



# BOTSWANA POLICE

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# MANDATE

The mandate of BPS is to ensure the safety and security of the people of Botswana. The organisation is established by an Act of Parliament under Section 6 of the Police Act, Cap. 21:01. The Act outlines the mandate of the BPS as follows,

***“The Service shall be employed throughout Botswana to protect life and property, prevent and detect crime, repress internal disturbances, maintain security and public tranquility, apprehend offenders, bring offenders to justice, duly enforce all written laws with which it is directly charged, and generally maintain the peace.”***

## Vision

**‘A law enforcement Agency of Repute’**

- The BPS will be an upright organisation that upholds its mandate according to the dictates of the Country's Statutes and all international policing conventions.

## Mission

- The BPS exists for residents of Botswana and to provide to them a service that is consistent with International Policing Standards. The Mission understands that a Total Policing Service must be offered with the consent of the Customer and with the Customer.

**‘To provide a Professional Policing Service, in partnership with the Community’**

- **Professional Policing:**
  - Expert Service that is consistent with international policing standards.
- **Partnership with the community:**
  - Policing by consent, for them by them

## CORE VALUES



### **BOTHO**

Courteous  
Responsive  
Respectful



### **EXCELLENCE**

Accountable  
Knowledgeable  
Responsive  
Accurate  
Customer Focused



### **INTEGRITY**

Ethical  
Transparent  
Confidential  
Honest  
Impartial



### **TEAMWORK**

Espirit De Corps  
Pull together  
Collective Responsibility



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*In Partnership With You*



# EDITOR'S DESK



Superintendent Selinah Omphile  
Assistant Public Relations Officer

## SENIOR OFFICERS REDEFINE BPS ROADMAP FOR 2023

**C**orporate Meetings are found to be the driving force behind the success of any Corporate entity. They are used as the platform for reviewing the company's current practices; brainstorming of new ideas; sharing of essential information amongst the managers of the company, making key decisions with the consideration of the future outlook of the company; solving outstanding organisational challenges and giving each other authentic feedback for the growth of the company.

These kind of meetings are crucial and fundamental to the Company's development and attainment of its mandate.

Botswana Police Service (BPS) has been holding these kind of meetings from back in the day and this year's marked the 49th Session. The Conference was held the second week of February under the theme: Modern Policing - New Realities Towards Safe and Secure Communities.

BPS senior officers from all over the country converged for this Corporate Conference to re-define the road map of the organisation so as to remain relevant to modern crimes. As crime trends are regularly transforming at an accelerated speed, this calls for Police organisations to always be on their toes to draw and implement proactive measures as well as formulating counteracting strategies to beat the criminals at their own game.

Besides fighting the actual crime on the ground, Police organisations globally are challenged with fighting perceptions on the crime situation which is usually blown out of proportion. The state is usually fuelled by the Media putting a lot of pressure on the Police ultimately forcing them to go an extra mile in trying to prove themselves.

As crime is one of the top sellers of news it means whatever can bleed relating to crime will make news. This as a result has made police organisations meat for the Media. To remain focused and

balanced, BPS Senior Management continues to hold their Annual Conferences to ensure they don't succumb to external pressures.

It gives them an opportunity to introspect, and review their policing journey, with a view to remain aligned to the objectives of a Corporate Conference as mentioned earlier. This is where they make resolutions for the organisation to be implemented within that year.

As the Theme denotes, modern policing dictates that the style of policing be modified to embrace amongst other things technology. This is why in their resolutions the Conference committed to ensuring the expedition of the digitalisation of core policing processes.

### EDITOR - IN - CHIEF

Assistant Commissioner of Police  
Dipheko Motube

### MANAGING EDITOR

Senior Superintendent  
Near Bagali

### EDITOR

Superintendent  
Selinah Omphile

### SUB EDITORS

Assistant Superintendent  
Dimbo Peter

Assistant Superintendent  
Mompoloki Mophato

### DESIGN & LAYOUT

Constable  
Tshepang Boemo

### PUBLISHED BY:

Botswana Police Service  
Public Relations Unit  
Private Bag 0012,  
Gaborone, Botswana

Tel: (267) 399 3821 - 74

Fax: (267) 397 2404

Email: [police@gov.bw](mailto:police@gov.bw)

