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## MAGOSI FLOUTED INTELLIGENCE REPORT?

A leaked intelligence report suggests that DISS Director Peter Magosi may have ignored the advice from agents that no P100 billion or any money was missing from the Bank of Botswana (BoB).

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**Masisi blacklists the Khamas' Seleka Springs** PAGE 4

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# Ngwato Land-Board Orders DCEC Boss to Vacate Land

- Land Board says Matambo illegally allocated himself land in the Ngwato area
- Matambo says he owes land board nothing



Directorate on Corruption and Economic Crime (DCEC) Director, Brigadier Joseph Matambo

## TEFO PHEAGE

**N**gwato Land board has ordered the Directorate on Corruption and Economic Crime (DCEC) director, Brigadier Joseph Matambo, to vacate land he has illegally occupied in Jamakala settlement in the Ngwato Land Board area.

Matambo has since refused to adhere to the land-board resolution which reads, "You drilled a borehole, fenced a ploughing field and utilized a servitude without the consent of the land-board- contrary to section 16 of the Tribal Land Act. You are therefore ordered to vacate the illegally occupied land within 3 months."

Matambo is in a bitter dispute with area syndicate Bana-Ba-Motho

who are pressing for his eviction. The land board correspondences say that Mathambo has not been honouring invitations to present or defend his case, particularly at sub land board level. In an interview Matambo said he owes the Ngwato Land-board nothing.

A source within Bana-Ba-Motho syndicate expressed further worry that the Land Board is not eager to enforce their resolution to evict Matambo.

According to the syndicate source, Matambo's boreholes are two kilometers from theirs, contrary to the current statutory requirement of six kilometers.

Minister Kefentse Mzwini didn't not respond to questions seeking clarity on the current dispute.



# Masisi Blacklists the Khamas' Seleka Springs?

- DISS allegedly recommended gov't cut ties with Seleka Springs
- Seleka Springs made over P100 million through military procurement between 1989 and 2012

## LETLHOGILE MPUANG

**P**resident Mokgweetsi Masisi's government is alleged to have cut ties with arms consultancy firm Seleka Springs. Seleka Springs is owned by former president Ian Khama's younger brothers Tshakedi and Anthony.

Sources at the Office of the President (OP) said the Directorate of Intelligence and Security Services (DISS) led by Director General Brigadier Peter Magosi advised Masisi that all government institutions should stop engaging the company.

In 2015, the then Minister of Defense Justice and Security Shaw Khathi told parliament that between 1989 and 2012, Seleka

Springs benefited over P100 million by acting as agents for companies doing business with the BDF. He also revealed that the company was also awarded a tender by Botswana Police in 2000 to supply rifles and pistols.

In 2014 Seleka Springs was implicated in wastage of public funds after purchasing a Pilatus PC-24 twin jet engine aircraft for the DISS. According to reports from the *Patriot on Sunday* and *Sunday Standard* newspapers, the jet is believed to have cost the government over P100 million. *The Botswana Gazette* was told that Seleka Springs acted as agents in the deal, and allegedly benefitted close to P17 million in the process.

However, the alleged

blacklisting may create a new challenge for the government. It is understood that Seleka Springs holds several exclusive licenses for major military supplies in Europe. The company is said to hold exclusive agency licenses for Avis Vickers from the United Kingdom, Steyr-Daimler and FN Herstal from South Africa and Belgium respectively, who have all conducted business with the BDF. These companies supply specialized military equipment, ammunition and spares.

While Seleka Springs Director Anthony Khama did not respond to this publication's inquiry, a source at the company confirmed that there was a significant decline in business since last year, 2019.

When contacted, DISS Spokesperson Edward Robert referred this publication to the government public relations office. The BDF directed questions sent by this publication to the government.

Sources at the Office of the President (OP) said the Directorate of Intelligence and Security Services (DISS) led by Director General Brigadier Peter Magosi advised Masisi that all government institutions should stop engaging the company.

*The Botswana Gazette* sent inquiries to Andrew Sesinyi, Permanent Secretary, Government Communications, as well as Press Secretary to the President Bathalefi Leagajang. They both did not respond to the enquiries.



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# Magosi Flouted Intelligence Report?

TEFO PHEAGE

A leaked intelligence report suggests that DISS Director Peter Magosi may have ignored the advice from agents that no P100 billion or any money was missing from the Bank of Botswana (BoB).

Titled "Analytic Year-end Report. Att: Director General P. F. Magosi," the internal report suggests that Magosi may have also ignored advice that pursuit of the allegedly missing P5 billion and P100 billion from BOB would prove to be a wild goose chase because the reports were not true.

"There have been reports of P5bn and P100bn allegedly missing from BoB coffers when all these amounts are known to be receivables. Receivables are funds that we have locked in our coffers. How do they go missing and what's the motive behind that kind of reporting? The other bigger question could be why are we having challenges with reconciliations of the Pula Account year-on-year? Is it

a question of manpower, overstay, redundancy or general lack of oversight through governance structures?" reads the report.

The report further warned that the impact of the allegations and the investigation would be devastating to Botswana's investor's confidence. "We think what is paramount that also needs to come out clearly is to understand the challenges and maybe delve deeper in the understanding that there was a drastic change in governance in 2011 which may have led to some of the challenges we see today," the report reads.

Regarding those who manage funds on behalf the central bank, the report says that there is need to find out who these fund managers were, their performance and everything pertaining to their portfolio's performance. The report said it was important to establish, "how many visits were made to fund managers, by whom and what key decisions were made during such visits". It continues, "Not only that,

their contracts need to be given to DIS for financial inspection and analysis. The analysis should come to a detailed conclusion as to why to-date BoB cannot do its own fund management and investment."

Magosi did not take this publication's calls on the matter. Before the Parliamentary Public Accounts Committee (PAC) this week, Magosi admitted that he engaged some consultancy companies including the one in the leaked report to do some work for the DISS. He also told PAC that the DISS lacked oversight.

This year Botswana faces black-listing by the European Union Commission alongside 11 other countries that are seen as risky money-laundering territories and potential sources of terrorism financing. Banks in one EU-member state, France, will not open accounts for Botswana.



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# Parliament Is Not Court-Nasha

- Urges Skelemani to let "politicians be politicians"
- UDC MPs threaten to Abscond from parley



LETLHOGILE MPUANG

Former Speaker of the national Assembly and member of Parliament, Margaret Nasha has criticized former High Court Judge, legislator and now Speaker of National Assembly, Phandu Skelemani, saying that Parliament business cannot be conducted like court where every allegation presented to members should be substantiated with hard evidence.

In an interview, Nasha said Skelemani, "Should let politicians be politicians and not demand hard evidence on every allegation made." According to Nasha, where parliament feels that an allegation merits further investigation, a committee is established to pursue the matter, "but this should be on serious issues, not just mere allegations of corruption which we know is rampant in our country, although we may not really point to it or submit evidence to support the claim."

**In an interview, Nasha said Skelemani, "Should let politicians be politicians and not demand hard evidence on every allegation made."**

Nasha's comments follow the suspension of Dumelang Saleshando by The Speaker of The National Assembly from parliament, on the grounds that he has not submitted enough evidence to back his allegation that President Mokgweetsi Masisi's sister was corruptly awarded a tender to supply ARVs to the Ministry of Health.

Lawyer Mboki Chilisa, who once represented former Bonnighton North MP Duma Boko in a similar matter is of the view that; "the suspension of a Member of Parliament through a partisan vote by his peers is clearly constitutionally incompetent. It is an abdication of the Speaker's constitutional duty to preside over the proceedings of Parliament and decide on what the appropriate sanction should

be where his rulings are disobeyed."

The Court of Appeal (CoA) had ruled that the UDC president's parliamentary statements be expunged from the Hansard, following a vote on the floor of Parliament, on the basis that it was untrue and offensive to then President Ian Khama overruling the High Court which had refused to entertain the challenge on the basis that it would abridge the doctrine of separation of powers.

**Opposition MPs Stand In Solidarity With LOO**

Meanwhile, Opposition MPs have vowed to stand in solidarity with the Leader of Opposition Dumelang Saleshando during his suspension. Opposition MPs who spoke on the sidelines of Tuesday's session, complained that Skelemani is losing control of parliament.

"The fact that we walked out of parliament should be a clear demonstration that we are not happy with the way he is handling parliament. It should also be a statement to the Botswana Democratic Party (BDP) MPs. We are aware that Saleshando's evidence that was submitted today (Tuesday) was read during the BDP caucus. This just shows you that he (the speaker) and the BDP are one thing," said MP for Tonota, Pono Moatlhodi.



A decision on the way forward could be taken today (Wednesday) at the UDC parliamentary caucus. The UDC MPs could have two options; to abscond from parliament or attend parliament but abstain from all bills and motions.

"We will explore all available options and a decision will be taken tomorrow (Wednesday) at 10am," said Yandani Boko, MP for Mahalapye East.

## PRESS RELEASE

**Icho Molebatsi appointed as partner at PwC**



PwC is pleased to announce the appointment of Icho Molebatsi as a partner in its Botswana practice, with effect from 1 July 2020.

Icho has been with PwC for 17 years and rose through the ranks from new graduate to his admission to the partnership. During this time, he has worked in Botswana and South Africa, where he was seconded to work in our Mining and Utilities industry group. Before his appointment as a partner, he served a cross section of industries in the capacity of Associate Director. Icho will be responsible for overseeing and growing our Broader Assurance Services practice in Botswana.

Icho is a member of the Botswana Institute of Chartered Accountants (BICA), Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (UK) and the Institute of Internal Auditors Botswana (IIAB). He is a member of the Botswana Integrated Reporting Committee under BICA and a former board member of the IIAB.

Commenting on Icho's admission to the firm's partnership, Butler Phirie (Country Senior Partner), said "I am pleased to welcome Icho as a partner. His admission bears testimony to our firm's training and development efforts. At PwC, we create opportunities for personal growth and success, value diversity, and stand for quality and integrity. Icho represents the next generation of leaders who put people first — leaders who do the right thing for our staff, our clients, and the communities in which we live. Icho's dedication and focus on quality and client service have been exemplary. He is a true professional dedicated to contributing to solving important societal problems."



# Saleshando Blasts Gov't Over Wage Subsidy

Says the subsidy was not enough for companies in the tourism sector



Leader of Opposition (LOO) in Parliament Dumelang Saleshando

TLOTLO KEBINAKGABO

The three-month wage subsidy introduced by the government earlier this year to relieve businesses from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic was not enough, particularly for companies in the tourism sector, the Leader of Opposition (LOO) in Parliament Dumelang Saleshando said in an interview this week.

Saleshando asked the Minister of Finance, Thapelo Matsheka in parliament this week to state the measures in place to mitigate the risks facing businesses on account of COVID-19. He particularly asked the Minister to address businesses in the tourism sector as they are some of the hardest hit.

A socio impact analysis of COVID-19 in Botswana by United Nations Botswana released in May stated that as of 6 April 2020, 96 percent of all world destinations had restricted travel something which significantly affected the tourism sector in Botswana and across the world.

"This resulted in 209 destinations worldwide having adopted COVID-19 travel restrictions, including Botswana," the analysis showed. "The latest research from the World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC) estimates that up to 75 million jobs are at immediate risk. The research reveals a potential Travel & Tourism GDP loss of up to \$2.1 trillion in 2020. For Botswana, tourism and hospitality is the third largest contributor to the national economy, accounting

for almost 12 percent of GDP. The sector is a key contributor to job creation, skills transfer and the development of new competencies."

In response to Saleshando, Matsheka

said that the government has the Economic Response Plan whose components included assistance to businesses, workers and the households.

"Some of the interventions measures that were implemented to stabilize businesses include loan guarantees, reduction of the bank rate, restructuring of existing loans and BURS allowing deferral of 75 percent of any quarterly payments between March and September 2020," Matsheka told Parliament on Monday.

"Government through the Economic Response Plan assisted around 200 000 employees from approximately 16 000 companies at an estimated cost of P807 million."

However, Saleshando who is also the

Member of Parliament (MP) for Maun West was not happy with Minister Matsheka's responses. "Tourism is one of the sectors that have been massively affected so you cannot adopt the 'one size fits all' in assisting companies in that particular sector," he said in an interview on the sidelines of the Monday Parliamentary session. "The three months wage subsidy was not enough for companies in that sector. It is going to be difficult for employers in that sector to pay employees."

Saleshando cautioned that the tourism sector has to be treated with care, "Close to 90 percent of businesses in my constituency are related to tourism. The economy of our region has collapsed, so urgent assistance is of the essence," he said.

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Cash deposits	0.40% if > P2000.00	0.40% of deposit amount, Min P5 and Max P560
Cash Withdrawals	20	0.45% of withdrawal amount, Min P21.55 and Max P560
<b>Personal Banking Transaction Accounts</b>		
<b>GOLD</b>		
POS Purchase fees	No free POS Purchases	First 3 POS Purchases free
<b>Mobile Banking</b>		
Own/BancABC card/account transfers	Free	2 Free Own/ BancABC card/ account transfers
Internet banking own/BancABC card/ account transfers	Free	2 Free Internet banking own / BancABC card/account transfers
SMS Notification	8 Free sms notification	No free SMS Notification
<b>PLATINUM</b>		
POS purchase fees	Unlimited free POS purchase fees	First 6 POS purchase free
<b>Internet banking transactions</b>		
Own/BancABC card/account transfers	Free internet banking	5 free transactions
Internet banking own/BancABC card/ account transfers	Free internet banking	5 free transactions
Mobile banking own/BancABC/account transfers	Free mobile banking	5 free transactions
<b>PRIVATE</b>		
POS Purchase fees	Free POS purchases	15 free POS transactions
<b>Prepaid cards (Travel card-in ZAR,USD,EUR or GBP)</b>		
Minimum balance	Equivalent of P50	P70
<b>FIXED DEPOSIT</b>		
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## UPDATE ON FOCUSED INVESTIGATION IN RESPECT OF ALLEGATIONS OF FRAUD IN RESPECT OF STOCK HELD BY CHOPPIES SUBSIDIARIES, AND BULK SALES OF SUCH STOCK AND NOTICE TO PERSONS IMPLICATED IN THE REPORT

Shareholders are referred to the opinion by Advocates Hoffman SC and Meyerowitz dated 5 December 2019 ("the Hoffman Opinion") and the opinion by Advocates Redding SC and Meyerowitz dated 6 December 2019 ("the Redding Opinion") placed on XNews and SENS on 11 December 2019, and subsequent update announcements in respect thereof.

The Hoffman Opinion recommended that the Board of the Company undertake a further investigation to determine the veracity of the stock fraud allegations. The Redding Opinion specified that the form of such investigation may be that of a "Focused Investigation".

Pursuant to the Hoffman and Redding Opinions, the Board through the office of its legal advisor Neill Armstrong ("the Legal Advisor") briefed Advocate Meyerowitz ("Counsel") to undertake a focused investigation of the facts and provide an opinion on whether the allegations of fraud in respect of stock losses and bulk sales were true or otherwise sustainable in a court of law or quasi-judicial setting.

In the brief, Counsel was provided with extensive documentary evidence in addition to the documents furnished to Advocates Hoffman SC, Redding SC and Meyerowitz, for preparation of the Hoffmann and the Redding Opinions.

Counsel in considering the documentation, in particular the Ernst & Young Report (the subject of the Hoffman and Redding Opinions), identified key witnesses.

It was the intention that Counsel would interview such witnesses and take statements from those witnesses, in order to establish the facts in respect of the allegations of fraud in respect of the holding of stock and bulk sales.

With the advent of the Covid-19 pandemic and travel and lockdown restrictions imposed by the governments of South Africa, Botswana and Zimbabwe, Counsel was not able to meet with the witnesses to conduct the intended interview.

After considering the additional evidence provided by the extensive documentary evidence referred to hereinbefore, Counsel issued written interrogatories to each of the identified witnesses through the offices of the Legal Advisor and requested written submissions in response thereto accompanied by appropriate documentary evidence. Certain of the witnesses identified did respond to the interrogatories and provide additional documentary evidence. In particular the internal auditor to the Company at the time, who raised the issues in respect of stock losses and bulk sales, who it appears did not respond to queries raised by Ernst & Young did make not available an address to which Counsel's questions to him could be sent.

Counsel has considered all the evidence provided to him and has come to the conclusions that the allegations of fraud in respect of stock in both South Africa and Zimbabwe would not likely succeed in a court of law nor in a formal quasi-judicial setting such as a disciplinary hearing. Counsel is satisfied that the evidence before him (which is almost entirely circumstantial) can do no better than establish equal probability which means that the case of fraud will likely fail on the onus, placed on the entity alleging the fraud.

