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## Dikgang

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# 'SADCOPAC strategic partner'



Speaker of the National Assembly, Mr Dithapelo Keorapetse (left) receiving the 20<sup>th</sup> Southern Africa Development *Community* **Organisation of Public** Accounts Committees (SADCOPAC) anniversary token from the organisation's chairperson, Mr Warren Mwambazi during a courtesy call in Gaborone yesterday. Mr Keorapetse has *implored* SADCOPAC to partner with government in its journey of transformation. Photo: Phenyo Moalosi

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## Media industry advocates for sustainability

#### **By Ketshepile More**

**GABORONE** - The media industry recently held a dialogue on media sustainability in Gaborone with emphasis on safeguarding independent journalism.

MISA Botswana chairperson, Mr Thomas Nkhoma said media institutions were grappling with shrinking revenue bases, shifting consumption patterns, political and legal pressures, and the rapid evolution of technology.

"These challenges are compounded by fragile business models, high dependency on advertising, and the ever-pressing threat of disinformation," he said,

## Botswana, Luxembourg enhance financial cooperation

**GABORONE** - Vice President and Minister of Finance, Mr Ndaba Gaolathe and Minister of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, Mr Gilles Roth have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to enhance cooperation in the financial services sector.

The signing ceremony marked a significant milestone in strengthening partnership between Botswana and Luxembourg, following a productive bilateral visit by Vice President to Luxembourg in March.

According to a media release from the Office of the President, the MoU establishes a framework for collaboration that includes mutual exchange of information on financial sector trends, legislation, and regulation, joint seminars and training sessions for executives in financial institutions, central banks, and government ministries and virtual training programmes on agreed topics.

Additionally, it provides office support for financial delegations between the two jurisdictions, explores joint initiatives to enhance investment activities, and facilitates collaboration on adding that the Botswana media had long prided itself on its independence, vibrancy, and role as a critical pillar of democracy.

Mr Nkhoma said in recent years, the media had seen a decline in newspaper circulation, struggling newsrooms, a growing trust deficit with audiences, and the exodus of young journalists in search of better prospects. He said although Botswana's media freedom remained stable according to the 2023 African Media Barometer, sustainability was under threat.

"Print media circulation in Botswana has declined by over 40 per cent in the past decade, while advertising revenues, once the mainstay of private media, have shifted heavily digital platforms, toward with global tech giants capturing more than 70 per cent of online advertisements spending. And over 30 per cent of young journalists have exited the industry within the first five years, citing low pay, job insecurity, and lack of mentorship as key reasons," Mr Nkhoma said.

Therefore, Mr Nkhoma said the media profession needed revival, to rethink and forger new partnerships. He said media sustainability could not be addressed by newsrooms alone, but required bold leadership, policy reform, education, innovation, and the support of the society at large.

Dikgang Publishing Company Group managing director, Mr Titus Mbuya called on government to rescue the media, saying it was the role of government to subscribe to local media's digital products, redirect state advertising to private media as well as prioritise local printing over outsourcing.

Mr Mbuya further said government should establish a media development fund and reduce corporate tax and also waive old VAT debt for struggling media companies.

For her part, Ms Sheila Chimphamba, a representative from WAN-IFRA Women in News, said the media was more than a business.

She therefore, said strong sustainable media ecosystems helped drive inclusive development, foster civic participation, and give voice to communities often left unheard.

"In times of crisis, the media is often the first line of truth. In times of transition, it becomes a mirror and a guide," she said. *BOPA* 



Members of the media during a dialogue focused on addressing challenges in the industry in Gaborone recently. Dikgang Publishing Company Group managing director, Mr Titus Mbuya urged government to support the media by subscribing to local digital products, redirecting state advertising to private outlets and prioritising local printing over outsourcing. Photo: Tshoganetso Mokowe

## Invest in impactful projects - Mohwasa

#### By Portia Ikgopoleng

**KASANE** - The Acting President Mr Moeti Mohwasa has underscored the need to invest in meaningful projects that would benefit Batswana.

Addressing the Chobe District leadership on the upcoming National Development Plan 12 (NDP 12) in Kasane yesterday, Mr Mohwasa stated that crafting of the NDP 12 should be tailored to address the needs of specific demographics and socioeconomic trends of Batswana across the country instead of making generic programmes that were not applicable to certain regions.

He said Chobe District with its many natural resources should match the socioeconomic status of its people and infrastructure developments.

The Acting President indicated that Community Based Organsiations (CBOs) in Chobe should be in a position to sustain the region by exploring more projects that could create employment and transform the outlook of the area.

He said it was essential that the planning process captured the needs of Batswana and that was possible with teamwork and consultations.

Mr Mohwasa said service delivery in government was disintegrated because several government departments performed roles that should be encapsulated under one entity.

He implored public employees to open up channels of communication with customers in the interest of efficient service delivery.

Chobe MP, Mr Simasiku Mapulanga said community beneficiation should be expanded through a trading system where Chobe through its CBOs would partner with investors and developers to build infrastructure and be paid through hunting quotas.

Mr Mapulanga said tourism sector employees were paid low wages yet the industry generated huge dividends for shareholders.

He noted that the state of Kasane Hospital with limited bed capacity disadvantaged the region when it came to investment opportunities.

Kgosi Rebecca Banika of Pandamatenga expressed despair ver the fact that Chobe had CBOs that had been operating for over 30 years yet there were no sustainable projects carried out through community trusts. She stated that in neighbouring countries like Namibia and Zimbabwe, CBOs build schools, clinics and roads in their local communities to relief pressure on government and create better livelihoods for their people. Kasane South Councilor Boitumelo Kanyetu said lack of recreational facilities for entertainment disadvantaged the region as tourists visited Chobe National Park during the day and spent nights in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe and Livingstone Zambia. **BOPA** 



analytical studies, policy briefs and technical papers.

The release states that the agreement reflects a shared commitment to fostering innovation and capacity building in the financial sector, leveraging Luxembourg's expertise alongside Botswana's dynamic market.

"It also aims to create new opportunities for growth and development while contributing to the economic resilience of both nations," says the release.

The MoU underscores proactive efforts of Botswana and Luxembourg to promote knowledge sharing, regulatory alignment, and investment flows, paving the way for a robust and beneficial partnership. **BOPA** 

Acting President Mr Moeti Mohwasa (left) and Chobe MP, Mr Simasiku Mapulanga at the Chobe District leadership consultations on National Development Plan 12 (NDP 12) preparations in Kasane yesterday. Mr Mohwasa said crafting of the NDP 12 should be tailored to address needs of specific demographics, and socio-economic trends of Batswana across the country instead of generic programmes that were not applicable to certain regions. Photo: Portia Ikgopoleng

## 'Botswana to reposition as catalyst for trade'

GABORONE - Botswana is reimagining itself, not as a landlocked state but as a landlinked catalyst.

This was said by Vice President, Mr Ndaba Gaolathe when addressing George Washington University in the United States recently on the topic; The Future of Finance and Trade in Africa: A

Vision for a new Botswana.

Mr Gaolathe said government was laying the groundwork for sovereign wealth driven by intelligence, investing in blockchain backed logistics, crossborder financial technologies and trade corridors that marry digital infrastructure with ecological sustainability.

"Our borders are not barriers, but bridges. Our institutions are not remnants of the past, but instruments of the future," Mr Gaolathe said.

He further said government was working toward a new fiscal philosophy where the state was not just a regulator, but a collaborator with private sector



Vice President Ndaba Gaolathe giving a keynote address at George Washington University in the United States recently. He said government was laying the groundwork for sovereign wealth driven by intelligence, investing in block-chain backed logistics, cross-border financial technologies and trade corridors that marry digital infrastructure with ecological sustainability. Photo: Courtesy of Office of the Vice President

## Nyatanga assures residents of forensic audit independence

#### By Thandy Tebogo

#### LETLHAKANE

The Assistant Minister of Justice and Correctional Services has assured Batswana that forensic audit undertaken to trace government revenue and assets

#### will be independent.

Addressing a kgotla meeting in Mmatshumo on Friday, Mr Augustine Nyatanga said the President would not have any influence on decisions and outcomes of the audit.

He said those implicated in

further stated that he was aware of the mammoth task of unresolved inheritance cases that his ministry had to address, promising to ensure that the cases were resolved.

In addition Minister Nyatanga stated that the new government had demonstrated it stood for the rights of its people, by honouring the late Pitseng Gaoberekwe wishes of being buried him in Central Kalahari Game Reserve (CKGR). Government, he said had appointed the Inter Ministerial Committee to comprehensively look into the situation of Basarwa in Botswana, including the communities of CKGR and come up with sustainable solutions regarding human rights. For his part, the area Member of Parliament, Mr Keoagile Atamelang said forensic audit intentions were not to victimise anyone but to trace government revenue. BOPA

and civil society.

Under the new vision, Mr Gaolathe said Botswana shall re-anchor its trade policy away from extraction and into transformation.

"We are crafting trade policy with the same care our eldersbuilt homesteads, with foresight, with rootedness, with respect for the unseen. We are anchoring our finance not in the speculative excesses that have hurt the world, but in productive investments, climate resilience and inclusive entrepreneurship," he said.

"We envision a Botswana that leads in carbon-neutral trade, a country that becomes the logistics capital of Southern Africa, a fintech sandbox for continental integration. We are spearheading reforms in public procurement, capital markets, and digital identity to ensure that our systems speak the language of tomorrow," he added.

He further said Botswana's beef would under the new vision not just feed the world but would also be branded with integrity and traceability while the country's indigenous knowledge would inform the creation of African intellectual property rights.

The Vice President also said

the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) was just not a policy instrument but rather the boldest expression of African unity since the founding of the Organisation of African Unity.

He indicated that Africa had always traded, not merely goods but ideas, values and technologies.

With the implementation of AfCFTA, Mr Gaolathe said, Africans were remembering who they were and who they had always been thus the need to reimagine trade as a tool for justice, dignity and development.

He empathised the importance to regard finance and trade not as neutral flows of capital and commodities but as levers to redesign society.

"The Africa we are building will be digitally integrated where payments and logistics leap across borders with the speed of thought and where trade creates jobs not only in mining and agriculture but in biotech and digital artistry," he said. Mr Gaolathe thus said Africa was under AfCFTA, writing the rules of a new civilisation, one that valued fairness over dominance and cooperation over coercion. **BOPA** 

## Keorapetse urges SADCOPAC to partner with government

#### By Moshe Galeragwe

**GABORONE** - The Southern Africa Development Community Organisation of Public Accounts Committees (SADCOPAC) has been implored to partner with government in its journey of transformation.

