

WEDNESDAY 04 AUGUST 2021

FREE!

"Kitso ke maatla"

"THE GREAT VACCINE ROBBERY"

A DAMNING REPORT ON PROFITEERING

The world is facing a vaccine apartheid as the privatization and monopolisation of vaccine has escalated costs 24 times leading to the President calling it a scam that has not delivered despite payments.

FULL STORY ON PAGE 2



Photo Credit: imareston.com

MASISI FEELS THE SOCIAL MEDIA PINCH

PAGE 4

**'WE HAD NO EVIDENCE, FREE
BUTTERFLY' - DPP**

PAGE 3

**NEARLY 4000 PEOPLE REPORTED
MISSING OVER 5 YEARS**

PAGE 6

Up to
P600,000
for a Personal Loan.



Standard
Chartered 

**Apply for a No Mathata
loan today.**

To find out more about the No Mathata
Personal Loan, call us on 361 5800.

"THE GREAT VACCINE ROBBERY", a damning report on profiteering.

The world is facing a vaccine apartheid as the privatization and monopolisation of vaccine science and technology and profiteering by pharmaceutical corporations create today's scarcity and inequality, **LAWRENCE SERETSE** reports.



Pharmaceutical corporations are accused of profiteering off COVID-19 vaccines as rich countries block faster and cheaper routes to global vaccination. This is according to a policy brief report titled *The Great Vaccine Robbery* published yesterday by Oxfam.

The policy report's release coincides with last week's comments by Assistant Health Minister Setlhomang Leletsoe who confirmed that President Mokgweetsi Masisi had called the COVAX facility a scam for delays in delivery of vaccines as well as shortages in procured supplies.

The report says that the lifesaving vaccines for COVID-19 - funded largely by the public - have been privatized and monopolised giving pharmaceutical corporations the power to charge excessive prices.

"The cost of vaccinating the world against COVID-19 could be at least five times cheaper if pharmaceutical companies weren't profiteering from their monopolies on COVID vaccines," authors of the policy brief Anna Marriott and Alex Maitland pointed out.

In their findings they allege that new estimates of the cost of production for the successful mRNA COVID vaccines suggest they can be produced for as little as \$1.18 (P13.00) a dose. COVAX, the scheme set up to help countries get access to COVID vaccines, has been paying, on average, nearly five times more for its doses. *Available reported prices suggest that governments worldwide are paying between 4 and 24 times more than they could be for COVID-19 vaccines.*

It is against this backdrop that last week

Friday, Health Minister Edwin Dikoloti revealed that Botswana government was paying the equivalent of \$29 (P318) a dose for U.S. company Moderna's shot and \$15 (P164) a dose for the COVID-19 vaccine developed by China's Sinovac Biotech. Moderna and Pfizer are mRNA type of vaccines while Sinovac is categorized as inactivated type.

Botswana has been struggling to procure enough vaccines in the global scramble for doses, with coverage secured through World Health Organization (WHO) and African Union (AU)-backed schemes such as COVAX falling short of the continent's needs.

Lelatiswe told this publication that COVAX prioritization was disappointing their agreement, "So far we have bought enough vaccines to vaccinate the population but our biggest challenge right now is the delivery and arrival of these vaccines."

This policy report, which was conducted by The People's Vaccine Alliance - a global movement of organisations, world leaders and activists united under a common aim of campaigning for a 'people's vaccine' for COVID-19 that is supported by over 2 million activists worldwide and 175 former world leaders including Nobel prize winning scientists, echoes statement made by President Masisi and Lelatiswe that rich countries are hoarding vaccines unfairly at the detriment of developing nations.

TOO EXPENSIVE TO SHOP

"Pharmaceutical corporations are free to prioritise the most lucrative high-priced contracts with rich countries at the direct expense of protecting more lives in more countries. Despite rising infections and deaths across many developing countries, Pfizer/ BioNTech and Moderna have allocated more than 90 per cent of their supplies to rich countries. The COVAX scheme and developing country governments can-

not possibly compete with the high prices willingly paid by rich countries and so are pushed to the back of the vaccine queue. Less than 1 per cent of people in low income countries have had a vaccine," reads the summary of the policy report.

To date, the Botswana government says it has paid directly to the manufacturers **P192,234,882**, for COVID-19 vaccine procurement while on the ground it has only fully vaccinated around 124,000 of its 2.3 million population.

In his complaint the Assistant Minister said that the COVAX facility had only delivered 82,000 doses despite an upfront payment to secure far more doses.

An AU arrangement is expected to deliver over 1.1 million doses of Johnson & Johnson's vaccine in the third and fourth quarters.

So far Botswana has signed agreements with **Moderna** to secure **500,000 doses**, for their vaccine at a total cost of P140, 440, 000 and with **Sinovac** for an amount of P30,000,000 for **200,000 doses** which were fully delivered in July 2021. At P16 million, Bharat in India will deliver 100 000 doses of the **COVAXIN** vaccine while talks with Pfizer for a possible **2 million doses** are ongoing.

PUTTING PRESSURE

Anna Marriott, Oxfam's Health Policy Manager, said in the report that: "Pharmaceutical companies are holding the world to ransom at a time of unprecedented global crisis. This is perhaps one of the most lethal cases of profiteering in history."

The report says that as the IMF, COVAX, and its co-ordinators Gavi, the Vaccines Alliance, and CEPI (The Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations) must take significant responsibility for their failure to call out pharmaceutical corporations to drive vaccine prices down, and for their failure to challenge vaccine monopolies.

Lastly, in the policy report the Alliance also called out the EU, UK and Germany to stop blocking the proposal by South Africa and India on temporary suspensions of intellectual property rules for all COVID-19 technologies.

BDF calls for special vaccination programme for soldiers

Special dispensation devised for soldiers deployed to foreign missions

TEFO PHEAGE

The Commander of Botswana Defence Force (BDF), Lt. General Placid Segokgo, has reportedly expressed concerns about soldiers being among the least vaccinated groups when they are front-line workers in the fight against COVID-19.

As with other frontline workers, the BDF continues to lose its personnel to the pandemic in large numbers across all ranks.

Sources say a call by the BDF commander for prioritisation of soldiers as frontline workers seems to have fallen on deaf ears because they are merely being vaccinated their eligibility as individuals like everybody else.

As the clamour for prioritisation grows, teachers' unions this week said their members would not return to work until they have been vaccinated while nurses have also demanded urgent reforms in the government's vaccination programme.

Driven by spiking infections and

rising deaths, schools are currently in recess.

In response to media questions, a spokesman of the BDF, Colonel Tebo Dikole, confirmed the challenges currently faced by the army and said the BDF was working in collaboration with the Ministry of Health to vaccinate its members in phases determined by the government.

"The BDF, through its military health services, continues to vaccinate all eligible members at designated vaccination sites across its garrisons when vaccines are availed by the respective department," Dikole said.

However, he disclosed that a special dispensation to vaccinate BDF members detailed for foreign deployment or training, irrespective of age, has been put in place.

Commenting on the Commander's concerns, Dikole said Lt. General Segokgo is committed to working with other departments to curb the pandemic, including the vaccination of eligible BDF members.



'WE HAD NO EVIDENCE, FREE BUTTERFLY' - DPP



LAWRENCE SERETSE

At the end of what has been a roller-coaster legal battle involving criminal charges such as terrorism, false declaration of passports and possession of unexplained property against former intelligence agent Wilheminah Maswabi, remains State attorneys trying to convince the public that the charges were not a malicious prosecution campaign.

On Tuesday the Directorate of Public Prosecutions (DPP) withdrew all its criminal charges against Wilheminah Maswabi, referred to as ‘Butterfly’ citing that the prosecution did not have enough evidence to proceed with the case.

Standing in for the State, South African based Advocate Geri Nel told the media at a press briefing that his recommendation to the government was that, “although there is evidence, it will be irresponsible of the State to proceed prosecution without having all of it.”

Questioned by journalists why the case reached the courts before the determination of sufficient evidence was established, Adv. Nel defended his position by saying that they know that the evidence is there but other law enforcement agencies - both local and in South Africa were non-cooperative and not availing that which the prosecution team had spent time requesting for.

“It is not my recommendation that there is no evidence to proceed, but it is my recommendation that one should not proceed with prosecution if all of the evidence is not submitted when we know it is there and cannot get our hands on it,” explained Adv. Nel

Asked about the number of similar high-profile cases that the State has lost or either withdrew due to lack of evidence and its impact on the integrity of the DPP’s prosecutorial processes, Nel responded that he was happy with the work done by the team of investigators and the prosecution team, but the problem was mainly that the South African government was reluctant to co-operate with the Mutual Legal Assistancess advanced during the course of the case.

“We have initiated a contempt of court case against the SA Department of Justice for refusing to comply with the MLAs sent to them. Yes, we are aware of integrity issues, but I cannot comment on other cases besides this one only,” replied Nel.

He also made inferences that the SA government is protecting ‘someone’ but refused to go into the details of that statement, adding that naming people might jeopardize the future prospects of the case

since the State considers re-instating the charges.

Quizzed on public perception that the State may be using law enforcement to impinge on civil liberties given the methods of arrest and arraignment of Maswabi, Nel replied that his appointment brief was to only advise the DPP of a successful prosecution and nothing more.

DPP Director General Advocate Stephen Tiroyakgosi said that the public has the right to scrutinize his organization and hold it to account. “Every decision that we make is based on sound advice and to protect the interests of the public,” said Tiroyakgosi.

Maswabi’s attorneys Ndadi Law Firm have opposed the request by DPP to “withdraw the case without prejudice” and are yet to file in court ahead of the September 14 hearing. Withdrawing a case without prejudice could mean that the DPP wants to investigate further and bring more evidence and re-open the case in future.

Interest Rates for August 2021



FNB

First National Bank Savings and Investments Rates

The following standard Savings and Investment rates will apply

Type of Deposit Account	Nominal Interest Rates(%)	Actual Interest Rates(%)	Minimum Opening Balance
	(Lowest – Highest)	(Lowest – Highest)	(Pula)
Current (Individual)	Nil	Nil	Nil
Call	0.025% to 0.025%	0.025% to 0.025%	1,000.00
Savings (Poloko)	0.10% to 0.75%	0.10% to 0.75%	500.00
Flexi Fixed (3 Months)	1.50%	1.51%	100.00
Flexi Fixed (6 Months)	2.50%	2.53%	100.00
Flexi Fixed (12 Months)	3.15%	3.20%	100.00
91-Days Fixed Deposit	0.75%	0.75%	1,000.00
6 Months	1.25% to 1.30%	1.26% to 1.31%	1,000.00
12 Months	1.30% to 1.90%	1.31% to 1.92%	1,000.00
24 Months	2.00% to 2.25%	2.02% to 2.27%	1,000.00
Over 24 Months	3.37%	3.42%	1,000.00
Prime Lending Rate	5.25%		

For term deposits the minimum amount is BWP 1 million to qualify for a special rate.

For more information please enquire at your nearest FNB branch or visit www.fnbbotswana.co.bw

Botswana Could Receive 75K Doses From Aspen In SA

Some of the vaccines will come through the AVAT platform

GAZETTE REPORTER

The government has indicated its interest in benefiting from South Africa’s Johnson and Johnson and Aspen pharmaceutical facility.

The Public Relations Officer of the Ministry of Health and Wellness, Christopher Nyanga, says although the government has not approached the facility, it aims to

benefit from vaccines that it will produce for the African Vaccine Acquisition Trust (AVAT) platform, of which Botswana is a member. “Botswana has secured an allocation of 1,152,654 Johnson and Johnson doses through AVAT,” Nyanga told The Botswana Gazette. “These doses will be delivered in the country between the third and fourth Quarters of 2021.” He added that since Aspen Pharmacare



ACQUIRE A BANKING QUALIFICATION

1. Certificate in Banking

Entry Requirements:

- 1. Non-bankers must have a minimum of BGCSE or equivalent
- 2. Pass in English and Mathematics.

No previous qualifications are required for staff of BIBF corporate members

FEES:

MODE OF STUDY	AFFILIATE MEMBERS	ORDINARY MEMBERS
Part time (Gaborone)	P14 765.00	P13 693.00
Distance learning	P9 383.00	P8 635.00

*** Pay in instalments over 3 months.**

2. Associate Diploma in Banking

Do you have any outstanding modules?

Register now to complete your diploma programme.

- 1. 20% discount on study material, lectures and exam fees
- 2. Flexible payment plans (3 months instalments)

Registration forms can be downloaded from the Institute website **www.bibf.ac.bw**.

Examinations will be in November 2021.

Registration deadline: 17th August 2021

For more information, please email: **enquiries-academics@bibf.ac.bw** or call **3952493**



is one of the participating companies in the AVAT platform, some of the 1, 152, 654 doses of the Johnson and Johnson vaccines expected by Botswana may come from this company.

Another source close to the MoH has said Botswana may receive 75 000 Johnson and Johnson vaccines from Aspen Pharmacare in South Africa before the end of this month. At least 220 million doses will be manufactured by the company for African countries. “We have been in talks with Aspen Pharmacare to assist us with immediacy with some doses and I can tell you that we will soon receive the vaccines,” the source said. “The only worry was that since they are based in South Africa, they will have to produce more for the host nation before spreading out to the rest of the continent.”

Sources say the vaccines have already been paid for, adding that the 75 000 doses will be followed up with more that will be included in the batch for dispatch to the rest of the continent. “The reason why the country continues to receive vaccines in small batches can be traced to vaccine manufacturing countries that are selfish with the vaccine, so we obviously we have had to explore other options,” said another source.

It has been said that the J & J vaccines from South Africa will be used to vaccinate teachers to curb the COVID-19 toll on the education sector. President Mokgweetsi Masisi recently attacked the Covax facility, saying the inter-governmental initiative to buy and distribute vaccines to poorer countries is a fraud. The visibly frustrated President was speaking in Ramotswa during a tour of one of the vaccination sites in the Greater Gaborone area.

He expressed frustration at the inequity in distribution of the vaccines, saying it has caused division among countries. The President said it is difficult to know how many doses will go where and when despite millions of pula in commitments to the scheme.

