



Botswana Development Corporation Limited

**Date:** 9<sup>th</sup> September 2004

**Communication Collateral:** Media Release

**Subject:** Four New Appointments to the  
BDC Board of Directors

The Honourable Minister of Finance and Development Planning, Mr Baledzi Gaolathe, has appointed four new members to the Board of Directors of the Botswana Development Corporation Limited, (BDC). Mrs. Banny Kemoneilwe Molosiwa, Mr. Nightingale Kuswani Kwele, Mr. Odirile Merafhe, and Mr. Abednico Batshani Tafa were appointed on the 1<sup>st</sup> August 2004, and were introduced to the Board at its meeting of the 9<sup>th</sup> September 2004.

The four appointees bring vast experiences acquired over two decades. Mrs. Banny Molosiwa is the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Trade and Industry. Before being appointed Permanent Secretary, Molosiwa served in different capacities at the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning, including as Secretary of Economic Affairs, and Director of Development Programmes.

Molosiwa's professional experience includes serving on the Boards of several key institutions, including BEDIA, Debswana Diamond Company, National Employment Manpower Incomes Council, National AIDS Council, and the Rural Development Council. She was also the Alternate Governor for Botswana on the African Development Bank (ADB) Board of Governors.

Mr. Nightingale Kwele is a Senior Partner at CB Richard Ellis, and has been responsible for handling major corporate portfolios and valuations around the country. He has amassed a wealth of experience in his field, both locally and in the United Kingdom. Kwele serves on several boards, including Botswana Building Society. He represents BOCCIM on real estate matters. He is a Professional Associate of the Institute of Rating Revenues and Valuations, Professional Associate of the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, and the Professional Member of Real Estate Institute of Botswana.

Mr. Odirile Merafhe is the Chief Executive Officer of Hospitality and Tourism Association of Botswana (HATAB). He was previously the Executive Manager Commercial, for South African Airways. He had previously served in different capacities with the local carrier, Air Botswana. At HATAB, Merafhe is among other things responsible for lobbying government and other key stakeholders to create an enabling environment for tourism business, one of the key sectors in economic diversification.

Merafhe is a member of several boards, including BOCCIM, National Advisory Council on Tourism, and the Botswana Business Coalition on HIV/AIDS. He is also the Chairman of the Board of Junior Achievement Botswana.

Mr. Abednico Tafa is an accomplished Advocate, widely respected within the legal fraternity. He has served for over ten years as the Deputy Attorney General, in the Prosecution Division and the Civil Division. He has acted as the Attorney General, drafting legislation and policy documents, being the principal legal advisor to the cabinet and government, and being the Ex-officio member of Parliament.

Tafa recently established his own private practice, and is a Director and Shareholder of Unibuild (PTY) Ltd. He has presented papers on prosecution of white-collar crimes, both in the United Kingdom and South Africa.

The four Board Members join BDC at a time when the Corporation has recently embarked on a three-year strategic plan, which aims to grow its portfolio, as it seeks to introduce new products to the market.

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