Welcoming members of the SADCOPAC during a courtesy call in Gaborone yesterday, Speaker of the National Assembly, Mr Dithapelo Keorapetse said SADCOPAC was in the country at a time when it was undergoing transformation, which came as a result of change of power.

For many years, he said Botswana was revered for having sustained multiparty democracy system without back-sliding to undemocratic systems such as one party state and military rule and never postponed elections.

in the committees. On the training that will be conducted by SADCOPAC, he said a number of countries in the region had benefited immensely from training offered by SADCOPAC and its other initiatives.

SADCOPAC chairperson, who is also PAC chairperson Zambia, Mr Warren in Mwambazi, said the committee had travelled across the region fostering capacity building and benchmarking.

He further said SADCOPAC looked forward to the training as it was also a platform to share ideas on how Parliament of Botswana through PAC carried its mandate of providing oversight to the executive as well as other jurisdictions and came up with best practices to foster accountability.

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corruption would be given an opportunity to explain how they acquired property found in their ownership.

Mr Nyatanga stated that the receiver office under his ministry would collect all properties that would be deemed government property during the audit.

He also informed residents that to ensure transparency, ministers had declared their assets as they assumed office.

The assistant minister also stated that BCL had been sold to PNR company, but there would be a Presidential Commission of Inquiry to establish the legitimacy of its sale.

On other matters, the legislator

However, he said Botswana's democracy for the past 58 years when measured by applying profound yardsticks had not been immune to problem in relation to the independence of Parliament, judiciary and institutions that supported democracy such as the Independent Electoral Commission, Ombudsman and the anti-corruption unit.

Mr Keorapetse, who is also former Treasurer and Secretary General of the SADCOPAC, SADCOPAC was an said important partner to the PAC as its objectives was to ensure that there were standards for PAC committees in the SADC region as well as to infuse best practices

pointed out that He also SADCOPAC was determined to partner with new administration on its journey of transformation. PAC chairperson, Mr Taolo Lucas said they looked forward to the training that would not only be for PAC committee member but would also include other Parliamentary committees such as finance and estimates and trade. "We looking forward to the participation of all and share insights on how the regional body works," he said.

The committee will hold governance meeting, peer review programme and training of the PAC members and other committees supporting PAC. **BOPA** 

## China expects 27 per cent rise in cross-border travel

**BEIJING** - China is expected to see an average of 2.15 million daily border crossings during the fiveday May Day holiday, representing a 27 per cent increase from last year, according to the National Immigration Administration (NIA) on Monday.

The peak of cross-border travel is anticipated on May 1 and May 5. Traffic at China's major international airports is set to grow steadily, with Shanghai Pudong expected to lead with 101 000 daily crossings, followed by Guangzhou Baiyun at 50 000 and Beijing at 45 000, the agency said.

As travel between Hong Kong, Macao and Chinese mainland continues to rise, the May Day holiday is expected to bring even higher volumes, further amplified by a series of major events scheduled across the regions.

The agency has urged border authorities to closely monitor cross-border traffic, providing regular updates to assist travelers.

The agency also called for adequate security staffing to ensure wait times at border crossings do not exceed 30 minutes.

The May Day holiday is typically one of the busiest travel periods of the year.

During the holiday, millions of Chinese travellers visit families, explore domestic destinations, or venture abroad. This surge in travel provides a boost to the transportation, tourism, and retail sectors.

To welcome more international travellers, China has expanded visa-free policies to allow longer stays and wider travel within the country, simplified visa procedures, and introduced new conveniences such as instant tax refunds for departing visitors. China has unilaterally extended visa-free entry to citizens of 38 countries and has also lengthened its visa-free transit policy for nationals of 54 countries to 240 hours.

These efforts have started to yield positive results, as the number of foreign tourists visiting China continues to rise. Xinhua



biases, reinforced the belief that women were unfit to lead news agencies contributed significantly to the glass ceiling hindering their advancement into leadership roles. Photo: Tshoganetso Mokowe

## Tanzania lifts ban on agriculture imports from Malawi, South Africa

reversed the ban on agricultural imports from Malawi and South Africa two days after the East African nation imposed

**DAR ES SALAAM** - Tanzania the restriction, citing ongoing diplomatic engagements and hopes for a long-term resolution.

> In a public notice issued on Friday, the Ministry of Agriculture

China refines departure tax refund policy

**BEIJING** - In a fresh move to boost inbound spending, China unveiled a new set of measures on Sunday to further optimise its departure tax refund policy to improve the shopping experience of overseas travellers.

purchase The minimum threshold for departure tax refunds has been lowered, allowing overseas travellers to apply for a refund if they spend at least about US\$27.75 at the same store on the same day and meet other relevant requirements, according to a circular jointly issued by the Ministry of Commerce and five other government departments.

While ensuring proper risk management, refunds will be made available through multiple channels, including mobile payments, bank cards and cash, to better accommodate the diverse payment preferences of overseas travellers.

The circular also outlines steps to expand the number of departure tax refund stores, enrich the supply of related goods and improve related services.

More departure tax refund stores will be set up in major shopping areas, pedestrian streets, tourist sites, resorts, cultural venues, airports, passenger ports and hotels.

Departure tax refund stores are encouraged to broaden product offerings to include time-honoured brands, renowned Chinese consumer goods, smart devices, intangible cultural heritage items, crafts and specialty products, among others.

A series of activities to promote shopping in China will be launched to support local efforts to cultivate and promote highquality signature products, such as 'city gifts' and 'must-buy' items in departure tax refund stores. Speaking at a press conference on Sunday, Sheng Qiuping, vice minister of commerce, said that overseas travellers mainly

purchased international brands when claiming tax refunds, with relatively few domestic brands available and limited shopping choices overall.

The lower threshold not only reduces the entry barrier for tax refund shopping, but also allows more specialty stores, souvenir shops, and gift shops with lower average transaction amounts to join the tax refund network, helping promote the sales of Chinese brands, Sheng said.

Meanwhile, the regulations regarding departure tax refund have been revised to optimise related services and streamline the refund process to help overseas travellers more easily benefit from departure tax refund policies, according to the country's taxation authorities.

Earlier this month, China announced a nationwide shift from a refund-upon-departure model to a refund-upon-purchase model for departure tax refund, enabling foreign visitors to instantly claim value-added tax rebates at tax-free stores across the country.

"Providing overseas travellers with a greater variety of shopping options and more convenient tax refund services will help stimulate inbound consumption and support high-standard opening up and economic growth," said Chen Binkai, vice president of the Central University of Finance and Economics.

China started to implement the departure tax refund policy for overseas travellers in 2015. Since its implementation, the scale of departure tax refunds has grown year by year, benefiting an increasing number of overseas travellers. Xinhua

said the ban, which had taken effect on Wednesday, was lifted effective Saturday, after Malawi and South Africa sought dialogue and cooperation.

The initial suspension was triggered by what Tanzania authorities viewed as unjustified restrictions by both countries on the entry of Tanzania agricultural produce into their markets.

Tanzania responded by halting imports and transit of agricultural goods from both nations.

Following the diplomatic standoff, the governments of Malawi and South Africa initiated contact with Tanzania's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, as well as the Ministry of Agriculture, expressing their readiness to resolve the issue through mutual dialogue, according to the notice.

The Ministry of Agriculture said the government of Malawi would dispatch a high-level delegation to Dodoma next week for discussions.

The notice also said discussions were held at the technical level in South Africa involving officials from the two countries. Xinhua







**BEIJING** - Officials during a press conference in China yesterday on optimising the departure tax refund policy to boost inbound consumption. The minimum purchase threshold for departure tax refunds has been lowered, allowing overseas travellers to apply for a refund if they spend at least over US\$27. Photo: Xinhua

LILONGWE - Malawi president Lazarus Chakwera has called for more foreign investment in the African country's mining and tourism sectors to help transform its economy.

Chakwera made the remarks in Lilongwe recently during the official opening of the sixth Malawi International Tourism Expo, which attracted over 40 foreign dignitaries and more than 50 local organisations.

According to Chakwera, Malawi had various mineral resources such as gold, uranium and rutile.

He encouraged foreign investors to take advantage of the opportunities available in the

country's mining sector.

Besides mining, Chakwera said, Malawi's tourism sector also offered opportunities that were open and ready for foreign investment.

The president said government had removed visa restrictions for nearly 100 countries, making this an ideal time for foreign investors to come to Malawi and invest in both tourism and mining.

The Malawi International Tourism Expo is held annually to promote the country's resources and products, ranging from agriculture to tourism and mining, in an effort to attract potential investors. Xinhua

## Namibia minister resigns over rape charges

WINDHOEK - Namibia Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Land Reform Mac-Albert Hengari following has resigned his arrest, the Namibia Corporation Broadcasting reported Sunday, (NBC) citing Press Secretary at the Presidency Alfredo Hengari.

The former minister had served in the position for only 27 days after being appointed by President Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah on March 22. According to NBC, Hengari was arrested on Saturday along with another person.

"Police Inspector General Lieutenant General Joseph Shikongo said Hengari were expected to appear in court on yesterday," the NBC reported.

Shikongo did not specify the reasons for the arrest but confirmed that Hengari was under investigation for 11 charges, including kidnapping, rape and assault, it added. NBC said that Hengari was arrested after he allegedly attempted to bribe a victim to withdraw a case involving accusations of repeated sexual contact with a minor between 2019 and September 2024.

Shikongo said the events leading to the arrest left the police with 'no option' but to take the former minister into custody.

He also confirmed that the to a small number of cases in individual arrested alongside Hengari is related to the victim.

Namibia where ministers have stepped down following arrests.

Hengari's resignation adds In 2019, former ministers Sacky Shanghala and Bernhard Esau resigned after being implicated in a major corruption scandal

known as the 'Fishrot' case, which involved allegations of bribery and money laundering in the fishing industry. Xinhua

## Festival attack leaves 11 dead, suspect charged

**OTTAWA** - The suspect in the murder, police said recently. Saturday night's deadly attack at Vancouver's Lapu Lapu Day festival has been charged with

The suspect, identified as 30-year-old Kai-Ji Adam Lo, has been charged with eight counts of

second-degree murder.

Additional charges are anticipated as the investigation continues, said the police.