The case for the allegation of fraud in respect of stock in South Africa was that management had orchestrated an elaborate scheme to hide stock losses ostensibly identified by the internal auditor, by using a stock management system called "Rebate SKU" and then pretending to sell 129 million rands worth of non-existent stock to a purchaser identified in the Report ("the Purchaser"), receiving the money from the Purchaser, then sending the money back to the Purchaser in exchange for the acquisition of four retail stores at artificially inflated prices, the result of the scheme being that the Purchaser pretended to sell the stores at the inflated price of R146 million, but in reality sold the stores at the price of R55 million the artificially inflated portion of the sale price (R91 million) being compensated for with 129 million rands worth of non-existing stock and another R38 million in smaller fictional transactions. It was alleged that the stock loss would be hidden "on the books" and concealed by the artificially inflated goodwill in the recently purchased stores.

However, the evidence provided suggests that the purchase prices in respect of the purchased stores were not artificially inflated based on the fact that: -

- (1) the target stores were producing an annual turnover of R500 million;
- (2) Choppies had recently purchased eight similarly well performing stores using the same "three times average monthly turnover" based price determination;
- (3) Choppies auditors, PricewaterhouseCoopers ("PwC") had conducted due diligences on both of the respective transactions prior to the acquisitions;
- (4) it appears the internal auditor of the Company did not conduct a physical count when he identified the alleged losses but rather identified a variance "on the books" between the stock status report and MIS stock figures;
- (5) in the absence of a physical stock count it is likely that the internal auditor was (based on the evidence of the operations team) mistaken due to the intricacies of the Rebate SKU System; and
- (6) after the bulk sales of the allegedly missing stock, the external auditors at the time, PwC, confirmed that no stock was missing and that all money had been received for the stock.

Counsel comes to the conclusion that the above facts are inconsistent with the purely circumstantial case of fraud in respect of the stock and therefore the inference that fraud in respect of the stock took place cannot be sustained.

Counsel makes the point as to the probabilities even if the allegations were true, no single party would have benefitted from the fraud and it appears the only tangible result thereof would have been to conceal a fractional stock loss of approximately 0.8% of the turnover of the Company which would likely not have affected the share price thereof.

The case for the allegation of fraud in respect of the stock in Zimbabwe was that management had orchestrated a similar scheme to hide stock losses extensively identified by the internal auditor, by using a stock management system called "Grocery SKU" (essentially the same system as the Rebate SKU). In this regard the allegation was that the Zimbabwean subsidiary sold 4.5 million US Dollars worth of non-existent stock over March and April 2018 to various entities without ever receiving money in return and that, in an attempt to hide the fact that no money was received management purported to pay the missing USD 4.5 million to a contractor identified in the Report ("the Contractor") ostensibly in exchange for construction services pertaining to the renovation of various Choppies stores across Zimbabwe. The allegation was that this "payment" did not actually take place and was only ever done on the "books" giving rise to further allegations that the Contractor was paid a non-existent amount for non-existing services which were never rendered.

Counsel is of the view that the evidence suggests that the internal auditor was mistaken on the same basis as in South Africa. Furthermore, the internal auditor appears to have identified 7.3 million US Dollars' worth of missing stock but only USD6 million of that "missing" (Rebate) stock was sold in March and April 2018. The remaining 1.3 million US Dollars' worth of missing stock was actually accounted for by auditors PwC, post the bulk sales, (as was the money was received for the sale of the 6 million US Dollars' worth of Rebate Stock). However, Ernst & Young found that only USD1.5 million of the USD6 million sales had been banked (which itself suggests at least 1.5 million US Dollars' worth of sold Rebate Stock actually existed) but could not find paper trail for the remaining USD4.5 million ostensibly received in cash.

Choppies management produced documentation in support of a claim that the USD4.5 million was indeed received in cash and applied to various legitimate construction projects around Zimbabwe. Counsel was provided with extensive documents regarding these construction projects including invoices, construction plans and photographs of the completed project.

Counsel makes the point again that even if the allegations were true, there is no evidence that any one party personally benefitted from the alleged fraud. If the loss of USD4.5 million worth of stock was fraudulently concealed, it is also doubtful that such a comparatively fractional loss would have had an effect on the holding company share price.

Averments in the Ernst & Young Report and evidence provided to Counsel suggests that certain of management staff of the Company "backdated" certain documents pertaining to the targets store acquisition. Counsel is of the view that this appears to have been done to ensure that transaction was recorded in the 2018 financial year, rather than to perpetrate some sort of fraud. Counsel is satisfied that the backdating was not done in pursuant of the allegedly fraudulent stock manipulation in South Africa. Counsel makes that point that he cannot know the consequences of what the backdating might have for the audit responsibility of the Company or towards any third party. Counsel therefore

recommends that the Board takes the matter further to establish possible consequences of this backdating (which investigation was beyond the mandate of Counsel's focused investigation). Counsel points that while backdating a document is per se a fraudulent representation the moral and legal liability for doing so depends largely on the consequences of that action. If it turns out that the backdating was for an innocent reason and was without consequence it is likely that such action should attract little more than a reprimand from the Board of the Company.

Counsel has recommended, to ensure the integrity of the process of investigation, that the Report (for this reason entitled a "Preliminary Report") be made available to persons implicated by the Preliminary Report which persons would then be accorded an opportunity of three weeks, post publication of the Preliminary Report, to provide Counsel with relevant evidence which may be new or different, for examination, interrogation and ultimately conclusion as to whether or not such evidence would alter the Preliminary Report.

The Board, upon the recommendation of Counsel and pursuant to publication of this synopsis of the Preliminary Report on XNews and SENS, will make a full copy of the Preliminary Report available to persons implicated by the Preliminary Report, and accord such persons an opportunity for a period of three weeks post publication of the said Report, to present evidence whether new or different, to Counsel for interrogation and consideration whether conclusions in the Preliminary Report should be altered. Accordingly, persons implicated by the Preliminary Report are given notice of the fact that the full report is available at the principal place of business of the Company at Plot 169, Gaborone International Commerce Park, Gaborone during business hours Monday to Friday each week for inspection, and at request, for a copy.

Any material new and different evidence should be provided by a person implicated in the Preliminary Report to the Legal Advisor to the Company Mr. Neill Armstrong at nwa@neillarmstrong.com or marked for his attention at the offices of Botlhole Law Group, Plot 33957, Matlapaneng Street, Block 8, Gaborone.

It is to be noted that it is unethical for Counsel to entertain representations directly from members of the public (or to discuss his investigation with anyone including the media) and all submissions should be made through the attorney Mr. Neill Armstrong. Only evidence that is material, relevant, new or different from the evidence already in possession of Counsel and put forward by the individuals implicated in the Preliminary Report, with a genuine, direct and material interest in the outcome of the investigation will be entertained.

By order of the Board **23 July 2020**

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# BPS P80m 'Training' Helicopters Arrive

- Helicopters arrived in SA on Monday
- Annual fuel to cost more than P4 million per helicopter



LETLHOGILE MPUANG

The Botswana Police Service (BPS) is expected to receive the first batch of the three Enstrom 480b training helicopters worth P80 million this week, *The Botswana*

*Gazette* has established.

*The Botswana Gazette* established that the first helicopter arrived in South Africa on Monday this week. The helicopter was delivered to Safomar Aviation. Director of the BPS Air Support Branch Arthur Johnson

said he was on leave but referred all questions to their public relations department.

"We are so excited to preview our first Enstrom 480B helicopter for the Botswana Police Service. Our beautiful machine arrived yesterday at Century

Avionics Lanseria. Thank you to Enstrom Helicopter Corporation for the amazing work done and our phenomenal team from Safomar Aviation Maintenance," read a social media post on the Safomar Aviation on Monday. It is understood that the helicopter will be delivered to Botswana this week.

Last month, Johnson revealed that the helicopters were due for delivery in June 2020 but due to the delays caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the delivery dates were pushed forward.

"As you are aware, the whole world is dealing with COVID-19, hence delays in the delivery of the helicopters," he said in an interview. "We are expecting them to arrive sometime in August."

While the Police was criticized for the purchase of such aircrafts, Johnson pointed out that the police air wing had last bought helicopters in 2015. "They are mostly going to be used for training," he said.

"We have realised that the helicopters we bought in 2015 spent more hours on training rather than in operations. So we decided to get these new ones to use them for training. The Enstrom 480b helicopters are

much smaller." He explained that the P80million price covers the training of police pilots, installation of state-of-the-art Trakka Systems day/night cameras and searchlights, navigation and communication equipment, cargo slinging Light Emergency Medical Systems as well as free servicing and maintenance of the aircraft for the first two years.

"We currently have five aircrafts, one of which is due for a major service," said Johnson. "The cost of service is as high as buying a new one. The new helicopters will also, in some instances, be used for operations."

Research shows that based on 450 annual owner-operated hours and \$4.25 (P49.21) per gallon fuel cost, the ENSTROM 480B has total variable costs of \$230,625.00 (P2 670 374.59), total fixed costs of \$135,926.30 (P1573871.60), and an annual budget of \$366,551.30 (P4 244 246.19). This breaks down to \$814.56 (P9431.68) per hour.

South Africa's Safomar Aviation was awarded the tender. They are responsible for flight demonstrations, sales support, maintenance capability and contract negotiations. Safomar is the sole supplier of Enstrom Helicopters in southern Africa.

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# Dibeela lodges cyber crime case against controversial Dan Kenosi

- Case follows alleged impersonation of BNF leader in audio
- Voice in audio purports to be Dibeela speaking of his intention to form a political party
- I stand by my story – Kenosi says
- Kenosi says Dibeela knows the audio is authentic

SESUPO RANTSIMAKO

The vice president of the Botswana National Front (BNF), Reverend Prince Dibeela, has lodged a cyber-crime case against controversial former journalist Daniel Kenosi for allegedly being

behind a plot to discredit the BNF leader by impersonating him in a scurrilous audio, the Commander of Broadhurst Police Station, Superintendent Obusitswe Lokae, has confirmed.

Speaking to *The Botswana Gazette* in an interview, Lokae stated that Dibeela had re-



PRINCE DIBEELA

ported the case on Monday this week. “I can confirm to you that Reverend Prince Dibeela has opened a case of cyber crime and that we are currently working with the cyber crime squad to determine how to proceed,” he said. “Though Dibeela is complaining about a journalist named Daniel Kenosi, we are still trying to establish if Kenosi is the real culprit because these issues of cyber crime are complicated.”

The case revolves around a much publicized WhatsApp conversation that is purportedly between Dibeela and an unidentified member of the Botswana Democratic Party (BDP) in which a voice that is supposedly Dibeela’s speaks of either joining the BDP or breaking ranks with the BNF and forming another political party. The purported Dibeela also tells the supposed BDP member that he should have long joined the ruling party before the 2019 general elections but became slow.

“We were ready to come to the BDP even before the general elections but we got slow,” says the voice that, according to Dibeela, is being passed off as his. “Let’s wait and see what will transpire at our congress. If they rig, we have options on the table - forming a splinter party that will cooperate with the Botswana Congress Party (BCP) and possibly the Alliance for Progressives (AP) or join you.”

Upon being contacted, Reverend Dibeela- who will face incumbent BNF president Duma Boko at the elective congress that has been postponed to a yet to be confirmed date next year –put the blame for what he considers to be a smear masquerade as the work of BNF members who are against his candidacy for the presidency of the party.

“These people are trying by all means to discredit me so that BNF members snub me at the elective congress,” Dibeela said in an interview with this publication. “This is not the first time. Last time, before postponement of the congress, some members accused me of having been bought by the BDP to dismantle the BNF.”

The interview with *The Gazette* came after Reverend Dibeela released a statement dismissing the audio as a cheap stunt that has come to characterise dirty politics in Botswana. “We are aware that the target of my person stems from interest in contesting for the leadership of the BNF,” says the statement. “To some gatekeepers in the BNF, this is unthinkable that someone should be daring to challenge the current leader for the top position. I find this ridiculous and lamentable because our movement is grounded in democratic principles which encourage people to decide at congresses whom they prefer.”

Interestingly though, Kenosi told *The Botswana Gazette* in a telephone interview that he stands by his story. “Even Dibeela knows that the audio is authentic. He is plotting to destroy Boko and the UDC. He can open as many cases with the Police as he wishes to,” Kenosi said.



## PRESS RELEASE

23 July 2020

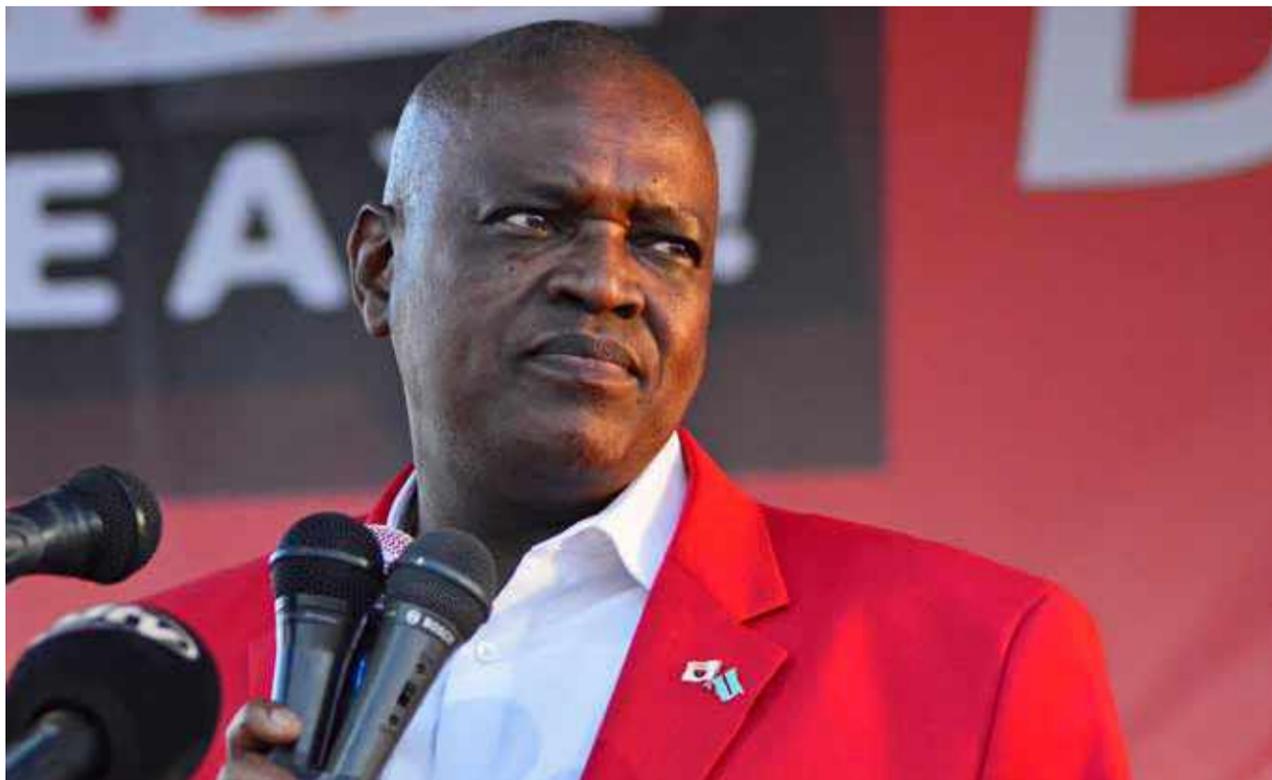
### RESPONSE TO NEWS ARTICLE PUBLISHED ON THE PATRIOT ON SUNDAY UNDER THE HEADLINE ‘ROT AT BITC’

- Botswana Investment and Trade Centre (BITC) is dismayed at the untruthful and distorted allegations on a news article published on The Patriot on Sunday newspaper of 19 July 2020, under the headline ‘**Rot at BITC**’. The article suggests that potential investors are being defrauded of ‘millions of Pula’ by BITC Staff.
- A few days before the defaming article was published, BITC responded to a media questionnaire from The Patriot on Sunday newspaper, indicating that **ONLY ONE** case of forgery was recently identified through the Centre’s internal control processes and not DIS or DCEC as the article wrongly suggests. The suspect officer who was a **junior officer** and not a Senior Executive as purported in the article by The Patriot on Sunday was taken through a disciplinary process, found guilty, and subsequently relieved of his duties due to the disciplinary offence of forgery. Furthermore, as a signal of the organisation’s detestation of fraud, the matter was reported to the Botswana Police Service who are doing their own investigations. Therefore, the Centre is NOT aware of any other case or any other BITC official under investigation either by the DIS, the DCEC, or the Botswana Police Service.
- BITC would furthermore, like to refute allegation that over P10 million could have been swindled from would-be investors. This deliberate distortion of facts and fiction of imagination is equally unfounded, baseless, and is devoid of any truth. In this article by The Patriot on Sunday newspaper, faceless sources are cited with a view to amplify the notion of rampant misconduct, corruption, indiscipline, and flagrant fraud within the organisation. The Centre continues to ensure that there are effective systems in place to timely detect and prevent any acts of misconduct. BITC pledges to continue upholding the highest level of ethical standards, conduct, and integrity in all dealings with investors.
- BITC clients, stakeholders and the general public are therefore informed to treat these assertions as malicious and false, with a high potential to mislead and bring into disrepute the good name of the Centre.
- BITC assures clients and stakeholders that the Centre is transparent, professional, and ethical in all its business dealings. In light of the seriousness of the allegations, the Centre would like to invite The Patriot on Sunday Newspaper or their purported sources to furnish the Botswana Police Service with detailed information on the alleged misconduct or any fraudulent activities at the Centre. Alternatively, reports may be submitted through the Centre’s fraud and ethics hotline at Orange-1144; BTC- 0800 600 644; Mascom- 71119793; E-mail- bitc@tip-offs.com; Website- www.tip-offs.com. **END**

For more information contact:

**Kutlo Moagi**  
Director, Corporate Affairs  
Tel: +267 363 3316  
Email: [moagik@bitc.co.bw](mailto:moagik@bitc.co.bw)





# COVID-19 Has Disrupted BDP's Focus On Election Promises - Kentse

- Says BDP had been in office for only four months when COVID-19 hit
- Political analysts say BDP deserves reprieve

SESUPO RANTSIMAKO

While the outbreak of COVID-19 has disrupted and slowed the Botswana Democratic Party's (BDP) programme to implement its election

promises, the pandemic has also given the party an opportunity to re-strategise around some of the pledges, the Chairman of the BDP's Communications and International Relations Committee, Kagelelo Kentse, has said.