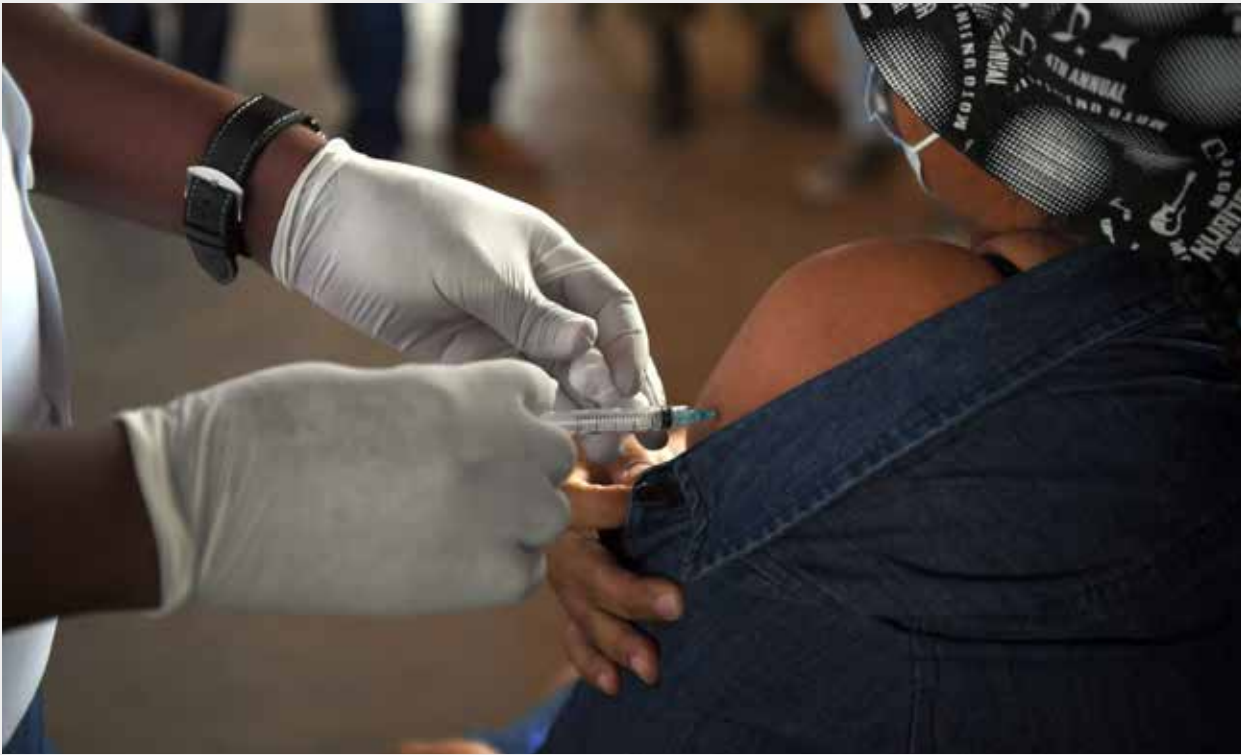
President Masisi also criticized the conduct of some rich countries, accusing them of hoarding vaccines. He said there are strict export restrictions on vaccines in America as pharmaceutical companies are required to supply mainly the United States.

The Ministry of Health and Wellness received 200 000 doses of Sinovac vaccines from China late last month to add to the list of vaccines received by the country so far.

The vaccines were fully purchased by the Government of Botswana from the People’s Republic of China. Previously the Chinese government donated 200 000 doses of Sinovac to Botswana.

Confusion Surrounds Vaccination Programme

- Vaccine administrators blame gov't for confusion
- MoH says those who missed Phase 1 may still come forward



SESUPO RANTSIMAKO

The recent release of contradicting information on the COVID-19 vaccination rollout programme has sparked confusion among health practitioners and the public alike, The Botswana Gazette has established.

Health practitioners say since the release of the different messages about transition from Phase 1 of the COVID-19 rollout programme, vaccination sites have been receiving a significant number of people who are not sure about their eligibility for vaccination.

While the Ministry of Health and Wellness (MoH) had announced that Phase 2 would start on 5 July, that did

not happen because of shortage of vaccine resulting from delays in delivery by manufacturers. Things got worse after MoH made another announcement that those aged between 45 to 54 were eligible; not the 30 to 45-year old age group.

"While the anticipated Phase 2 vaccine rollout programme was inclusive of age bracket 30 years to 54, the revised one indicated that only those aged 45 to 54 were eligible," one health practitioner in an interview. "This information has brought so much confusion among us and the public at large. Since the first notice, vaccination sites started receiving age bracket of 30 and above."

"As vaccine administrators, we do not know whether to vaccinate them or to turn them away. These people insist that the ministry announced last month that Phase 2 would start with the 30 to 45 year old age group. We cannot blame them because they heard the same announcement."

Health practitioners who talked to The Botswana Gazette say some vaccination sites are vaccinating the 30 to 45 year old people while others are turning them away to vaccinate to 45 to 54 year old people.

Responding to Gazette enquiries, the spokesman of MoH, Christopher Nyanga, said the country moved to Phase 2 of the vaccination programme on 22 July and not to on 5 July as some members of the public think. According to Nyanga, although Phase 2 was initially intended to cover the 30 to 45 age group, in view of the number of people falling within the group the ministry decided to vaccinate the 45 to 54 group."

"This means that although the country is in Phase 2, it is only covering those aged 45 to 54," he said. "What we also need to state is that although we are in Phase 2 stage, any Motswana or resident who falls under the Phase 1 category can still come for vaccination. Once we have covered up to 80 percent of those in the 45 to 54 age group, the vaccination programme will move to the 30 to 44 age category."

Orange Business

Tsenya madi

SIM ya Moipereki Competition

Keep chasing new opportunities
and stand a chance to win
P10 000 for your business.

Simply use P100 or more on Prepaid
Pro SIM ya Moipereki to qualify.

Visit your nearest Orange Shop to switch your line for
free or purchase the Prepaid Pro SIM ya Moipereki
for only P10 from selected partners or agents.

#TsenyaMadi

Competition runs until 31st December 2021.
Competition only open to individuals aged 18 years and above.
T's and C's apply.



Brings you closer
to what matters

Prepaid Pro



ANNOUNCEMENT

NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE FREE STANDING
ADDITIONAL VOLUNTARY

CONTRIBUTIONS (FSAVC) RETIREMENT FUND

The Board of Trustees of the **FREE STANDING ADDITIONAL VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS (FSAVC) RETIREMENT FUND** would like to express regret for their inability to hold an Annual General Meeting (AGM) for the past 3 (three) years. The Board of Trustees notes the current COVID-19 global pandemic and the risk it has posed as well as the increased positive cases in Botswana. The current exceptions to gather do not support the total number of members of the Fund.

Please note that despite the inability to hold an AGM, the Board of Trustees continues to hold Trustee meetings (virtually) and carry out their responsibilities as expected. The Board of Trustees, the Fund's Administrators and Minet Botswana are working together to find a way to hold the AGM while observing COVID-19 protocols and ensuring that the health and safety of members is not compromised. Furthermore, the Trustees would like to emphasise to the members that for the AGM's to be a success, it is essential that members are in attendance and therefore the Fund looks forward to the members unwavering participation.

Please note that the current Board of Trustees will continue to serve until the next Annual General Meeting.

In the interim, members of the Fund are kindly requested to contact Ms. Tlamelo Moepeng tlamelo.moepeng@minet.co.bw / Ms. Sindie Thekiso Sindie.thekiso@minet.co.bw or visit the Minet Offices in order to update their personal details.

About the Fund

Free Standing Additional Voluntary Contributions (FSAVC) Retirement Fund is a retirement fund which was fully approved by the Non-Bank Financial Institutions Regulatory Authority (NBFIRA) and the Botswana Unified Revenue Service (BURS) with effect from 1 July 2000. The Fund affords individuals an opportunity to have financial independence while taking advantage of preferential tax treatment as permitted by BURS, to encourage saving for one's retirement.

It is essentially an individual retirement plan, meaning that an individual joins the FSAVC Retirement Fund in his or her personal capacity. Membership to the Fund is therefore not dependent on an employer-employee relationship unless agreed between the two parties.

The FSAVC Retirement Fund also caters for:

- Individuals who wish to augment their existing retirement savings
- Individuals who are on contract employment
- Individuals with irregular income
- Preservation of benefits on leaving employment, where the individual intends to continue contributing in order to grow their retirement benefits. This includes instances where the individual's new employer does not have a pension scheme, or the individual is no longer employed but has not reached retirement age.

For more information please contact 3617300 and ask to speak to a pensions consultant.

KITSISO YA PHUTHEGO KAKARETISO YA MALOKO
A FREE STANDING ADDITIONAL VOLUNTARY
CONTRIBUTIONS (FSAVC) RETIREMENT FUND

Batsamaisa Letlole la **FREE STANDING ADDITIONAL VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS (FSAVC) RETIREMENT FUND**, ba etsisi maloko a one gore ba maswabi ka ntlha ya go tlhoka go nna le phuthego kakaretso mo dingwageng tse 3 (tharo) tse di fetilile. Batsamaisa Letlole ba lemoga leroroboro le le bakilweng ke COVID-19 le bodiphatsa jwa yone ga mmogo le koketsego ya dikgetsi tse di ileng ko godimo mo Botswana. Palo yotlhe ya maloko a FSAVC ga e lete gore e ka tshwara bokopano e sa robe diphaphogo tse di beilweng.

Ka tsweetswee, itseng gore le fa Bokopano jwa ngwaga le ngwaga bo sa kgonagala, Batsamaise ba letlole ba tla tswelela ka maikarabelo a bone jaaka go solofetswe ka go kopana ka sekamafaratlhatlha a kamagano. Batsamaisa Letlole, Baokamedi ba ba tsamaisang letlole le Minet Botswana ba tswelletse ka go bereka mmogo go bata tsela e Bokopano jwa ngwaga le ngwaga bo ka tshwarwang ka teng mme ba seegela melawana e e beilweng ya COVID-19 e le tsela ya go rurifatsa le go babalela botsogo jwa maloko. Mo godimo ga moo, Batsamaisa Letlole ba eletsa go gatelela botlhokwa jwa maloko mo bokopanong jwa ngwaga le ngwaga, katlego ya bokopano e remeletse mo go tseyeng karolo ga maloko, ka jalo go ya pele, maloko a kopiwa kemonokeng mo bokopanong jwa ngwaga le ngwaga.

Maloko a kopa go etsisiwe fa Batsamaisa Letlole ba tla tswelela ba tsamaisa Letlole la FSAVC go fitlha bokopano jwa ngwaga le ngwaga jo bo latelang.

Maloko a Free Standing Additional Voluntary Contributions a rotloetswa go ikgolaganya le Tlamelo Moepeng mo tlamelo.moepeng@minet.co.bw / Sindie Thekiso mo Sindie.thekiso@minet.co.bw go thabolola ditshedimosetso tsa bone kgotsa Maloko a ka etela diofisi tsa rona go thabolola ditshedimosetso tsa bone.

Kitso mabapi le Letlole la Itholo Marapo la FSAVC

Letlole la Itholo Marapo la Free Standing Additional Voluntary Contributions ke thulaganyo ya ka bongwe ya go ithola marapo. Se se reela gore motho ka bo ene o ka nna lelolo la letlole le. Boloko jwa letlole la Itholo Marapo la FSAVC ga bo a ikaega mo kamanong ya mohiri-mohiriwa, boloko bo ka amana fela fa mohiri le mohiriwa ba dumalane.

Letlole la Itholo Marapo le tlamela le ba ba latelang:

- Mongwe ka bo ene yo o nang le letseno le e seng la kgapetsakgapetsa
- Mongwe yo o somarelang dituelo a sa tswa go tlogela mmereko mme a na le maikhelelo a go tswelela a ntsha dituelo gore di kgone go godisa letlole la gagwe la itholo marapo. Mo go akaretsa le sekai sa mongwe a heriwa ke mohiri yo o mosha yo o senang leano la letlole la go ithola marapo, kana mongwe a sa tlhole a bereka mme a ise a wetse dingwaga tsa go ithola marapo.
- Mongwe yo o nang le keletso ya go oketsa madi aa bolokileng a go ithola marapo
- Mongwe yo o herilweng ka konteraka

Fa o na le keletso ya go itse go feta fa tshwara mogala wa 3617300 go kopa go bua le mogakolodi.



Nearly 4000 People Reported
Missing Over 5 Years

- 117 found dead
- BPS blames social problems

SESUPO RANTSIMAKO

At least 3 719 cases of missing people have been reported by the Botswana Police Service (BPS) in the past five years to-date.

Information sought by *The Botswana Gazette* from the police indicates that out of the recorded 3719 cases, 117 were found dead while 3 484 were found alive. To-date 118 people remain missing.

According to BPS spokesperson Dipheko Motube, the majority of the people reported missing are youth who disappear because of social problems in their families. Some went missing because of relationship issues while others got lost either because of mental issues or while doing their routine chores like herding cattle, collecting firewood or harvesting *phane*.

Motube said although people going missing is a cause for concern, 95 percent of them are found alive. "Those who were found dead either committed suicide or died due to exhaustion," Motube noted.

He took the opportunity to raise concern that some members of the public often provide the police with inaccurate information about missing persons. "The utmost challenge that BPS faces in investigating these incidents is being provided with inaccurate information about the character of the missing person," he said.

Meanwhile, members of the public have often raised suspicions that local leaders may be involved when people go missing, accusing some leaders of abducting and killing people for ritual purposes.

Thabala in the Central District is a village that has experienced such riots after a certain Obakeng Badubi went missing. Lentsweletau in Kweneng is another village where people rioted after a certain Tebogo Mokokong disappeared. The badly decomposed body of Mokokong was subsequently found by the police.

President Performs Official Opening
Of Khoemacau Copper Mine

- New mine has created 2 800 jobs so far
- Considers skills transfer a priority

Khoemacau Copper Mine is a safe and reliable mechanised copper silver mining operation that will unlock value in the Kalahari Copperbelt, President Mokgweetsi Masisi said when he officially opened the mine in Toteng last Friday.

This came just over a year after the President performed a groundbreaking ceremony at the site on 28th June 2019, marking the official launch of the mining project at the company's Zone 5 processing plant that lies 72km from the resort town of Maun in the northwestern region of Botswana.

The first concentrate was produced at the mine's Boseto processing plant and was delivered safely and within schedule last June. The total development since commencement of mining in February 2020 up to 19 July 2021 measures 15,874 metres.

The first ore from the mine's central corridor was on 14 August 2020 while total ore produced as at 19 July 2021 is +429kt. The first concentrate production was on 30 June 2021 and was shipped off site on 19 July 2021.

In spite of challenges brought about by COVID-19, the mine has now reached the commercial stage of the project. The project has the capacity to produce 155, 000 to 165, 000t of high grade copper and silver concentrate a year, containing about 60, 000t to 65, 000t of payable copper and 1.8 million to 2 million ounces of payable silver.

Khoemacau has a staff complement is 2 800 people, 96 percent of whom are Botswana. The company has strategies for timely transfer of skills from expatriates to Botswana.

Khoemacau is expected to contribute P119 billion to the GDP and an estimated P1 billion in taxes annually. With its prime positioning, the Khoemacau project is envisioned to unlock the potential of the Kalahari Copperbelt and stimulate confidence in Botswana's mining industry.

The mine is expected to reach its maximum production rate in 2022.

Botswana Warned Against Docile Attitude To Human Trafficking

- Only one conviction out of 22 registered cases
- Minister says human trafficking is "very difficult" to investigate

SESUPO RANTSIMAKO

The appalling case in which a 16-year old girl was held captive by a 34-year old woman in Gaborone for the pleasure of men paying to use her received attention when the Minister of Defence, Justice and Security (MDJS), Kagiso Mmusi, raised it on World Day Against Trafficking in Persons, on July 30.