**VANCOUVER** - People laying flowers near the site of a car crash in British Columbia, Canada on Sunday. A total of 11 people have been confirmed dead after a vehicle drove into a crowd at a street festival on Saturday evening, police said. Photo: Xinhua

A total of 11 people, ranging in age from 5 to 65, have been confirmed dead after an SUV was driven into the crowd celebrating Lapu Lapu Day, an annual event for the Filipino community.

The Vancouver police said in a news conference that the number of dead could rise as dozens more are injured, some seriously. Interim Vancouver Police Chief Steve Rai said the driver does have a significant history of interactions with police and health-care professionals related to mental health.

The tragedy happened shortly Saturday evening near East 43<sup>rd</sup> Avenue and Fraser Street where the Lapu Lapu Day Block Party was going on.

Named after a Filipino indigenous leader who fought against Spanish colonisation in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, Lapu Lapu Day was officially recognised by the province of British Columbia in 2023 and is widely celebrated by the Filipino community in the province, where Vancouver is the largest city. Xinhua

## Malawi queries US regarding visa rejection

LILONGWE Malawi government has written to Washington regarding the high rejection rate of visa applications by Malawi government officials intending to travel to the United States for official business.

The country's Ministry of Foreign Affairs raised the issue in a written communication recently, which was leaked to the public on Friday.

The communication was addressed to the US Embassy in Malawi.

The ministry said that it was aware that the issuance of visas and entry into the United States is at the discretion of the U.S. government and that the ministry has made 'great efforts' to

as outlined in a diplomatic note dated May 2, 2024.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has since requested clarity on the matter.

"The Ministry would be grateful if the esteemed Embassy could provide more clarity on these rejections," the communication said.

"Despite reasons being indicated for rejection, the Ministry is currently overwhelmed to explain to government officials denied travel for official duties while having complied with all requirements for visa applications," it said.

The U.S. government has yet to respond to the query from the

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adhere to the agreed procedures Malawian government. Xinhua





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Tuesday April 29, 2025 No. 079

## 'Farming hope for economic revival'

#### By Keith Keti

**SANDVELD** - Farming is the cornerstone of the country's economy as it plays a central role in driving the national development agenda.

Officiating at the Sandveld Ranchers Association Field Day on Saturday at Kagotsii Ranch, Western Sandveld acting Minister of Lands and Agriculture, Dr Edwin Dikoloti said concerted efforts amongst government, farmers, and the private sector remained paramount in transforming production systems within the livestock sector.

Therefore, he said such a move would unlock value chain opportunities within the subsector, and revitalise institutions such as the Botswana Meat Commission (BMC).

He said there was need to have a deliberate plan to transform and revitalise BMC, admitting that he was aware that a thriving BMC held a strong basis in reshaping and advancing the livestock sector. Dr Dikoloti said government was aware of challenges faced by BMC hence their continued efforts to offer more options to farmers through the live cattle and meat export dispensation.

This initiative, which began in 2019, he said had enabled the export of over 551 000 cattle, mainly to South Africa.

Dr Dikoloti said while the dispensation had proven highly popular, his ministry was currently reviewing its long-term sustainability and alignment with its broader policy goals of inclusive development and wealth creation.

In response to the long standing challenges faced by the livestock sector, Dr Dikoloti said government had taken bold and strategic steps to liberalise the industry.

Furthermore, he said one of the key reforms was the introduction of the Botswana Meat Industry Regulatory Authority (MIRA) Act, which became law in November 2023.

This reform, he noted, was aimed at creating a more competitive meat industry, one that would empower both the BMC and emerging market players to thrive for the collective benefit of farmers and the national economy. In addition, he said the MIRA Board that was inaugurated in August 2024, had already begun delivering on its mandate to ensure fair regulation, improved efficiency, and greater market access across the sector. communities.

He acknowledged that learning was more important than ever, to help navigate the global economic dynamics, and most importantly, to build resilience against the impact of climate change, which continued to threaten agrifood systems.

He assured farmers that the government remained fully committed to supporting the livestock sector so as to reach its full potential and increase its contribution to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) beyond the current two per cent.

Dr Dikoloti said a key pillar of this support was the implementation of a robust national biosecurity programme that would prevent and manage outbreaks of diseases such as Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD), which was critical for maintaining access to key markets and safeguard farmers' livelihoods.

To this end, he said the government had therefore made a decision to engage private veterinarians who would carry out disease investigations and perform key specialists activities such as artificial insemination, semen tapping and embryo transplant.

Moreover, he said his ministry was determined to build a more responsive and supportive system for farmers because the Ministry recognised the strategic importance of the beef industry, pointing not just in economic terms, but for preservation of international reputation for high quality meat.

He assured farmers that a major turning point was underway at the BMC with some bold investments, pointing out that a P240 million budget had been approved for a new Meat Value Addition and Secondary Processing Plant.

Dr Dikoloti said this state of the art facility would allow BMC to diversify its offerings and penetrate premium markets with high-value products.

"It is projected to generate P500 million in revenue in its first year, more than triple the cannery's 2023 record."

On other issues, he said his ministry was due to launch the Ecosystem-Based Adaptation and Mitigation in Botswana's Communal Rangelands Project, the initiative that was co-financed by the Botswana government, the Green Climate Fund, and Conservation International which sought to build climate resilience among livestock farmers. of conserving, selecting, and multiplying indigenous livestock breeds such as Tswana, Tuli, and the locally bred Mosi.

"These are not only climateresilient but also productive and adaptable. NARDI is also investing in fodder production research.

The institute is currently evaluating various fodder crops under Botswana's harsh climatic conditions and plans to partner with farmers to test these on-farms," he said. Justifying the need for fodder production, Dr Dikoloti said producing own feed was no longer optional as it was a necessity for sustainable and profitable ranching.

https://dailynews.gov.bw

He said equally important was tackling bush encroachment as rangelands were being taken over by invasive woody species.

To this end, he said NARDI had taken an initiative to convert bush into livestock feed and biochar, which enhanced soil fertility.

Dr Dikoloti commended the Sandveld Ranchers for their dedicated efforts and demonstrating that farming could be both fashionable and profitable. He spoke of the need to embrace innovation, adapt to climate change, and produce with purpose and build a new Botswana; one that was food secure, economically vibrant, and globally competitive.

Themed, 'Reviving the livestock industry in the new state of affairs' the field day was more than just showcasing Botswana's finest beef production but a vital platform that brought together farmers, stakeholders, and policy makers from across the Southern Africa region to exchange ideas, explore innovative systems, and shape the future of the beef industry. **BOPA** 



Members of the community during a two-day fish farming training in Oliphant's Drift recently. They were equipped on sustainable farming, communication skills, fish licensing, entrepreneurship as well as on digital tools to sustain their businesses. Photo: Mmoniemang Motsamai

## Govt upskill residents on aquaculture

#### By Mmoniemang Motsamai

**OLIPHANT'S DRIFT** - In an effort to promote fish farming among communities living along the Madikwe River, the Ministry of Local Government and Traditional Affairs in partnership with Kgatleng District Council recently conducted a two-day training for 45 people on commercial fish farming.

The training, which forms part of implementation of the Strategic Framework for Community Development, targeted residents Mabalane, Sikwane, of Mmathubudukwane, Ramonaka in Kgatleng East. Participants were drilled on sustainable farming, harvesting techniques, food safety and handling, communication skills, fish licensing and marketing, fish value chain, entrepreneurial and management skills, financial literacy and utilisation of digital platforms required to sustain their enterprises. ministry's The Principal community development officer, Ms Onalenna Shaudi said the training was not only meant to enhance job opportunities and skills, but was also targeted at

improving household nutrition in the communities and self-reliance.

She said the initiative was also aimed at addressing some of the socials issues that communities continued to grapple with such as unemployment, substance use, diseases, pregnancy, high poverty levels and criminal activities amongst others.

Ms Shaudi said with this initiative, Oliphant's Drift/ Ramotlabaki communities were sensitised on economic

to shift service provision mode to strengthening self-reliance, hence the empowerment of communities to venture into sustainable enterprises.

For his part, Chairperson of ALMAKAR Association, Mr Dira Gouwe said he was optimistic that the skills imparted to the beneficiaries would significantly contribute to their shared efforts and commitment to building resilient communities and employment opportunities especially for young people. He said the association was meant to coordinate sustainable and profitable fish farming, adding that the communities previously practiced fish harvesting for home sustenance as opposed to commercial fishing. Mr Gouwe said he was pleased that the training focused on a bigger picture to change livelihoods and that trainees were taught to fish for commercial purposes. "I see lives being changed here and I am happy that there is progress in what we have started because after so many years in fish farming there is nothing to show. Our fish farming was hand to mouth year in and year out," he said. BOPA

The acting minister said the central part of this transformation rested upon empowering farmers through knowledge.

A farmer is the most valuable asset in agriculture, '*kgomo ga e ithue*,' justifying why training in best practices and agribusiness principles were essential.

He argued that if farmers were equipped with the right skills, they would sustainably improve their livelihoods and those of their In addition, he said the project would restore degraded rangelands and forests, improve livelihoods, and boost adaptive capacity in 104 villages across Bobonong, Maun, and Kgalagadi districts, adding it was climate action with tangible, grassroots impact.

Dr Dikoloti acknowledged the vital role of the National Agricultural Research and Development Institute (NARDI). He said as climate change tightens its grip, NARDI was at the forefront opportunities and how to get the best out of the district assets.

"We are also trying to build stronger public and private sector networks by investing in what is already available to them and capitalising on what they know," she said.

She further explained that other objectives were to create flourishing local economies and providing community financing as well as encouraging innovative ways of producing fish products and finding new markets for members of the community.

Ms Shaudi highlighted that the National Social Protection Framework and the Strategic Frame Work for Community Development emphasised the need

## IMF projects economic decelaration in Asia

**WASHINGTON D.C.** -Asia's economic growth is set to decelerate, with low-income economies potentially facing significant challenges, according to Krishna Srinivasan, the director of the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) Asia and Pacific Department.

In an interview with

Xinhuarecently, Srinivasan discussed the IMF's latest projections, which estimate growth in the Asia-Pacific region will decline to 3.9 per cent for the year, a downgrade of 0.5 percentage points from previous forecasts.

The IMF attributed this slowdown to ongoing trade

tensions and the implementation of tariffs, which contribute to heightened uncertainty and tighter financial conditions.

"Heightened uncertainty, further tightening of financial conditions, and a slowdown of external demand could adversely affect the region," Srinivasan stated.