However, Kentse noted, the BDP government should not be judged on this because it had been in office for only four months under its renewed mandate since the 2019 general elections when the scourge arrived on Botswana

shores in March this year. "Consequently, our focus shifted to the fight against this pandemic and inadvertently halted some of the plans," he said in an interview.

Nevertheless, Kentse asserted, the BDP-led gov-

ernment has been able to identify opportunities presented by COVID-19 in agriculture, ICT and the creative sector. "These sectors have the potential to become big post-COVID-19. That is why we believe that we will have achieved what we promised Batswana by the end of our five-year tenure," he said.

In its 2019 general election manifesto, the BDP specified economic transformation, a more inclusive economy, employment creation and zero tolerance for corruption as priorities. In addition, the BDP promised a comprehensive constitutional review.

Meanwhile, although they spoke in separate interviews, Kentse's views were corroborated by political analyst, Lesole Machacha, who commended the BDP and said he could not understand why anyone would criticise the government even when it was doing a sterling job under the circumstances. Machacha said the BDP government cannot be blamed for poor implementation of its manifesto pledges because pandemics are always disruptive.

"In situations like this one, plans stop as concentration shifts to the pandemic," he noted. "This is

exactly what the current administration has done in order to save our country."

Significantly, he added, there is freedom of speech, transparency and the rule of law under the presidency of Mokgweetsi Masisi. "In the previous administration, Batswana did not enjoy such freedom."

It is also noteworthy that opposition parties are free to advertise in state media as they indeed did in the run-up to the elections last year, Machacha added.

But another political analyst, Professor Zibani Maundeni, disagrees. He told *The Botswana Gazette* in an interview that the BDP should not use COVID-19 as an excuse for failure to deliver on its manifesto pledges because the government has never stopped functioning. "The BDP-led government must strategise on how to revive the economy," Maundeni said. "At any rate, if BDP fails to implement its pledges, it is the government that will be blamed; not particularly the party."

But he conceded that considerable resources have been channelled to the fight against COVID-19, thus slowing down the economy. "The focus is on reviving an economy paralyzed by the lockdown," he noted.



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# Unitrans Drivers Fired For Signing Petition

- Petition called for better working conditions
- Company says it is an offence to spread allegations

SESUPO RANTSIMAKO

Three employees of Unitrans Botswana have been fired while several more believe they face a similar

fate for petitioning the company over their grievances, *The Botswana Gazette* has established.

The employees are drivers of haulage trucks who are known as Bulk Vehicle Op-



The employees say they are being punished for what the company calls tarnishing its image and inciting violence.



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## TENDER INVITATION

The Water Utilities Corporation invites companies to tender for the supply of the Corporation's requirements for:

- DESIGN, SUPPLY, CONSTRUCTION AND COMMISSIONING TREATED WATER PUMPSTATION AT NNYUNGWE AND UPGRADING OF LESOMA PUMPING MAIN AND BOOSTER STATION - TENDER NO: WUC 029 (2020)**

Bidding Companies for **WUC 029 (2020)** must be registered with, **PPADB Code 03 - Civil Engineering Works, Sub-Code 06: Water Supplies, Sanitation and Irrigation Works - Grade E**. A compulsory site visit for **WUC 029 (2020)** shall be held on the **05 August 2020 at 10:00hrs**. The site visit assembly point shall be at **Kasane Customer Services Centre, Plot 728 President Avenue (near Sefalana)** from where bidders shall be guided to site (**Tenderers should arrive at or before 10:00 hours.**)

- WORKS CONTRACT FOR THE KASANE – KAZUNGULA REHABILITATION OF WATER DISTRIBUTION NETWORK TENDER NO. WUC 034 (2020)**

Bidding Companies for **WUC 034 (2020)** must be registered with **PPADB Code 03 - Civil Engineering Works, Sub-Code 06: Water Supplies, Sanitation and Irrigation Works - Grade E**. A compulsory site visit for **WUC 034 (2020)** shall be held on the **04 August 2020 at 10:00hrs**. The site visit assembly point shall be at **Kasane Customer Services Centre, Plot 728 President Avenue (near Sefalana)** from where bidders shall be guided to site (**Tenderers should arrive at or before 10:00 hours.**)

Tenderers are requested to note the following conditions of the tenders:

**Tender documents are sold for P10,000.00 each. (Non-refundable)**

Specifications for these tenders may be obtained at the Corporation's Headquarters in Gaborone, Sedibeng House, Office No. 208 as of **27<sup>th</sup> July 2020**.

Tenders should reach this office not later than **14:00 hours on 10 September 2020** at which time public opening of the tenders will commence. Tenders should be hand delivered in sealed envelopes and clearly marked with the tender numbers and addressed to;

**The Corporation Secretary  
Water Utilities Corporation  
Sedibeng House  
Office No. 208/2  
Plot 17530 Luthuli Road  
Old Industrial Site  
Gaborone**

Telephone enquiries: Senior Manager - Supply Chain 3619271 or 3902629  
Logistics & Procurement Officer 3619265

erators in logistics lingo.

In their petition, they called for better working conditions and accused management of Unitrans of not observing COVID-19 protocols. They singled out Mike Schelin and the company's Human Resources Manager Mike Sebolai, saying these two should be fired for maladministration and violation of COVID-19 regulations.

Talking to this publication on condition of anonymity, several of the employees said the company has been calling them to disciplinary hearings individually after which dismissal follows. This development comes in the aftermath of a petition that Unitrans truck drivers recently presented to the Minister of Transport Thulaganyo Segokgo.

The employees say they are being punished for what the company calls tarnishing its image and inciting violence. "The company says we tarnished its image by publicising the petition instead of using a specified form to raise our grievances," said one. "This came as a surprise to us because we have never known about such a form and only learnt about it after the petition."

The company's Human Resources Manager, Moses Sebolai, has claimed ignorance of the petition but says the employees took advantage of the recent fuel crisis to perform "stunts." Sebolai confirmed that some of them would go through disciplinary hearings. "It is laughable how these employees' always peddle allegations when they know that doing so is against company policy," he told *The Botswana Gazette*.

"We are not aware of the allegations peddled in the petition. In fact, no one has ever raised these concerns before us. So it is our conviction that the employees who were involved in the petition were on a mission to tarnish the company's image, which is not acceptable. I can confirm that we have identified individuals who recently peddled allegations about the company knowing that it is a serious offence. Some will soon appear for disciplinary hearings."

According to the employees, an atmosphere of intimidation and harassment aimed at ferreting out participants in the petition has developed at Unitrans. They allege that the intimidation is in the form of victimisation and verbal abuse. "Management is claiming ignorance of the petition and the claims they only learnt about it through the media," said another employee. "However, they quote the contents of the petition at the disciplinary hearings. It is a strange situation because the head office in South Africa is aware of the petition."



THE TAX  
DIALOGUE

JONATHAN  
HORE

# New Tax Bill Keeps Tax Haven Tag at Bay

Botswana continues to make strides in increasing tax transparency through sharing of information with other countries as a new bill is expected to be debated in this July 2020 session of Parliament to further make the country tax transparent. The bill, which was published in the Government Gazette of 17 April 2020 is expected to soon become law, should it get a nod from the Parliament. The Minister of Finance & Economic Development stated that the bill is, 'to provide for Botswana to meet her international obligations regarding the effective exchange of tax information and transparency in tax matters before signing the OECD Convention on Mutual Tax Administrative Matters.'

## More transparency

The new bill seeks to amend a section 5(4)A of the Income Tax Act to make it clear that the country will still be able to share tax information with any other country, despite provisions of other laws, particularly intercountry

tax agreements which may provide for the non-sharing of tax information. In other words, the new bill seeks to make Botswana more transparent by having the Income Tax Act override any law which may provide for secrecy in information sharing, when requested by another country.

## Why tax transparency?

This bill is a step forward in the country's drive to increase tax transparency through sharing information with other countries, mainly to deter tax evasion and money laundering. It comes at a time when the country amended the Income Tax Act back in 2012 to provide for it to enter into international treaties called Exchange of Tax Information Agreements with other countries.

This followed damning utterances by the then President of France, Nicholas Sarkozy, who labelled Botswana a 'tax haven.' The said President also hinted that such a tag would reduce inflows of the much-needed foreign direct investment (FDI). Most developed countries

shunns listed as tax havens as they regard them as promoters of harmful tax practices, which include tax secrecy. The country then entered into several Exchange of Tax Information Agreements to shrug off the tax haven tag. The new bill allows for enhanced tax transparency and international exchange of tax information, regardless of what other statutes may prescribe.

The law comes as Botswana prepares to become a member of the OECD Convention on Mutual Administrative Tax Assistance in tax matters, which literally wages war against tax secrecy in all its forms. International development NGOs usually state that tax secrecy and hiding taxes in certain countries is perpetrated by some multinational enterprises, prejudicing other countries of revenue. A lot has been reported in international media about some multinational entities alleged to have used their international footprint to hide taxes in certain countries. Apple recently fought a similar battle where it was accused of hiding US\$15bn tax in Ireland, which it earned from Europe, Africa, the Middle East and India. Other global companies which have been accused for similar harmful tax practices include Siemens and Google. Exchange of Tax Information agreements and general tax transparencies fight such practices and remove the chances of being labelled as a tax haven.

## Economic benefits

The amendment helps improve Botswana's rankings from a tax transparency perspective, which is a key factor in attracting FDI. With the country currently blacklisted under the EU money laundering protocols, the amendment is likely to herald the country's resolve to remain transparent and also abide by the OCED convention on mutual tax assistance.

# Relations with BelaBela Are At Death's Door - Union

- BMWU accuses company of harassing its members
- Company won't comment



SESUPO RANTSIMAKO

The Botswana Mine Workers Union (BMWU) has accused BelaBela Quarries of victimising its members by slapping disciplinary charges on them in breach of their mutual industrial recognition agreement.

The president of the union, Joseph Tsimako, has told *The Botswana Gazette* that the labour agreement between BMWU and BelaBela Quarries was signed and sealed in 2018 so that key principles of industrial relations that are prescribed under several labour laws would be observed.

Tsimako said another indication that the company disdains the union is its insistence on deciding who will represent it at meetings. "If we object, they abandon the meeting," he said. "When a meeting does take place, they want to dictate things to us. In some instances, when we table a percentage for an increment, they reject it off hand."

The General Manager of BelaBela, Peter Zunkel, was terse when approached by this publication. "I cannot comment," he said curtly before he dropped the phone.

In a statement released by the union, the president of BMWU accuses the company of consistently disregarding its obligations under the industrial recognition agreement by means of "a series of disciplinary charges targeting employees who are in the union branch structures because of their perceived rapport they have amongst workers".

Because of this, the statement says, relations between the union and BelaBela

Quarries need life support because they are "at death's door". Such support could come in the form of intervention by the Botswana Chamber of Mines, Tsimako said. His statement also calls on the Department of Mines and the Commissioner of Labour to ensure BelaBela's compliance with industry best practice.

"If we object, they abandon the meeting," he said. "When a meeting does take place, they want to dictate things to us. In some instances, when we table a percentage for an increment, they reject it off hand."

"In some instances, BelaBela General Manager Peter Zunkel accuses employees in the union structure of setting up meetings during work time," says the statement. "Zunkel is always watching the employees through hidden cameras and should he saw some chatting he will accuse them of planning union meetings."

According to Tsimako, the Minister of Mineral Resources, Green Technology and Energy Security, Lefoko Moagi, is aware of these issues but is yet to attend to them. Attempts to reach the minister failed because his mobile phone was not answered.



# B-FAR Applauds Collective Effort Against COVID-19

## Appreciates Government Effort to Improve Lives Amid Pandemic

It is a very humbling experience to read that Botswana is counted amongst the very few countries that have responded remarkably well to the COVID-19 pandemic. It is indeed deeply pleasurable to every citizen and resident of Botswana to witness a nation in subdued peace and a nation learning to live in real hope at this challenging time of a world held hostage by a ravenous but invisible enemy.

B-FAR wishes to express its sincere gratitude to everyone in relation to the response to COVID-19; to the leadership under the direct command of our President His Excellency MEK Masisi; to the Ministry of Health and Wellness as it champions a plan of resistance like has never been seen before; to the COVID-19 Response Team in all its formations; to the frontline workers, our men and women who literally went to war in our defence; and to the law-abiding citizens and residents of Botswana who outdid themselves in the obedience of COVID-19 precautionary rules and regulations.

There is a lot that can be said but we note the high level of compliance to the lockdown, the



Minister of Finance and Economic Development Dr Thapelo Matsheka visited the Tlokweng Border post and interacted with the Botswana Unified Revenue Service (BURS) employees on 24 July 2020. Matsheka encouraged employees to learn from the situation as the world is facing Covid-19, and to be prepared to match the demands of the fourth industrial revolution while upgrading the service. (Pic:MONIRUL BHUIYAN/PRESS PHOTO)

daily sights of strict adherence to precautionary rules, the unexpected emergence of innovation that erupted within our research institutions as they developed creative response measures, the awakening of the self-reliance spirit amongst Botswana as they dressed everyone up in homemade masks almost overnight at the end of the first lockdown, and the continued business of Government in attendance of pressing national needs alongside and whilst maintaining 'eyes on the ball' with regard to COVID-19.

The COVID-19 outbreak has unleashed a monumental threat to both human life and livelihoods and the world has grappled with a delicate balancing act where flattening the virus's medical curve, steepens its economic curve. Any loss of life is one too many, but the country's COVID-19 mortality rate in the face of an imminent health crisis speaks volumes of the efficacy and adherence to the containment measures put in place. Beyond the spread of the disease, the COVID-19 pandemic

has wreaked havoc to the global economy and caused the largest global recession in history. Botswana has not been spared the economic meltdown and we commend Governments efforts to minimize the social and economic fallout with a recovery plan aligned to international best practise of "Build, Back Better."

B-FAR is thankful for the recent release of the revised Reservation Policy and wish to thank the leadership for the new CEDA Guidelines and the repeated commitment by Government to table the Citizen Economic Empowerment (CEE) Law in the upcoming Winter Session of Parliament. Already evidence on the ground reflects renewed enthusiasm and optimism about the Economic Recovery and Transformation Plan which seeks to address the low citizen participation in the economic development of the country, spur private enterprise that diversifies the economy away from diamond mining and contribute towards the country's transformation to a digital econ-

omy with job creation opportunities. We applaud Government for these interventions and the renewed hope for citizen enterprise development and economic empowerment in the drive to, 'build back better' a more inclusive and resilient economy.

In commending the progressive economic recovery plan, we remain optimistic that Government will take a bold leap towards the definition of the 'indigenous citizen' and to incorporate special provisions within the CEE programme for the indigenous citizen. As we navigate this era that is unprecedented in living memory and look ahead to post-pandemic living with the virus and its ever present dangers, we should never forget that this 'new normal' can also be pivotal to our lives if we recognise that a dark cloud can have a silver lining. The COVID-19 pandemic presents an opportunity to chart new beginnings and create a better life for all. It offers us the chance to redefine and reinvent ourselves in a way that is unashamedly pro-

citizen. Botswana needs a better life for its citizens; an improved sense of national and self-pride; a deeper sense of unity, collective accountability and shared destiny; heightened self-reliance; complete inclusivity and participatory growth fostered and championed by a government that truly and jealously cares for the citizen and prioritizes the citizen. We urge Botswana to make the best of this opportunity without looking back.

In conclusion, we cannot overlook the many efforts by Botswana citizens to mobilise positive group action. A number of economic measures have recently been proposed, from circulating the Pula amongst indigenous communities to the establishment of a domestic bank. This is the spirit by which great nations are built and we encourage such thoughts and plans unreservedly and caution against mere talk and lack of action.