Minister Mmusi said the low rate of conviction for human trafficking belies the pervasiveness of the crime in Botswana. Officiating at the commemoration of the day in Gaborone last Friday, Minister Mmusi defined human trafficking as clandestine and dehumanising form of transnational crime that is "very difficult to investigate" but nevertheless warned against adopting a docile attitude to the crime.

The report listed Botswana alongside Angola, Brazil, Morocco, Croatia and Kenya under Tier 2, which is for countries that do not fully meet the minimum standards of fighting against human trafficking.

The theme for this year's commemoration was "Victims Lead the Way," prompting the minister to the plight of victims who are unavoidably subjected to reliving their ordeals when they help in investigations and testify in court.

"Despite this, Botswana is working with international partners through bilateral arrangements with the Government of the United Kingdom and that of the United States of America to devise strategies and interventions to better safeguard our people from exploitation on the international level," he said.

Mmusi called on members of the public to acquaint themselves with the tricks of traffickers in digital space. He disclosed that his ministry will amend the Human Trafficking Act of 2014 to make it more responsive to emerging elements of crimes and ensure that it prescribes stringent sentences for offenders.

He revealed that out of the 22 registered human trafficking cases, only one has been successfully convicted with the offender sentenced to 10 years' im-

prisonment. "The case involves multiple sexual exploitation of a 16-year old girl child," Minister Mmusi said.

"The young girl was taken from her parents by the trafficker through deceptive means and held in captivity in Gaborone, locked up in a room, subjected to violence and starvation at the hands of her 34-year old female trafficker. The trafficker sold the girl's body to anyone who was willing to sexually exploit her."

Meanwhile, the 2020 United States Trafficking in Persons (TIP) report stated that the Botswana Government has to amend the country's human trafficking laws in order to fully meet minimum standards for elimination of human trafficking. The report recommended re-

moval of sentence provisions that allows fines in lieu of imprisonment, deletion of suspended sentences for convicted traffickers and more training for prosecutors and judges.

The report listed Botswana alongside Angola, Brazil, Morocco, Croatia and Kenya under Tier 2, which is for countries that do not fully meet the minimum standards of fighting against human trafficking.

Early this year, Acting Permanent Secretary in the justice ministry, Botlhale Makgekgenene, told Public Accounts Committee (PAC) that Botswana's anti-human trafficking legislation has deficiencies that need attention for amendment.

IKGAPELE LEBOTHAKA KOKETSO SAVINGS

Simolola go ipolokela ka Koketso Savings Account o nne le sebaka sa go ikgapela bontlha bongwe jwa

P100,000!

Two

P5000
WINNERS WEEKLY

#IkoketseKaKoketso

For more information contact the Customer Care Center at +267 3987801.

Terms and Conditions apply
Competition ends 21st Dec 2021



Stanbic Bank **IT CAN BE**

Kgatleng Fumbles With Land Allocations

Names of people already allocated land appear on current list

TEFO PHEAGE

A long list of names of people due for allocation of residential plots in Kgatleng has caused anger across the district because some of the names are of people who were recently allocated plots. The controversial list was released two days ago (Monday). BaKgatla have taken to various social

media platforms to express their frustration with such “incompetence” that some say confirms their long-held concerns that something was seriously wrong at the land board. They express concern that the “clumsiness” shows that the land board does not have proper records of land allocations and could lead to corruption. But land board officials are defending themselves, saying such are common

mistakes in the trade. They argue that interviewing applicants helps weed out possibilities of fraud by identifying gaps and revealing instances of deceased applicants. According to the land board, when an applicant is disqualified, the next person on the list is invited. However, BaKgatla say this never happens and that opportunities that emerge in this manner end up going to land board officials.



Doctor Warns Against Self-Prescription In The Fight Against COVID-19

- Says she sees patients with ulcers from taking effervescent Vitamin C tablets
- Warns that sugar-based meds may raise blood-sugar levels

GAZETTE REPORTER

Dr Swetha Bindu Jammalamadugu has warned the public about the dangers of self-prescriptions as Botswana battles an unrelenting spike in COVID-19 infections and deaths.

Dr Jammalamadugu said although it may come across as good to the use medical drugs such as paracetamol, steaming with eucalyptus oil, and use of turmeric to relieve congestion, people should exercise caution.

“These techniques are useful to prevent and help reduce worsening symptoms,” she said. “However, abuse of antibiotics and not finding help from a healthcare professional when one can is what is complicating the issue.”

Dr Jammalamadugu said delay in seeking professional care and using social media doctors without a clear understanding of what the body may actually be in need of at a particular point could make things worse.

She disclosed that she sees a lot of patients who have ulcers after taking too many effervescent Vitamin C tablets. “It is important to take only that which is officially recommended,” she said. “Some people take multivitamins which contain iron and can potentially cause iron toxicity.”

She expressed concern that some COVID-19-positive people who are not diabetic take sugar-based medicines that raise their blood-sugar levels. “These ‘meds’ raise their pulse rate, and if they have underlying heart conditions and COVID-19, that raises their heart rate and messes with their electrolytes,” she pointed out. “That can put them at risk of cardiovascular events and clots.”

Dr Jammalamadugu emphasized the need to understand that everyone’s body is different and therefore response to COVID-19 seems to vary from person to person. She noted that so far it has not been established what makes one person vulnerable to complications while another person may have only a mild infection.

INVITATION TO TENDER

Botswana Investment and Trade Centre wishes to invite reputable companies to tender for the following tenders:

- Tender No. BITC 003/2021-22 Provision of Security Services for Botswana Investment and Trade Centre Property.**
 - **PPADB Code:** 100 Security Services; **Sub code:** 01 Guard Services
 - **Closing Date of Submission** –20th August 2021
 - **Price:** P 250.00

NOTE: THIS TENDER IS RESERVED FOR 100% CITIZEN OWNED COMPANIES

Full details, requirements and specifications will be provided in the Tender Document that can be obtained from the address below:

**THE SECRETARY
BITC TENDER COMMITTEE
PLOT 54351, CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT,
GABORONE
PRIVATE BAG 00445
GABORONE
TELEPHONE: 3633357 FAX: 3170452
Email: botsangk@bitc.co.bw
Contact Person: Kgomotso Botsang**

The tender documents will be emailed to the interested bidder after paying a non-refundable fee mentioned above from 0830hrs to 1530hrs on weekdays with effect from 26th July 2021. **Youth registered companies** will purchase the documents at **50%**. The payments can be deposited on the below account referencing the tender title.

Account Name	Account No.	Branch	Branch Code	Swift Code	Bank Name
Botswana Investment and Trade Centre	62223671042	Corporate	28-14-67	FIRNBWGX	FNBB

Proof of payment should be emailed to: **'procurement@botsbitc.onmicrosoft.com'**

CONDITIONS FOR ALL THE TENDERS

- BITC reserves the right to accept or reject any bid; and is not bound to accept the lowest or any tender or assign reasons for the acceptance or rejection of the tender.
- The Centre reserves the right not to proceed with the tender and may cancel the envisaged tender without providing any reason.
- The submitted proposal shall under no circumstances be returned to the bidders.
- Proposals received or delivered after the above-mentioned dates and time will not be considered nor will any telephonic, telex, facsimile or electronic mail submissions.
- No liability will be accepted by BITC for loss or late delivery of tender documents.
- BITC reserves the right to request for a site visits before the award of any tender.
- Tender documents and all supporting documents shall be submitted in **plain /unmarked and firmly sealed envelopes or packages.**
- Tenders shall be opened immediately after the tender closing at the BITC Head office, in the presence of bidders or any representatives who choose to attend.



Botswana's Late Joining Of COVAX May Explain Delayed Vaccine Delivery

- Health minister says Botswana joined seven months after COVAX was launched
- Says Botswana's middle-income status prevented instantaneous joining
- Considerable amount of vaccines expected beginning this month



SESUPO RANTSIMAKO

The Minister of Health and Wellness (MoHW) Dr Edwin Dikoloti has admitted that some of the delay in delivery of vaccines may be attributable to

Botswana joining the COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access Facility (COVAX Facility) late owing to the country's middle-income status.

Updating the parliament on COVID-19 vaccine acquisition recently, Minister Dikoloti revealed that while the

COVAX Facility was launched in April 2020, Botswana joined it seven months later due to the country's middle income status.

"The COVAX Facility was launched in April 2020 with aim of accelerating the development and manufacturing of COVID-19 vaccines, as well as equitable access for every country in the world," he said. "The goal of the facility is to deliver at least two billion doses of safe and effective vaccines to all participating countries by the end of 2021."

"Botswana joined this facility as a self-financing country in October 2020. An upfront payment of USD 3,292,800.00 was made then, which assured that about 940 800 vaccines doses sufficient to vaccinate 20 percent of our population can be purchased. These doses are expected to be delivered in 2021."

Dikoloti said that through the facility, Botswana was able to receive 82, 290 doses of COVID-19 vaccines, specifically 19,890 of Biotech Pfizer doses and 62,400 of AstraZeneca doses. "We wait for the delivery of another (and) the country is yet to receive another 34,400 of AstraZeneca vaccines in August," the minister said.

"I wish to highlight that the process to acquire these vaccines has not been a smooth-sailing one due to, among others, the high demand that has now outstripped supply. Despite this delayed supply, we have been doing everything under the sun, including constantly engaging with suppliers, for an expedited delivery."

Minister Dikoloti added that the hope is that Botswana will receive a significant amount of vaccines between August and September this year. These will include 81 000 doses of Pfizer, 61 200 of Sinovac and as 93 000 of Johnson and Johnson.

MoHW and Germany Sign Agreement To Increase COVID-19 Testing Capacities

The project is financed by German government's federal office

SESUPO RANTSIMAKO

In an effort to increase COVID-19 testing capacities of the National Health Laboratory (NHL), the Minister of Health and Wellness (MoHW) Dr Edwin Dikoloti and German Ambassador to Botswana Margit Hellwig Botte have signed a project agreement to increase the country's access to laboratory supplies.

The project which is financed by the German Govern-

ment's Federal Foreign Office will encompass a 100,000 EUR procurement of laboratory supplies facilitated by The World Health Organization (WHO), Botswana and responsible staff from MoHW. The project will identify the most urgently required items in order to lessen the existing challenges of the NHL and its branches. "Against the background of the on-going COVID-19 pandemic and currently experienced devastating third wave with very high infection rates in Botswana and the

region, this collaboration aims at increasing the availability of uninterrupted testing services. Also the project aims in improving overall quality as well as reliability of test results," read the communique from MoHW.

With the project agreement signed, the German Ambassador to Botswana has urged all personnel involved to finalise necessary steps of procurement as soon as possible. Hellwig-Botte further emphasized that it is more crucial to make testing services available for as many people as possible especially while the vaccination campaign is still ongoing.

The signing of the project agreement comes at a time when there are reports of shortage of COVID-19 test kits in some parts of the country. Botswana is currently experiencing a surge in COVID-19 cases exacerbated by the slow vaccination roll-out. As of 30 July Botswana has tested 1,514 979 people. Out of this number, a total of 115 220 tested positive. Out of the tested number 96 964 has recovered while 1,653 succumbed to COVID-19 complications.

www.lea.co.bw

TENDER NOTICE

Tenders are invited from reputable companies to tender for:

TENDER NO: LEA 003/2021 – 2022 - A TENDER FOR THE PROVISION OF MANAGED PRINTING SERVICES FOR 36 MONTHS - EQUIPMENT LEASE, MAINTENANCE AND SUPPORT SERVICES TO LEA

Visit the LEA website to view full tender advert: www.lea.co.bw

Closing Date: 31/08/2021

High court rules against KBL on urgency

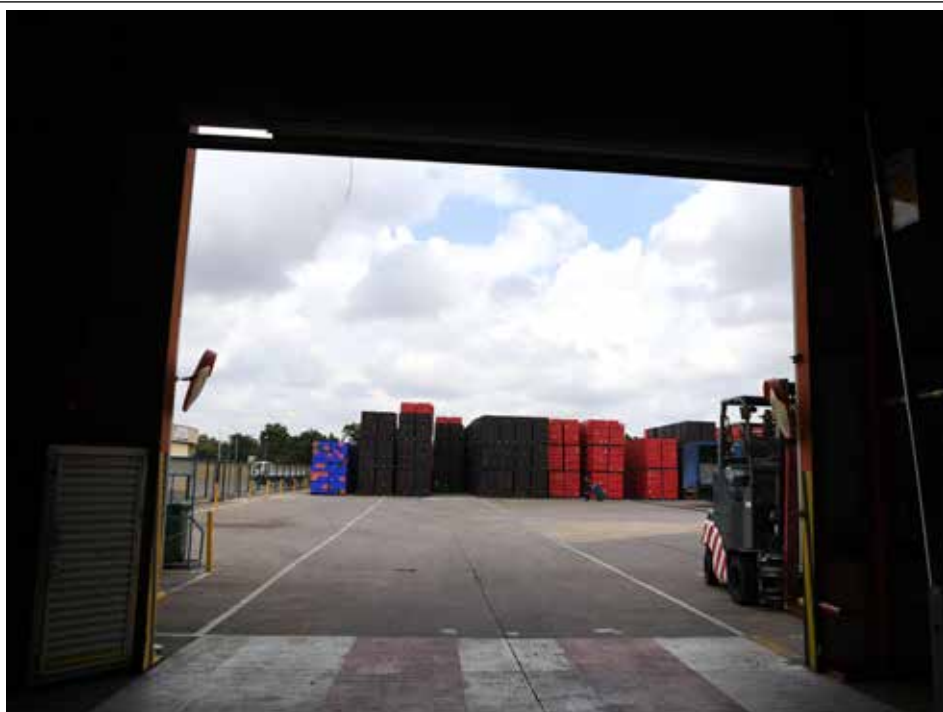
- Court dismissed the case on the basis of preliminary objection
- CJ had called the case 'exceptional public importance'

GAZETTE REPORTER

Gaborone High Court judges Hon Judge Motswagole, Hon Judge Nyamadzabo as well as Hon Judge Radijeng yesterday (Tuesday) ruled in favor of the government on the urgent applica-

tion by Kgalagadi Breweries Limited (KBL) that their case challenging the wholesale ban on alcohol imposed on June 28 was urgent.

The High Court dismissed the application on the basis of preliminary objection. This is despite the Chief Justice Rannowane's appointment of



a three panel of judges on 9th of July to preside over the KBL case as it was said to be urgent. The Chief Justice's argument on the appointment of the three judges was that the application raised issues of exceptional public importance.

Reasons for dismissing the case are that the case is commercial as the applicant had disclosed the form and nature it stands to suffer in economic or financial terms. It is for this reason that the judges felt the court could not bend its rules as KBL feels entitled to preferential treatment.

Speaking to journalists after the court case, spokesperson of KBL, Masegonyana Madisa told journalists that they will take some steps backwards and discuss with their lawyers, "The judgment has just been handed down and I must say disappointing but it would be very helpful to hear what the judges' state as their reasons and map a way forward."