Facebook: Botswana Police Service

### POLICE TOLLFREE NUMBERS

Broadhurst	0800 600 084	Nata	0800 600 057
CID HQ	0800 600 125	Palapye	0800 600 074
Francistown	0800 600 027	Ramotswa	0800 600 102
G/ West	0800 600 107	Sejelo	0800 600 138
Gantsi	0800 600 115	S/Phikwe	0800 600 063
GBV	0800 600 144	Serowe	0800 600 073
Jwaneng	0800 600 142	Tsabong	0800 600 121
Kasane	0800 600 048	Woodhall	0800 600 108
Letlhakane	0800 600 055		
Lobatse	0800 600 108		
Mahalapye	0800 600 075		
Masunga	0800 600 030		
Maun	0800 600 040		
Mochudi	0800 600 094		
Mogoditshane	0800 600 107		
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By S/I Kefilwe Bafana

**B**PS Senior Officers Conference is an annual event. The Conference is the most important event in the BPS calendar, as it gives police leaders the opportunity to reflect on how the organisation has fared in the past year and review the current strategies for improvement, carrying forward or disposal for new ones.

During the Conference, the leaders discuss various issues on policing, such as crime prevention strategies, community policing initiatives, and the use of technology in law enforcement. The conference also provides a platform for networking and sharing of best practices amongst police establishments.

This year's five-day Conference had congregated about 160 senior officers of the rank of Senior Superintendent and above. This 49th Session was held under the theme; 'Modern Policing, New Realities Towards Safe and Secure Communities'.

When officiating at the event, the Minister of Defence and Security, Honourable Thomas Kagiso Mmusi said this year's theme highlights the need to address the challenges of policing in a digital age by adapting to the changing dynamics and complexities of law enforcement. He called on the participants to engage in a thorough and positive discussion that focused on creating effective methods for law enforcement in the modern era of technology.



Hon. Thomas Kagiso Mmusi  
Minister of Defence & Security



Mr Phemelo Ramakorwane  
Acting Commissioner of Police

"Increasingly, criminals continue to exploit the cyberspace to execute their criminal activities. This calls for law enforcement institutions to strengthen collaborations and invest more in law enforcement technology," The Minister said.

The Minister alluded that Police Commanders were well informed about the current law enforcement challenges facing the country which included robberies that targeted homes, businesses, stock theft, break-ins, drug abuse and gender based violence to name but a few of the crimes giving communities sleepless nights.

"These crimes also have the potential to harm the country's image as well as compromise her trade and investment opportunities," he said.

However, the Minister applauded the police for their coordinated response in addressing the cash-in transit heists and ATM blusting which were becoming rampant in the recent past, but had since abated. He urged them to review the strategies with a view to improving them for the ultimate arrest of the situation.

Honourable Mmusi also commended BPS for taking a decision that prohibited the withdrawal of GBV related cases. He further stated that this will deter

## SENIOR OFFICERS CONFERENCE SITS FOR THE 49<sup>th</sup> SESSION



Seated: Hon Thomas Kagiso Mmusi (3<sup>rd</sup> left), Minister of Defence and Security, Ms Bothale Makgekgenene (2<sup>nd</sup> left), Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Defence and Security, Mr Phemelo Ramakorwane (3<sup>rd</sup> right), Acting Commissioner of Police, Mr Busang Lesola (2<sup>nd</sup> right) Deputy Commissioner, Crime Investigations and SACP Lesitamang Moshabi (Commander, SSG)  
Standing: Mr Solomon Mantswe (Far right) Deputy Commissioner, Operations and some of the Police Senior Management.





Senior Officers in attendance of the Conference

the would-be perpetrators as well as solicit justice for the victims.

Emphasising the importance of inter-agency collaboration, Hon Mmusi expressed appreciation for the support and collaboration evident among security sector organisations, adding that the cooperation must also be seen in the service delivery.

"I therefore urge you to continue strengthening this strategic alliance in order to guarantee the safety and security of citizens and residents of this country," he said.

The Minister said the government continued to support the BPS by resourcing it, giving an example of the 1000 constable posts, introduction of drone technology, expansion of CCTV coverage and procurement of specialised vehicles for border patrols and poaching activities.