**CONTINUE TO OBSERVE COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS TO THE LETTER AND STAY SAFE.**  
FATSHE LENO, LA RONAI

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### DISCLAIMER

Readers please note that the views aired on this page are those of the writers and not the publishers. Letters must bear the full address and name of the author even where a nom de plume is to be used. Letters must conform to the laws of Botswana and to the Press Council of Botswana's Code of Ethics. Letters will also be edited for libel, length and language. Letters must be a maximum of 500 words and they should be received by Friday 12.00 noon.

# Reatile Clashes With BDP Over Saleshando Suspension

- Balopi says Reatile's conduct violated collective responsibility
- "I still stand by my vote," - Reatile.



## TEFO PHEAGE

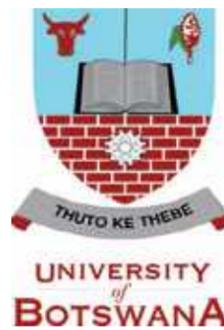
The Botswana Democratic Party (BDP) has expressed disappointment with their member of parliament for Jwaneng/Mabutsane constituency, who according to the party Secretary General, Mpho Balopi defied the party's collective responsibility by voting against suspending the leader of opposition, Dumelang Saleshando in Parliament on Tuesday.

"It was unfortunate for him to vote the way he did. We are an institution and a team with a common goal and we do everything as a collective. Anyone who deviates from the party line is without a doubt out of order. Party caucus is recognized even in the party constitution as something that we all have to adhere to. We can't be doing as we please or be putting our individual interests ahead of that of the party which has sent us to parliament to advance its interests as contained in the manifesto," Balopi said.

According to him, the "BDP constitution insists on selfless dedication to the party and what it stands for," further adding that the view of the collective supersedes that of individuals. Balopi could not be drawn into discussing whether Reatile was likely to face any disciplinary action saying it was too early to say.

In defense of his independent vote, Reatile said that he represents his constituents first and will conduct himself in their best interest. "That was not a vote with the opposition. Mind you, I voted first and opposition voted after me. I did not agree with the speaker's position and I listened to my conscience and voted along it," said a Reatile.

Reatile dismissed allegations that the BDP had caucused on the matter before Tuesday's session. "The BDP never agreed or made a resolution anywhere that they were going to suspend Saleshando. If anything, I voted against the Speaker and not the BDP. My position was that Saleshando's statements should have been expunged from the Hansard if the speaker was of the view that he had misled the nation, not a suspension. Saleshando is a representative of the Maun voters and should continue to serve his people because future generations will still see that he once raised those issues but was silenced by legislators. The speaker's ruling in my view was wrong and should be rebuked as it may still be used against the BDP or any member of parliament in the future. I still stand by my vote," he said.



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- Apply basic OHS skills for their benefit and that of their organisations.

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<b>Course fee</b>	P5, 000.00 per participant
<b>Time</b>	8:00am – 4:30pm
<b>Venue:</b>	Maun – Venue To Be Confirmed
<b>Deadline</b>	20th August, 2020

### Contact persons

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## EXTERNAL ADVERTISEMENT

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Certified Anti-money Laundering/Combating Terrorist Financing and Combating Financing of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (AML/CFT) Compliance Practitioners will also have an added advantage.

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4. Manages performance of the key areas of responsibility and prepares monthly, quarterly and annual reports.
5. Provides general quality assurance in the delivery of Divisional projects relating to business development, diamond beneficiation, and AML/CTF/CFP.
6. Initiates the development and review of policies, strategies, procedures, and legislation designed to regulate/ enhance diamond business development, diamond beneficiation, and combat money laundering and financing of terrorism.

7. Establishes and maintains a 'lessons-learned' database from Divisional projects, to serve as a guide to future projects.
8. Manages maintenance of statistics concerning diamond market, business performance, as well as compliance measures adopted or implemented by the specified party and sanctions imposed on such specified party, under the Financial Intelligence Act.
9. Ensures adherence to agreed standards, methodologies, principles and processes.
10. Monitors budget and expenditure for Divisional projects and activities.

#### Key competencies

- Analytical and Strategic thinking
- Deciding and Initiating action
- Teamwork and Partnering
- Communicating Effectively
- Supervision and Accountability
- Planning and Execution
- Innovating and Driving Change
- Delivering Quality Service

#### APPLICANTS:

Applicants should quote the Vacancy Circular No. and provide the following details:

- a) Full names, address and place of birth.
- b) Certified copy of National Identity Card.
- c) Brief summary of career with duties (Curriculum Vitae).
- d) Certified copies of certificates together with their transcripts (both academic and professional).
- e) Two (2) recent reference letters (not more than six (6) months old).
- f) Names and contact details of two (2) current referees.

In case of serving public officers the following should be provided:

- Date of first appointment
- Present post and date of appointment thereto.
- Candidates from Parastatals and Private Sector Organisations should provide a statement of salary or pay.

#### IMPORTANT

Applications from serving Public Officers should be routed through their Heads of Department and Permanent Secretaries. Applications not so routed will not be considered.

**Note**: Only shortlisted candidates will be responded to.

#### Applications should be addressed to:

The Permanent Secretary  
Ministry of Mineral Resources, Green Technology and Energy Security  
Private Bag 0018  
Gaborone

#### OR hand delivered to:

Records Management Unit  
Ministry of Mineral Resources, Green Technology and Energy Security  
Fairgrounds Office Park  
Block C, First Floor

**CLOSING DATE: 14 August 2020**



SEZA Chief Executive Officer Lonely Mogara

# SEZA To Improve Ease of Doing Business

economic zones: Sir Seretse Khama International Airport, Fairgrounds, Lobatse, Pandamatenga, Palapye, Francistown, Selibe-Phikwe and Tuli Block. The SEZs Act was subsequently passed by Parliament in 2015, followed by the establishment of SEZA in 2016, the approval of SEZ Regulations of 2018 and SEZ Incentives in 2019.

“As part of our plan to manage and regulate SEZs in Botswana, we are in discus-

sions with strategic organisations that will be appointed Zone Management Companies. This will allow SEZA to become a pure regulator and avoid playing the dual role of developer and regulator,” said Mogara.

In that regard, he added, SEZA has identified the Local Enterprise Authority (LEA) as a potential Zone Management Company for the Lobatse SEZ and Fair-

grounds Holdings for the Fairgrounds Fin-Tech SEZ.

“Botswana Innovation Hub (BIH) has been targeted for the SSKIA SEZ, SPEDU for Selibe Phikwe and Botswana Agricultural Marketing Board (BAMB) for Pandamatenga,” said Mogara.

He further revealed that SEZA is exploring partnerships with these stakeholders to leverage on their strengths and optimise the country’s resources. To this end, he said, SEZA has already signed a Memorandum of Agreement with BIH and another Memorandum of Understanding with Business Botswana.

“Negotiations are at an advanced stage to sign agreements with BAMB and LEA,” concluded Moraga.

GAZETTE REPORTER

The Special Economic Zones Authority (SEZA) was established to boost economic development by positioning Botswana as a premier investment destination and improving the country’s ease of doing business.

This was said by SEZA Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Lonely Mogara in a recent interview. He added that ease of doing business will be achieved by introducing special regulatory, administrative and fiscal regimes in identified Special Economic Zones (SEZs).

“Further, SEZA will address constraints that may generally hinder investment in the country such as work, residence and building permits, Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) as well as introducing tax incentives through a dedicated One Stop Service Centre (OSSC),” said Mogara.

SEZA was set up to establish, develop, manage and regulate a portfolio of public, private and Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) SEZs. Mogara explained that the Authority has a number of key objectives, among them to attract world class investors and diversify Botswana’s economy through increased export revenue and Foreign Direct Investment (FDI); develop SEZs that are integrated into the domestic, regional, and international markets; facilitate cluster development; and create backward and forward linkages anchored by targeted investors.

“We intend to roll-out a red carpet for SEZ investors through a robust One Stop Service Centre (OSSC). We will also regulate all SEZs in Botswana and monitor investor compliance to set rules and regulations,” said Mogara.

SEZs are a result of recommendations by the Business Economic Advisory Council (BEAC), which was set up by former President Festus Mogae in 2005. According to Mogara, the Botswana Excellence Strategy for Economic Diversification and Sustainable Growth identified Free Zones as “vehicles for introducing and making viable, new activities by providing attractive incentives (tax, labour, land, telecommunications costs), but only for highly specific, strictly circumscribed investment ventures.”

Subsequent to the BEAC recommendations, Government adopted the SEZ Policy of 2011. In 2012/13, Government engaged Kaiser and Associates - a renowned multinational head-quartered in the USA - to conduct a feasibility study, which recommended eight public sector led special



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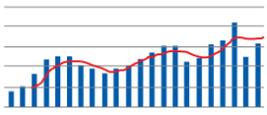
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# The Return of Choppies

Now that the troubled fast moving consumer goods (FMCG) giant, Choppies Enterprises Limited has disposed of non-performing operations, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Ramachandran Ottapathu is confident that Choppies will return to profitability, he spoke to Staff Writer **KEABETSWE NEWEL**.



(EPS) which has declined considerably. EPS refers simply to the value that shareholders derive in each share.

What Ram was confident about however is that Choppies has gotten rid of loss making operations which were bankrolled by the Choppies group. To the shrewd businessman, disposing of those operations was a strategy geared at ensuring that Choppies becomes liquid, and that it operates only profitable, self-sustainable operations and only those that will be profitable or sustainable in the near future.

**In the interview, neither did Ram want to comment on the company's Earnings per Share (EPS) which has declined considerably. EPS refers simply to the value that shareholders derive in each share.**

Choppies has disposed of its South African operations. South Africa has never been profitable to Choppies, despite that the operations were funded to the tune of millions in Pula, which drained the Choppies coffers. "We had around 92 stores in South Africa, and yet it was such a small number for us to be profitable. We needed a large number of stores to be profitable in that market. It was draining Choppies financially," he said in the interview. Further, Ram said Choppies also sold its Mozambique operations because they were loss making. He also said they are winding down in Kenya and Tanzania as well. "We should be done with the

To Page 17

On Monday this week, the Botswana Stock Exchange (BSE) CEO Thapelo Tsheole lifted the suspension of Choppies shares. It meant that Choppies resumed trading on the BSE. The shares were lifted after Choppies published all outstanding financial results on the BSE.

To Ram, as Ottapathu is affectionately known, the lifting of the suspension is the end of

the storm for Choppies, because Choppies shares will now be traded.

Just after the lifting of the suspension on Monday, Choppies was the largest trader on the Domestic Companies Index (DCI).

Over 1.7 million shares were traded, generating over P1.2 million in turnover according to the BSE daily market report.

The share price closed the day

trading at P0.69 thebe per share. A stockbroker, who spoke anonymously, said the large trading was probably shares that were bought from the Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) before the suspension and were supposed to be transferred to the BSE. He said as a result of the suspension, the shares could not move. The capital market analyst said Choppies' real performance will reflect after a week

or two, after the crunching and digesting of the Choppies financials.

Ram chose not to speak about the share price since the company is on a closed period, but he hinted that with its large pool of investors, Choppies has always been one of the liquid shares on the BSE.

In the interview, neither did Ram want to comment on the company's Earnings per Share

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## BOTSWANA LIFE MONTHLY UNIT PRICES

For any enquiries regarding the above, please call our Finance or Actuarial Departments at 364 5100

INVESTMENT FUND	Mar-20	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20
Mompati Life Fund	11.69	11.40	11.86	11.90	11.97
Mompati Retirement Annuity Fund	53.44	52.10	54.25	54.43	54.49
Mompati Educator Fund	13.82	13.47	14.02	14.07	14.13
Mompati Offshore Fund	2.93	2.70	2.95	2.97	2.99
Ex-IGI Fund	45.02	45.00	45.54	45.39	45.40
Khumo 2016 Preservation Fund	11.67	11.68	11.70	11.72	11.75
Shariah Model Portfolio Fund	0.74	0.61	0.65	0.67	0.72
Balanced Life Fund	12.80	12.50	13.08	13.15	13.25
Balanced Retirement Fund	58.66	57.26	59.97	60.28	60.69
Moderate Life Fund	15.13	14.77	15.46	15.54	15.65
Growth Offshore Fund	3.30	3.04	3.36	3.39	3.43

For more information, see our Fund Fact Sheets on our website



# Time Projects to Buy Barloworld Equipment

TLOTLO KEBINAKGABO

Property development firm, Time Projects Botswana, is currently in plans to add to their list of properties by purchasing property from Barloworld Equipment Botswana, this publication can reveal.

The Competition and Consumer Authority (CAA) received a merger notification for a purchase of immovable property, Lot 79961 (made up of Lots 75727, 75728, 75729 and 75730) in Gaborone by Time Projects Botswana (Pty) Ltd from Barloworld Equipment Botswana (Pty) Ltd.

Barloworld Equipment Botswana is a private company incorporated in accordance with the laws of Botswana. It is entirely controlled by Barloworld Equipment UK Limited. Barloworld Equipment UK Limited directly or indirectly controls the following companies in

Botswana: Barloworld Motor, Avis and Barloworld Equipment. Barloworld Equipment is the leading supplier of heavy earthmoving equipment to the mining and construction industry in Botswana.

**This is a company in the business of developing property to sell, development and project management, property and asset management, as well as property investment.**

The acquirer, on the other hand, Time Projects, was established in 1986 and undertakes projects ranging from low cost housing development in Botswana and Zambia and executive residential complexes to multi-million Pula com-

mercial office blocks, shopping centres and industrial developments. Some of the properties that it directly or indirectly controls in Botswana include Dimosse Investment (Pty) Ltd which owns a piece of residential land in Gaborone Block 5 Lot 75068, Adonis (Pty) Ltd through a dormant company which holds title to Plot 74538 Prime Plaza in Gaborone and Merle Investment (Pty) Ltd which owns investment property Plot 134, Independence Avenue, Gaborone.

This is a company in the business of developing property to sell, development and project management, property and asset management, as well as property investment. It earlier this year entered into a development agreement with Prime Time, which is subject to conditions in terms of which Time Projects will develop a retail shopping centre in Lobatse valued at P116 million.

# Choppies

From Page 16

process in a few months," he stressed.

Post the disposal, Ram said Choppies is now fairly liquid. The remaining operations are in Botswana, Choppies' home ground and most profitable operations. Further, Choppies operates in Zimbabwe, where Ram noted that they are profitable, as well as in Zambia, which is self sustainable. "Namibia is still a small operation with only 5 stores. If we open 5 more stores, Namibia will be profitable. All Choppies operations will then be profitable and our shareholders will be happy," he revealed, adding that Choppies no longer has cash-flow challenges.

As soon as Choppies returns to profitability, Ram said shareholder earnings shall increase, which will improve the attractiveness of Choppies and investor confidence.

Asked whether the winding down of other operations will not reduce Choppies revenue and growth prospects, Ram said the problem was that those operations were draining Choppies financially. Ram would rather focus on the profitable markets and expand in those. He said he will soon open shop in Gumare. There are other plans to expand in Zambia and Namibia.

There were questions over Choppies' corporate governance practices and some financial transactions, which Ram said are now water under the bridge. He said steps have been taken to address all those.

He said Choppies will claw its way back to being a star corporate performer with tighter governance structures, a clear succession plan and a watchful board.

"We have undertaken an aggressive restructuring. Choppies has recapitalised itself; appointed a Deputy CEO with over 25 years of grocery retail experience in Southern Africa, has appointed a new Chief Financial Officer (CFO); and appointed new auditors - international auditing firm, Mazars," he revealed, adding that all of them have commenced work, although some are still out of the country owing to travel restrictions.

Some of the measures taken by Choppies include the recapitalisation of the business by P50 million comprising a loan of P100million from founding shareholders, Ram Ottapathu and Farouk Ismail, and P50 million from trading operations.

Choppies also announced amendments to Ram's employment contract in accordance with the King IV Code on Corporate Governance. This includes a 43 percent

reduction in the current guaranteed portion of the CEO's remuneration to facilitate the introduction of short-term incentives. Ram said Choppies' unsatisfactory financials are as a result of unrealised foreign currency translation reserves of P300.8 million, for the 2019 full year.

**"We have undertaken an aggressive restructuring. Choppies has recapitalised itself; appointed a Deputy CEO with over 25 years of grocery retail experience in Southern Africa, has appointed a new Chief Financial Officer (CFO); and appointed new auditors - international auditing firm, Mazars," he revealed, adding that all of them have commenced work, although some are still out of the country owing to travel restrictions.**

"The effect of the deterioration of the Zimbabwean currency alone accounts for P323.2 million of this amount with the balance of P22.4 million made up of a net profit on translating other currencies. These unrealised losses from Zimbabwe were partly offset by the recognition of a hyperinflation reserve of P71.3 million," he said, adding that trading losses of P435.6 million (2018: P375.1 million) from regions that were closed/discontinued since the June 2019 year-end namely South Africa P306.6 million (2018: P273.8 million), Kenya P95.3 million (2018: P83.7 million), Tanzania P18.2 million (2018: P5.9 million) and Mozambique P15.5 million (2018:P11.7 million).