In their court papers, KBL contended that, not only was there no prior consultation before each ban, but the Government did not provide objective evidence that establishes a causal link between increase in positive cases and consumption of alcohol, on which it based its decision to impose the five alcohol bans to date.

KBL expressed that on multiple previous occasions that it preferred a different approach – one that involves balanced measures that take into account the interests of Government, the public, the industry and its extensive value chain. Moreover, KBL was concerned that the current indefinite ban will have dire irreparable consequences not only on its operations, but on the entire alcohol value chain in Botswana.

IN THEIR REACTION TO THE RULING KBL ISSUED A STATEMENT THAT THE ORGANIZATION IS "DEEPLY DISAPPOINTED BY THE HIGH COURT DISMISSAL OF THE APPLICATION TO SET ASIDE THE WHOLESALE BAN ON ALCOHOL TRADE. THE COURT RULED ON THE BASIS THAT KBL APPLICATION WAS NOT OF AN URGENT NATURE, AND THEREFORE DID NOT DEAL WITH THE MERITS OF THE APPLICATION AND THE DEVASTATING IMPACT ON THE INDUSTRY."

KBL extends its gratitude to all the support and encouragement it has received to strengthen its conviction and commitment to continue to defend the rights of the approximately 50, 000 lives and 200, 000 livelihoods whom the alcohol industry supports."



PUBLIC NOTICE

USE OF ONLINE PLATFORMS TO ACCESS CIPA SERVICES

In light of the increasing COVID-19 infections across the country, and the need to protect both our employees and valued customers, we wish to appeal to our clients to avoid visiting the offices and instead make use of the following technologies in order to access CIPA services or communicate with the Authority.

Online Business Registration System

The Online Business Registration System (OBRS) is available at www.cipa.co.bw 24 hours a day, seven days a week for new registrations and maintenance of companies and business names. The system can be accessed securely from any internet connection and payments are processed through debit/credit cards. Clients who do not have bank cards should use their existing reference numbers or request a new reference number by emailing deposits@cipa.co.bw and then making a deposit into the bank account below.

Account Name: Companies And Intellectual Property Authority

Account Number: 62813051365

Branch Code : 282267

Branch Name: First Place

Swift Code: FIRNBWGX

NB: Please remember to log in after funds have been received by CIPA to complete your application, using deposit account as the payment method.

Annual Returns

Companies whose annual returns are due are reminded that they can file and pay for their returns from the first day of the due month. We kindly request our clients to file and pay for the return as early as possible during the month; this will enable clients who may seek assistance to avoid the congestion and delays that often come with last minute filing.

Communicating with CIPA

Call Centre: 3673797 / 3673758 / 3673748/ 3673783

WhatsApp: 73263804

Email: info@cipa.co.bw

Facebook, Twitter and Instagram: @cipabw

We thank you for your continued support and patronage. Please continue to wash and sanitize your hands, keep a safe distance and wear a mask correctly at all times.

Masisi Feels The Social Media Pinch

Is he planning to strike back? What is at stake if he does? Staff Writer **TEFO PHEAGE** ponders this question

Believe it or not, the social media scotching of the President Mokgweetsi Masisi is not about to end despite threats to clamp down on his critics. Experts have actually warned that should the President carry out the threats, the country stands to lose more than it will gain.

Realising that the President's approval ratings may be on a downward spiral due to the influence of social media, the Minister of Presidential Affairs and Public Administration, Kabo Morwaeng, took to Parliament to share his frustrations and issue more threats, igniting a stream of mixed reactions from social media users. His message was simple: people should respect the President or face consequences.

Social media users responded by attacking Morwaeng for his demands and threats. Leading the pack was private attorney Kgosiitile Ngakaagae, who accused Morwaeng of being all over the show telling the grieving and frustrated public to respect the President.

He charged: "Somebody needs to tell the man to sit down. He can pursue his presidential campaign, after public concerns over permits and the shortage of oxygen, in our hospitals, have been addressed. Who the heck appointed him the arbiter of public manners? We will speak as we deem appropriate, so long as we are telling the truth...HIS office, has murdered our people."

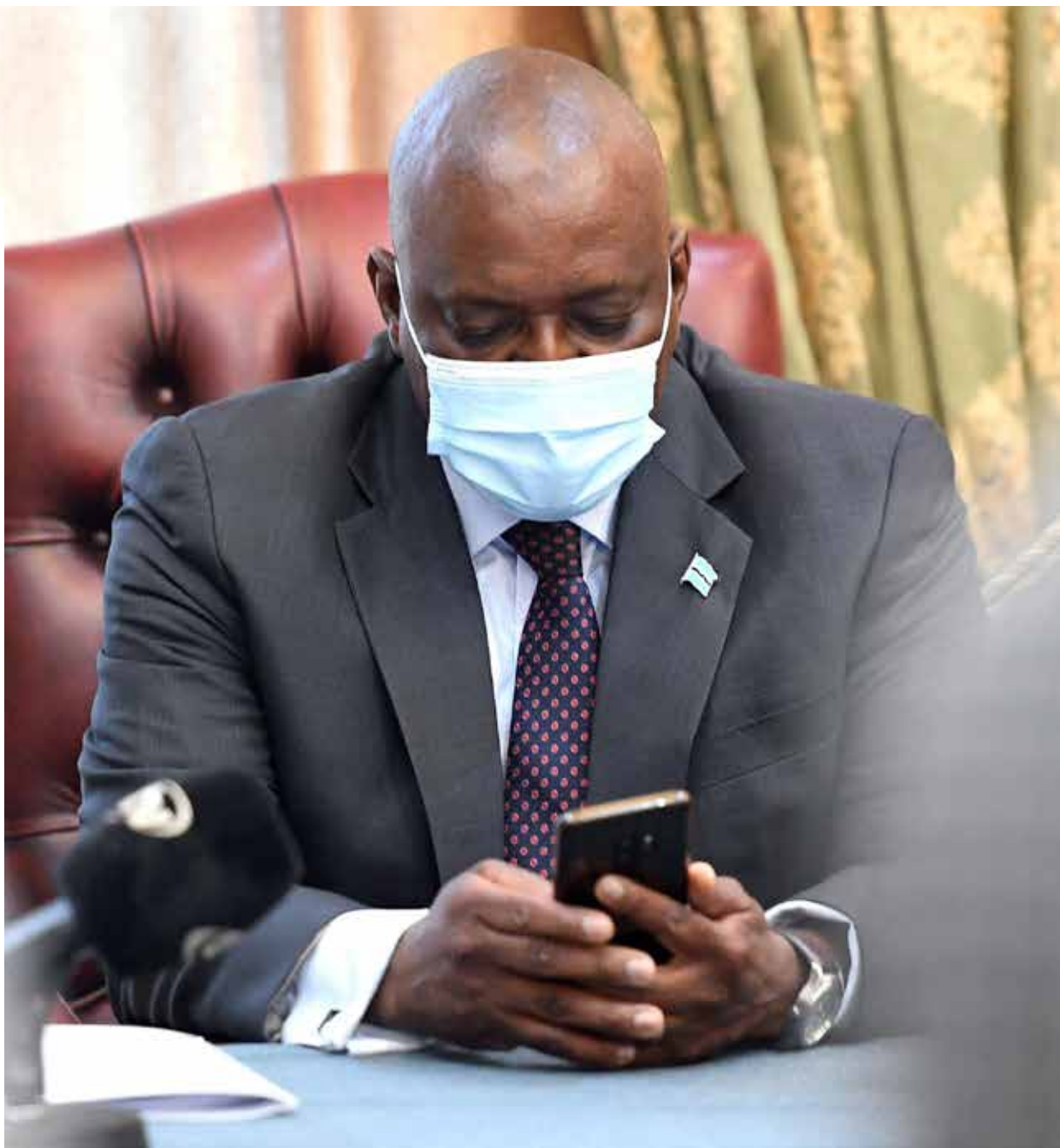
"Hundreds are lying dead, as I write, and he has the nerve to peddle such nonsense. We want solutions, not claptrap by people with blood on their hands. Mortuaries are full, because of his hopeless office and he expects us to erect a shrine in honour of it. If we are insulting the President, there is a provision, in the Penal Code, for that, somewhere between Sections 89, and 94."

Could the government be planning to start a social media war?

For many users, social media is a space that avails alternative platforms, enabling citizens the platform to engage in dialogue and deliberate on socio-economic and political issues. Analysts say it can be an alternative to state-owned and controlled media and a compromised private press which survives on advertising revenue from government.

University of Botswana academic Professor Agreement Jotia posits that the 'force' of the 'electronic republic' was felt especially during the 2011 nationwide public service strike. "Here social media took the centre stage and information moved faster and more robustly than ever before," he says. "Since then, the power of social media has grown steadily to the degree that during the 2014 general elections, government began complaining about 'irresponsible journalism' and 'irresponsible citizenship' as young people expressed their political views over the Internet, especially through Facebook, at times in quite bitter exchanges."

In most cases, debate centres around democracy and



freedom of the speech which always come to the fore at the mention of threats to clamp down on the users because these rights are protected by the constitution. In his paper, "The Role of Social Media in Freeing Botswana from State Control of the Media," Jotia says democracy is such an appealing word since in many instances it is equated with the presence of high levels of freedom and respect for human rights. "It could be appreciated from the dimension of giving citizens the freedom to express themselves deliberately through social media as well as engaging one another on moral or political issues without fear," he argues.

Discussing the situation in Botswana, Jotia says social media is important in any state which claims to be a democracy and that failure to have robust media involvement in the democratic process is likely to jeopardise democratic principles. "Although Botswana has been crowned as a successful story of African democracy over time, it is argued here that she is a liberal democracy marred by some shortcomings – especially those that have to do with government media relations," he writes.

Almost all the country's presidents have made their attempts to stifle freedom of expression, with Masisi's predecessor, Ian Khama, seen as outstanding in this regard. Khama did not only shun the media but considered some of their actions seditious and sued them. For Masisi, the current clash with social media users is not a first. Sometime back at Ave Maria in Gaborone when he was vice president, he told ruling party delegates that they have decided as a party to counter social media attacks by flocking to Facebook through pseudo accounts like "Tom Mang-Mang." The clip of the closed meeting would later trend in mainstream media.

Social media and democracy

In spaces where other media may be constrained, social media such as Twitter, Youtube, Facebook, Whatsapp and blogs have the capacity to inform and empower citizens, allowing them to exercise their freedom of speech within a democratic state, according to Jotia.

His views are that social media has distinctively contributed to the emergence of autonomously networked citizen-centred political perspectives within a democratic political space where multitudes shape and reshape their identity and redefine political discourse through engagement. Yet there are concerns that some social media plat-

forms are not friendly to the democratic process as they promote or constitute hate speech in which Masisi and his Vice President Slumber Tsogwane have been on the receiving end.

But Jotia posits that Botswana is still growing, and therefore constructive criticism is useful both in terms of knowing where to improve things and to honour democracy's collective decision making. "It is an open secret that Botswana's state media is within the wings of the government under watertight control," he points out. "The state, through the Office of the President, decides what is newsworthy and otherwise."

"The State wants to be portrayed in a positive way and to think of state media reporting on issues of nepotism, corruption or bribery at present is unthinkable. Social media has positively impacted many democracies and governments over the years and in Botswana it will definitely liberate citizens from the 'news blackout' perpetuated by state media since the state-controlled media is just a puppet of the state."

If the state is going to perpetually attempt to monitor and control the media, denying citizens the platform of a voice within their democracy, for now the only alternative for Botswana, especially the youth, will be to responsibly register their political views and exercise their liberty and freedom of expression in Botswana's political fraternity through social media," Jotia writes.

The law and the courts

While the presidency seems eager to pursue the offenders, University of Botswana law lecturer Dr Tachilisa Balule warns that "it is vital in a democracy that freedom of expression be valued since it facilitates the free flow of information and ideas that inform political debates, hence it should also be jealously guarded by the courts of law."

The Director of the Media Institute of Southern Africa (MISA), Tefo Phatshwane, says citizens should stand resolute in their pursuit of a better Botswana which they have been promised during elections and should never bow to any intimidation or threats by politicians.

The state is currently struggling to prosecute scores of cyber bullying and abuse cases that involve the Vice President and Minister Morwaeng, among other high profile individuals. Sources say the state does not yet have the necessary tools to investigate and prosecute the complex cyber-related cases.



BUILDING ATHLETES OF THE FUTURE

We have an opportunity as a country to shape the future for the good of all youth athletes right now, but will we take it?

The performances of most of our athletes at the 2021 Tokyo Olympics thus far is a full testament that government needs to seize this opportunity to help develop the sporting codes with precise intent.

The Tokyo Olympics should be used as a cornerstone that will chaperon the government and private sector stakeholders into bringing a strong commitment to building long-term sustainable success by investing in jobs and strategies that support the country's emerging talent across Olympic and Commonwealth Games sports.

This begins with the raising of money through direct funding that comprises of grants to sports organizations that help develop emerging athletes, as well as paying sport scientists and expert trainers to improve leadership and support.

Many sports codes take years to identify and develop talent. With schools closed and extra-curricular activities and sports on embargo, this poses a serious risk for the next generation of athletes as they fail to gain access to facilities, coaches and recreational training to nurture their talents at an early age. The absence of this also could mean that industry talent searchers also remain with no places to scout for it since there are no activities.

Globally, our competitors have many years worth of advantages. For example, in South Africa the sports development and facilities are world class and accessible. There are schools of excellence per sporting code in every locality.

The absence of these in Botswana have seen many our local stars, particularly Nijel Amos and Isaac Makwala training in Europe for the most part of 2020, in preparation for the Tokyo Olympics.

What is worrisome is when our leaders are the ones ululating the loudest when victory is gained, yet shamefully silent when the athletes complain about their challenges. It is no secret that Isaac Makwala, Nijel Amos and Amantle Montsho have openly criticized government for lack of support. But sadly, it is not clear what the succession plan is to defend our world record breaking status as these athletes reach the twilight of their careers.

How we commit to developing our youthful athletes will dictate the future of our sportsmanship, job creation and poverty alleviation. It is high time we established a National Sports Development Fund.



Ngamiland Land Crisis Is A Mirage

Tourism is one of Botswana's largest and dynamically developing sectors.

We cannot sufficiently stress the contribution of the tourism sector in the lives of citizens of this country and job creation for young people, primarily in the north-western part of Botswana. But the youth in the North West District are deprived of land ownership to pursue dreams in the tourism industry.

I visited the North West during the President's Day holidays and found that the Ngamiland land crisis is a mirage that needs to be addressed. In past years, the youth became the major generator of travel products and services and their consumers. The youth tourists tend to travel in order to increase their knowledge and to acquaint themselves with other cultures.

They are now ready to own those campsites and concessions. They have travelled, explored and learnt. It is time now for them to become key players in the industry.

But I was disappointed to learn that a certain portion of land has been withheld from deprived young and innovative Batswana by a well-known elite and his multinational company. This in itself not only contravenes President Dr Mokgweetsi Masisi's Reset Agenda but is an insult to the aspirations of our generation.

