach Rocco Merrin.

Swimming has always been a sport of discipline, dedication, and determination. It embodies the spirit of hard work and perseverance. Our athletes train tirelessly to push their limits, break records, and inspire the next generation of swimmers. However, achieving excellence requires more than just talent and hard work—it requires support and investment.

DTCB shares our passion for the sport and recognizes the importance of supporting our athletes, coaches, and development program. Their generous contribution will provide essential resources for training, and development initiatives. It will enable us to enhance our competitions, offer better support for our athletes, and ultimately, help us achieve our goal of being a leading force in the world of sport in Botswana.

This partnership also reflects a shared commitment to community and health. Swimming is more than just a competitive sport; it is a lifelong skill that promotes physical fitness, mental well-being, and inclusivity. With our sponsor's support, we will be able to expand our outreach programs, bringing swimming to the community by way of a Water Safety Day, ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to experience the joys and benefits of water safety.

**Speech by Kgaotsang Mathews, President Botswana Swimming speaking at the sponsorship launch - DTCB / BSSA*

GIMC

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Sport

FNBB splashes P40m on football

... Becomes official sponsor of the Botswana Premier League Now Named FNB Premiership

FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BOTSWANA (FNB Botswana) is proud to announce its official sponsorship of the Botswana Premier League, now to be known as the FNB Premiership. This partnership marks significant strides in the development of football in Botswana, highlighting FNB Botswana's long-standing commitment to the growth of sports and the economic wellbeing of the communities it serves.

In a momentous event on Thursday, FNB Botswana CEO Steven Bogatsu, alongside Botswana Football League (BFL) CEO Bennett Mamelodi, unveiled the new FNB Premiership logo and trophy. The ceremony, attended by representatives from all Premier League football clubs, showcased the Bank's fidelity to advancing football in Botswana.

FNB Botswana's sponsorship of the FNB Premiership, is valued at P40,850,000 for three years of which P28, 500,000 will go towards prize money of the league, awards ceremonies, grants and administration fees, while P12,000,000 goes towards maximising the benefits for the BFA to elevate football in Botswana, as well as enhancing the experience for football supporters.

Bogatsu reiterated that the sponsorship represents more than just financial support; it epitomises the Bank's commitment to delivering shared value and prosperity within communities.

"We recognise football's unique ability to unify our nation, promote healthy lifestyles, and stimulate economic growth. Our



partnership with the Botswana Football Association and Botswana Football League is founded on the principles of integrity, excellence, and community engagement, all of which are central to the Bank's ethos. We are dedicated to making a positive impact on the sport and all its stakeholders, ensuring that this sponsorship contributes meaningfully to the development and success of football in Botswana," Bogatsu said.

As the Premiership sponsor, the Bank is further geared to deliver impactful solutions that benefit players, technical teams, and administrators. The Bank is committed to ensuring financial stability and inclusion for everyone involved in the Premiership. This commitment aligns with FNB Botswana's customer-centric, solutionist approach, aiming to address the diverse needs of its stakeholders, from financial planning to everyday banking services.

Mamelodi, CEO of the Botswana Football League, expressed his enthusiasm for the partnership. "We are thrilled to welcome FNB Botswana as the official sponsor of the country's premier League. This partnership is a game-changer for football in Botswana.

FNB Botswana's commitment to excellence and community development aligns perfectly with our vision for the league. Together, we will drive the growth of football and create lasting positive impacts."

BAA appeals for funding

LAGAGO TAMOCHA
editors@thepatriot.co.bw

IN A BID TO ENHANCE THE NATION'S athletic prowess and secure a significant medal haul at the 2028 and 2032 Olympics, Botswana Athletics Association (BAA) has appealed for financial support from the public and corporates.

During a media engagement last week, BAA urged the nation and business community to join hands in funding the comprehensive preparation programme necessary for the country's Olympic aspirations. BAA General Manager, Pinkie Wilson emphasised the critical need for immediate and sustained investment in elite training programmes, superior dietary plans, top-notch medical services, and quality lodging facilities. "Our ambition of bringing home at least five gold medals from the 2028 LA Olympics hinges on starting our preparations now. We cannot achieve this if the responsibility rests solely on the government's shoulders," said Wilson.