He emphasized that the losses were mainly from South Africa, Tanzania, Kenya and Mozambique.

"As a result, the board took a decision to reduce the losses by exiting these operations," he stated.



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## Media Release

### Reinvented, Rejuvenated and Ready to Relaunch – Plascon looks to the future

Plascon has remained Africa's go-to coatings manufacturer for over 130 years as a result of its ability to continuously reinvent itself. This year marks Plascon's biggest brand renewal yet, with rejuvenated products, exciting initiatives and a bold new look, to top things off.

In preparation for this relaunch, Plascon has been in a state of metamorphosis for quite some time. "Businesses are facing a number of challenges this year and an already tough economic climate has been worsened by the COVID-19 pandemic. To continue to remain relevant, we've set 2020 as the year to add even more value to our customers in this already difficult market. In addition to the brand's refreshed aesthetic and corporate identity, a new range of innovative and eco-friendly products that offer incredible new technologies with advantages for personal wellness and the planet will be available through renewed operations, logistics and distribution," says Gaketshepe Piet Sales & Marketing at Plascon.

The concept behind Plascon's new logo is a vision of the future. This idea of a forward-looking vision is intertwined with the golden thread of re-invention that runs through Plascon. It tells an inspiring and confident story.

The striking new logo replaces the former ellipse shape and takes the typography of the brand name into a more accessible lower case – with a bolder and upright form that communicates confidence and leadership. The letter forms are created with even stroke weights as if made with a paint roller or brush, which adds an extra dimension to brand storytelling.

Plascon's iconic oval lives on in the open space created by the new vision field and allows the logo to adapt easily to various online and offline communication platforms. The logo lives predominantly in a field of red that is intuitive and responsive and can be used as a tag on various executions.

Plascon's colour landscape has also been updated from the previous light red to a rich bold red. The primary colour palette is vibrant and evokes the sense of a new Africa, creating standout appeal across the brand assets, elevating Plascon's presence in the mind of its customers.

Plascon's new photographic style includes images that speak to its brand story with the paint as the hero. The style is clean, African, modern and approachable. Rooted in Plascon's heritage, the new identity embraces simplicity and contemporary styling, whilst maintaining the boldness and integrity for which Plascon is known.

Furthering its commitment to environmental conservation has been a big part of Plascon's relaunch. The brand is taking meaningful steps to reduce its impact on the environment with the introduction of new, eco-friendly products. One of the innovations that Plascon will bring to market in 2020 is Plascon TradePro Roof & More, which contains no APEOs - these harmful chemical compounds pollute the water cycle and destroy marine life.

Expect a range of other powerful new products from the country's leading coatings brand in the latter half of the year, to be launched under the brand's refreshed corporate identity. These changes affirm Plascon's re-orientation and refreshed commitment to focus on people and purpose.

Plascon Botswana has been a leading paint supplier in Botswana for over 30 years, a standing built on constant innovation and unwavering trust in the brands quality. Our brands are omnipresent across the Decorative, Retail, Trade, Automotive, Industrial and Protective Coatings sectors. The company has repeatedly set new benchmarks by reimagining and reinventing trustworthy products that make people's lives easier and better, without compromising on quality, with a focus on developing pioneering products while being conscious of their environmental impact. We conduct our business based on enduring relationships, trust and perseverance. We provide the best possible solutions for our customers' needs. Our ultimate objective is to create value to our shareholders, customers, employees, suppliers and the community.





# BPC Hikes Electricity Tariffs, Again

KEABETSWE NEWEL

**M**otivated by its precarious financial position, the perennial loss making Botswana Power Corporation (BPC), has applied to the Botswana Energy regulatory Authority (BERA) to further hike electricity tariffs, an announcement from BERA says.

According to the announcement, BERA says it received an application from the BPC on the 13<sup>th</sup> of June 2020, pursuant to Section 57 of the BERA Act. In its application, BERA said BPC proposes a cost reflective migration path to be implemented over three years, from the 2021/22 financial year to 2023/24 financial year.

According to BERA, BPC's current domestic tariff for the 2020/21 financial year is P1.02. BPC proposes that the tariff be increased to P1.07 in the 2021/22 financial year (5 percent increase) and a further P1.11 in the 2022/23 fiscal period representing a 4 percent increase. In the 2023/24 financial year, BPC proposes a P1.16 tariff for domestic use. For Government, BERA said the current tariff is P2.09 for the 2020/21 financial year. BPC has proposed P2.20, a 5 percent increase for the 2021/22 financial year and a further P2.29 and P2.38 in 2022/23 and 2023/24 respectively.

For commercial use, BPC proposes P1.44, P1.50 and P1.56 respectively for the 2021/22, 2022/23 and 2023/24 financial years respectively. The current tariff is at P1.37. Mining companies are currently paying a P1.03 tariff. BPC proposes that they pay, P1.09, P1.13 and P1.17 for the 2021/22, 2022/23 and 2023/24 financial years respectively.

BPC's reasons for hiking power tariffs is that in terms of Section 17 of the BPC Act (CAP 74:01), it is required to conduct its affairs on sound commercial lines and to produce a net operating income by which a reasonable return can be measured. According to BPC, this is achievable through gradual migration of electricity tariffs to a cost reflective status on a yearly basis. The Corporation also said this is supported by the Government draft National Energy Policy, whilst ensuring affordable and appropriately priced energy for local consumption.

For the years 2007/08 to 2016/17, BPC incurred operating losses. In 2007/08, BPC incurred P85 million in losses and a staggering P1.3 billion loss in the year 2016/17, ac-

ording to information provided by BERA.

In that period, BERA said the consumer tariff subsidy to BPC increased from P450 million in the year 2010/11 to P2.3 billion in the year 2015/16 to ensure that the Corporation's ability to continue as a going concern. BPC, according to BERA, was also constrained to dedicate financial resources towards its capital expenditure plans due to its strained cash position on account of its recurring losses. Only during the year ended 31 March 2018 and 31 March 2019, BPC made an operating profit of P1.1 billion and P727.9 million respectively, inclusive of Government's Consumer tariff Subsidy of P1.4 billion and P800 million respectively. Without the tariff subsidy, an operating loss of P299 million and P72 million would have been realised over the same years.

Information provided by BERA reveals that BPC's precarious financial position commenced as far back as 2009, mainly due to non-cost reflective tariffs. BPC continued to accumulate losses due to low availability of Morupule B Power Station and increasing cost of imported power. Government, according to BERA, continues to subsidise BPC in order to cushion the impact of non-cost reflective tariffs, but the subsidy has reduced significantly over the last 5 years. According to BERA, the cumulative tariff increase is lower than the cumulative subsidy reduction which is indicative of the revenue mismatch. "The award of the 22 percent tariff increase and the proposed 5 percent tariff increases contributes to the reduction of the under-recovery gap between the Total Cost of Electricity Supply and the Total Sales Revenue," BERA announced.

Further, BERA said BPC believes that the tariff proposal for the financial year ending 31 March 2021 is based on computations which consider achievement of the BPC MASA 2020 Strategy and progressive reduction in consumer subsidy as evidenced by the 22 percent tariff increase effective 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020. "This increase nonetheless, will not yield an immediate increase in revenue until recovery of the economy from the COVID-19 impact. For the year 2020/21, due to COVID-19, BPC revenue is projected to reduce by P323 million (8 percent) as compared to the budget. Further, the 2021/22 revenue consumption is estimated to increase by 11 percent resulting in a net increase of 3 percent.

## VACANCY

Commercial Motors, a subsidiary of the Sefalana Group of companies and Motor Dealership TATA, MAN and HONDA, has an opportunity for the following post. The position is tenable at Commercial Motors, Broadhurst Industrial, Gaborone.

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**Commercial Motors Pty Ltd**  
 P O Box 2276, Gaborone  
 Plot 10232/235 Moporoporo Road,  
 Broadhurst Industrial, Gaborone  
 Tel: 3952652

**ONLY SHORT LISTED CANDIDATES WILL BE CONTACTED**

Closing Date: **14 August 2020**

Commercial Motors Botswana



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## TENDER INVITATION

The Water Utilities Corporation invites companies to tender for the supply of the Corporation's requirements for:

### 1.DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF MORIRI BOOSTER PUMPSTATION AT SEROWE - TENDER No. WUC 028 (2020)

Bidding Companies for **WUC 028 (2020)** must be registered with **PPADB in Code 03 - Civil Engineering Works, Sub Code 06, Water supplies, sanitation reticulation and Irrigation works - Grade B.** A compulsory site visit for **WUC 028 (2020)** shall be held on the **04 August 2020 at 10:00hrs.** The site visit assembly shall be at **Serowe Customer Services Center** from where bidders will be guided to site (**Tenderers should arrive at or before 10:00 hours.**)

**The Tender document for WUC 028 (2020) is sold for P5,000.00 each. (Non-refundable)**

### 2.UPGRADE OF SIGA PUMP STATION- RAMOTSWA - TENDER NO. WUC 039 (2020)

Bidding Companies for **WUC 039 (2020)** must be registered with **PPADB Code 10, Water Engineering Services, Sub Code - 02 Storage tanks, Grade C.** A compulsory site visit for **WUC 039 (2020)** shall be held on the **05 August 2020 at 10:00hrs.** The site visit assembly point shall be at **Ramotswa Wastewater Works** from where bidders shall be guided to site (**Tenderers should arrive at or before 10:00 hours.**)

**The Tender document for WUC 039 (2020) is sold for P500.00 each. (Non-refundable)**

Specifications for these tenders may be obtained at the Corporation's Headquarters in Gaborone, Sedibeng House, Office No. 208 as of **27<sup>th</sup> July 2020.**

Tenders should reach this office not later than **14:00 hours on 27 August 2020** at which time public opening of the tenders will commence. Tenders should be hand delivered in sealed envelopes and clearly marked with the tender numbers and addressed to;

**The Corporation Secretary**  
**Water Utilities Corporation**  
 Sedibeng House  
 Office No. 208/2  
 Plot 17530 Luthuli Road  
 Old Industrial Site  
 Gaborone

Telephone enquiries: Senior Manager - Supply Chain 3619271 or 3902629  
 Logistics & Procurement Officer 3619265



# MTV Shuga Down South BW is back on radio

Now also on RB2, the drama has a wider reach. Add Orange's 124 Service and the Shuga gets sweeter. StaffWriter **GOSEGO MOTSUMI** can attest to that

The groundbreaking radio drama, "MTV Shuga Down South BW," has made a return to the airwaves to tap into issues of behavioural change among the youth. In May this year, UNICEF, in partnership with NAHPA and MTV-SAF, introduced MTV Shuga Down South BW, which is a mass-media behavioural change campaign that fuses sexual health messaging with gripping storylines, exploring issues of sexual relationships among young people.

"It tackles tough issues young people's issues such as inter-generational sexual partners, gender-based violence and transactional sex

This production initially aired on the youthful radio station, Yarona FM, and has since increased its footprint to broadcasting on Channel 2 of Radio Botswana

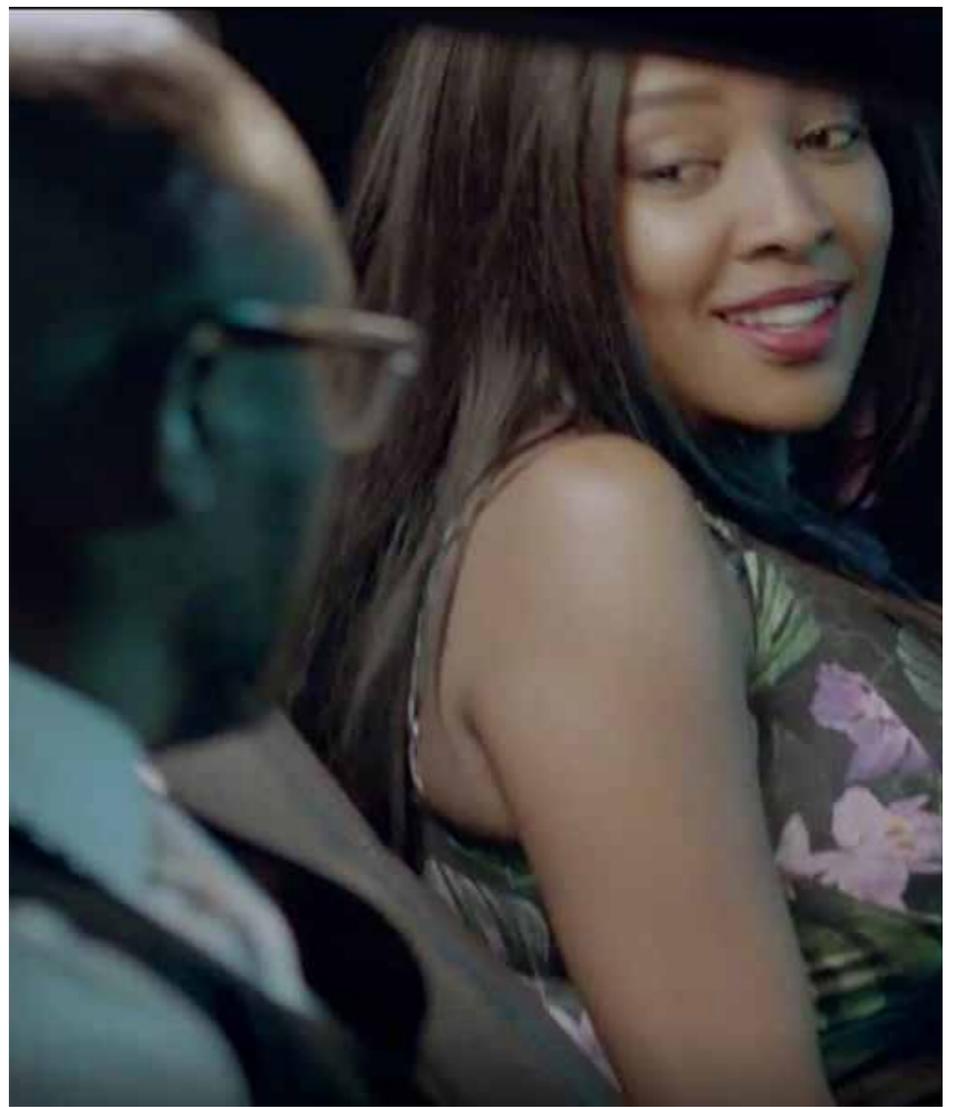
(RB2) where it continues to shape narratives and influence behaviour and attitudes. "The concept of the radio drama is to use the edutainment model as a vehicle to impact behavioural change by creating content that educates at-risk youth on their sexual and reproductive health," said Communications for Development Officer at UNICEF, Joseph Segodi, in an interview.

"It tackles young people's issues such as inter-generational sexual partners, gender-based violence and transactional sex. Through stories that resonate with their own life, young people learn about HIV and having mutually respectful relationships."

According to Segodi, young Batswana have factual knowledge about safe sexual behaviour but face challenges when it comes to putting this knowledge into practice. This disconnect has resulted in high HIV prevalence among young people aged 15-24 years (9.3% among young women and 5% among young men). The latest estimates show that young people aged 15-24 account for a third of new HIV infections (34%), with the majority of infections (69%) occurring among young women.

"We knew that we had to reach young people in a more fun and creative way if we wanted to reduce the number of new HIV infections among this group," Segodi said.

The storyline follows a group of young



people and focuses on HIV prevention and testing (including HIV self-testing), PrEP and treatment, condom use, inter-generational relationships and multiple concurrent partnerships with the aim of empowering the youth with information, knowledge and skills in order to protect themselves from HIV and to seek treatment. It addresses gender-based violence and social norms that perpetuate violence, HIV and teenage pregnancy. It also focuses on creating demand for HIV self-testing, condom use, pre-exposure prophylaxis and other HIV prevention strategies. The use of multi-platform approaches by the producers will expand the reach to young people who are in need of the information throughout the country.

"The characters of the radio drama include KayGee, Bongie, Bra King, Pat, Dineo, Morati, Q, Sol and Thato," Segodi ex-

plained. "All of these characters are played by budding and well-known actors and voice artists."

The radio drama was conceptualised in 2019 and draws inspiration from Botswana youths, their interests and lifestyles and the challenges they face in making safe decisions concerning their sexual health. It also builds on the success and lessons learnt from Season One of Shuga Radio, Ma2000BW.

The Shuga radio drama series is also accessible by young people through an interactive voice response platform called 124 Service where any Orange subscribers can dial 124 to access the episodes at their convenience or play the MTV Shuga Down South BW Interactive game which allows players to choose their adventure and take ownership of their decisions.



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# COVID-19 compels Thapong to mount exhibition online

Thapong Visual Arts Centre's first virtual art exhibition will be predicated on COVID-19

**GOSEGO MOTSUMI**

In a bid to highlight socio-economic issues brought on by the Coronavirus, Thapong Visual Arts Centre is inviting its member-artists to submit works predicated on COVID-19, The Botswana Gazette has established.