The very same company bulldozing Batswana out of the area doesn't pay lease rentals, let alone make any meaningful contribution in the lives of locals. They deliberately pitched in an area they have no right to and are raking in millions illegally.

One wonders how many such areas have they occupied in a similar manner in our country? Which government officials have been involved in this ploy to deprive our people, especially our generation, opportunities?

The very same company bulldozing Batswana out of the area doesn't pay lease rentals, let alone make any meaningful contribution in the lives of locals. They deliberately pitched in an area they have no right to and are raking in millions illegally.

As the Chairperson of the Executive Committee of the Botswana Democratic Party National Youth Wing, I have always advanced the interests of the youth above everything else. This is a generation whose interests I am more than ready to defend by all means necessary.

But such issues hardly ever reach the right people. Issues of land shortage and disputes in Ngamiland are a deceitful ploy to deprive Batswana of their heritage.

The Reset Agenda has given us an opportunity to fix our past for the sake of present and future generations.

Karabo Gomotsegang
BDP NYEC Chairperson



Isaac Makwala advances to the final on time qualification as he finishes the 400m men's semi-final with 44:59 in the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games at the Tokyo Olympic Stadium on 2 August 2021. (Pic:Monirul Bhuiyan/PRESS PHOTO)

Forex Trading Profits Taxable

TAX FOUNTAIN

Forex trading is increasingly becoming popular in many African countries, including Botswana. The forex exchange market is currently ranked as one of the largest financial markets in the world. Most businesses and individuals trading on the forex market can potentially reap large profits due to currency values changes. While the ultimate objective of forex traders is to make profits, it is critical to ponder the tax consequences of buying and selling forex. Just like any other trade, profits realised from forex trading are taxable. Allow us to narrate below what the tax laws say about profits realised from such trade.

Forex trading

Basically, forex trading relates to a network of foreign currency buyers and sellers. The players on this market include individuals, businesses and banks. These players enter this market for various reasons, including capitalising on exports or import costs, managing currency fluctuations as well as to buy or sell assets offshore. In brief, most players on the foreign market seek to obtain a benefit or a profit from currency exchanges.

Enter Tax

The basic principle enshrined in the Income Tax Act is that receipts which are of a revenue nature (i.e. day-to-day trading) are subject to income tax. On the other hand, capital receipts are not taxed, unless they are receipts of immovable assets or share disposals, which would normally suffer Capital Gains Tax. Usually, revenue receipts are the result of the ordinary selling of goods or services rendered in normal business operations. That being said, one might think that receipts from foreign currency trading are capital in nature since currency forms part of a business or personal current assets. Well, the distinction between capital and revenue income sometimes is not always a straightforward inquiry. Let us provide a distinction between the two.

A trader in forex is taxed on the profits they realise from gains which they would have actually realised. If a person buys forex and then sells it for another currency and realises a gain of P100 000, only the P100 000 is subject to income tax. The profits are taxed after deducting expenses, such as bank and exchange charges. Conversely, no income tax arises when a person buys US dollars worth, say, P200 000 in January 2021 whose value surges to P300 000 by 30 June 2021 without conversion of the US dollars into Pula. That is what is referred to as unreal-

ised forex gains, which are not taxed.

Capital vs revenue

The Income Tax Act does not actually provide a definition of capital receipts. However, to determine whether a particular income is capital or revenue in nature largely depends on circumstances of the concerned transaction. There is no hard and fast rule. Basically, the intention of undertaking a transaction largely defines a capital or revenue receipt. If a business operating in retail engages in continuous forex trading with the intention of generating profit, such income ceases to be capital and any arising profits are taxable as the income will be revenue in nature.

Conversely, if the same business buys foreign currency to hedge against currency volatility and only disposes the forex when procuring goods, then profits generated are capital in nature. As you can see, the motive and intention clearly provides a distinction. Additionally, a test of recurring receipts usually connotes revenue income whereas one-off or irregular ones are usually capital in nature. In essence, capital transactions may be equated to a tree in that you will enjoy future benefits while revenue receipts are likened to fruits, i.e. immediate or recurring benefits.

The other side

On the other hand, the advent of technology and the Internet transformed how business and forex transactions operate. One key aspect to note is that the forex market is no longer a central marketplace for foreign exchange trading. Currency trading is usually conducted electronically over the Internet.

Conclusion

Some individuals usually engage in forex trade as a side hustle whilst some end up generating a reliable income stream from forex trading. However, it should be noted that such activities are in no way different from daily business operations on which profits are subject to income tax. Exceptions or exclusions apply to one-off transactions or deals meant for investment purposes.

The team at Tax Fountain, your go-to tax consultants, hopes that you found this article useful. Should you require further assistance or to join our free tax WhatsApp group, please contact us using the details below.

Disclaimer: This is a general analysis. Tax advice is recommended if critical decisions linked to this article have to be made. Contact us on info@taxfountain.co.bw or 311 6269/+267 760 910 79.

Considering Valuing Your Property? Then Read This!!

NELTAH TSHEPISO MOSIMANEGAPE

1. REMOVE SENTIMENTAL ATTACHMENT TO YOUR PROPERTY

Property owners often believe that their property is worth much more than it actually is just because of their sentimental attachment to it. This attachment is especially common in Botswana where land ownership is a big deal. But the truth is that a property/plot handed down as an inheritance from your great grandmother does not affect the value of the property in any way and will certainly not be taken into consideration by the valuer.

2. FACTORS INFLUENCING THE VALUE OF THE PROPERTY

As cliché as it may sound, 'location, location, and location' still has an enormous impact on the value of a property. Properties that are centrally located in areas with developments such as schools, malls, and good neighbourhoods positively impact the value of your property. The local market conditions also affect property valuations. So keep your ear to the ground or consult a property expert such as Tempest Gold for expert advice.

3. COMPARABLE VALUES

Comparable valuations of similar properties in your property's neighbourhood can also be used to determine the property value. Where your property is situated takes us back to the first point on the importance of location.

4. WANT TO INCREASE THE VALUE OF YOUR PROPERTY? HERE IS WHAT YOU CAN DO.


Property improvements add value to a property. Instead of a fenced perimeter, consider building a wall around your property. A well-maintained property (interior and exterior) can increase the value. For example, a well-maintained, beautiful garden and paved yard adds value. You can also install fitted wall wardrobes and a fitted kitchen. Finally, you can replace your vinyl tiles with ceramic or porcelain tiles, improving the overall property's attractiveness.

5. CONTACT ACCREDITED PROPERTY VALUERS

Property valuers with experience in the market can accurately give you a good estimate of your Open Market Value, Forced Sale Value, and Insurance value.

Contact Tempest Gold on 72196950 to engage trusted and registered valuers to value your properties!!!

Feeling Weak At The Knees?



IT MANAGER/ SYSTEMS ANALYST

Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced personnel to the below positions for immediate recruitment.

The ideal candidate must have managerial experience with the ability to work cross-functionally in a technology driven and rapidly IT environment in a well established company. You will be responsible for defining the company's IT strategy with senior management and developing solutions that are aligned day-to-day data centre operations. You should be able to work long hours including weekends with minimum supervision and should be responsible for the management and maintenance of our business application software. You should have a sound knowledge of Ulti- Sales POS Software, excellent interpersonal relationship skills coupled with strong leadership skill.

Skills Required:

- Develop, support and maintain IT Systems for the Group
- Provide Technical and Administrative support for the implemented Application Software
- Direct the implementation of hardware and software infrastructure components to maximize common process and minimize costs by efficiently controlling the infrastructure environment.
- Co-ordinate with all involved parties to ensure successful upgrades/ modifications to the existing systems as per defined change management procedures.
- Overall in-charge of the computer operation and computer systems related functions thus coordinating and providing system reliability & resources to support the day-to- day operations. This includes staff management, system control, application development, system integration and support processes to ensure adequate backup, disaster recovery, business continuity and contingency plans.
- Manage overall information technology infrastructure, applications, database and security in order to support

the business and process requirements while thoroughly monitoring the accuracy of the data/ stock input with thorough supervision and necessary controls.

- Undertake and co-ordinate comprehensive training of IT support staff and report progress and problem management.
- Prepare user documentation, management reports and operational procedures of the system.
- Should be able to handle programming on POS software, Payrolls Systems and Financial Accounting packages.
- Ability to manage and maintain Novell Netware Operating Systems, MS Windows 2019 Server Network platforms, PCs, Printers, Heavy Duty Scanners, Point of Sale and Bio Metric equipments.

Prerequisites:

- Diploma in Information Technology/ Computer Science with Systems

Development and Design qualifications

- Extensive experience in providing database support in MS Windows 2019 Server/ Workstation environment with advance trouble shooting and server network configurations
- At least 10 years experience in co-coordinating the design, implementation, operations and maintenance of point of sale information system, including experience in overseeing large centralized and distributed institutional systems is a must.
- A thorough knowledge and working experience in VIP Payroll System and Uniclox Time Attendance System.
- A good operational and technical knowledge in Sage ACCPac ERP Ver 5.5 Windows Base Accounting System.
- DB Programming experience using database language such as Java python and Visual Basic etc. A good knowledge in Oracle Programming and Unix Operating system is a must.
- User training experience.

applications with updated CV's to the address below:
GROUP HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER
THE WORLD GROUP OF COMPANIES,
P/BAG 00479
TEL:+267 391 6195
Fax: +267 391 6196
GABORONE, BOTSWANA,
SOUTHERN AFRICA

E-MAIL: l.maedza@theworldgroup.co.bw
All applications must be forwarded to the following address on or before
20th August 2021

The Human Resources Manager
P O Box 502704
Gaborone, Botswana

BONOLO PHALADZE

You feel weak at the knees but not in a damsel-in-distress romantic kind of way. What could be the problem and what to do?

Pop culture for its many evils has shown us what is possible. Women over 50: Jennifer Lopez, Halle Berry, Jennifer Anniston and so on demonstrate that you can still have mobility and a full range of motion at any age and feel amazing. What they all have in common is their love for yoga.

Some people may argue that celebrities have chefs, plastic surgeons and personal trainers at their disposal, granted, but your knees don't lie.

Knee pain is a common complaint among adults and is mostly associated with general wear and tear from daily activities like walking, bending, standing and lifting. Office workers are also most likely to experience knee pain because sitting at a desk all day can create imbalances in your body by weakening your butt muscles.

Chronic knee pain is on the rise globally and it affects people of all ages. "Results suggest that independent of age and BMI, prevalence of knee pain has increased substantially over a 20-year period. Obesity accounted for only part of this increase. In the FOA Study, there was an increase in symptomatic osteoarthritis but no increase in radiographic osteoarthritis," US National Library of Medicine (2012).

Surprisingly, the issue is not with the knee itself. It being a joint, the knee is affected

by the muscles surrounding it, including the quads, hamstrings and calves also because of the way the cartilage is designed.

CAN YOGA HELP MANAGE KNEE PAIN?

Studies show that people with knee pain can get some much-needed relief by practising yoga regularly. Yoga increases the stabilising action of the leg's big muscles. When the inner and outer quadriceps are equally strong, they exert an equal pull on the ligaments, which keeps the kneecap in alignment.

In 2013, researchers worked with 30 women who had knee osteoarthritis. Half were assigned to an 8-week yoga programme. By the end of the study, their pain and symptoms had decreased more than those of the control group, and they had a better overall quality of life.

A 2016 review looked at six studies on the effects of yoga on osteoarthritis. In these studies, people experienced pain relief and functional improvements as early as two weeks after regularly practicing yoga. The conclusion was that yoga could be a medication-free means of relieving pain and improving mobility.

Other more recent studies have shown similar results, placing yoga among the best natural knee pain relief methods, alongside tai chi and massage therapy.

Yoga is therapeutic. If you're interested, Yownn Yoga has free yoga classes on YouTube. However, it is always best to practice in-person under the guide of an experienced yoga teacher for your safety.

Bonolo Phaladze is a Registered Yoga Teacher (RYT200) with Yoga Alliance, a global governing body for yoga teachers. She is Teacher Lead at Yownn Yoga in Gaborone.

JOB VACANCIES

JOB TITLE:

Compliance Analyst - Compliance Risk Management is an independent second line of defence function responsible for establishing internal strategies, policies, procedures, processes, and programs to prevent violations of law, rule, or regulation through the design and delivery of a risk management framework that helps to maintain risk levels within the organization's risk appetite.

Head of Group Product Programmatic Lending - To drive and deliver excellent business performance through continuous product development and innovation to profitably satisfy evolving Programmatic Approach needs.

Company: Letshego Holdings Limited

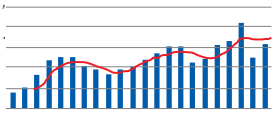
Position tenable at: Head Office, Gaborone, Botswana

To apply and find out more about this vacancy, please visit Letshego Job portal and complete online application:
<https://letshego.job.skillsmapafrica.com>

For more information about Letshego visit:
www.letshego.com

Closing date for Applications	18 August 2021
Standard disclaimer	Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted





"The healthy cash balance enabled us to finance further expansion of our mobile data network and replacement of traditional copper network with fibre in order to support the needs of our customers."

GAZETTE REPORTER

Botswana Telecommunications Corporation Limited (BTC) continues to show resilience after the mobile network company's profit increased by 16 percent (P26.8) from P139 million posted in the year that ended March 31 2020 to P165.8 million recorded in the year that ended March 31 2021.

According to the Managing Director (MD) Anthony Masunga, the profit growth was driven by an increase in revenue and robust cost reduction strategies, accelerating EBITDA to P463 million and consequently leading to an increase in cash.

The Group reported revenue of P1.43 billion, which is a 1 percent increase on the prior year. "This increase in revenue was driven by the monetisation of significant investments in fixed and mobile broadband infrastructure in support of high speed Internet service at homes and offices across most parts of the country," Masunga said in the Group financials released recently.

BTC's cash and cash equivalents significantly increased by 204 percent from P120 million in the prior year to P364 million at the end of March 2021. "The increase was driven by a positive cash conversion ratio of 52 percent as well as favourable working capital resulting from implementation of debt collection measures during the year," Masunga noted.

"The healthy cash balance enabled us to finance further expansion of our mobile data network and replacement of traditional copper network with fibre in order to support the needs of our customers. The uptake of our data products has been increasing with the improving quality of service leading to increased revenues as voice revenues flatten/decline."

Masunga noted that despite the gradual opening of economic activity and travel, Botswana's economic climate remains uncertain due to ongoing restrictions necessary to control the spread of COVID-19 virus compounded by the threat of new variants. He said the reduction in economic activity further impedes household consumption and business expenditure.

"The pandemic, however, has emphasised that telecommunications data services underpinned by reliable high speed connectivity are an absolute necessity for businesses and households," he noted. "This is necessary to enable the shift towards work-from-home, e-education, e-commerce and other services to support digital transformation."