WASHINGTON D.C. - Krishna Srinivasan, director of the IMF's Asia and Pacific Department, during an interview with Xinhua in the United States. He discussed the IMF's latest projections, which estimated that growth in the Asia-Pacific region would decline to 3.9 per cent for the year, a downgrade of 0.5 percentage points from previous forecasts. Photo: Xinhua

The official pointed out that smaller and low-income economies were particularly vulnerable to the impact of increased US tariffs.

"In this context of a big shock, a significant slump in external demand, and limited policy space, these countries become much more susceptible to adverse effects," he explained.

He also noted that smaller nations typically have less leverage and flexibility in trade negotiations, which exacerbated their challenges.

Looking forward, Srinivasan urged Asian economies to enhance domestic consumption and create a more balanced growth model that incorporated both domestic demand and exports. He emphasised the substantial domestic demand potential within major economies such as China, India, and Indonesia, as well as smaller regional players.

"Boosting consumption and private investment will help develop a more balanced economic structure," he added.

To further bolster regional resilience, Srinivasan recommended deepening economic integration among Asian countries.

He highlighted the importance of a clear, stable, and predictable trading environment, referencing initiatives like the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership as opportunities for enhanced collaboration.

Srinivasan concluded by encouraging countries to engage pragmatically and constructively in trade agreements whether at regional, cross-regional, or bilateral levels to support growth potential through exports. *Xinhua* 

## Somali Prime Minister reshuffles cabinet

**MOGADISHU** - Somali Prime Minister Hamza Abdi Barre carried out a cabinet reshuffle on Sunday, replacing the ministers of defense, foreign affairs and second deputy prime minister, the state-run Somali National News Agency reported.

Barre appointed Ahmed Moallim Fiqi, the current minister of foreign affairs, to the Ministry of Defense, while naming his second deputy prime minister, Abdisalan Abdi Ali Dhaay, as the new minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation.

Jibril Abdirashid Haji Abdi, who had been serving as the Minister of Defense for just three weeks, was appointed as the second deputy prime minister.

Prior to this role, Jibril was the minister of commerce and industry.

Fiqi, the new minister of defense, previously served as the minister of interior for two years and the minister of foreign affairs for one year. *Xinhua* 

## US, Iran negotiations in progress

**CAIRO** - Egyptian Foreign Minister Badr Abdelatty held on Sunday separate phone talks with his Omani and Iranian counterparts and US special presidential envoy to the Middle East, during which they discussed the third round of negotiations between the United States and Iran.

During the phone conversations, the Egyptian top

diplomat was briefed by Omani Foreign Minister Sayyid Badr bin Hamad bin Hamood Albusaidi, Iranian Foreign Minister Seyed Abbas Araghchi and US envoy Steve Witkoff on the latest developments of the third round of talks, which was held Saturday in the Omani capital Muscat, the Egyptian Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

Abdelatty affirmed Egypt's full

## Mozambique leverages AfCFTA to boost trade

**MAPUTO** - Prime Minister activities for the private sector of Mozambique Benvinda Levi Levi was quoted as saying by the on Saturday officially launched state news agency AIM. the country's participation in the African Continental Free market. This beyond accelerating the establishment Trade Area (AfCFTA) during a of an integrated African publicceremony held in the port city of private dialogue model, also Beira. holds the potential to increase Mozambique's trade with the According to media reports, rest of the African continent, she Mozambique's trade with other African nations had reached noted. Mozambique became a signatory to the AfCFTA in 2018

support for all initiatives aimed at reaching political solutions through dialogue and negotiation, which enhance the chances of achieving security and stability in the region.

He expressed his hope that the negotiations would lead to a balanced political settlement that would contribute to easing tensions in the region. Oman has been facilitating the dialogue between Iran and the United States to help narrow differences between the two countries and promote regional stability.

With the Omani mediation, the first round of Iran-US talks was held in Muscat on April 12, and the second round a week later in Rome. *Xinhua* 



According to media reports, Mozambique's trade with other African nations had reached US\$7.1billion over the past five years. Levi called on the private sector to invest in industrial development and infrastructure under the government's 'IndustrialiSe Mozambique' initiative. The AfCFTA provides a platform for establishing strategic partnerships and boosting economic and business

and submitted its tariff offer in 2024. The proposal was approved by African Union Heads of State and Government in February 2025, paving the way for Mozambique to conduct trade with about 47 African countries under the agreement. *Xinhua* 

**BULAWAYO** - Rachael Dube, sales manager from Samtric Supplies, a South African mining equipment supplier at the Zimbabwe International Trade Fair recently. A diverse range of African exhibitors at this year's trade fair have expressed interest in expanding business partnerships with China, the world's second-largest economy. Photo: Xinhua

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## China strives for environment protection

**BEIJING** - Chinese Premier Li Qiang on Sunday presided over a State Council executive meeting, which made arrangements for river and

## Mongolia issues e-visas to 11 575 foreigners

**ULAN BATOR** - A total of 11 575 foreigners were granted Mongolian electronic visas (e-visas) in the first quarter of 2025, marking a 4.9 per cent increase compared to the same period in 2024, Mongolia's Immigration Agency said.

During the same period, the country's immigration agency issued 3 629 residence permits in Mongolia, and extended 7 411 residence permits.

The residence permit issuance decreased by 5.3 per cent compared to the previous year. Currently, Mongolia's economy relies most heavily on the export of mineral resources.

Tourism promotion is considered one of the priority areas for diversifying the country's economy and increasing the competitiveness of the domestic tourism sector in the context of global competition. According to Mongolia's Immigration Agency, e-visas for foreigners were officially launched in 2021. In 2024, Mongolia issued e-visas to almost 92 427 foreign citizens. Xinhua

lake protection and studied measures to further protect the welfare of children in difficulties.

The meeting also discussed the draft healthcare security law and decided to approve nuclear power projects including one in Sanmen of east China's Zhejiang Province. Noting that China's aquatic ecosystems have been continuously improving, the meeting called for adopting a targeted, scientific and law-based approach in pollution treatment, and urged coordinated efforts to improve water resources, aquatic environments, and aquatic ecosystems.

Forceful measures should be taken to address problems from the source, strengthen monitoring and source-tracing, and curb excess emissions, according to the meeting.

Highlighting the importance of welfare protection of children in difficulties, the meeting called for efforts to prioritize children's development and maximize benefits for children, and continuously improve the service systems for their living, medical, education, and mental health needs.

The meeting discussed and approved in principle the draft healthcare security law, and decided to submit it to the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress for deliberation.

It also stressed absolute safety in nuclear power development. Efforts should be made to ensure that nuclear power units are built and operated in accordance with the highest global safety standards, and continuously enhance capacity building for safety supervision, the meeting said. *Xinhua* 



**SAO TOME** - China experts in Sao Tome and Principe during Malaria prevention campaigns on Friday. The campaign aimed to raise public awareness as part of broader health cooperation efforts between China and the West African island nation. Photo: Xinhua

# Health experts conduct malaria campaigns in Sao Tome, Principe

**SAO TOME** - Chinese health experts conducted malaria prevention campaigns in Sao Tome and Principe on Friday, aiming to raise public awareness as part of broader health cooperation efforts between China and the West African island nation.

The events, jointly organised by the country's National Center for Endemic Diseases and the Chinese Advisory Mission for Malaria Control in Sao Tome and Principe, were held in the capital, Sao Tome and in the Autonomous Region of Principe.

Activities included free rapid diagnostic testing, distribution of informational materials, and educational sessions about malaria transmission, symptoms, and prevention.

In Sao Tome's Cantagalo district, Chinese experts and local health officials demonstrated mosquito control equipment, including sprayers, long-lasting insecticidal nets, and biological insecticide devices.

They also staged a performance illustrating the malaria diagnosis and treatment process and provided on-site screening for local residents.

On Principe Island, the Chinese team organised a similar event targeting students, featuring quizzes and live displays of Anopheles mosquitoes and larvae to promote disease prevention awareness among the youth. Ana Cristina, health authority director for Sao Tome's Me-Zochi District, said Sao Tome and Principe were working with international partners to achieve malaria elimination, describing the Chinese team as one of its most trusted collaborators.

"The campaigns lined up with World Malaria Day and got a great response from local communities," said Guo Wenfeng, director of the Chinese Advisory Mission for Malaria Control in Sao Tome and Principe.

According to Guo, the current advisory team is led by researchers from Guangzhou University of Chinese Medicine and is applying rapid source elimination strategies alongside digital tools to support targeted malaria control efforts.

In 2024, the Chinese team carried out screenings and interventions in nearly 200 malaria-affected villages in Sao Tome and Principe, screening more than 18 000 people and training over 1 000 local health workers.

Bonifacio Sousa, director of the National Center for Endemic Diseases, said approximately 7 000 malaria cases were recorded last year, a higher number compared to 2022 and 2023. He expressed optimism that the trend could be reversed with Chinese technical support. "*Xinhua* 



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Labobedi Moranang 29, 2025 Kgatiso 079

## Maranyane a tlhabolola itsholelo le matshelo

#### Ka Tshiamiso Mosetlha

**SEROWE** - Mothusa tona wa Lephata la Ditlhaeletsanyo le Botlhami, Rre Shaun Ntlhaile, o kopile Batswana go inaakanya le tiriso ya maranyane fa ba tlhoka thuso ya maphata a puso.

A re se, se ka ba fokoletsa ditshenyegelo le mosepele go ya diofising go ya go kopa thuso mme fa gongwe ba boe ntle le go bona se ba neng ba se etse.

Rre Ntlhaile o ntshitse kgakololo e fa a ne a buisa phuthego ya kgotla kwa Serowe ka Labotlhano, kwa a nankotseng diphetogo tse lephata le tsweletseng natso di akaretsa go tsenya ditirelo tsa maphata a puso mo maranyaneng.

A re go inaakanya le maranyane, go ka thusa le ba ba kgakala le diofisi, go kopa dithuso tsa maphata le go duela ditirelo dingwe.

O ba solofeditse gore lephata la Ditlhaeletsanyo le Botlhami le tsile go tsenya maranyane a maemo a a kwa godimo a sireletsegile e bile a ikanyega gore Batswana ba thusege ka bonako.

Rre Ntlhaile a re boranyane jwa go gokela diromamowa, bo tlaa atolosiwa gore di tshware gongwe le gongwe mme megala le yone e tshware kwa masimong le kwa merakeng.

O boletse fa maranyane a gompieno a puso e tsileng go a tsenya, a tlaa bo a sireletsegile ka gore le diphiri tsa batho di tsile go sireletsega, ka go dirilwe melawana e e laolang tiriso.