This will be Thapong's first virtual exhibition and will be displayed on the centre's social media platforms sometime in August but room has been left for a physical exhibition for a limited number of people.

After opening, viewing will strictly be by appointment so as to observe social distancing. "This is so that we access our audiences that are not in the country because our crafts rely heavily on tourists," said Coordinator, Reginald Bakwena, in an interview.

"The physical opening will be for the first 75 patrons or less as per the COVID-19 health protocols where social distancing will be maintained. This exhibition will require participants to explore the theme of COVID-19 fully."

Contemporary and fine art are among the hardest hit as art spaces were forced to close, affecting the earning of artists. The market for local art is still made up of tourists mainly but Bakwena says more and more Batswana are supporting artists and buying small crafts.

He disclosed that business came to an abrupt halt during lockdowns and the forthcoming exhibition is aimed at re-opening opportunities for the 800 plus Thapong member artists. Artists are encouraged to interpret, analyse, and project the COVID-19 situation using their creative perspectives and insight before making submissions of two artworks before 31<sup>st</sup> July 2020.

"As they say, pictures speak a thousand words," Bakwena said. "We want these submissions to further push public information about this virus. People are more interested in images than words and this body of works should help in the government's efforts to educate people."

The Coordinator of Thapong noted that the pandemic has accelerated changes that were already taking shape as the number of audiences visiting physical art spaces was declining. He observed that even though online viewing does not give the physical hit of encountering a powerful artwork, it offers time and space away from the crowd to slowly inspect pieces.

"Of recent we have found ourselves in a world where we could retreat in fear or co-exist with the virus by moving digitally," he said. "This period has redesigned the way the art world works. We have had a lot of virtual meetings with other regional curators to map a way forward in the midst of the pandemic. By the looks of things, this will be our new normal."

While COVID-19 is having a significant impact on events planned for 2020, Thapong is not deterred from staging its annual Thapong Artist of the Year awards

(TAYA) in November. "We are discussing with relevant stakeholders about the upcoming awards based on government's directives regarding the pandemic," Bakwena said. "We intend to stage the awards because artists have had a rough year."



Artwork by Mbako Lesetedi

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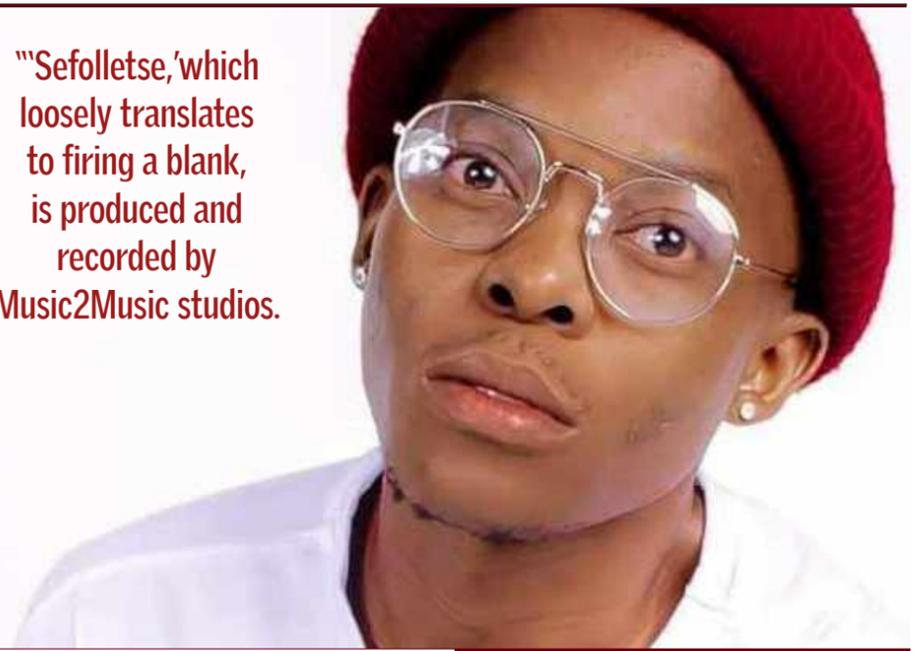
# Motlha aims to top the charts with "Sefolletse"

Never mind the name that suggests firing blanks, the chartbuster aims to top the charts again

After leaving his former record label, Roc Lefatshe, vocalist Motlha Mompe dropped a new single this week titled "Sefolletse" by which he hopes to return to the top the charts this year. The 26-year old Mmadinare native

dominated the airwaves back in 2018 with his massive hit "Mmamotse" that ushered him into the limelight. "Sefolletse" is the crooner's re-introduction to music under a new team with a brand new strategy aimed at earning him the Record of the

"Sefolletse,' which loosely translates to firing a blank, is produced and recorded by Music2Music studios.



## TENDER BUAN 5/2020: SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF COMPUTER EQUIPMENT AT BOTSWANA UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES (BUAN)

### NAME AND ADDRESS DETAILS OF PROCURING DEPARTMENT AND ITS AGENT PREPARING THE DOCUMENTS

PROCURING ENTITY	AGENT
BOTSWANA UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES	MANAGER, PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY PRIVATE BAG 0027 GABORONE  TEL: 3650246 FAX: 3928753

TENDER BUAN 5/2020	TENDER NOTICE and INVITATION TO TENDER
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### TENDER BUAN 5/2020 SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF COMPUTER EQUIPMENT AT BOTSWANA UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES (BUAN)

1. Tender offers are invited from 100% Citizen owned companies for the Supply and Delivery of Computer Equipment at Botswana University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (BUAN)

**Method of Procurement:** Open Domestic Bidding.

2. The Procuring Entity is Botswana University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (BUAN)
3. Tenderers who are domiciled in Botswana must, in order to be considered for the award of the contract, be registered with the **Public Procurement and Asset Disposal Board** in the following categories:  
**Code 203: Electrical, Electronic, Mechanical & ICT Supplies**  
**Sub Code: 01 Electrical, Electronic Equipment, Spares & Accessories (Includes ICT, Photographic equipment & Others)**
4. **Evaluation Method:** Least Cost Selection, Supplies
5. **Submission Method:** Single Envelope
6. **Tender Validity:** 120 days
7. The physical address for collection of tender documents is:

Manager Procurement & Supply  
Botswana University of Agriculture and Natural Resources  
Block 304  
Office No. 2  
Content Farm, Sebele Gaborone

Documents may be collected during working hours between **08:30 to 12:30 and 13:45 to 15:30** hours on weekdays with effect from **28th July 2020 to 28th August 2020 at a Non-Refundable fee of P200.00.**

100% youth owned companies will purchase the document at half price (P100.00)

8. Queries relating to the issue of these documents may be addressed to **Manager Procurement & Supply at Tel: 3650246/177/384 Fax: 3928753 E. Mail: [purchasing@buan.ac.bw](mailto:purchasing@buan.ac.bw)** before **1630 hours on the 10th August 2020.**
9. The closing date and time for receipt of tender offers is **28th August 2020 at 1100 hours in Office 2 Block 304 Botswana University of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Content Farm, Sebele, Gaborone.**

Late tender, telephonic, fax, or electronic offers will not be accepted

Notwithstanding anything in the foregoing, the University is not bound to accept the lowest or any tender offer, nor incur expenses in the preparation thereof.



Year award.

"The song is going to be a very strong candidate for Song of the Year," said the artist in a statement. "Sefolletse,' which loosely translates to firing a blank, is produced and recorded by Music2Music studios. Tribal Tiido is the musical brains behind the mixing and mastering of the new song."

The single is the first official song that the artist is releasing this year after going separate ways with his former business associates in Roc Lefatshe. Roc Lefatshe's Suffocate had previously said in a statement that they parted ways amicably with the artist after their three-year contract came to an end.

**The single is the first official song that the artist is releasing this year after going separate ways with his former business associates in Roc Lefatshe**

Turning his attention to the inspiration behind the new song, the artist said the Afro-pop single is rich in Setswana lyrics that he attributed to his artistic gift. The song is about an ex-lover who betrays their relationship and disregards the couple's plans for each other.

"The artist then delivers a powerful positive message in the second verse of the song when the ex-lover finds the courage to forgive and to move on regardless of the wrongs done him. Motlha's motto is to make music that touches hearts and changes lives," said the artist's new management, Music2Music Records, in a media statement.

The artist attributes his musical growth and the new drive to finding and being content with himself, as well as to his overall spiritual growth. The single will be available on all online music platforms while CDs will be available from venues that will be communicated in due course. It remains to be seen whether the single will match his previous hits and catapult Motlha back to the top.



# The best behind the lens to be recognised

Women are encouraged to participate in this competition that has a wide category

**GOSEGO MOTSUMI**

**I**n a historic turn of events, local photography outfit Treveron Media will stage Botswana's first photography awards on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2020, Time Out has established.

Styled BW Photographers Awards, the initiative is an effort that seeks to recognise and reward the best imagery and the people behind it in Botswana. The award ceremony is set to be a red carpet and star-studded affair that will provide insights into the contemporary work of both established and emerging artists.

"We have been able to see the world through the lens of photographers and they are not appreciated, especially here," said co-owner of Treveron Media, Tshephang Mmoko, in an interview. "We saw fit to celebrate their talent. Photographers have also been severely affected as a result of

COVID-19 and this event is set to bring back their morale so they take their craft to the next level."

With the power to re-start and shape careers, the award ceremony will also focus on building client-based relationships with photographers and business partners in Botswana to advance the arts industry. The event will be preceded by a photo contest where photographers will submit their best works in categories of fine art portrait photography, street photography, landscape photography, wildlife photography, architectural photography and food and beverages photography.

Female photographers are encouraged to participate, especially in the fine art portrait photography and street photography categories.

Said Mmoko: "Photographers have been able to transport us to destinations that we have only heard of. This includes

how some people know what the Okavango Delta looks like when they have never been there. Because photography documents and freezes moments, it allows us to make sense of our surroundings. I look forward to the creative snaps that the entrants will submit."

A panel of four experienced photographers, Letso Leipego of Let's Photography, wildlife photographer Karabo LebronPeter, Cape Town-based photographer and founder of Flash Poets Photography Greg Liss and Enzo The Photographer will judge the submitted works. This jury will select three best photos for each category and the public will then vote for the best photo in each category using local networks. The winning photos will be announced at the awards ceremony. The photographer with the most votes from all categories will ultimately be crowned Photographer of the Year.

Competing photographs should be submitted through the BW Photographers Awards website and only Botswana are eligible to participate. A single photograph can be submitted for each category and the participant should be the sole owner of the copyright of all submitted works. Submitted files should also be less than 2MB, not edited, and shot with a DSLR camera.

The competition will start on 15 July 2020 and end on 4 October 2020 while the judging of the photos will be on 6 to 15 October 2020. Announcement of nominees will follow on 16 October 2020 and voting by the public on 17 October to 6 December 2020.

BW Photographers Awards have partnered with the Ministry of Youth Empowerment, Sports and Culture at the ministry's Kanye Office and Kanye Bulletin.

"This is a chance for everyone who is passionate about photography," Mmoko concluded. "This will be an annual event and a lot of photographers have embraced this new concept that is set to take the industry to dizzying heights," she concluded.



Republic of Botswana

## MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION AND TOURISM

### EXTERNAL ADVERTISEMENT

#### VACANCY CIRCULAR NO 7 of 2020

**REF: ENT 4/26/11 II (96) DATE: 14<sup>th</sup> July 2020**

**TO: All Permanent Secretaries / All Heads of Departments**

#### VACANCY: PROCUREMENT & PROJECT MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR – E1

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

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

**Salary Scale: E1 - (P425, 376, 816 – P442, 584) per annum**

#### Benefits:

- i) Optional Contributory Medical Aid Scheme (Government pays 50% and employee pays 50%).
- ii) Contributory Pension Scheme for Permanent and Pensionable staff (Government pays 15% and employee pays 5%).
- iii) A contract of 24 to 36 months with gratuity at the rate of 30% payable upon expiry of contract.

**Leave:** 30 working days per annum.

**Qualifications:** Degree in Supply Chain Management/ Logistic/ Project Management or any relevant field. Must be a registered member of one of the listed institutions or registered member of a recognised equivalent institution: CIPS, MCIPS, CILT, ISM, NCMA, ARC, QSRC and ERB

**Experience:** Applicants must have at least minimum of sixteen (16) years relevant work experience, 2 years of which should have been served on E2 salary scale or equivalent.

#### Main Purpose of the Job

To provide strategic leadership and guidance on the execution of procurement, facilities management and contract management, as well as asset disposal in a timely and most cost effective manner.

#### Key Performance Areas

Policy Interpretation and Advisory Services

- Provides advisory support to all Departments/Divisions/Units in the Ministry on all procurement.
- Provides professional advice and guidance to the Ministry on matters relating to procurement and project management practices for effective procurement of goods, works and services and for effective project management.

#### Stake holder Engagement

- Liaises with PPADB, MTC, and MFDP, other relevant procurement structures, other Ministries/Departments and oversight bodies as may be necessary for successful delivery of procurement.

#### Negotiations

- Provides professional leadership in negotiations with bidders/contractors to facilitate effective delivery of procurement services.

#### Development of Procurement & Project Management Strategy

- Develops procurement and project management strategy in line with

the relevant laws, policies and regulations and facilitates its implementation.

- Leads the dissemination of best practices in procurement to facilitate greater work efficiencies in the Procurement Unit.
- Oversees the examination and development of estimates of material, equipment and services requirement.
- Manages all procurement and disposal tender activities of the Ministry
- Oversees the preparation of tender documents
- Identifies the needs and potential suppliers.
- Maintains systems for timely dissemination of procurement and contract award information.
- Supervises the maintenance of adequate stock control and replenishment systems in the PU's central and subsidiary warehouses and related disposal activities of assets and obsolete non-serviceable inventory items.

#### Financial Management

- Coordinates the preparation of the Procurement Unit budget
- Oversees and coordinates the utilization of the ministry funds.

#### COMPETENCIES

- Understanding the Business
- Making Complex decisions
- Focusing on the Bottom Line
- Managing Work Process and systems
- Acting with Honour and Character
- Demonstrating personal flexibility
- Sharing the vision
- Handling Tough people calls
- Getting work done through others

#### Applications:

Applicants should quote the reference number of this advertisement and provide:

- a) (i) Detailed Curriculum Vitae.  
(ii) Certified copies of Certificates (Academic and Professional) and at least two (2) recent work related references
- b) Serving Public Officers should indicate:
  - (i) Date of first appointment Present position and Appointment thereto.

#### Important:

Applications from serving Public Officers should be routed through their Heads of Departments and Permanent Secretaries. Applications not so routed will not be considered. **Applicants who do not meet the minimum requirements stipulated above will not be responded to.** Only the short-listed candidates will be contacted.

**Applications should be addressed to:**

**The Permanent Secretary  
Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources, Conservation and Tourism  
Private Bag BO 199  
Gaborone**

**Closing Date: 10<sup>th</sup> August 2020**

# Financial Centre FDI Declines By P1.7 Billion

TLOTLO KEBINAKGABO

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) generated through International Financial Services Centre (IFSC) in Botswana declined significantly by almost P1.7 billion between March 2019 and March 2020, a presentation by Botswana Investment and Trade Centre (BITC) Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Keletsositse Olebile has revealed.

Olebile made the presentation yesterday (Tuesday) during the BITC media capacitation session held in Gaborone. He said the FDI registered through IFSC declined from P2, 242,201,640 as at March 2019 to P691, 278, 273 at the end of March 2020.

He attributed the decline to fluctuating market trends.

"At times we have what is called wind-falls," he told this publication on the sidelines of the session. "This is whereby some companies engage in massive expansion projects. They tend to mobilize a lot of capital in that particular year. It however, turns out to be a one-of thing. Despite these fluctuations though, a lot of FDI flows into Botswana through these companies".

An IFSC is a set-up that caters to customers outside the jurisdiction of the domestic economy, dealing with inflows of finance, financial products and services across borders.

To register under IFSC, a company must be registered in Botswana and make a formal application to the International Financial Services Centre Certification Committee through BITC. If the company meets criteria for IFSC certification, BITC will forward a recommendation to the Minister of Finance and Development Planning who will issue a certificate stipulating approved activities.

FDI on the other hand is an investment made by a firm or individual in one country into business interests located in another country. BITC is charged with attracting FDI into Botswana. To that end, Olebile noted that the IFSC sector is essential in Botswana as it positions the country as a regional gateway for financial and capital flows into Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the rest of Africa. He said the country's IFSC regime currently 51 certified companies of which 23 are operational. Some of the IFSC accredited companies in Botswana are Choppies, Motovac, Letshego and Imara Capital Securities.

Olebile further stated that it is in the best interest of Botswana as a country which has been widely endorsed internationally as an ideal Financial and Business services Hub in Africa, to take a leading position as an attractive hub for regional, cross border financial or capital flows. He said the IFSC is a big enabler of the broader Financial Services Sector which is the 3rd largest contributor to GDP in Botswana.