BTC Profits Increase By P26.8 Million

MD says growth point to telecommunications data services as an absolute necessity for businesses and households



WESTERN INDUSTRIAL ESTATES (PROPRIETARY) LIMITED
A Member of the BDC Group of Companies

INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) SOLICITING BUSINESS PARTNERS OR TENANTS TO PROPOSE THE BEST POSSIBLE VALUE FOR MONEY UTILISATION OF LOT 18721, PALAPYE

Public Notice

In relation to this EOI, Western Industrial Estates (WIE) would like to inform the bidders that the submission date has been extended from **July 28th, 2021, to 27 August 2021 1700hrs.**

For more information on the invitation kindly visit: BDC Social media pages



Botswana Development Corporation



@BDCLimited

BDC To Invest P1.3bn In Durable Projects

Has realigned itself with Botswana's Reset Agenda



GAZETTE REPORTER

As lessons derived from the COVID-19 pandemic, Botswana Development Corporation (BDC) intends to invest approximately P1.3 billion in the next 12 months in projects that will ensure that the economy is better prepared to withstand economic shocks in the future, the organisation's Investment Principal, Oteng Keabetswe, has said.

BDC also intends to offer assistance to companies that have been affected by the pandemic. "These efforts include offering relief funds for businesses in distress and the administration of the government's Industry Support Facility for large scale businesses to ensure that jobs are preserved and that the businesses are also sustained," Keabetswe said.

He was speaking in the sixth seminar/webinar series of SADC's Development Finance Institutions that BDC co-hosted with the Association of African Economy and Development (AFRECO).

Also speaking in the webinar, BDC Head of Corporate Affairs and Strategy, Boitshwarelo Lebang, stressed the impact that the corporation has had on the local economy over the past 50 years, having successfully conducted its business on a commercial basis while exercising special care and regard to economic and commercial merits.

Lebang noted that BDC has refocused to lead the way in Botswana's economic transformation through BDC's "Beyond 2019" strategy that is in alignment with the country's change mandate and key Reset Agenda priorities.

As the country's main agency for commercial and industrial development, BDC is charged with driving industrialisation of the country by providing financial assistance to investors with commercial projects.



De Beers Makes P28.6bn In H1 Rough Sales

Production up by 37% to 15.4m carats

GAZETTE REPORTER

De Beers rough diamond sales for the first half of 2021 (H1), which ended 30 June, increased by \$1.6 billion from \$1 billion registered in the same period last year to \$2.6 billion (about P28.6 billion) in the period under review.

According to the Anglo American's interim financial results released last week, the increase in rough diamond sales was driven by robust rough diamond demand as the midstream pulled through stocks in response to recovery in consumer demand, with rough diamond sales volumes significantly higher at 19.2 million carats (30 June 2020: 8.5 million carats).

Anglo American is De Beers's parent company. It owns 85 percent in the diamond mining company while the Government of Botswana owns 15 percent of the company.

Anglo American announced that rough diamond production increased by 37 percent to 15.4 million carats (30 June 2020: 11.3 million carats) primarily due to the lower levels of production in the first half of 2020 resulting from COVID-19 related shutdowns and the response to the resultant reduced demand owing to the pandemic.

In Botswana, production was 43 percent higher at 10.7 million carats (30 June 2020: 7.5 million carats). Anglo American attributed the increase to stronger prevailing demand. Production at Jwaneng increased by 44 percent to 6.3 million carats (30 June 2020: 4.3 million carats), and production at Orapa increased by 41% to 4.4 million carats (30 June 2020: 3.1 million carats), despite the impact of heavy rainfall at the beginning of the year.

In the neighboring Namibia, production decreased by 22 percent to 0.7 million carats (30 June 2020: 0.9 million carats) due to planned maintenance of the Mafuta crawler

vessel and the continued demobilisation of another vessel. In South Africa, production increased by 87 percent to 2.4 million carats (30 June 2020: 1.3 million carats), owing to the impact of the COVID-19 shutdown in the first half of 2020, as well as planned processing of higher grade ore from the final cut of the open pit while the mine transitions to underground operations, where first production is expected in 2023.

The increase in rough diamond sales was driven by robust rough diamond demand as the midstream pulled through stocks in response to recovery in consumer demand, with rough diamond sales volumes significantly higher at 19.2 million carats (30 June 2020: 8.5 million carats).

Anglo American also declared that capital expenditure at De Beers increased by 29 percent to \$205 million (30 June 2020: \$159 million), largely due to a reduction of sustaining projects during 2020 in response to COVID-19. The Venetia Underground and Jwaneng Cut-9 life-extension projects continued to progress and the new AMV3 vessel for Namibia remains on track for commissioning in 2022.

Sefalana Defies COVID-19 To Remain Resilient

Group's PBT reaches P31.4 million



GAZETTE REPORTER

Despite the challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, Botswana's largest retail supermarket by market capitalisation, Sefalana Group, has proven to be resilient after its profit before tax (PBT) increased by P31.4 million from P258.8 million in the prior year to P290.2 million recorded in the year that ended 30 April 2021, *The Botswana Gazette* has established.

"Although it has been a challenging year during which the pandemic has remained an obstacle and distraction for business and economic growth, we have tirelessly and actively worked to overcome these challenges through finding new ways of doing business; and maintaining and growing market share wherever possible in each of our segments," said Chandrakanth Chauhan in the Group's financial results released recently.

Chauhan noted that in overall profits, Botswana business units have generated P177 million of PBT for the year, up 31 percent on the prior year. "From the three main territories in which we are present, this location has experienced the greatest impact of the pandemic," he said. "We have done exceptionally well this year to combat this."

He added that the Group's property portfolio held in Botswana performed well, contributing 1 percent and 22 percent to Group revenue and PBT respectively. "Almost all properties are tenanted and leases are in place for between two and five years with option periods in some," he said.

"Profit of P63 million was generated compared to P40 million in the prior year, mainly due to improved rental streams in some of our larger premises which resulted in additional income and also fair value gains on those properties. A full valuation was carried out by an independent third party on all properties owned by the Group."

Sefalana has grown into a trusted household name in Botswana through establishing itself as one of the country's leading businesses in the Fast-Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG) sector. The Group also has a significant property portfolio across southern Africa along with three motor dealerships (MAN, TATA and Honda).

This is the Group that has grown from just six stores in one country to a total of 74 stores across three countries and employs over 3 400 individuals from a mere 233 in 1974.



Stanbic Bank Botswana And BECI Ink Partnership To Support Economic Growth

GABORONE – As part of their continued commitment to drive Botswana's growth, Stanbic Bank Botswana has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Export Credit Insurance & Guarantee Company Botswana (Pty) Ltd, trading as BECI.

"As Stanbic Bank Botswana, we firmly believe in forming strategic partnerships dedicated to the growth and prosperity of our clients. Our collective interest and investment in improving the lives of Botswana and driving her growth is therefore undeniable."

Said Stanbic Bank Botswana Head, Wholesale Clients Segment, Mr. Sheperd Aisam, "As Stanbic Bank Botswana, we firmly believe in forming strategic partnerships dedicated to the growth and prosperity of our clients. Our collective interest and investment in improving the lives of Botswana and driving her growth is therefore undeniable. We understand the need to create innovative Public-Private Partnerships and programmes in order to diversify our economy and cement its growth. This is how we are able to improve lives and turn dreams into reality, because with Stanbic Bank, It Can Be!"

According to the Bank, some of the benefits of this partnership include:

- Joint seminars for SMMEs focusing on export development
- Guarantee cover/facilities
- Credit insurance/ insurance cover on bank debt

- Enhanced product offering through credit insurance.
- Opportunity to connect companies supporting importation/exportation of goods and services into and outside Botswana
- Provision of back-to-back guarantees in order to support banking facilities
- Credit insurance to cover bank debt
- Create access to the Accelerate for sustainable entrepreneurial development processes and as a shared working space
- Provides Transactional and digital banking solutions designed for SMMEs, Business Banking and Wholesale Banking Clients
- Ease of doing business with China through the Africa China Banking proposition

BECI has sustained a pivotal role in the growth of Botswana's economy, having supported credit transactions amounting to P12.3 billion to date, a testament to their resolve in empowering entrepreneurs. "Our primary objective as a credit insurer is to support economic growth through Trade credit insurance solutions. The immeasurable value we have provided to the economy over the past 10 years is demonstrated in a number of ways which include: the facilitation of trade; supporting the construction industry; credit protection for local enterprises; and relief through the COVID-19 Loan Guarantee Scheme Administration, to mention a few. Our joint partnership with Stanbic Bank is yet another exciting initiative that we are excited to embark on together," stated BECI General Manager, Mr. Cowell Habana.

"We understand our responsibility to extend ourselves beyond just banking by adding value through providing exposure, information and our expertise to our clients. We do this, to foster an environment that facilitates their growth and success. This speaks further to our purpose as this partnership will enable us to sustainably support economic growth and unlock infinite possibilities for local entrepreneurs," concluded Aisam.



GOSEGO MOTSUMI

One of the biggest and most heartfelt songs during the gloom brought on by COVID-19, “Mpuledise” by Khoisan, which (group) is made up of Oratile Kofa and Thabang Rasefako, continues to bring comfort with its healing message.

When it was released early this year, the music outfit was hoping the song would help people heal and find peace through a difficult time of loss of loved ones. It lived up to expectations, becoming an instant hit even in neighbouring countries and dominating the charts.

This begged the question of whether the song was measuring up to its success in monetary terms. “We have never made so much sales on a song from our stable,” said the duo’s producer, Suffocate of Roc Lefatshe, in an interview. “It was able to make over 100 000 sales only on iTunes. It remained the number one song for three weeks across all genres in Botswana’s

“Mpuledise” is a big Tune, but is it securing the Bag?

- “We never made so much on a song,” says Suffocate
- The song is the biggest release from Roc Lefatshe

na’s Top 100 songs on iTunes as well as being the most listened to song. It has more than 500 000 views on Facebook and more than 400 000 views on YouTube.”

Online music sales have become a beacon of hope for the music sector that is among the hardest hit by the pandemic. Although Suffocate did not divulge how much the hit single has generated, he said it was the biggest selling song from their stable, Roc Lefatshe. Mpuledise has made history because the record label had never had a song topping the list on Botswana’s

Top 100.

Said Suffocate: “The song is everywhere. It is bigger than us, and we are grateful. Songs don’t last in this COVID-19 era, but ‘Mpuledise’ is relevant five months later not only at home but in South Africa, Lesotho, Namibia and Zambia.”

The team would be devising marketing strategies and PR to feature the song further on international platforms. “We are grateful for what it is currently bringing in,” said Suffocate. “It’s not too dry. I must add that Khoisan

members have diversified to other businesses.”

“The song is everywhere. It is bigger than us, and we are grateful. Songs don’t last in this COVID-19 era, but ‘Mpuledise’ is relevant five months later not only at home but in South Africa, Lesotho, Namibia and Zambia.”

Written in Setswana, the Afro-fusion song has allowed people to pour out their emotions and express themselves about how much they are scared for their lives. It started off as a tribute to fallen legends but eventually evolved into a tribute to the lost souls. It was produced and engineered by Suffocate and written by Khoisan.



Oweditse Phirinyane makes history as the longest reigning Miss Botswana

Reigning queen to hand over the crown to her successor in October

GOSEGO MOTSUMI

The year was 2019 in the small town of Selibe-Phikwe when the town’s folks packed the Miss Botswana event to capacity to witness the crowning of the country’s queen.

Oweditse Phirinyane lived up to her name, beating 11 other dazzling beauties from across the country. This was the beginning of her reign that was expected to last for a year. It has been two years since, and she has earned the title of The Longest Reigning Miss Botswana in the history of the pageant.

“This is not by design but the result of the grim effects of the COVID-19 pandemic that has affected the entire world,” Fafah, as she is affectionately known, said in an interview. “Botswana too has not been spared.”

Due to the pandemic, the competition was not held in 2020. With the launch of Miss Botswana 2021 announced last week, Phirinyane will hand the crown to her successor in October. While she enjoyed the limelight that came with her reign over the extended period, she has also worked tirelessly to make her mark on the pageantry world.

The Serowe native became involved in community work and empowering young women. She has donated face masks as an effort to help fight the spread of COVID-19 in partnership with designers and donated school shoes to Old Naledi’s Tsholofelong Youth Trust.

Phirinyane has also partnered with the country’s first female military pilot and au-

thor of “Born to Fly,” Kgomotso Phatsima, who gave the Tsholofelong Youth Trust aerospace coding and robotics beginners’ level training and added the best students to her data base, among her several community projects.

A part of her reign entailed her participation in Miss World where she competed for the global crown with other queens from across the world.

In her message to this year’s applicants to the Miss Botswana pageant, Phirinyane has encouraged the young women to brace themselves for a journey that will challenge them to become better, more resourceful, driven, confident, articulate and self-aware young women. “There is nothing worth losing yourself over in this world, nothing at all,” she said.

“So whatever you put out there, make sure it is a true reflection of who you are. Always bear in mind that once you put something on social media, it can and will be used against you. Make sure it is something worth it. Sometimes public acclaim can be a distraction. Just prioritize your expenditures according to your journey and always remember why you started it.”

Phirinyane said it was a privilege to become Miss Botswana and that the journey has accelerated her personal growth, expanded her worldview and opened new opportunities for her. “I will continue to exist past Miss Botswana and I don’t want to jinx my plans before they even start,” she said. “I have bigger plans for myself and you will continue to see this face a lot.”

Shona Ferguson: Epitome of black excellence and representation in film spaces

Media mogul, actor and producer starred in his own success story and proved that it can be done

GOSEGO MOTSUMI

Aaron Arthur Ferguson, professionally known as Shona Ferguson in media circles, died on Friday from COVID-19 complications, his family confirmed in an official statement over the weekend. The Botswana-born actor, film director and husband to renowned actress Connie Ferguson was just 47 years old.

When Mr Sho, as he was affectionately known, started a production company in 2010 with his wife, he became part of a wave of filmmakers telling authentic African stories developed by African filmmakers. Ferguson Films was an important feat to have diverse storytellers, actors, directors, and producers involved both on-screen and behind the scenes to break the cycle of excluding diversity, inclusion, and ignoring misrepresentation in the entertainment and media industry.

It is unquestionable that the need for diversity in the film industry is more vital than ever, especially considering how sig-

nificant a role films play in today’s culture. Films also act as a source of inspiration for many.

Shona started his acting career on South Africa’s TV series Generations and went on to Venda soap opera Muvhango, then Isidingo and M-Net’s The Wild. After establishing Ferguson Films, their first TV production was Rockville in 2013. He continued to star in their productions such as The Gift, The Queen and his most recent role in Kings of Joburg on Netflix.

As Botswana continued to build its film and media industry, Ferguson was a true resemblance of black excellence to both upcoming and established filmmakers because he wrote his own success story. He proved that success can be achieved anywhere because he started his journey into the world of entertainment in foreign lands, actively producing representation in a positive light.

Shona and Connie Ferguson also did their bit to inspire local filmmakers. The last time they were in the country together



to help build the industry was during the 2018 Botswana National Youth Council TV and Film Festival that was held at UB Indoor Sports Arena in Gaborone. As headliners of the festival, the duo shared their career journey and the power of perseverance to chants of approval from the youngsters gathered.