A re puso e mo lenaneong la go

dira gore motho a itekodise fa a sa tsoga, a dirisa maranyane, e re go tswa foo, a isediwa melemo go diriswa drone.

Rre Ntlhaile a re maranyane a ka godisa itsholelo go sena tsietso epe a tlatsa ka gore maikaelelo ke go direla bagodi dikarata tsa poso tse di tlaa ba kgontshang go dirisa ATM go na le go sukagana kwa diposong.

Modulasetilo wa komiti ya ditlhabololo e tona kwa Serowe, Rre Moses Monthe o boletse fa a ngongorega ka ditlhabololo tsa Serowe a re, ditsela tse di fa gare ga motse di epegile le mesele ya kgopho ya metsi a pula e tshwanetse ya baakangwa go laola metsi.

Rre Monthe a re Serowe o lekanwe ke go nna le sekole se se golwane sa bobedi, sa selekanyo sa se se teng sa Swaneng.

A re Swaneng o fekeediwa ke dipalo tsa bana mo bangwe ba isiwang kgakala le batsadi.

O boletse fa lekgotla la ga mmakaseterata kwa Serowe le sa sireletsega ka ntlha ya diofisi tse di makgasa.

Fa ba mo kgwa dikgaba, banni le bone ba kaile fa ditsela di le maswe fela thata.

Rre Zeco Moloi o kopile go re go nne le dikomiti tse di elang tlhoko tshenyetso setshaba di na le maloko a a tswang mo morafeng.

A re go tlhatswa madi go a tshwenya mo Botswana, a re madirelo a bojanala a tlhodumelwe thata.

Rre Oagile Moikwathai o kopile gore masimo le meraka e atumeletswe maranyane ka gore nako e ntsi ba nna koo, mme le bone ba lekodisane le ba masika kwa gae.

Mopalamete wa Serowe Bophirima, Rre Onalepelo Kedikilwe o kaile fa kgaolo ya gagwe e na le bontsi jo bo santseng bo le kwa morago ka maranyane.

A re bangwe ga ba na megala ya lotheka e bile bangwe ga ba itse le tiriso ya one. Ka jalo a kopa gore ba seka ba lebalwa ka gore ke batho fela ga ba na ditsompelo tsa go latela ditlamelo kwa Serowe. **BOPA** 

## Puso e isa ditirelo kwa bathong

#### Ka Mmoniemang Motsamai

**RAMOTLABAKI** - Molaodi wa kgaolo ya Kgatleng, Mme Kolobetso Sejakgomo a re go isa ditlamelo kwa bathong go botlhokwa, e bile ke maitlamo a magolo a puso.

O buile se kwa Ramotlabaki ka Labotlhano, fa ba maphata a puso le a a ikemetseng ka nosi a ne a dule letsholo ka ditlamelo tse di farologanyeng go di isa kwa morafeng.

A re go isa ditlamelo kwa bathong go botlhokwa ka jaana se, se thusa go fokotsa mosepele go di latela kwa Mochudi a tlatsa ka gore ga se botlhe ba ba kgonang.

O boletse fa a itumelela thotloetso ya maphata ya letsatsi la go isa ditlamelo, ka jaana go sena madi a a seegetsweng kwa thoko go diragatsa seo.

A re maphata a tshwana le la Omang, Dipagamo le la temothuo a botlhokwa ka jaana ke one a batho gantsi ba batlang ditlamelo tsa one.

Mme Sejakgomo o ne a akgolela banni ba Ramotlabaki go tla ka dipalo tse di kwa godimo go tla go akola ditirelo tsa puso. Mokhanselara wa Oliphant's Drift /Ramotlabaki, Rre Molefe Molefe ene o boletse fa ba itumelela maiteko a ofisi ya ga molaodi a go nna ba etela batho, go ba tlhola, go itse matshwenyego a bone le go ba isetsa ditlamelo.

O ne a rotloetsa banni go isa matshwenyego kwa bodireding. *BOPA* 



## **IPAPATSE FA**

bagolwane ba akaretsa molaodi wa kgaolo ya Kgatleng, Mme Kolobetso Sejakgomo (mojeng) ka tiriso

ya maranyane a drone mo temo-thuong, jaaka go gasa menontshane le melemo e e bolayang diji, jaaka

maphata a puso le a a ikemetseng ka nosi a ne a dule letsholo go isa ditlamelo tse di farologanyeng

kwa morafeng wa Ramotlabaki ka Labotlhano. Mme Sejakgomo a re go isa ditlamelo kwa bathong go

botlhokwa ka go thusa go fokotsa mosepele go di latela kwa Mochudi. Senepe: Mmoniemang Motsamai

#### leletsa dinomoro tse di latelang

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## **China food** secure without imports

BEIJING - China is able to ensure its grain and energy security even if it stops imports, an official said Monday.

China's grain domestic reserves are abundant and its grain imports from the United States only accounted for a very small proportion of domestic consumption last year, said Zhao Chenxin, deputy head of the National Development and Reform Commission, in response to a media question on the impact of US tariffs.

Zhao added that the grain imports from the United States were used primarily as feed grains and that there were many alternatives for such grain supplies in the international market.

"Even if we stop buying feed grains and oilseeds from the United States, there would be minimal impact on China's grain supply," he said.

In terms of energy, imports of crude oil, natural gas and coal from the United States accounted for only a very small share of China's energy consumption in 2024, Zhao said, adding that China's domestic energy supply remains ample and it can import from diverse sources in the international market.

"Even if Chinese companies reduce or completely halt energy imports from the United States, it will have no impact on China's domestic energy supply," he said.

Zaoh said the commission will work with relevant departments to further safeguard food and energy security, carry out international cooperation, and effectively ensure stable domestic supply and smooth market operation in without erms of both food and energy, Zhao stated.

The so-called "reciprocal tariffs" imposed by the United States is a typical act of unilateral bullying, which severely defies historical trends and economic laws and is doomed to fail. .

In the face of these tariffs, China has resolutely stood up against such practices and fought back with justified and restrained countermeasures.

China's move aimed not only to protect its own legitimate rights and interests but also to uphold international fairness and justice, maintain the global free trade system, and preserve a normal international economic order, Zhao said.

"China will stand together with the vast majority of countries in the world on the right side of history and on the side of human progress," Zhao concluded.

Xinhua

## Port after 30 days. Photo: Xinhua World largest car carrier sets off from China to Brazil

SHENZHEN - China's selfdeveloped car carrier "BYD Shenzhen," the largest of its kind worldwide, set off on its maiden voyage with more than 7,000 BYD new energy vehicles (NEVs) on Sunday evening, according to the Shenzhen-based carmaker BYD.

It set sail from Taicang Port in east China's Jiangsu Province and expected to reach Itajai Port in Brazil after more than 30 days at sea

Built by a shipyard under China Merchants Group, the BYD Shenzhen is an NEV carrier with 9 200 standard spaces, and is BYD's fourth specialised vessel for transporting NEVs.

The previous three vessels were also independently built in China.

The 219-meter-long, 37.7-metre-wide BYD Shenzhen was delivered on April 22 in Yizheng, Jiangsu. The ship

carbon transition of the industry,

according to the National Energy

Measures include those that

support private enterprises

in investing in and building

energy infrastructure projects

such as hydropower facilities,

oil and gas storage facilities,

and liquefied natural gas

terminals, as well as those that

encourage private investment in

Administration on Monday.

BEIJING

features cutting-edge green technologies such as highefficiency, energy-saving main engines and a Boil-Off Gas (BOG) recondenser, and antifouling, drag-reducing coatings.

BYD Shenzhen's efficient loading system and advanced protective technologies could provide stable and low-carbon logistics support for BYD's global delivery of new energy vehicles, noted Wang Junbao, general manager of BYD's public business division at the delivery ceremony.

"The delivery of BYD Shenzhen represents a crucial step in BYD's globalisation strategy.

It is more than just a transport ship, but serves as a 'maritime bridge' connecting Chinese innovation with the global market, enabling users around the world to share in the benefits of Chinese technology," said Wang.

China's automobile exports exceeded 6.4 million units in 2024, maintaining the top global position for a second consecutive year, according to the General Administration of Customs of China.

In response to growing demand for vehicle transport capacity, Chinese automakers such as BYD, Chery, and SAIC Motor have been building their own fleets in recent years.

In January 2023, Guangzhou Shipyard International Company Limited announced the confirmation of two dual-fuel car carrier orders for BYD.

Chery later announced plans to establish its own fleet, while SAIC Motor's logistics arm, Anji Logistics, has ordered several large car carriers with a capacity of over 7,000 vehicles from Jiangnan Shipyard. Xinhua

China promotes private economy in energy sector



**SHENZHEN** - BYD has dispatched its new car carrier, the Shenzhen to Brazil with more than 7 000 vehicles in its hold. It was officially handed over to the automaker on April 22. It will berth at Itajai

## **Official** appeals for unity amid complex situation

**COPENHAGEN** - Danish Minister Prime Mette Frederiksen on Sunday called for unity within the Kingdom to jointly address the increasingly complex international situation.

Speaking at a joint doorstep with Jens-Frederik Nielsen, prime minister of Greenland's self-government, Frederiksen said, "When strong forces seek to do us harm, the entire Kingdom must stand together."

remarks, stating, "I totally agree with that." According to the Danish Royal House, King Frederik X was scheduled to visit Greenland yesterday.

Since taking office earlier this year, Trump has repeatedly expressed a strong desire to seize control of Greenland, stating that he would not rule out the possibility of using "military or economic coercion" to achieve this goal.

Asked by reporters whether she would be willing to meet with US President Donald Trump, Frederiksen said, "We are always willing to meet and negotiate with the American president."

On his side, Nielsen noted that recent remarks from the United States regarding Greenland had been "disrespectful."

He emphasised that Greenland was willing to cooperate with "all countries that treat us well, respect us, and wish to build partnerships based on mutual respect." Frederiksen expressed her agreement with Nielsen's

In March, US Vice President James Vance and an American delegation visited Pituffik Space Base in northwest Greenland, formerly known as Thule Base, where Vance criticised Denmark for not doing enough for security in the Arctic or for the well-being of the Greenlandic people.

Greenland, once a Danish colony, became an integral part of the Kingdom of Denmark in 1953.