Botswana Investment and Trade Centre (BITC) Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Keletsositse Olebile



## PRESS RELEASE

### BHC CONTRIBUTES TO THE GOVERNMENT COVID-19 RELIEF FUND

Botswana Housing Corporation (BHC) is committed to fight against the COVID-19 pandemic and has therefore seen it fit to heed to the Botswana Government's call to citizens and Corporates to join hands in the fight against the pandemic.

In line with its Corporate value of BOTHO, which seeks to restore human dignity and reach out to those amongst us who are less fortunate, the Corporation through its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative has contributed P1,000,000.00 (One Million Pula) towards the Government COVID-19 Relief Fund. In addition, the BHC Leadership Team has also contributed a total of P110,000.00 to the fund.

The pandemic has indeed brought to bear unprecedented economic challenges. The Corporation remains committed to assisting its valuable customers who may be unable to meet their financial obligation by offering flexible payment arrangements. BHC Tenants who find themselves in this position are invited to contact the following Regional Directors for assistance;

**Mr. Kesebonye Khimbele - Regional Director - South Tel: 3646900/ 72 318 675**

**Ms. Bridget Mtonga - Regional Director - North Tel: 2415080/ 72692853**

At BHC, we remain committed in joining hands with the Government of Botswana in fighting this pandemic by adhering to the Emergency Powers (COVID- 19 Regulations 2020).

**For more information please contact;**

Gomolemo Zimona (Mr)

**Head of Marketing & Communication**

**Tel. 3605228/ 72 417 166**

Find us on



BHCBotswana www.bhc.bw

#HelpStopTheSpreadOfCovid-19

## ABSA BANK BOTSWANA LAUNCHES NOVAFX APP

Recently, Absa Bank Botswana launched its flagship mobile phone forex exchange buying app called Nov FX. The app simplifies and make it seamless to buy foreign exchange (forex) and make cross border payments from a mobile phone.

“We are constantly innovating to meet the transactional needs of our customers which allows them to bank anywhere, at their own time. Botswana has one of the highest mobile phone penetrations in the



world at 150 percent, which offers Absa the opportunity to continue deploying new products offerings through channels that most of our customer's use.” said James Nthoi, Head of Markets. The move to introduce a NovoFX app is also in line with the bank's goal of making branch visits for essential customer needs and not for everyday banking. The app is available and can be downloaded from both Android and IOS phones through Google or Apple store for free. As this is a transactional app, NovoFX is accessible to existing Absa customers that have cheque or savings account and should be registered for internet banking. “Being registered for internet banking is a pre-requisite as a customer has to use their credentials for NovoFX” added Nthoi. There are fees associated with using the NovoFX app and these are foreign

exchange commissions and swift charges inclusive of VAT as outlined in Absa Bank Botswana Tariff Guide.

## CHOPPIES FRAUD ALLEGATIONS WILL FAIL- REPORT

Retail giant, Choppies Enterprises Limited has informed shareholders that legal counsel has concluded that allegations of fraud in respect of bulk sales which took place during Easter 2018 in both South Africa and Zimbabwe would not likely succeed in a court of law nor in a formal quasi-judicial setting such as a disciplinary hearing.

“Legal counsel is satisfied that the evidence before him can do no better than establish equal probability which means that the case of fraud will likely fail on the onus, placed on the entity alleging fraud,” read the report. The preliminary report will be made available to people implicated for comment. Implicated persons have three weeks to respond.



## VACANCIES

Applications are invited from suitably qualified citizens of Botswana to fill the following positions in the Bank.

### 1. Systems Analyst

#### (a) Main Purpose of the Job:

To undertake and supervise the installation, operation and maintenance of the Bank's physical and electronic security systems network.

#### (b) Job Requirements:

Bachelor's Degree in Electrical Engineering, Telecommunications Systems or Computer Science plus two years post qualification work experience.

OR

A Technical Diploma in Electrical, Electronic or Telecommunication Engineering with at least four years post qualification work experience in related field like electronic/electrical systems maintenance e.g. CCTV camera systems, access control systems, fire detection systems, X-Rays, radio communication systems, etc.

#### (c) Required Skills and Competencies:

Initiative;  
Excellent communication skills (verbal and written), especially report writing;  
Results focus and performance driven;  
Good customer service and interpersonal skills;  
Leadership and people management;  
Planning and organising;  
Integrity and trustworthiness; and  
Problem solving and decision making skills.

#### (b) Job Requirements:

Bachelor's Degree in Information Systems/ Computer Science/Information Technology or related field plus a recognised professional Certification in Information Systems (CISA/CISM/ CISSP) or equivalent plus atleast two years post qualification experience in Computer Information Systems Audit or Information Security control. Knowledge of script writing using any script language will be an added advantage. Membership of an internationally recognised institution such as Information Systems Audit and Controls Association (ISACA), is desirable.

#### (c) Required Skills and Competencies:

Initiative;  
Excellent communication skills (verbal and written), especially report writing;  
Results focus and performance driven;  
Good customer service and interpersonal skills;  
Leadership and people management;  
Planning and organising;  
Integrity and trustworthiness; and  
Problem solving and decision making skills.

#### REMUNERATION PACKAGE AND BENEFITS

- Attractive Salary;
- Contributory Pension Scheme;
- Various Staff Advance Schemes (e.g. Motor Vehicle and Housing Loans);
- Group Life Assurance, Group Accident, Disability and Dread Disease covers;
- Relocation Expenses, where applicable; and
- Medical Aid Scheme.

Applications, including curriculum vitae, certified copies of certificates, transcripts and at least two most recent references should be sent by **August 14 2020** to:

Director  
Human Resources Department  
Bank of Botswana  
Private Bag 154  
Gaborone

**NB: The Bank will only contact shortlisted candidates.**

### 2. Internal Auditor (Information Systems and Projects)

#### (a) Main Purpose of the Job:

To conduct internal audit, reviews of risks and controls and undertake inspections in accordance with approved audit programmes and special investigations to ensure compliance with the Bank's Information Technology, Computer Systems and Projects Management, accounting and business policies, procedures and practices in order to safeguard the information assets of the Bank and promote effectiveness, efficiency and economy.

## GETBUCKS DONATES



GetBucks Botswana has donated over P200 000 to the COVID 19 Relief efforts both in kind and monetary assistance. The official hand over of the donation was received by Minister of Presidential Affairs, Governance and Public Administration Kabo Morwaeng.

Speaking at the event, Minister of Presidential Affairs, Governance and Public Administration Kabo Morwaeng commanded companies and individuals who continue to make donations to the relief fund. He further stated that donors have become a huge part of the solutions implemented

P100 000.00 was presented to be the Office of the president, the other P120 000 was donated to Lapologang Primary School in-kind. The Lapologang donation included, thermometers, hand Sanitizers, sensory sanitizer dispensers, bins and tissue Rolls.

GetBucks Botswana adopted Lapologang Primary School in 2018, under the Minister of Basic Education's Adopt-A-School' initiative. Since the inception of the relationship, GetBucks has donated over P400 000 which created a positive impact in the school's performance.

Speaking at the event, GetBucks representative Marshal Chimedza said “As Government continues to relax Lockdown restrictions, let us not forget, the fight is not over. Let's continue to keep safe and practice social distancing.”

Chimedza called out to other corporate bodies to in the private sector to continue helping the government in this fight.

# BFH Assesses Botswana's medical schemes landscape

The Board of Healthcare Funders (BHF), a representative body for the continent's healthcare funding industry, has released a report on the Botswana medical funds industry. This is the first report of its kind to be developed on medical schemes in Botswana and for medical funds in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region by the BHF.

Botswana currently has a total of five medical funds registered with the Non-Banking Financial Institutions Regulatory Authority (NBFIRA). Four are members of the Board of Healthcare Funders and submitted data for preparation of the report. The four medical aid funds collectively represent just over 95 percent of lives covered by medical aid funds in Botswana.

Said Lesego Pule, Chairman of the Botswana Association of Medical Aid Funds, speaking at the on-line launch of the report: "Our aim is to drive the improvement in the quality of healthcare in Botswana and create access to affordable health services to the population. This will support and enable us to attain the objectives that we have set out in order to achieve this goal. Our view is that collectively we can achieve meaningful impact for the healthcare industry in our country."

The report highlights a number of metrics to measure the growth of medical aid funds in Botswana, assess the performance and sustainability of medical aid funds in the country, measure the risk provision of the medical fund industry, and measure quality of care, which is an important component of Universal Health Coverage (UHC). It also tracks out-of-pocket expenditure by medical aid beneficiaries to ensure that funds provide best value and quality healthcare for members.

Speaking at the same occasion, Charlton Murove, BHF Research Head, noted: "The objective of the report is to evaluate the contributions of the medical aid funds to the health status of the country's population, identify gaps and establish areas of improvement to enhance member experiences of medical aid funds. The report will be useful for future planning and the establishment of industry-wide responses to some of the chal-

lenges that we identified from this research."

The research found that Botswana is well positioned to deliver on UHC objectives, given its benefit structure and low pricing model. Across the four funds, there were 30 benefit options in 2018 and an improvement in 2019, with 29 benefit options. The average number of options was therefore 7.25 in 2019. Likewise, the average option size increased in 2019.

Furthermore, the average age of beneficiaries in Botswana is relatively low at about 29 years, compared with South Africa where the average medical aid member age is approximately 32 years. Similarly, the pensioner ratio is also low at about 3 percent, compared with South Africa, for example, where the average pensioner ratio is about 9 percent.

**The four medical aid funds collectively represent just over 95 percent of lives covered by medical aid funds in Botswana. Said Lesego Pule, Chairman of the Botswana Association of Medical Aid Funds, speaking at the on-line launch of the report**

Murove noted that Botswana remains among some of the most affordable countries in the region in terms of its medical aid average pricing structures. Compared with South Africa, for example, the average cost of medical aid cover in Botswana is BWP400 compared to R1,300, with the current exchange rate at R1 to BWP0,70.

The Botswana medical funds environment continues to grow. In 2019, the industry saw an 5.8% growth increase compared with South Africa, for example, where the industry has stagnated. In 2019, the medical scheme

industry grew by only 0.5% in 2018 in South Africa. The reserves of these funds, calculated as a proportion of gross annual contributions, grew from 50.6% in 2018 to 51.6% in 2019.

"Healthy solvency reserves is a good indication and means that these funds have the ability to invest in programmes for the benefit of their members, and in the event of a crisis can shoulder the financial burden on behalf of members," Murove pointed out.

However, there are some areas that still need improvement. Critical to note is that the disease burden faced by the funds in the country is high and on the increase while prevalence of HIV and cardiovascular conditions is also very high. "This means that medical aid funds need to put in place health interventions to manage these conditions to limit their effects on sustainability," Murove observed.

He explained that the report found that the overall OOP expenditure in Botswana, compared with countries like South Africa, remains relatively high. The OOP expenditure represented approximately 20% of total healthcare expenditure in 2019, compared with South Africa, which represents 19% of total healthcare expenditure. However, these are some of the patterns that would have remained unknown if a report of this nature had not been developed.

"Limiting OOP payments is crucial to supporting households in shouldering the financial burden of healthcare costs to enable the attainment of UHC," Murove noted. "This report presents an opportunity for reflection around some of these issues and will enable medical aid funds to look at areas of improvement going forward."

Pule concluded: "The report provides a benchmark and gives insights to enable a holistic view of our country's medical aid funds' landscape and performance. We are not too far off the mark. We now know where we are doing very well and areas that need improvement. We can now begin to review those areas to ensure alignment with industry best practices to present the best to our members and a model framework that can be used for the entire region."





# Kalahari Honey amongst Top 50 Finalists for Africa Netpreneur Prize Initiative

Local entrepreneur, Mavis Nduchwa of Kalahari Honey is hoisting the country's flag high as she was recently announced among the top 50 finalists for the 2020 "Africa's Business Heroes" Competition, from Jack Ma Foundation's annual Africa Netpreneur Prize Initiative. Nduchwa was selected out of the 22,000 applications from all over Africa, half of the applicants are female who work in 18 sectors that include agriculture, AI, e-commerce, fashion, healthcare, renewable energy and ICT.

Kalahari Honey is a project that deals with various quality organic products including beauty products, organic honey, milk products, organic tea and others. Nduchwa founded this project and has traveled with her honey to places like Seattle, USA, where she participated in an acceleration program by Fledge, which is a global network of conscious company accelerators and investment funds, helping entrepreneurs create impactful companies. Kalahari Honey has been able to generate value for hundreds of people who consume the products as well as create several job opportunities.

The fifty entrepreneurs stand a chance to become one of the ten entrepreneurs who will compete in the grand finale later this year. The diversity of the finalist roster reflects the aim of Africa's Business Heroes to be inclusive and grassroots, providing entrepreneurs from all over Africa with a platform to showcase their talent and business ideas, regardless of nationality, industry, age or gender.

The average age of the cohort is 37 with the youngest candidate aged 22 and the eldest aged 64. Further, 50 percent of the candidates are female, a 24 percent increase from the debut competition last year. Moreover, 32 percent are francophone, reflecting this year's competition opening applications in French for the first time.

Over the past month, a panel of 140 highly skilled and experienced judges reviewed the submissions, evaluating applicants' leadership and vision, their ability to translate their innovations and ideas into sustainable and robust business models, and their commitment to create positive impact to uplift their communities. Judges, whose un-

rivalled knowledge and industry expertise has brought immense added value to the selection process, represented a variety of key sectors in Africa, such as agriculture, tech, retail and e-commerce, education, healthcare, finance, logistics, and tourism.

Before stepping into the second round of selection, which will determine the top 20 finalists, the fifty selected entrepreneurs were invited to join an exclusive virtual boot camp hosted by the Africa's Business Heroes team on July 28<sup>th</sup>. The boot camp represents a further opportunity for aspiring candidates to access unparalleled knowledge and insights from across the ABH network. It also aims to build up finalists' management and leadership capabilities and ultimately increase not only their chance of progressing to the next stages of the competition but to further develop as entrepreneurs.

During the boot camp, they had the chance to receive feedback from round 1 judges such as Rafeh Saleh, Director of the Founder Institute and Omolara Awoyemi, Senior Program Manager at Facebook. Participants will also have the opportunity to attend interactive workshops with industry and business leaders, who have been partnering with ABH this year, including Abdelhameed Sharara, Founder & CEO of RiseUp; Patrick Awuah, Founder & President of Ashesi University, and Sebastien Nony, General Partner of Janngo Capital. It will also feature a few of the 2019 finalists who will provide advice and insights on their own journeys.

The selection process to spotlight the 2020 Africa's Business Heroes finalists will continue throughout the summer. Following round 2 interviews and the semi-finales pitch, the top 20 and top 10 finalists will be announced in August and September respectively. ABH will culminate in a grand finale show later this year, where the top 10 finalists will take the stage to pitch to business legends including Jack Ma – for a chance to win their share of a US\$1.5 million prize pool.

A number of round one judges commented on their experience with Africa's Business Heroes, noting:

"I am thrilled to have served as a judge for the Africa's Business Heroes competition. It's been an honour to help identify business heroes from Africa that are genuinely committed to changing the game in their respective industries. In these challenging times, getting to discover how the ABH applicants

manage to turn challenges into opportunities, with a real sense of purpose and dedication to improve the conditions of people in their communities strengthens my belief in the promise of entrepreneurship in Africa," said Isadora Bigourdan Bryden, Team Lead at Agence Française de Développement.

**"Driven by the spirit of entrepreneurship, the tangible benefits of social good, and a strong sense of community pride, this startup competition is special - showcasing many promising ideas and a diverse group of African startups"**

"Driven by the spirit of entrepreneurship, the tangible benefits of social good, and a strong sense of community pride, this startup competition is special - showcasing many promising ideas and a diverse group of African startups. It's been inspirational to see these founders, deeply rooted and passionate, create change in their world," commented Triane Chang, Silicon Valley Startup Advisor.

"It is truly heartwarming to see that so many young entrepreneurs are working passionately to drive high-impact social projects across the African continent. The judging process was not an easy task as all participants submitted very high-quality applications with compelling business propositions. As the competition progresses, I look forward to following the finalists' journey and how they will use their talent and skills to generate positive change in their communities and beyond." added Firas Ezzeddine, Manager, Group Strategy at Philips.



Mavis Nduchwa

## APPLICATION FOR ISSUE OF CERTIFIED COPY OF LOST TITLE DEED

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the undersigned intends to apply for a certified copy of Deed of Transfer **No. FT 306/2012** registered on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2012 in favour of **BULAYANI MALIKONGWA** in respect of the following property:

**CERTAIN** : piece of land being Portion 3, a Portion of Portion 1 of the Farm No. 24-NQ;

**SITUATE** : in the North East Administrative District;

**MEASURING** : 5,1364 Ha (Five comma One Three Six Four Hectares);

All persons having objection to the issue of such copy are hereby required to lodge the same in writing with the Registrar of Deeds within twenty-one (21) days of the last publication of this notice.