“There is great talent in Botswana,” Shona told them. “I urge you to use that talent to prove yourself and learn to go on collaborations. The government should avail resources for this talent.”

In his passing away, the industry has lost a great storyteller and actor but one who has mercifully left an indelible

mark. His work will remain part of the television’s rich archives and serve as a great well of knowledge for aspiring filmmakers and actors.

Shona’s wife and two children will continue his legacy at Ferguson Films.



Digital Citizenship Skills Are The New Life Skills

The effects of technology abuse on society requires attention and effort in much the same way that society tackles other external influences like mood altering substances with continuous education and raising awareness

JOHN CHURU

Technology is advancing in many ways, but with the benefits come equally many challenges. Consumer digital technology, led by the Internet, is emerging as a tool to facilitate convenience and new solutions for many of society's needs.

As the global society rushes to become digitised with access to technology at the top of priorities, concerns about the negative effects of improper use of technology are also emerging.

Calls are therefore mounting from human development advocates for interventions against psychological and social effects of Internet misuse and abuse. Governments in the developed world are demanding that technology companies take accountability for such effects and put in place user protection measures.

CEOs of the world's leading Internet companies such as Facebook, Google and Twitter have been summoned to appear before US legislators on numerous occasions to testify about what they were doing to protect their users against negative effects of their technologies.

Researchers have already linked Internet abuse to psychological health conditions like addiction, depression,

cybercrime, cyber bullying, human rights and privacy violations.

It is for this reason that, David Moepeng, a Cybersecurity Literacy Advocate in Botswana, has seen the need to advocate for social interventions that protect individuals and society as a whole from harmful effects of Internet use.

Moepeng, who is completing a Masters Degree in Cyberpsychology at Nottingham Trent University in the United Kingdom, has been championing cybersecurity public education in Botswana through a campaign that he initiated in 2019 under the name eBotho Cyberspace.

Cyberpsychology is a relatively new discipline that explores human behaviours and attitudes towards digital technology and how technology influences user behavior.

Digital citizenship is a related societal discourse that seeks to encourage responsible and meaningful use of technology. Education systems around the world, led by developed nations, are already incorporating digital education in school curriculums with the view to producing digitally competent and responsible members of society.

The International Society of Technology in Education, a US-based organisation that promotes digital citizenship education, has developed a framework that outlines six

elements that must form part of digital skills education in order for social and psychological aspects of technology use to be addressed.

These are Balancing of time online in healthy and reasonable ways, Safety and privacy, Respect for one another, Meaningful people connections, Learning, and Critical thinking. "Technology is now a big part of our lives," said Moepeng. "Just as we have been pushing for operational skills education for people to learn how to use tools, there is a need for people to obtain life skills for digital spaces."

These, he added, are skills relating to cognitive behaviours, self-discipline, people and social relations, presentation of self, privacy management, respect for others, and healthy engagement, among others.

Moepeng stressed that these are skills that every Internet user needs and that introduction of digital citizenship education in the school system in Botswana is long overdue. In South Africa, the government earlier this year listed Digital Citizenship among new skills to be taught in Grade 8 and 9 as part a new subject on digital technology.

CEOs of the world's leading Internet companies such as Facebook, Google and Twitter have been summoned to appear before US legislators on numerous occasions to testify about what they were doing to protect their users against negative effects of their technologies.

"It is crucial that as societies, we have a grasp of how technology is transforming, not just our way of life but our psychological and social patterns and wellbeing," Moepeng noted. "It is only through such understanding that we can tackle challenges effectively."

Internet use comes with many vulnerabilities, most of which are linked to user behaviour and attitudes. "Digital spaces are a complex domain," Moepeng added. "For the most part, people are being introduced to it without the necessary guidance. This can be harmful, especially for children who are still developing psychologically and have not gained skills for certain life scenarios, such as personal restraint, privacy."

According to Moepeng, this can be best tackled through life skills education for digital spaces. "Life skills have traditionally been acquired through formal education and parental guidance," he noted. "But as education systems in Africa are still lagging in teaching digital literacy, and most parents are themselves newbies to technology, society is very much exposed and vulnerable."

In his view, the time has come for Botswana, and Africa as a whole, to look at digital literacy beyond computer skills because it requires more than operational skills to navigate digital spaces safely, responsibly and meaningfully.

The online tools we use, from social media to video games, are reconstructing our psychological and social being in many ways. And just as society tackles other external influences such as behavioural enhancing substances with continuous education and awareness raising, the effects of technology abuse on society require attention and effort.

Through the eBotho Cyberspace Initiative, Moepeng aims to champion digital citizenship education, awareness and research in Botswana and the rest of Africa. He intends to do this through a network of civil society counterparts promoting digital literacy in different African countries.

Since its launch, eBotho has undertaken cybersecurity awareness initiatives such as a media campaign, a youth cybersmart challenge and a sector-targeted training workshop in partnership with local and international organizations, among them the Botswana Communications Regulatory Authority, the European Union and Cyber4Dev.

Tshiamiso Trust Announces First Major Batch Of Compensation Payments

Johannesburg, 2 August 2021: Tshiamiso Trust is pleased to announce that the first batch of more than 100 compensation payments to claimants, beyond December's pilot payments, has been processed. This tranche of payments follows five-and-a-half months after the operationalisation of our claims management system on 20 February 2021.

The payments made total R9 074 523.80. Compensation amounts range from R25 000.00 to R250 000.00.

It is expected that we will see a steady flow of payments to claimants in the months and years ahead now that the requisite processes have been set up. As at 31 July 2021, 39 608 claims have been lodged since the claims lodgement process was opened in February. As has been done in respect of other aspect of the claims process, the Tshiamiso Trust will maintain a progress report on payments made and the progress will be updated daily on the website: <https://www.tshiamisotrust.com/information/progress-report/>

Says Tshiamiso CEO Daniel Kotton: "We are gratified that the Tshiamiso Trust has reached a point in its development that the deserving gold mineworkers or their de-

pendants, who have suffered so much, are beginning to receive the compensation to which they are entitled. We undertake to continue as rapidly as is humanly possible".

The Tshiamiso Trust recognises the impatience expressed by many claimants about the time it has taken for this point to have arrived, since the settlement agreement was reached between the claimants' attorneys and the six mining companies in 2018. We deeply appreciate the understanding so many mineworkers have demonstrated and can only commit to work tirelessly to address concerns while we resolutely move forward.

There are reasons for the time it has taken to reach this point. These include the long and complex court-approved Trust Deed to which Tshiamiso is required to adhere, including the eight-step process through which each claim must proceed; and the huge logistical and organisational cross-border infrastructure that the Trust has had to establish since its establishment in February 2020, complicated by having to do this in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic. The logistical infrastructure continues to be expanded in order to enhance capacity and speed up the settlement of claims

The Trust currently has 61 lodgement centres in five countries, and 11 medical centres, six of them mobile, carrying out medical benefit examinations.

Regrettably, there will be some claimants whose applications will have been unsuccessful. Most of the unsuccessful claims failed because Tshiamiso Trust benefits apply only to 82 gold mines owned or managed by the six mining companies, or because the medical records submitted showed conditions found by Tshiamiso's medical certification panels not to be compensable. Some unsuccessful Tshiamiso claimants may be eligible for benefits from the government Medical Bureau for Occupational Diseases.

Any claimant whose claim has been found to be unsuccessful is entitled to ask for a review of the finding by either the Medical Reviewing Authority or the Certification Reviewing Authority, depending on the grounds provided for the unsuccessful finding. The reviewing structures will be fully established in the near future.

All recipients of compensation payments receive personal financial management advice.

There have been incidents where individuals with fraudulent intentions have sought fees from claimants while offering to fast track their claims, a capacity they do not have. Tshiamiso has consistently warned claimants against falling prey to these individuals, and we continue to do so.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT: MONAKO DIBETLE

EMAIL: MONAKO.DIBETLE@TSHIAMISOTRUST.COM M: 082 908 2548

ALAN FINE OR KATHERINE BESTER

EMAIL: ALAN@RASC.CO.ZA OR KATHERINEB@RASC.CO.ZA M: 083 250 0757 OR 083 441 0671

The Power Of Business Continuity Planning In Corona Times!



ONKABETSE GWAMULUMBA

We are perishing due to the coronavirus. There are no longer grey areas as to whether corona exists or not. Corona is annihilating us. In a way, it reminds me of the times when HIV/Aids ravaged our nation to a point where sex had to be taught in schools without reservations. It was heart breaking. Families were shattered.

Even now the script is the same. We find ourselves actors in a big horror movie – except that we are the actual characters and this is now a reality documentary. Now that we are dying en-masse, what must be the thought process for companies?

From a legal perspective, a company is recognised as a person, meaning that it has a right to sue and to be sued. Companies have not been spared by the coronavirus. They have been severely hit. Companies have lost shareholders, directors, management and employees. The ripple effect is

disruptive. From this perspective, we need to plan. From a natural person point of view, the plan is to do a will now. From a company perspective, the best plan will be to design a Business Continuity Plan (BCP).

IBM defines BCP as "a document that outlines how a business will continue operating during an unplanned disruption in service". A good BCP is thorough and comprehensive. It is so comprehensive that it must be stored in at least three secure locations. One of my previous employers that took seriousness in BCP stored it in a fireproof safe in the office, a copy at the CEO's house in a secure safe and another copy with the lawyers. The idea is that there must be a clear continuity in case anything happens any time.

The BCP must be rehearsed and updated at least biannually, and in times such as these (Corona & HIV&AIDS), it can be updated quarterly and rehearsed. Each person in the organisation must know their responsibility and their substitute, in the event anything happens.

A BCP tests strength even for policies on such things as

leave. Each employee must be able to take an undisturbed two-week leave. In the practical space, it is very tough to do this. Most of the time, it is largely so (tough to take leave) because we are so fixated on "the business will suffer mentality". Trust me, the business cannot suffer if you have a clear BCP. Every employee is dispensable. Every manager is dispensable, so is the director or shareholder.

Even now the script is the same. We find ourselves actors in a big horror movie – except that we are the actual characters and this is now a reality documentary. Now that we are dying en-masse, what must be the thought process for companies?

Most of the time, the employees who cannot take leave are not the best in delegating duties. As a modern-day employee, you need to be able to delegate. Delegating is very key in BCP. Some companies have now employed a new strategy of strengthening their BCPs. Middle management, which usually forms the pillars of the organisation, rotates in their roles! Yes, rotate. An Accounts Manager goes on to do Receivables Management. A guy in accounting goes on to do Relationship Management. At full cycle, the BCP is as strong as its weakest link.

Now that corona is here and sweeping all of us away, I implore business owners to explore the BCP for their organisations. They must ask themselves tough questions. What happens if my Finance Manager dies? What do I do when my Accounts Manager passes on? Is there anyone who knows what these guys have been doing? Do we have contacts of our suppliers and customers accessible and in the company servers?

Business owners must be deliberate. They must force people to take leave. This will act like a rehearsal of what to do if they are ever to face forced challenges that could come if they (these employees) leave work or if they succumb to the scourge that is Corona. As a business person, ask yourself what happens if you were to die? Would your company survive? "Kana Jeso ke morena?"

Government Insists Local Creatives Not Good Enough



"I will tell you; there are many Batswana who have a lot of experience, I can give you a few examples, DJ Fresh (Thato Sikwane) he is one of South Africa's most rated DJ's, he has been in that industry for more than 20 years.

Photo Credit: www.botswanayouth.com

RORISANG MOGOJWE

Government continues to insist that local film makers and content creators do not have the capabilities to produce material that meets international audience expectations.

Following last week's heated debate in parliament between Vice President Slumber Tsogwane and Member of Parliament for Gaborone Central Tumisang Healy, it became apparent that the government of Botswana does not have much faith in local creatives' abilities.

During Leader of the House question time, Healy wanted to know what research was carried out to establish that local filmmakers and content creators are incapable of producing international level content as alluded to by the Permanent Secretary for Presidential Affairs in a statement she made with regards to the tender alleged to have been awarded to Steve Harvey.

Leader of the House, Tsogwane responded "no specific research was carried out to establish that local filmmakers and content creators are incapable of producing international level content. The creative industry in Botswana is comparatively new and does not have the global market reach that other countries have. The capability of Botswana content creators is not in doubt, however there is a need for a catalyst with global experience and appeal in global network to help enhance the local capability to play on the international stage."

The remarks mirrored Permanent Secretary Pearl Ramokoka's statement that "the creative industry has not produced any unique content to fulfill competitive international audience expectations."

Healy rebuked the Vice President citing Botswana born artists who have since gone international over the years. "I will tell you; there are many Batswana who have a lot of experience, I can give you a few examples, DJ Fresh

(Thato Sikwane) he is one of South Africa's most rated DJ's, he has been in that industry for more than 20 years. The Fergusons, (Connie and Shona) they have been in that industry for maybe 50 years combined. Mr. John Selolwane was part of Paul Simon's tour, it was a world-wide tour. So there are many Batswana who have a lot of experience. I was privileged, I think in 1988 to be in a flight with Mr. Stampore on the way to Paris, I think he was going to perform in London. So you can see gore this thing that there is no experience, really it does not fly." Healy stated.

"As you have started by saying that no research was done, my question is; what informed that position which you arrived at? Because clearly it wasn't based on any research that have been done prior." asked Healy.

Healy further questioned Government efforts to involve filmmakers to participate at a global level; and why the Government did not start with giving sufficient platforms through Botswana Television (BTV) and other platforms, of which Tsogwane revealed that funds amounting to more than P52 million had been approved by government for the refurbishment of the mass media complex.

He however noted, "...a few of the television programmes namely *Colours* and *Thokolosi* did hit the South African market, however with limited impact as opposed to South African content consumed here in Botswana."

The Gaborone South Legislator charged at Tsogwane saying government had dismally failed the creative industry. He further argued that the P93 million that Tsogwane said was spent over the period of 10 years was too little to advance the industry. Healy also reiterated the public's view that American entertainment businessman Steve Harvey's direct appointment to provide radio and television services was a blunder.

The controversial appointment caused a public stir, with the industry and public at large expressing concern over government's lack of support and empowerment of its own citizens within the creative sector.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT LOBATSE (Before TAU J)

In the matter between:
BBS LIMITED
and
GOTSILEKGOSI SLOUGH GAGOSI

CASE NO. CVHGB-000251-20

Plaintiff

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 Defendant will be sold by public auction by Deputy Sheriff to the highest bidder as follows:-

DATE OF SALE : 3rd September, 2021
TIME OF SALE : 1200hours
PLACE OF SALE : Sub Lease Area No 4126-KO (Situates on Tribal Lot 8231, Tlokwegweng)
PROPERTY TO BE SOLD : Defendants' right, title and interest on a certain piece of land being Sub Lease Area No. 4126-KO (Situates on Tribal Lot 8231, Tlokwegweng, measuring 314m², held under Notarial deed of Sub Lease No. MA 6/2010 dated 15th day of January 2010 together with developments comprising of a 3 bedroomed house all with fitted wardrobes, master ensuite, sitting room, fitted kitchen, double garage, scullery-(dish washing) with dura wall made in favour of **GOTSILEKGOSI SLOUGH GAGOSI**.