It was granted home rule in 1979, expanding its autonomy, though Denmark retains control over foreign affairs and defense. Xinhua

China has emerging areas like new energy introduced new measures to storage, virtual power plants, charging infrastructure and accelerate the development of the private economy in the smart microgrids, according energy sector and guide private to a circular released by the enterprises to play a greater role administration. in advancing the green, low-

Private enterprises will be encouraged to participate actively in the energy sector's major technological innovation, and to accelerate their transformation and upgrading, per the circular. They will also be encouraged accelerate digitalisation to and smart upgrades, promote technological innovation in renewable energy facilities, and develop advanced recycling technologies and business

models to improve resource efficiency. Efforts will be made to ensure a level playing field for private enterprises by improving market access and enhancing mechanisms for the allocation of production factors, and through the further regulation of the energy market order.

Efforts will also be made to streamline approval procedures for energy investment, effectively protect the legitimate rights and interests of private enterprises, and support and guide them in expanding into overseas markets and enhancing their international competitiveness, according to the circular. Xinhua

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IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA HELD AT FRANCISTOWN ESHFT 000243-24

#### FIRST AND FINAL DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT

IN THE ESTATE of the late Kgomotso Pije -ESHFT 000243-24 who died at River Side Hospital in Francistown on the 04th March 2024 NOTICE IS HEREBY First and Final Liquidation and Distribution Account in the above Estate

Punch

will lie open for inspection at the chambers of the Assistant Registrar and Master of the High Court Francistown for a period of twenty-one (21) days from the date of the second publications thereof

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 23rd DAY OF APRIL 2025

Kuda Pije Executor Dative P.O Box 1700 Francistown

Master of the High Court Private bag F13 Francistown

Time

0900HRS

Master

DRM

#### NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETINGS Administration of Estates Act [ Cap.31:01]

NOTICE IS HREBY given that by virtue of section 31 of the Administration of Estates Act (Cap : 33:01), heirs and next of kin of the deceased and all persons having claims against the above estate , are being called upon to attend before the Master of the High Court at Francistown High Court on the date and time specified opposite the names of their deceased relatives for purposes of recommending for appointment, a person or persons as Executor / Executrix Dative as well as identifying beneficiaries and to discuss any other business relating to their deceased relative.

Name of Deceased Person Estate Number Date of Meeting ESHFT - 00010-25 ANDREW MARUPING 06-08-2025

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 24TH DAY OF APRIL 2025

MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

#### NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETINGS Administration of Estates Act (Cap.31:01)

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that by Virtue of section 31 of Administration of Estates Act (Cap 33:01) , heirs and next of kin of the deceased all persons having claims against the above estate, are being called upon to attend before the Master of the High Court at Francistown High Court on the date and time specified opposite the names of their deceased relatives for purposes of recommending for appointment, a person or person as Executor/ Executrix Dative as well as identifying beneficiaries and to discuss any other business relating to their deceased relative

Name of Deceased Person Estate Number Date of Meeting Time Maste VELAPHI MABUKO AND O.VELAPHI GFTHFT-000472/23-24 13-08-2025 0900HRS BASUP

> DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 24TH DAY OF APRIL 2025 MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

#### NOTICE FOR A CERTIFIED COPY OF LOST DEED

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned intents to apply for a certified copy of Deed NO TL186/2014 dated 17 day of February 2014 made in favour of Lazarus Molefi in respect of:

CERTAIN: piece of land being Tribal lot 1952 Ramotswa

SITUATE: in Bamalete Tribal Territory

MEASURING: 2750m2 (Two Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty Square Metres)

HELD UNDER: TL186/2014

All persons having objection to the issue of such copy are hereby required to lodge the same in writing with the Registrar of Deeds, PRIVATE BAG 0020 Gaborone within three (3) weeks of the publication of this notice hereof.

Dated at Gaborone on this 5 day of February 2025

Applicant Lazarus Molefi

#### LOST DEED

Notice is hereby given that I intend on applying for a certified copy of Continuing Covering Surety Mortgage Bond No. 1123/2016 dated 22nd day of April 2016 made in favour of CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA), in respect of;

- CERTAIN SITUATE MEASURING :
- Piece of land being Tribal Grant 280-JO; at Mmalore in the Bangwaketse Tribal Territory;
  - 30, 1128 Ha (Thirty Comma One One Two Eight Hectares);

WHICH PROPERTY: is held under Memorandum of Agreement of Lease No. TG 64/2006 dated the 8th August 2006 made in favour of MOSIMANEKGOSI DANIEL MATHIBA;

All persons having objection to the issue of such copy are hereby required to lodge the same in writing with The Registrar of Deeds within three weeks from the last publication of this notice.

LOST MORTGAGE BOND

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned intend to apply for a certified copy of **Covering Surety** Mortgage Bond No. 1581/2023 dated 28<sup>™</sup> AUGUST, 2023 made in favour of THE HOLLARD INSURANCE

**TEBOGO** MODIAKGOTLA REQUIRES worker in farm Ditshegwane lands near Bokaa village, Kgatleng District. Apply to P O Box 374 Bokaa.

HERD MEN WANTED at Maeke Cattle post. Apply to: Box 1721 Bobonong Molaodi 74 536 896

FARM WORKER WANTED. Contact Kebonve @ 71 720 505

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the undersigned	Any person having objection to the issue of such copy
intends to apply for a certified copy of Deed of Fixed	is hereby required to lodge the same in writing with
Period State Grant FT 626/2006 dated 13 <sup>th</sup> September	the Registrar of Deeds for Botswana in Francistown,
2006 made in favor of ESTATE LATE MENDI	within <b>three (3) weeks</b> from last publication of
NTSANYANE in respect of:	this notice.
CERTAIN: piece of land being Lot 11486, Selebi	DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 24 <sup>™</sup> APRIL 2025
Phikwe;	MOLOSIWA ATTORNEYS
SITUATE: in Selebi Phikwe Township Extension 20;	(Applicant's Attorneys)
MEASURING: 416 m2 (Four Hundred and Sixteen	Ntote House, Second Floor
Square Metres)	(Opposite Thapama Hotel)
HELD: Under Certificate of State Title No. FT 591/95	P 0 Box 2429 FRANCISTOWN
dated 11 <sup>th</sup> July 1995.	TEL: 241 2075: FAX: 241 2062

#### **Codex Consulting**

Square Metres);

Codex Consulting requires the services of a Public Financial Management expert to undertake projects on a commission payment basis, as Principal Consultant. The successful applicant will be a chartered accountant with:

• A minimum of 20 years' experience, at least half in the public sector • Demonstrable knowledge and expertise in both IPSAS and INTOSAI The ideal applicant will have Big 4 experience, and experience in public audit, project management, and training.

To apply for this position, send your CV to codex.bw@gmail.com. Contract Duration: 3 years, renewable. Applications close 14 May 2025. Codex Consulting (PTY) Ltd. PO Box 41838, Gaborone, Tel: 78776494

#### APPLICATION FOR CERTIFIED COPY OF MORTGAGE BOND

**KEATIMILWE** 

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that the undersigned intends applying for a certified copy of Mortgage Bond No. 1176/2002 dated 29<sup>th</sup> day of May 2002 passed by MODIANE KEATIMILWE in favour of BOTSWANA GOVERNMENT in respect of:-CERTAIN: piece of land being Lot 55128, Gaborone SITUATE: in the Gaborone Administrative District MEASURING: 614 m2 (Six Hundred and Fourteen

HELD UNDER: Deed of Transfer No. 1242/2002 dated

29th day of May 2002 made in favour of MODIANE

Any person having objection to the issue of such a copy is hereby required to lodge the same in writing with the Registrar of Deeds at Gaborone within 3 (THREE) weeks of the last publication of this notice. DATED AT GABORONE THIS 25<sup>th</sup> DAY OF APRIL 2025.

**COLLINS CHILISA CONSULTANTS** Attorneys for the Applicant Plot 4858, Lecha Close Off Marakanelo Way, Extension 11 P 0 Box 45136 GABORONE



Dated at Gaborone this\_day of \_2025.

COMPANY OF BOTSWANA PROPRIETARY LIMITED in respect of;

Plot 3475, Extension 12 Gaborone (+267) 71531244

## F/TOWN

## 241 3403

**CERTAIN:** Piece of land being Lot 3028 Mogonye. at Mogonye (Cadastre 93) in the Bangwaketse Tribal Territory; 1032m<sup>2</sup> (One Thousand and Thirty Two Square Metres); SITUATE: MEASURING:

WHICH PROPERTY: is held under Memorandum of Agreement of Lease No. TL 599/2020 dated the 18th day of June 2020 in favour of ORERATILE CYRIL RANKWANA.

All persons having objection to the issue of such copy are hereby required to lodge the same in writing with the registrar of Deeds within three weeks from the last publication of this notice