The event was attended by representatives from the Botswana National Sports Commission (BNSC), who have been consistent supporters of the BAA through funding. Wilson highlighted the association's recent successes, noting that 12 out of the 14 athletes representing Botswana in the Paris Olympics are products of the BAA's rigorous



BAA President, Moses Bantsi

(PIC:PINO KILANO)

training regime. Furthermore, the junior team is gearing up for the World Athletics Under 20 Championships in Lima, Peru, scheduled for end of August.

"This conference is not just about requesting funds; it is about sharing our objectives, vision, and mission with the nation. We aim to propel Botswana athletics to greater heights and believe that through collaboration with stakeholders, we can achieve these goals," Wilson added.

For his part, BAA President, Moses Bantsi expressed gratitude towards government for securing Olympics broadcasting rights, making it convenient for Batswana to follow the events with only a one-hour time

difference from France. He emphasised that while the Paris Olympics are now a matter of enjoying and supporting the athletes, the focus must shift to future preparations.

"We must applaud the government because it has managed to secure Olympics broadcasting rights for Batswana and it is convenient that we only have a 1-hour time difference with France. We as BAA believe that in terms of preparation, this year's Olympics are a past project. We are now left with enjoying them and hoping that our athletes raise our flag high. The only thing that remains is to map a way forward after Paris," Bantsi stated.

"Our belief at BAA is that perhaps we

haven't been appreciative enough of the contribution and value that our athletes make in bringing prestige to our country. But since there isn't much, we can do about the Paris Olympics in terms of preparations at this point, we urge the nation and other stakeholders to join hands with us in ensuring that we prepare well in time for the 2028 and 2032 Olympics."

The BAA is already laying the groundwork for future success by nurturing a cohort of 12 athletes, six women and six men, who are earmarked for the 2028 and 2032 Olympics. This group will compete in Lima, Peru, as a preliminary step towards realising the goal of five gold medals in 2028. The women's team includes promising talents such as Sethunya Majama, Same Amantle Mohutsiwa, Kebonye Hotela, Ame Bogoma, and Warona Thonisami. The men's team boasts athletes like Ernest Kumevu, Thabang Mongathipa, Koorapetse Oreokame, Seleka Lefatshe, Justice Oratile, and Fredrick Mothathi.

Bantsi underscored the necessity of continuous support for these athletes, many of whom come from diverse backgrounds and face challenges such as inadequate nutrition. He appealed for assistance in maintaining training camps and providing the necessary resources like physiotherapy services and training gear to ensure these athletes can perform at their best.

UAE police secure the Paris Olympics 2024



THE EMIRATI POLICE SUPPORT TEAM initiated its mission to assist French Police in securing the Paris 2024 Olympics, launched on Friday by French President Emmanuel Macron. The UAE participation in securing the Olympic Games, dubbed as "the biggest sporting event ever", underscores its commitment to international cooperation and support for large scale events, to ensure security, safety, and stability of global communities. It also marks a strategic pillar in the UAE's vision to advancing international peace and security.

Emirati police team members underwent extensive training ahead of their deployment to Paris, as they assist French Police in securing stadiums, access roads and gathering sites of teams and large crowds expected to attend the 2024 Olympic Games, which brings together people from all over the world.

Police dog units (K9) inspected the designated areas, based on intensive training and thorough mapping of the areas.

Specialized teams carried out foot patrols across various parts of Paris, as part of their assigned duties, which reflects the deep bilateral cooperation and distinguished relations between the UAE and France.

The UAE's involvement in securing the Paris Olympics 2024 underscores the efficiency and professionalism of Emirati police personnel, under the guidance and support of the higher leadership, which provides its forces with advanced equipment and world-class training to enhance their skills as per the highest international standards. This will allow the UAE police forces to exchange expertise and best practices with their international counterparts, and further boost their capabilities in various fields.

The Emirati Police Support Team consists of experienced female officers from the Ministry of Interior and qualified and trained specialists representing the various police sectors, police dog units (K9), and security support teams. Their participation will help to consolidate the UAE's good reputation and its leading role in joint international cooperation and action.

The original source-language text of this announcement is the official, authoritative version. Translations are provided as an accommodation only and should be cross-referenced with the source-language text, which is the only version of the text intended to have legal effect.

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