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 28TH DAY OF JULY, 2021.



RAMALEPA ATTORNEYS
NOTARIES & CONVEYANCERS

N. OOKAME c/o RAMALEPA ATTORNEYS
Plaintiff's Attorneys
Plot 3171, Morupule Drive
Extension 11, Gaborone
P.O. Box 70567
GABORONE(UB)
(VR/mm/14018) 72879169

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT GABORONE (Before TAFJA J)

In the matter between:
BBS LIMITED
and
BAFENYI GAORENGWE

CASE NO: CVHGB-001121-20

Plaintiff

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 Defendant will be sold by public auction by Deputy Sheriff to the highest bidder as follows:-

DATE OF SALE : 3rd September, 2021
TIME OF SALE : 1030hours
PLACE OF SALE : Lot 9434, Gaborone
PROPERTY TO BE SOLD : Defendant's right, title and interest on **Lot 9434, Gaborone**, measuring 525m², held under Deed of Transfer No. **1667/2007**, made in favour of **BAFENYI GAORENGWE**, together with developments thereon being 2 bedroomed house, each with fitted kitchen, screen walled with razer wire, fitted kitchen, bathroom combined with toilet.

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 28TH DAY OF JULY, 2021



RAMALEPA ATTORNEYS
NOTARIES & CONVEYANCERS

N. OOKAME c/o RAMALEPA TTORNEYS
Plaintiff's Attorneys
Plot 3171, Morupule Drive
Extension 11, Gaborone
P.O. Box 70567
GABORONE(UB)
(VR/mm/13770)

NTHOMIWA J.
IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT LOBATSE

In the matter between:
TAK HOLDINGS (PROPRIETARY) LIMITED
and
ORIENTED SERVICES (PROPRIETARY) LIMITED

CASE NO. CVHGB-001140-20

Plaintiff

Defendant


NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to the judgment granted by the above Honourable Court, the following property will be sold by Public Auction by Deputy Sheriff Augustine K. Mokalake to the highest bidder as follows:

DATE OF SALE : Thursday, 26 August 2021
TIME : 10:30 Hours
VENUE : Broadhurst Police Station, Gaborone

PROPERTY TO BE SOLD : 1 X metal cabinet, 1 X bar fridge, 1 x 2 office chairs, 1 X office table, 1 X pressure washer, 1 X vacuum cleaner, 1 X 500l Jojo tank, 1 x Phillips TV / 1 x coffee table.

DATED AT GABORONE ON THIS 30TH DAY OF JULY 2021.



AKHEEL JINABHAI & ASSOCIATES

DEPUTY SHERIFF: AUGUSTINE K. MOKALAKE
Plot 74768, New CBD, Capricorn House, Left Wing,
P O Box 20575, **GABORONE**, (REF: **AJ.sh.000791**)
316-3125 / 73 649 334 / 73 220 555

TAFJA J.
IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT GABORONE

In the matter between:
TRIBAL LOT 264 TLOKWENG (PROPRIETARY) LIMITED
and
CABA PROJECTS (PROPRIETARY) LIMITED
CEDRIC MORITI MONTSHO

CASE NO. CVHGB-000762-20

Plaintiff


First Defendant
Second Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to the judgment granted by the above Honourable Court, the following property will be sold by Public Auction by Deputy Sheriff Augustine K. Mokalake to the highest bidder as follows:

DATE OF SALE : Thursday, 26 August 2021
TIME : 10:30 Hours
VENUE : Broadhurst Police Station, Gaborone
PROPERTY TO BE SOLD : 1X Samsung metallic fridge, 1X2 Botts and air con, 1X 10 containers, 1X4 set mag wheels, 1X base bed, 1X afrc mac cutting machine, 1X vice grip, 1X 2up 50L compressor, 1X 5 office table, 1X 2 25L petrol container, 1X low vibratic machine, 1X 16P pressure spray, 1X cordless drive drill. 1X power plus X093 drill, 1X various drilling machine, 1X 2printers, 1X metal cabinet, 1X wheel barrow, 1X couch, 1X wood cuttings band saw, 1X super bike, 1X 1 mac computer, 1X shelve, 1X black table, 1X 4 bags of maize.

DATED AT GABORONE ON THIS 27TH DAY OF JULY 2021.



AKHEEL JINABHAI & ASSOCIATES

DEPUTY SHERIFF: AUGUSTINE K. MOKALAKE
Plot 74768, New CBD, Capricorn House, Left Wing,
P O Box 20575, **GABORONE**, (REF: **AJ.sh.000818**)
316-3125 / 73 649 334 / 73 220 555

Trio Suffers Early Elimination

BONGANI MALUNGA

The Botswana women's 400m trio of Amantle Montsho, Christine Botlogetswe and Gaelele Moroko suffered early elimination in their respective first round heats at the ongoing Tokyo 2020 Olympics. Montsho did not finish her race while Moroko and Botlogetswe finished eighth (last) in their heats.

Montsho, in possibly her last Olympic campaign, was situated in lane two in her race and she started the race well behind her counterparts. Lane two is an inner lane which is notorious for chewing up an athlete's energy as the immediate curve forces athletes to increase their pace much earlier in the race.

The former women's 400m world champion could not catch up to the pace setters as the race went on. Montsho and Granada athlete Meleni Rodney did not finish the race as they did not jog to the finish line. An Olympic medal is the only major accolade missing in Montsho's impressive medal collection over the years and it appears the wait will go on after her latest elimination.

Botlogetswe finished last in her race to confirm her second consecutive elimination in the first round heats at Olympic level. In the Rio 2016 Olympics she had narrowly lost out on qualifying for the semifinals as she finished fifth in the early round heats. Moroko was making her individual debut at the Olympics.



I WANT TO WIN AWCON WITH BOTSWANA



Botswana Women's Senior National team player Mokgabo Onneile Thanda's dream is to win CAF African Women Cup of Nations (AWCON) before hanging up her boots. Mokgabo is currently playing for Yasa Football Club in Lusaka, Zambia and it's been three years now since she joined the club. The 28 years old has been playing for the national team since 2018 when she was only 25 years old. Thanda as she is affectionately known in the world of football is no stranger in the sphere of women's football. "I have played with different players but not taking anything away from others I think the time is now for us to lift the trophy," she says. Mokgabo currently has eighteen (18) caps under her name.

The Selibe Phikwe star player started her footballing career at the age of 10 even though she did really not take it serious. Along the way she was motivated by her friend Obonolo Ditshoto's great skills and good character. "He used to advise me a lot about soccer and even said I can be one of the best women football players if I continue to work hard," said Mokgabo.

Mokgabo later on joined Matombesana United in Selibe Phikwe and moved to Makufa football club as she started realizing that women's football is now growing in Botswana and there is competition and every player wants to represent their own country. She later joined Francistown United as travelling every weekend to Gaborone was really straining and her studies were somehow affected as she wasn't paying attention to her books.

Mokgabo was spotted by Lusaka based team Yasa Football club player in the 2018 COSAFA Women's championship in Port Elizabeth, South Africa as she was representing the country and did exceptionally well even though they did not proceed to the next stage.

Thanda will be using AWCON as a door opener for her as she wants to play in Europe. "Qualifying for AWCON will be a great opportunity for my teammates and I to be spotted and sign contracts in Europe because that is our entire dream," said Thanda.

The 28-year-old dreams of lifting the trophy for the TotalEnergies Women's Africa Cup of Nations, which Botswana has never achieved. "My ambition is to win! We have raised the bar to a level where the expectations of all Botswana are high after being 2020 COSAFA Women's champions runners up. And it is quite legitimate that we cherish the dream of crossing this bar," she thinks.

Botswana will face their COSAFA counterpart Angola in the first round of the qualifiers for the Total Energies Women's AFCON scheduled during the FIFA international window from October 18 to 26, 2021. The second round will take place from February 14 to 23, 2022 and the final phase of the tournament will be played from July 2 to 23, 2022 in Morocco. Maybe this is the time for Botswana to redeem themselves as they have never won any lucrative tournament. The best achievement was when they ended up as silver medalists in the 2020 COSAFA Women's championship.

Makwala Surges As Van Nierkek Declines



- Makwala in first ever Olympic final
- Final set for 2pm (Botswana time CAT) on Thursday

BONGANI MALUNGA

The southern African rivalry between Isaac Makwala and South Africa's Wayde Van Nierkek could take an interesting turn as Van Nierkek appears to be on a downward spiral. Makwala, on the other hand, is ageing gracefully as he is not showing any signs of slowing down.

Five years ago Makwala could only watch in envy as Van Nierkek won both the Olympic gold medal (Rio 2016 Olympics) and another gold medal in the IAAF World Championships a year later. Now the tables appear to be turning as the South African athlete is struggling to replicate his pre-injury form which made him a global great.

Van Nierkek was recently eliminated in the semifinals of the men's 400m heats in the Tokyo 2020 Olympics after finishing fifth. His elimination has also ended his reign as the 400m Olympic champion with a new name set to be on the medal winners' podium in the next few days.

In contrast to Van Nierkek's decline, Makwala is on an upward trajectory with the Botswana star aiming for a first ever Olympic podium finish in the men's 400m final. Makwala breezed through to the final and he is amongst the favourites to record a podium finish in the final. The former 400m African champion will be competing in his first ever 400m final at the Olympics having fallen short in 2012 and 2016.

However, Makwala will face fearsome competition from familiar foes such as Kirani James, Steven Gardiner and the emerging talent that is Christopher Taylor (Jamaica). James is an experienced track star who already has a gold medal which he won in the London 2012 Olympics. Gardiner has also enjoyed memorable battles with numerous 400m rivals and boasts a world championships gold medal (2019) and an Olympic bronze medal (4x400m relay in 2016). The men's 400m final will be live at 14:00 hrs (Botswana time) on Thursday.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS BOTSWANA SCEPTICAL TO RETURN TO PLAY

GAZETTE REPORTER

Special Olympics Botswana has indicated doubts about returning to play owing to the increasing number of COVID-19 infections.

This comes after government recently gave competitive sports a green light to return to play.

Special Olympics Botswana National Director, Ross Tebele said it will be difficult to return to play considering the difficulty in controlling the handicapped athletes.

Tebele said in this case, they will not insist on pushing the athletes to return to the field.

"It will be difficult to have our athletes back because even at schools, we still have a lot of them not being able to return to classes because of their vulnerability, so we are taking things slow to see how best we can prepare for safe return"

"As you know that we deal with disabled athletes, we need to ensure that there is extra care being put together" said Tebele.

He further said they will concentrate on those being able to return to school, adding that they will also look into high performing athletes to see if it will be possible to have them back.

"We do not want an instance where we



will have these athletes back only for them to contract the virus, we shall do whatever is needed first before opening our doors" added Tebele.

He further indicated that as part of their efforts to ensure that handicapped athletes stay fit, they devised a strategy called fit-5 for athletes to follow.

He said the most affected sporting codes will be volleyball, football and athletics, saying that should the infections get worse, it will dampen their preparations for the 2023 world games.

"The only option that we are currently exploring is having high performing athletes back because we have already

received new guidelines from Special Olympics" said Tebele.

Last year, government established a joint task team on school sport to develop a sustainable and inclusive model for competitive sport.

The task team, which was an initiative of the Ministry of Youth Empowerment, Sport and Culture Development (MYSC) and Basic Education (MoBE) came about due to challenges in the management of sport in schools. When launching the task team this week, youth and sport minister, Tumiso Rakgare, said in order to allow for a comprehensive review of the school sport programme, a decision was taken to

suspend sports in schools this year.

He stated that there was need to review sport activities to ensure efficiency and cost effectiveness.

Establishment of the task team, he said, demonstrated commitment of the two ministries to sport. Rakgare said this would go a long way in improving not only competitiveness, but academic results as well.

"A holistic approach to school sport is necessary to exploit potential value of the education system in the society, particularly talent identification and nurturing," he said.

AMOS GOING FOR GOLD

GAZETTE REPORTER

Botswana's Olympics medal hopeful Nijel Amos is expected to continue with his fine form this afternoon when he competes in the 800m final at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics after he was saved from a nightmare incident on Sunday. Amos was initially ruled out of the finals following the clash in which he got tripped and fell during the semi-finals which was later appealed by his coaches Justice Dipeba and Mark Rowland (personal coach) and he got reinstated into the finals instantly.

The Marobela native was saved by the World Athletics track rules and regulations clause in section 17.2 (Obstruction) which states that if an athlete is jostled or obstructed during an event so as to impede their progress then : 17.2.1 if the jostling or obstruction is considered unintentional or is caused otherwise than by an athlete, the referee may, if they are of the opinion that an athlete or their team was seriously affect in accordance with rule 18.7 of the competition rule or rule 8.4 of the Technical rules, order that the race (for one, some or all of the athletes) be re-held or allow the affected athlete or team to compete in a subsequent round of the event. This depicts exactly what happened to Amos hence his reinstatement.

In a recent interview the national team head coach Dipeba told this publication that they could tell from the minute the incident happened that something was wrong, and they had no choice but to protest the matter.

"From the moment Amos fell, I knew that there might be a problem and i had to review the video that's when we agreed as a team to protest. We gathered all the relevant information to make a case and we indeed went to the technical information Centre, and they gave us the opportunity

to protest, and they listened to us. The first thing we did was that we all watched the video before we could submit the letter of protest. The review and analysis of the video show us that Amos had nothing to do with the tripping, but the American guy tripped himself and fell in front of Amos and that's when he tripped over him," he said.

He further stated that Amos did himself justice by continuing with his race to complete it, that's where we won the case.

"He did well to stand up and continue with his race and that was a brilliant thing that saved us from this nightmare hence our victory in the case. If he could have decided not to finish the race, we could have not had a case at all and we are grateful that he had that wisdom despite all the disappointment he had and we applaud him for that," added Dipeba

The 2012 Olympics silver medalist, will take to track today at 14:05 pm (CAT) in the 800m final where he will face off his closest rivals, Kenyan Duo Ferguson Rotich and Emmanuel Korir , Patryk Dobek of Poland and Amel Tuka of Bosnia Herzegovina amongst others. Amos head into the race with a personal best (PB) of 1:41.73 and Season's best (SB) of 1:42.91 that he recently clocked in the Monaco Diamond League last month.

When asked about the state of Amos heading into the final, Dipeba said, "it is going to be a big day for us today, during the final anything can happen, and we are all out going for the podium and that's what matters most. Nijel is okay and he is ready, and he put the past behind him especially what happened in the semifinals, he is a big boy, and he is experienced he raced in under pressure races before and he knows what to do, it's really a do or die and he will do his best, he has a plan."

KFC

**BUCKET FOR 1
NUGGETS 29⁹⁰**

PROUD SPONSOR OF  Premier League

GET IT DELIVERED



+267 77 184 418