#### DATED AT GABORONE THIS 10<sup>™</sup> APRIL 2025

**DESAI LAW GROUP** P 0 B0X 640 GABORONE TEL: 3162727

### 





DailyNewsbw

SEROWE

## 463 0447

NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETINGS Administration of Estates Act [Cap.31:01]	NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETING FORE THE LATE STELLA SANKI TEMA-ESHFB -000450-25
NOTICE IS HEREBY given that by virtue of section 31 of the Administration of Estates Act (Cap: 33:01), heirs and next of kin of the deceased and all persons having claims against the above estate, are being called upon to attend before the Master of the High Court at Francistown High Court on the date and time specified opposite the names of their deceased relatives for purposes of recommending for appointment, a person or persons as Executor/Executrix Dative as well as identifying beneficiaries and to discuss any other business relating to their deceased relative.	<b>IN PURUSUANCE</b> of Section 31 of the Administration of Estates Act (Cap 31:01), heirs and Next of Kin of the deceased persons specified above hereby invited to attend a Next of Kin meeting on 19 <sup>th</sup> day of June 2025 at 1030 hours at the <b>before-Felicity S.Sigweni</b> . At the Master's Office, Gaborone High Court Building.
Name of Deceased Person         Estate Number         Date of Meeting         Time         Master           MAENAH NEVER         ESHFT-000367-24         09-07-2025         0900HRS         AMR           DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 31ST         MARCH 2025	At the respective meeting, the next of kin meeting are to recommend person(s) to be appointed as Executors(s) /Executrices Dative, identify beneficiaries and to
MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT	discuss any other business relating to the estate of their deceased relative.
NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETINGS         Administration of Estates Act (Cap: 13,01)         NOTICE IS HEREBY given that by virtue of section 31 of the Administration of Estates Act (Cap: 33,01), heirs and next of kin of the deceased and all persons having claims against the above estate, are being called upon to attend before the Master of the High Court at Francistown High Court on the date and time specified opposite the names of their deceased relatives for purposes of recommending for appointment, a person or persons as Executor/Executrix Dative as well as identifying beneficiaries and to discuss any other business relating to their deceased relative.         Name of Deceased person       Estate Number       Date of Meeting       Time       Master         ELIZABETH MOTALAOTE       GFHFT-000031/22-23       13-08-2025       0900 HRS       BASUPI         DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 23RD DAY OF APRIL 2025       MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT       Date of THE HIGH COURT	FINAL LIQUIDATION AND DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT Master's Reference: ESHGB-000558-22         IN THE ESTATE of the late SHIMA MOSIMANEGAPE & KEOLEBOGILE MOSIMANEGAPE who died at Mabe Ward, Molepolole, Kweneng District on the 29 <sup>th</sup> December 2008 at Scottish Livingstone Hospital, Molepolole, Kweneng District on 2nd May 2011, Republic of Botswana respectively.         THE FINAL LIQUIDATION AND DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT in the estate will be open for inspection at the offices of the Master of the High Court at Gaborone for a period of twenty- one (21) days from the date of publication hereof.         Any objection to the Estate Account may be lodged with the Master within the 21 days stated above.         DATED AT GABORONE this
IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA HELD AT FRANCISTOWN ESHFT- 000459-2023	NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
FIRST AND FINAL DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT N THE ESTATE of the late Knowledge Kitso Sabuta ESHFT-000459-2023 who died at Riverside Hospital, Francistown DISTRICT on the 21 day of January 2021. VOTICE IS HEREBY First and Final Liquidation and Distribution Account in the above Estate will lie open for inspection at the chambers of the Assistant Registrar and Master of the High Court Francistown for a period of twenty-one (21) days from the date of the second publications thereof.	Master's Reference: ESHFT 000679-24 IN THE ESTATE OF THE LATE PHATSIMO KHAMA who passed away at Nyangabgwe Referral Hospital, Francistown in the Francistown District in the Republic of Botswana, on the 1st day of August, 2024. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Debtors and Creditors in the above Estate are hereby required to pay their debts and file their claims of whatever nature with the undersigned within thirty (30) days after the publication hereof.
DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS _ DAY OF _ 2025         Nester Mulemi Sabuta       AND TO:       Master of the High Court         Executor Dative       Private Bag F13 FRANCISTOWN         P.O. Box 11956 Tatitown       AND TO:       Private Bag F13 FRANCISTOWN	DATED AT FRANCISTOWN ON THIS 22nd DAY OF APRIL, 2025. OGAISITSE MADIELETSA KHAMA (Executor) C/O OLATOTSE SOLOMON ATTORNEYS Plot 12692, Area A Botshelo Drive P. 0. Box 1007 Francistown TEL: 2403566
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS	NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETINGS Administration of Estate Act [Cap.31:01]
Master's Reference: ESHGB 000300/23         IN THE ESTATE of the Late BADIRI HAZZIN MAGASHULA died at Gaborone Private Hospital, Gaborone, Gaborone District Botswana on the 29 <sup>th</sup> day of August 2022.         NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Debtors and Creditors in the above Estate are hereby required to pay their debts and file claims of whatever nature with the undersigned within thirty (30) days after the publication hereof.         DATED at 25 on this April Day of 2025	NOTICE IS HEREBY given that by virtue of section 31 of the Administration of Estate Act (Cap: 33:01), heirs and next of kin of the deceased and all persons having claims against the above estate, are being called upon to attend before the Master of the High Court at FRANCISTOWN HIGH COURT on the date and time specified opposite the names of their deceased relatives for purposes of the recommending for appointment, a person or persons as Executor/Executrix Dative as well as identifying beneficiaries and to discuss any other business relating to their deceased relative.Name of Deceased PersonEstate Number ESHFT-00076-25Date of Meeting 06-08-2025Time 0900HRSMaster DRMDATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 24TH DAY OF APRIL 2025
Cell: 74069661/72707944	MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT
WE ARE HIRING	NOTICE FOR A CERTIFIED COPY OF LOST DEED
Tender -Officer         We are looking for a personnel who can prepare tenders for bidding, the candidate to hold a diploma in Business Administration and have knowledge of procurement practical's and strong experience in tendering .         Strong in writing and communication skills ,Analytical and evaluation skills as added advantage Attention to details for accuracy and compliance ,importantly familiar with the components of tender documentation such as the invitation to tender (ITT) ,Specifications ,evaluation criteria and contract terms and lastly to have a drivers licence.         Send CV with traceable references to info@luminancetechnology.co.bw         Only shortlisted candidate will be communicated to.	<ul> <li>NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the undersigned intents to apply for a certified copy of Deed No 1127/2025 dated 6th day of May 2015 made in favour of Jacob Mogomots in respect of:</li> <li>CERTAIN: Piece of land being Lot 13367 Gaborone</li> <li>SITUATE: In Gaborone West Extension 3</li> <li>MEASURING: 422m2, four hundred and twenty-two square meters</li> <li>All persons having objection to the issue of copy are hereby required to lodge the same in writing with the Registrar of Deeds. Private Bag 0020 Gaborone within three (3) weeks of the last publication of this notice hereof.</li> <li>DATED AT Gaborone ON THIS 7<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF March 2025.</li> </ul>
Closing date :09th May 2025	J.M APPLICANT
APPLICATION FOR CERTIFIED COPY OF DEED OF TRANSFER	NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETINGS
NOTICE IS HEREBY given that the undersigned intends applying for a certified copy of Deed of Transfer No. 1242/2002 dated 29 <sup>th</sup> day of May 2002 made in favour of MODIANE KEATIMILWE in respect of:-       copy is hereby required to lodge the same in writing with the Registrar of Deeds at Gaborone within 3 (THREE) weeks of the last publication of this notice.         DATED AT GABORONE THIS 25 <sup>TH</sup> DAY OF APRIL 2025.	ADMINISTRATION OF Estates Act [Cap 31:01] NOTICE IS HEREBY given that by virtue of section 31 of the Administration of Estates Act (Cap: 33:01), heirs and next of kin of the deceased and all persons having claims against the above estate, are being called upon to attend before the Master of The High Court at Francistown High Court on the date and time specified opposite the names of their deceased relatives for the purposes of recommending for appointment, a person or persons as Executor/Executrix Dative as well as identifying beneficiaries and to discuss any other business relating to their deceased relative.
CERTAIN:         piece         of         land         being         Lot         55128,         COLLINS CHILISA CONSULTANTS           Gaborone;         Gaborone;         COLLINS CHILISA CONSULTANTS         Attorneys for the Applicant	Name of Deceased Person         Estate Number         Date of Meeting         Time         Master           GABATSEWE CHIPIE         ESHFT-000316-25         13-08-2025         0900HRS         BASUPI

#### **HOUSE MAIDS**

I AM LOOKING for a home based care taker, satau contact namwaka I. shamukuni 76 144 760

#### **NEIGHBOUR CONSULTATION**

**OWNER OF PLOT** no. 4188 located in Mogoditshane Block 4, would like to notify neighbours of plots 4187 and 4177 of constructing a boundary wall. Any objectives, forward it to Mogoditshane / Thamaga District Council, Physical Planning Office or contact telephone no. 3105615 within fourteen (14) days of publication of this notice.

**OWNER OF PLOT** no. 4188 located in Mogoditshane block 4,would like to change land use from single residential to multi residential.Any objections to the proposal should be forwarded to Mogoditshane/ Thamaga District Council,Physical Planning Office or contact telephone no.3105615 within fourteen (14) days of publication of this noticee.

**OWNER OF PLOT** no. 37655 located in Mogoditshane Block 4, would like to notify neighbours of plots 37565 and 37567 of constructing a boundary wall. Any objections forward to Mogoditshane / Thamaga District Council, physical planning office or contact telephone no. 3105615 within fourteen (14) days of publication of this notice.

I DR LIFE MASHUMBA owner of Plot 7336 in Tatisiding, Phusumane ward, intends to change land use from single family residential to civic & community purpose. For any objections please contact North East District Council on telephone 2431136 within fourteen days of publication of this notice.

#### VACANCIES

**HEALTH WORKER WITH** Accounting background holding atleast diploma in Accounts and finance and certificate in health worker and atleast 10 years experience. Apply to Monax Shelter for Hope Trust P O Box 463 Metsimotlhabe. Closing date 18 May 2025.

PRODUCTIONANDMAINTENANCEManagerwithmechanicalrepairexperienceholdingatleastCertificateinrelatedfield, should haveatleast3yearexperienceinsystemhardwareandsoftwaredemonstratedcompetency.ApplytoKingsleyandAssociates P O Box41280Gaborone,closingdateMay 2025SoftwareSoftware

**SHADRACK DESIGNS IS** looking for a qualified fashion designer. location kasane, contact 76 686 770 / 72 887 831 qualification: diploma and above

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Tuesday April 29, 2025 No. 079

## **Ntwa Ya Puo dazzles audience**

#### By Benita Magopane

GABORONE - Ntwa Ya Puo poetry show made its grand return this past Friday, entertaining a crowd of foot-tapping, headbopping, and body-shaking poetry enthusiasts, who relished a wide variety of dance-worthy cultural performances at Thapong Visual Arts Centre.

The new stage offerings included a segaba performance, traditional dance, a traditional fashion parade, and and music performance.

Meanwhile, the regular main act poetry sessions brought back unforgettable talents such as the luminary Moroka Moreri.

He joined the Ntwa Ya Puo organiser, Edwin 'Serurubele' Moroka, Emmanuel 'Mmasekgethu' Boefelo, Lame 'Poetic Blood' Pusetso, and the ensemble Sekhutlwana sa Bannye, in an enthralling performance that included pieces of romance, satire, and laudation.

Among the distinguished guests were the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Water and Human Settlement, Bonolo Khumotaka, and the Deputy Mayor of Gaborone, Mankie Sekete, both witnessing first-hand the young talents proudly promoting Botswana's rich cultural heritage. Addressing audience, the Khumotaka commended 'Serurubele' for the poetry show initiative, describing it as an important tool in fighting social ills among the youth.

She emphasised that government alone could not manage the task of youth development, stressing that it is everyone's responsibility to extend a helping hand.

"The government has introduced outcome-based education not just for young people to work whitecollar jobs," she said adding that instead, it taps into their desires, talents, and hobbies, which can become sources of income."