He added that the initiatives would significantly improve BPS capacity and enhance service delivery within the organisation, stressing that the success of an organisation depended on the skills and competence of its employees.

On the issue of organisational reputation, Hon Mmusi called Commanders to ensure that discipline consistently took precedence among the ranks and files of the BPS, stating that integrity issues were fundamental in a policing environment.

In his Welcome Remarks, the Acting Commissioner of Police, Mr Phemelo Ramakorwane said the organisation has reinforced operations and sensitisation campaigns, particularly in the fight against drugs. He said the operations targeted schools where drug incidents were rampant.

The Acting Commissioner informed the meeting of the engagement of SSG on the ground, explaining that this was done to

augment the operatives in fighting crimes targeting homes and business.

Mr Ramakorwane noted that there was an upsurge in general crime, for the year 2022 as compared to 2021, associating the status with the consequences of COVID-19.

Turning to GBV, the Acting Commissioner said BPS has made efforts to empower the recently established Gender and Child Protection Branch so that it can effectively handle incidents of GBV and child abuse cases.

He said a total of six Child-Friendly Centres have been established in Gaborone, Francistown, Shakawe, Letlhakane, Lobatse and Ghanzi, adding that additional two stations were expected to be opened in Maun and Palapye before the end of 2023.

Regarding stock theft, Mr Ramakorwane said BPS has made a decision to enhance and provide resources to anti-stock theft teams across the country for efficacy while addressing the persisting issues of stock theft.

In conclusion, the Conference crafted resolutions to be implemented during the year. Following are some of the identified areas of concern and resolutions to address such;

**1. Concerned with the rise in crime, particularly robberies targeting homes and businesses, break-ins, drug abuse, stock theft and Gender Based Violence related crimes, the Conference resolved to;**

- Leverage on the use of scientific expertise to enhance the existing policing strategies.

- Strengthen boarder security management by capacitating and resourcing police officers.

- Reinforce community policing structures nationally, geared towards fighting crime.

- Intensify public education on Gender Based Violence related offences and drug abuse.

- To enhance police visibility.

- Deploy more resources in hard-hit areas nationally to address the incidence of violent and intrusive crimes.

**2. Realising that communities are losing livestock to criminals, which is impacting negatively on their livelihoods, the Conference resolved to;**

- Deploy more resources to curb stock theft both inland and along the common borders.

- Enhance the participation of community structures in the fight against stock theft.

- Enhance inter-agency collaboration and cross-border cooperation in stock theft investigations and intensify sharing of information and intelligence.

**3. Whilst appreciating the notable reduction in both road traffic accidents and fatal injuries, the Conference noted that the Numbers remained relatively high and therefore, resolved to;**

- Maintain zero tolerance stance on the use of handheld communication devices while driving

- Continue prioritisation of sobriety checkpoints and saturation patrols.

**4. Recognising the potential benefit of digital technology in transforming the delivery of policing services, the Conference resolved to;**

- Expedite the completion of the digitisation of core policing processes to deliver online service in line with government Reset Agenda priorities.



# The First Ladies Visit to the CFC

By S/I Kabelo Barogeng

**T**he First Lady of the Republic of Botswana, Mrs Neo Jane Masisi and the Spouse of the President of the Swiss Confederation, Mrs Muriel Zeender Berset paid a visit to the Police Child Friendly Centre (CFC) in Gaborone recently.

Speaking during the visit, Mrs Masisi said Botswana is committed to addressing GBV in its all forms. She stated that the establishment of the Child Friendly Centre by BPS was an indication of such. Furthermore, she explained that the Centre was started in 2020 as a pilot project responding to GBV which has become a national concern.

The First Lady praised BPS for being a focused law enforcement agency that has hugely contributed to her GBV awareness campaigns, stating that through those collaborative efforts, they were able to reach 50 villages, where they addressed thousands of people.

She further appreciated the organisation for the continued capacity building and empowerment of officers with a view to decisively deal with GBV cases.

Paying gratitude to UNICEF Mrs Masisi commended them for being a key stakeholder in ensuring that the fight against GBV is achieved. She

acknowledged the former's continued support to BPS through training and provision of more Child Friendly Centres. The First Lady said through this partnership and others such as of the Japanese Embassy and SADC, BPS has managed to open five more Centres in Francistown, Shakawe, Letlhakane, Lobatse and Gantsi.