**DATED AT FRANCISTOWN ON THIS 8<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JULY, 2020.**

**M. MMOHE ATTORNEYS**  
Plot No. 3936, Peolwane Street  
Minestone P.O. Box 1860  
FRANCISTOWN  
Telephone No. 2441616

## INTENTION TO CHANGE MARRIAGE PROPERTY REGIME

*(In terms of Section 8 (1) (f) of Married Persons Property Act, 2013)*

- ZACHARIA OGOROGILE GOTLOP** and **GERTRUDE GOTLOP (NEE MOTSWAKAE)**, married in community of property on the 24<sup>th</sup> October 2013, in Gaborone, wish to change their property regime to out of community of property.
- The parties intend to apply to the High Court of Botswana after the expiration of the three (3) weeks statutory notice from the date of first publication hereof.
- Any person, creditor or debtor, who may have an interest in the assets and/ or liabilities of the parties estate, should they have objections to the parties changing their property regime, are to inform the parties Attorneys, **DANIEL PELOMPE AND/ OR MOSHE NOGA, OF PELOMPE LEGAL PRACTICE** before the expiration of the said 3 weeks period, or make representations before the High Court of Botswana once the contemplated application is lodged.

**DATED AT GABORONE THIS 13<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JULY 2020.**

PELOMPE LEGAL PRACTICE



**2<sup>ND</sup> PUBLICATION**

### IN THE MAGISTRATES' COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF GABORONE HELD AT VILLAGE

**CASE NO: CCMVL-000932/19**

In the matter between:

**BWK (PTY) LTD**

and

**AICRAM DEVELOPMENTS (PTY) LTD**

**MARCIA MACHOLA**

**PLAINTIFF**

**1<sup>ST</sup> DEFENDANT**

**2<sup>ND</sup> DEFENDANT**

### NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

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

**DATE OF SALE** : 27 August 2020  
**TIME** : 10.00 AM  
**VENUE** : Broadhurst Magistrate Court  
**PROPERTY TO BE SOLD** : Fuso Truck, Canter Fet, registration number B902BAP, White in colour.

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS** : Cash or Bank guaranteed cheque.

**DATED AT GABORONE THIS 28<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JULY 2020.**



**RAMALEPA ATTORNEYS**  
NOTARIES & CONVEYANCERS

**DEPUTY SHERIFF ONKGOPOTSE MOTLHAGODI**  
c/o **RAMALEPA ATTORNEYS**  
Plaintiff's Attorneys  
Plot 3171, Morupule Drive  
Along Nelson Mandela Drive  
Extension 11,  
P.O. Box 70567  
**GABORONE (UB)**

### NCUBE H/W IN THE MAGISTRATES COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF GABORONE HELD AT EXTENSION 11

**CASE NO. CCMEX-001158-19**

In the ex parte Application of:

**EMDADUL SHAIKH**

In Re:

**EMDADUL SHAIKH**

And

**MATENGU MAKHOTHISO**

**SAINAH MAKHOTHISO**

**APPLICANT**

**PLAINTIFF**

**1<sup>ST</sup> DEFENDANT**

**2<sup>ND</sup> DEFENDANT**

### SUBSTITUTED SERVICE: SHORT FORM OF PROCESS

**TO: MATENGU MAKHOTHISO**, an adult male of full legal capacity whose marital status is unknown to the Plaintiff, otherwise whose place of residence is in **Block 5, Mogodithsane**, and whose postal address is **P. O. Box 11124, Palapye**. His further particulars are to the Plaintiff unknown.

**AND TO: MAKHOTHISO SAINAH**, an adult male of full legal capacity whose marital status is unknown to the Plaintiff, otherwise whose chosen place of residence is in White City, Extension 12, Gaborone. His further particulars are to the Plaintiff unknown.

**TAKE NOTICE** that by summons issued out of this Court, you have been called upon to give notice within Twenty One days after publication hereof, to the Clerk of Court and to **RAMALEPA ATTORNEYS, PLOT 3171, MORUPULE DRIVE, EXTENSION 11, GABORONE, P O BOX 70567, GABORONE** the Plaintiff's Attorneys of your intention to defend (if any) in an action wherein **EMDADUL SHAIKH** claims:

- Payment of the sum of **P16,123.74 (Sixteen Thousand One Hundred and Twenty-Three Pula and Seventy-Four Thebe)** together with interest thereon at the rate of 10% tempore morae to date of payment;
- 10% collection commission;
- Costs of suit on Attorney and own client scale; and
- Further and/or alternative relief.

**TAKE NOTICE FURTHER** that if you fail to give notice of your intention to Defend the matter, the Orders sought, as set above, shall be granted against you without any further reference to you.

**DATED IN GABORONE ON THIS 3<sup>RD</sup> DAY OF JULY 2020.**



**RAMALEPA ATTORNEYS**  
NOTARIES & CONVEYANCERS

**RAMALEPA ATTORNEYS**  
Plot 3171, Extension 11  
Morupule Drive, Gaborone  
P O Box 70567  
**GABORONE**  
(TET/ar/13526)

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

**CASE NO: CVHGB-002193-18**

In the matter between:

**FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED**

And

**GEOFFREY MATOKO**

**TUELO MATOKO**

**Plaintiff**

**1<sup>st</sup> Defendant**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Defendant**

### NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

**BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT** pursuant to the Judgment granted by the Honourable Court the following immovable property hereunder of the 2nd Defendant will be sold by public auction by **Deputy Sheriff Nonofu Mabina** to the highest bidder as follows:-

**DATE OF SALE** : 20th August 2020  
**TIME OF SALE** : 11:00 am  
**PLACE OF SALE** : Lot 4749, Extension 11, Jwaneng,

**PROPERTY TO BE SOLD** : 2<sup>nd</sup> Defendant's right, title and interest on a certain piece of land being **Lot 4749**, situated at **Jwaneng Extension 11**, measuring **686m<sup>2</sup>** which property is held under Deed of Fixed Period State Grant Number **494/2003** dated **17<sup>th</sup> day of March 2003** made in favour of **GEOFFREY MATOKO** together with development thereof being a two bedroomed house, sitting room, kitchen, bathroom and the yard is fenced.

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS** : Cash or Bank guaranteed cheque otherwise detailed and conditions of sale may be inspected at the Plaintiff's Attorneys Office.

**DATED AT GABORONE THIS 25<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JUNE 2020.**



**RAMALEPA ATTORNEYS**  
NOTARIES & CONVEYANCERS

**NONOFU MABINA** c/o **RAMALEPA ATTORNEYS**  
Plaintiff's Attorneys  
Plot 3171, Morupule Road  
Extension 11, Along Nelson Mandela drive  
P.O. Box 70567  
**GABORONE (UB)**

## CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT(CA) REQUIRED

Applications must fulfil the following criteria

- Member of Botswana Institute of Chartered Accountants
- Registered with CIMA or Equivalent professional institute
- Capable to produce Trial Balance Accounts
- Be familiar with Botswana VAT & Tax Laws
- Knowledge of EJM, EMWIN, QUICKBOOKS and ULTISALES accounting programmes essential
- Prepare and submit year-end accounts for auditors
- Minimum of 8 years post graduate experience in senior position
- Closing date 7<sup>th</sup> August 2020

APPLICATIONS from suitably qualified Botswana Citizens must be submitted TO:

The Directors  
P.O Box 3416  
Francistown

## CHANGE OF LAND USE

"I Mbiganyi Frederick Dipotso, of Plot 780 in Kazungula New Stance, Chobe District, would like to change the land use of the above plot from residential to commercial (guest house). Any queries, please direct them to Chobe District Council Physical planning Office".

**FARM LABOURER WANTED**  
**FARM 901 NQ -FRANCISTOWN**  
**CONTACT 71384054 / 72710233.**



# Ramoraka's Club Linked With Status Sale

Club fears that such rumours will unsettle players

BONGANI MALUNGA

**L**esenya Ramoraka's Highlands Park is the latest ABSA Premiership side to be linked with a takeover after reports emerged that TS Galaxy owner Tim Sukazi has now turned his attention to the club. Sukazi was unsuccessful in his bid to purchase the league status of Bloemfontein Celtic as the club was valued at R60 million but he did not meet the set deadline to complete the complicated deal.

Other reports indicate that Sukazi has ruled himself out of the situation. Any potential sale of the club could see the players relocating and being merged with another club, in this situation the purchasing club owner would give his original club first priority as players from the purchased club would be regarded as the supplementary group.

As a result players would not be certain of being reg-

ular team members as the new owners would bring their own plans and vision that might not include the players from the purchased club. A case in point is the Bidvest Wits, they were purchased by First Division club Tshakhuma Tsha Madzivhandila (TTM) in recent months and their coach Gavin Hunt will not continue with the club while many players are expected to leave the club.

Highlands Park have gone on record to state that the club is not up for sale but they would be willing to negotiate an "irresistible offer" from any interested party. Highlands Park co-chairman Larry Brookstone was quoted by South African publication Sowetan Live stating that the rumours may unsettle the players in the long run.

"First of all Highlands Park is not up for sale. We had an unsolicited offer on the club. And the offer we'll consider if it's deliverable. I think everybody

in the world, if the offer is too good to believe, they'll take it. If the guy can deliver this kind of money then, yes, we would consider it. This discussion . I'm regretting that we even listened to this unsolicited offer, quite frankly, because there is this speculation and it unsettles my players and everyone around me. It's not concrete. The offer is unbelievable. If they can deliver it then we will consider it. I've got a house on Linksfield Ridge I've lived in for 32 years, and I can tell you if someone came with this sort of offer on my home I would also consider that. I'll tell you that in a weeks' time if you hear that I've sold the club, know for sure that a guy delivered on an unbelievable promise. Business is marginally down on very high turnover, dealing with public companies and massive corporations who are not affected by the Covid-19] situation," Brookstone stated.

## SportsBriefs

With Bongani Malunga



### THE WAIT CONTINUES FOR ORANGE FA CUP NEWS

**T**he wait for the fate of the 2019-2020 Orange FA Cup is set to continue after the Botswana Football Association (BFA) revealed that the Local Organizing Committee and the Steering Committee of the competition are yet to find proper dates for the completion of the competition. The competition was halted at the quarterfinal stage in March due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Contacted for comment on the latest development, BFA second vice president stated that they cannot give an update on the competition as the committees are yet to map a way forward at the moment.

### MORE PRESSURE ON NGELE'S LEOPARDS AS COACH QUILTS

**M**ogakolodi Ngele's Black Leopards are going through a trying spell after their head coach Alan Clark resigned two weeks before the resumption of the ABSA Premiership season. Clark has left the club to pursue a job in Europe, his departure comes at the worst possible time for the club as they were preparing to complete the season in the Gauteng bio-safe zone from August 8. A few days earlier the coach had stated his intention to help Leopards avoid relegation in the last few games but he made a dramatic u-turn to leave the club in a desperate situation. The coach replaced Cavin Johnson in January and the club will have to re-structure their plans for the last six games of the season that might determine their fate. Leopards are currently bottom of the ABSA Premiership standings as the league edges closer to returning.





# COVID-19 Disrupts Local Athletes' Diamond League Aspirations

"It's a sad situation for me and for other athletes as well. We use those races to make a living; they are the ones that generate income for us." Makwala

TLOTLO KEBINAKGABO

Travel restrictions, laid down to curb the spread of COVID-19 have halted local athletes' aspirations of competing at the Diamond League (DL) race, which is scheduled to take place in Monaco on August 14, *Gazette Sport* has learned.

The IAAF Diamond League has officially been rescheduled to take place in August after being initially suspended in March due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This is according to the multi-series competition's organizers, Wanda Diamond League and World Athletics who revealed that the competition's first series will start in Monaco while the final one will be held in China on October 17.

With travel restrictions now still in place, it means top local athletes like Isaac Makwala,

Christine Botlogetswe, Galefele Moroko, Loungo Scotch and Baboloki Thebe will not be able to take part at the Monaco meet and possibly other races. Nijel Amos, who is based in the USA, will also not be able to take part at the meet due to the same reasons.

"It is sad for us because they are not going to be able to take part at the Monaco DL meet and possibly others due to the travel restrictions," national team coach Kebonyemodisa 'Dose' Mosimanyane told this publication in an interview. "That is why we thank the Botswana Athletics Association (BAA) for organizing their own competitions, they are going to come in handy because athletes are starting to lose focus, I mean it is not good for them to train without competitions."

Asked how missing DL meets due to travel

restrictions is going to affect him, the local 400m star Makwala had the following to say; "It's a sad situation for me and for other athletes as well. We use those races to make a living; they are the ones that generate income for us. I, however, have to be strong and work hard so that I can be in great shape next season."

Meanwhile, Botswana Athletics Association (BAA) will on the 8<sup>th</sup> of August mark their return to track with their first competition after the lockdown. Just like other sporting activities, the BAA earlier this year halted their calendar of activities in order to curb the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, after thorough consideration of the COVID-19 pandemic situation, the association has decided to resume with their competitions which will feature local athletes only.

## Uncertainty Over Local Netball Players' Move To Australia

TLOTLO KEBINAKGABO

Due to the damnable COVID-19 pandemic, it is uncertain whether top national team players will get a chance to boost their careers in the Australian netball league, *Gazette Sport* has established.

This publication made the discovery in the course of an interview with Botswana Netball Association (BONA) president Malebo Raditladi. She said because of the pandemic, it is uncertain whether national team players Fatima Dino, Kgomotso Matibini as well as Tumisang Bagidi will join a Canberra based team named The Capital Spirit Franchise (Netball ACT). It plays in the New South Wales (NSW) Premier League in Sydney, Australia.

According to Raditladi, the players were supposed to move to Australia for a period of 22 weeks (29th April-23rd September). "But they were not able to go due to the travel restrictions," Raditladi said. "We however, had a talk with the club and they told us that they will try to get back to us when things have normalized. It is our hope that they will do so and consider them again; even if it can get to next year."

While in Australia, the players who are the pivotal members of the senior national team were to be under the mentorship of Kate Carpenter who is Head Coach at the club. This is the lady who has previously worked with local players; she was the national team (U20) technical advisor during the



Botswana Netball Association (BONA) president Malebo Raditladi (L).

Netball World Youth Cup (NWYC) which was held in Botswana in 2017. Dino and Matibini were part of the team.

With that, Raditladi said the players were also to get additional support provided by the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) Academy of Sport primarily through strength and conditioning within the Australian Institute of Sport Facilities.

Raditladi further told this publication that BONA has always had a good relationship with Australian netball fraternity as Botswana was once invited to go and bench at the country prior to the 2017 NWYC games. "Three of our players in Sarona Rapoo nee Hans, Winnie Hills and Onalenna Theetso also got elite scholarships and were admitted in Universities in Australia," she said.

# The Botswana Gazette SPORT

WEDNESDAY 29 JULY 2020

## Eyebrows Raised As Letshwiti Misses Notwane Session

- Sebege, Letshwiti would have crossed paths at the event
  - Motlogelwa attended on his behalf
- Motlogelwa confirms that Letshwiti's absence was a "bad coincidence" as schedules clashed

BONGANI MALUNGA

The tension between Botswana Football Association presidential rivals Maclean Letshwiti and Tebogo Sebege appears to have reached fever pitch after Letshwiti missed the ongoing Botswana Premier League Professionalization and Commercialization Workshop which involved Notwane FC this past week.

Observers stated how the president had attended previous club workshops before missing the Notwane FC session, leading to questions about whether or not a hidden feud between the presidential rivals had caused Letshwiti to miss the event.

Sebege is the outgoing Notwane FC president and he attended the event whereby the two rivals were set to cross paths. Relations between the two are believed to be frosty as the momentum of the elections gathers increasing pace in recent weeks, the re-

cent announcement by the BFA Elections Committee which eliminated Sebege and Ookeditse Malesu from the presidential race has added more fuel to the fire with the aggrieved camps feeling hard done by.

In Letshwiti's absence, BFA second vice president Marshlow Motlogelwa attended the event on his behalf. In an inter-

view with Gazette Sport, Motlogelwa was quick to downplay any re-

ports of Letshwiti "deliberately" missing the Notwane session which involved his presidential rival.

"I think anyone who suspects that the president missed the Notwane session on purpose is reading too much into the situation. It was just a bad coincidence that the Notwane session clashed with a BTC board meeting which the president had to attend, it was only natu-

ral that I had to attend on his behalf as the second vice president. I can understand why people can be confused but I guess that's what happens when people do not know the full story," Motlogelwa told Gazette Sport.

"The session went well, the whole Notwane executive committee if not the bulk of them were in attendance. Such workshops are important, for the BFA to succeed we need to ensure that clubs strive for and achieve professional statuses. The sessions we have had are encouraging, a lot of people see light at the end of the tunnel. In order to have internationally accepted structures we have to start now, we are glad that the wheels are already in motion," Motlogelwa concluded.

Meanwhile, Malesu and Sebege have submitted their appeals to the Elections Committee and they expect to be updated today (Wednesday) about whether or not they will still be eligible to partake in the BFA elections.