She cautioned against the misconception that creative arts performers are academic failures, explaining that they are simply individuals driven by a deep passion for their art. She pointed to international celebrities who have built successful careers and fortunes solely from their talents.

"So why not us?" she asked, adding, "If we don't take pride in preserving our culture, like Ntwa Ya Puo is doing, we risk seeing it fade away."

Sekete praised the Ntwa Ya Puo show for keeping Setswana culture alive and called on parents to support cultural initiatives.

"Children must be taught culture from a young age. That's how we preserve our heritage," she said.

As for 'Serurubele', Ntwa Ya Puo is far from slowing down. It is set to return for another evening of cultural entertainment on May 30.

In addition, he and 'Mmasekgethu' will host the Sekhutlwana Sa Bannye Festival on May 17 at the National Museum for a fee of P150, aiming to cultivate a love for culture among children.

"I'm inviting parents to bring their little ones for a day of all things culture," said Serurubele,

Sekhutlwana Sa Bannye Academy, emphasising the issue of limited

who is also the founder of the of space hence its 'only children' stipulation. Activities will include a guided

tour of the National Museum, featuring lessons on Botswana's history, he said. BOPA



Sekhutlwana sa Bannye ensemble performing at Ntwa Ya Puo Poetry Show at Thapong Visual Arts Centre on Friday. Photos: Teko Letsholo

## Jwaneng Leteisi Affair learning curve

#### By Kehumile Moekejo

JWANENG - The organiser of the Jwaneng Leteisi Affair which was held at Jwaneng Rugby Grounds on Saturday, Diphetogo Othusitse says the first edition of the event was a learning curve, paving way for a bigger and better one next year. Even though the event did not live up to expectations, owing to lack of sponsorship, Othusitse said the sizeable number of revelers who turned up have motivated her to work harder in the next edition. "Since we intend to make this an annual event, this first edition was a learning curve and it will prepare us to plan better next time. We struggled with sponsorship hence most of the artists on our line-up are just contributing philanthropic towards our efforts," she said.

their community. Othusitse said the objective was to buy sanitary pads for learners in Jwaneng schools, and ultimately broaden the mandate to assist the less privileged members of society within the township. "I believe if we keep

persevering, more stakeholders and sponsors will come on board and this initiative will grow bigger and have impact on a lot of lives," she said.

Meanwhile, revellers who braved the chilly weather were treated to performances by traditional music maestro, Ditiro Leero and My Star Season 9 winner, Motlha.

Kgarebe ya Setso also led the pack of local artists who included Empress Eunice, Chikafala, Black God and Mr King. BOPA





Moroka Moreri

An artiste, known as Kgarebe ya Setso in music circles, she also underscored the need for Jwanengbased artists to collaborate on such initiatives and collectively contribute towards charity in



Revellers braved the chilly weather for the Jwaneng Leteisi Affair on Saturday. Photo: Kehumile Moekejo



The normally quiet village of Manyana was this weekend buzzing with motorsport enthusiasts from Botswana and South Africa for the Manyana 4x4 Meet on Saturday. Skilled drivers demonstrated their expertise and power of their vehicles through river spins. The event co-organiser, Joe Khengere said the event was to take 4x4 car owners out of their comfort zones and give them a true feel of their vehicle capabilities. He said most of the car owners were only accustomed to tarred and paved roads and had never experienced challenging terrains. The event, aimed at promoting sports tourism, was organised by Maverick Motorsport and Ranger Girls, in collaboration with Manyana Village Development Committee, who are the charitable beneficiaries. Photo: Godfrey Mpuse

## **Charity cycle challenge celebrates 20 years**

#### By Marvin Motlhabane

Sport

**JWANENG** - The 20<sup>th</sup> edition of the Jwaneng GM's Annual Charity Cycle Challenge took place on Sunday, marking a significant milestone in the event's history.

Letlamoreng Ikaneng clinched first place in the elite category after a thrilling sprint finish, completing the 120km race in an impressive time of 3:11:02. He raced for Jwaneng Cycling C1, narrowly defeating NCC's Karabo Makatile from Lesotho, who finished the same distance in the under-23 category with a time of 3:11:02 just milliseconds behind Ikaneng.

This charity event, sponsored by Jwaneng Mine, featured multiple race categories, including 30km, 60km, 90km, and 120km, enabling participants of all ages to join in.

Held under the theme, "Pedal for Good," the race was graced by the Speaker of the National Assembly, Dithapelo Keorapetse.

In his keynote address, Keorapetse emphasised the event's role as a testament

praised the resilience of the to fostering sports as a viable Jwaneng Cycling Club and its supporters in their dedication to aiding the less fortunate. Gadifele reiterated Debswana's commitment

avenue for economic development in the Southern Region, emphasising the race's growth over two decades, which has attracted Namibia, and Lesotho. BOPA

more than 5 000 participants from diverse backgrounds.

The race featured participants from Botswana, South Africa,

## **Tshosane burial Saturday**

**GABORONE** - Former Zebras coach Stanley Tshosane who died Friday will be buried at Tati Siding on Saturday. Speaking at a press conference on Monday, family spokesperson Lameck Takobana said the coach had a short illness.

He said during his last days, he could not cope and was taken to the hospital, where he later succumb to his illness.

He said that the family would leave Gaborone on Wednesday for Tati Siding, adding that they were aware that Tshosane was "a people's person", hence they found it imperative to host a memorial service at the National Stadium today Tuesday for people to fully celebrate his life.

Botswana Football Association, (BFA) president Tariq Babitsemg said Tshosane was a trailblazer.

He said the coach was not only a

and Botswana football," he said.

Gabonamong said Tshosane was a humble coach, but a disciplinarian at same time, adding that he did not mix business with pleasure.

"He would joke with us here and there, but he demanded discipline. The fact that we qualified for AFCON under Bra Stan says a lot about the journey," he said.

He said the Zebras did not qualify for AFCON by fluke but was through Tshosane having

instilled team work in the camp. "He brought unity to the team. He always wanted to learn and equip himself with new coaching methods," he said. BOPA



## Tight race for Women Football League title

By Marvin Motlhabane

KANYE - As the excitement builds in the Jwaneng Mine Southern Region Women's Football League, Jwaneng Galaxy and Zodiac Collabo Girls find themselves neck-andneck after Week 18, both locked on 43 points with Galaxy boasting a superior goal difference.

In a weekend of thrilling matches, Jwaneng Galaxy demonstrated their intent with an impressive 10-0 victory over Bonto FC at home. This commanding performance was crucial, particularly after Zodiac Collabo could only manage a goalless draw against Maletamotse in Lobatse.

The weekend results further tightened the competition at the top of the table, intensifying the battle for the championship.

Jwaneng Galaxy's head coach, Gaolethoo 'Ronaldo' Nkutlwisang expressed optimism following their dominant display, noting that Collabo's draw provided them with significant morale heading into their match against Roman Warriors.

"Our players are eager to get back to action after the Easter break.

"They are focused and determined to secure the win," Nkutlwisang stated before the game.

Her team's resolve was clear as they triumphed over Roman Warriors with a convincing 9-0 scoreline.

With only two matches remaining in the 2024/2025 season, Nkutlwisang emphasised the importance of maintaining a clean sheet to secure the league title.

As the season draws to a close, Jwaneng Galaxy prepare to take on Kanye Swallows in Kanye on May 1, before facing Maletamotse in their final match in Moshupa. Meanwhile, Zodiac Collabo will compete against Extension Gunners before meeting Kanye Swallows at the Mathaithai grounds. The impending clashes are pivotal for both teams, with spectators already speculating the likelihood of a tie on points, which could ultimately lead to the title being decided by goal difference. The pressure mounts as Collabo seek to defend their title while Galaxy are determined to claim their first championship victory. **BOPA** 

to the commitment towards prosperity for all Batswana. He highlighted the importance of community upliftment and the ongoing benefits that Jwaneng residents receive from the mine's initiatives. Keorapetse also expressed his enthusiasm for Jwaneng's recognition as a sporting hub, noting the variety of competitions hosted in the town over recent months, including softball, netball, football, motorsport, and now cycling.

He stated that nurturing local sporting talent could significantly contribute to diversifying the economy.

Jwaneng Mine General Manager, Goitseone Gadifele

hero to BFA but also to Batswana in general, after he guided the Zebras to qualify for the AFCON for the first time in history. He said Stan was not only a coach in his life but a father figure, who worked with Botswana Defence Force and other stakeholders.

Former Zebras player, Mogogi Gabonamong told BOPA that he first met 'Bra Stan' while he was only 16 years when he joined Mogoditshane Fighters.

He said Tshosane was one of the best coaches the country ever produced, adding that he did not only teach the game, but also built the players' characters.

"Our football failed Bra Stan but he remained resolute because he believed in Botswana players



Tuesday April 29, 2025 No. 079

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BotswanaPost's Tebogo LebotseSebego in action during Botswana Tennis Association corporate tennis tournament in Gaborone on Saturday. The aim of the tournament was to raise funds for wheelchair tennis and the overall development of the sport. Photo: Gothusang Lesego

# Stakeholders raise

## funds for BTA

#### By Anastacia Sibanda

**GABORONE** - Wheelchair tennis is a powerful tool for empowerment and inclusion, offering individuals with disabilities to participate in competitive sport.

Speaking on the side-lines of the inaugural Botswana Tennis Association (BTA) corporate tennis tournament, held at the National Tennis Centre

on Saturday, the association's into president, Oaitse Thipe said we wheelchair tennis also helped ev players to develop crucial life skills and the opportunity proto represent Botswana on co

international platforms. In that regard, he said it was imperative to host a one-day corporate tennis tournament to raise funds for BTA programmes amongst them Wheelchair tennis and international tennis federation world tennis tour juniors' events.

The Wheelchair tennis programme, Thipe said had a coach to remunerate, adding that players also needed transportation because of their conditions.

In addition to raising funds for their programmes, he said the mission was also to bring the corporate entities to the National Tennis Centre to interact with the association. Thipe said the number of entities that heeded the call was satisfactory given that it was their first tournament. "Going forward I think we will attract good numbers, but at the end of the day were able to achieve our objective," he said.

Thipe said they also managed to educate businesses about the

importance of playing tennis. Further, he said they were going to organise more events later in the year, adding that they would want to get more businesses to be involved and appreciate tennis.

"For the inaugural tournament we had Botswana Post, ABSA, Alfa Direct, Bothakga Burrow Botswana and their medical partners Kalafi Medical Centre." **BOPA**