"Part of my mandate as the UNAIDS Ambassador is to engage with other stakeholders in order to address GBV issues and achieve a holistic approach to addressing issues affecting the youth, and empowerment of young people in Botswana," she added.

For her part, Mrs Berset thanked the First Lady, Mrs Neo Jane Masisi for her invitation to such a remarkable community facility. She said the facility would go a long way in providing a safe space for children who have survived GBV, explaining that in other circumstances, children succumb to such incidents.

Moreover, Mrs Berset praised her counterpart for displaying deep passion on ending GBV and her fight for women and children.

While welcoming the guests, the Acting Commissioner of Police, Mr Phemelo



UNICEF Country Representative, Dr Joan Matji, Commissioner of Prisons, Ms Dinah Marathe (left), Acting Commissioner of Police, Mr Phemelo Ramakorwane (right) appreciating the Centre



SACP Goitseone Ngono  
Director, Gender & Child Protection Branch







**Mrs Neo Jane Masisi**  
**First Lady of The Republic of Botswana**



**Mrs Muriel Zeender Berset**  
**Spouse of the President of the**  
**Swiss Confederation**

Ramakorwane said addressing issues of GBV and child abuse remained a national priority and as such BPS has reinforced its counter strategies and collaborative efforts.

He recognised the leadership of the First Lady in the fight against GBV, stating that it was through her stewardship that the Centre was established. The Acting Commissioner said this has led to the development of policies and procedures to guarantee relevant policing for children.

Mr Ramakorwane also highlighted that BPS through Botswana government was committed towards observance of human rights

and upholding the rule of law as the country is an active member to various international protocols and legal instruments that promote global peace and security.

"We are also a member of INTERPOL (International Criminal Police Organisation), which aims at tackling transnational organised crimes and dismantling criminal syndicates," he said.

The Acting Commissioner noted that Botswana has enabling legislations such as Penal Code, Domestic Violence Act of 2008, Children's Act of 2009, Anti-Human Trafficking Act of 2014, Cyber Crime and Computer Related Crimes Act of 2018. He said these legislations remain relevant to addressing issues and cases affecting children, both as crime victims and offenders.

Mr Ramakorwane also recognised Botswana's partnership with the Swiss Confederation. "Having ratified CFC way back in 1997 and having domesticated

the relevant legislation pertaining to the rights and protection of children, Botswana has found a strategic partner in the Swiss Confederation. We are therefore optimistic of the fruitful engagement with the relevant departments such as the Swiss Federal Police in strengthening "child rights" and protection issues," he added.

The Acting Commissioner said the public has received the Centre with anticipation as demonstrated by the 370 cases registered since inception.

"The Child Friendly Centre has received overwhelming reception and support from members of the public as demonstrated by the number of cases recorded at this facility. The centre has also improved our turnaround time and professionalism in dealing with cases involving children in general," he said.

The President of the Swiss Confederation and his spouse were in Botswana for a three-day state visit at the invitation of His Excellency Dr Mokgweetsi Eric Keabetswe Masisi, President of the Republic of Botswana.



**Mr Phemelo Ramakorwane**  
**Acting Commissioner of Police**





# Being a Parade Commander

By Cst Mpho Mhaladi

**M**y first assignment as a cub reporter for the Police Magazine was to profile the professional life of a man whose particular set of skills was nothing short of amazing. The man was none other than Police College Parade Commander Senior Superintendent Tshireletso Kgosiemang.

As I sheepishly took a seat across the table in his spacious office my mind briefly rolled back to the time when he mesmerised me as the Commander of Intake 2021 Passout Parade of which I was part of. Mr Kgosiemang has been the Parade Commander since 2016 to date.

With the level of exposure, he has had and the support he gets from his colleagues, particularly the Parade Assistants and Division Commanders, Mr Kgosiemang has been able to do his duties diligently.

He said to command a parade as a Parade Commander, one must ensure that there is esprit de corps which means teamwork amongst everyone involved. "Even though Parade is a very tedious task which takes long hours of standing, repeated practices which can be draining physically, I am proud to say in the end my Parade always captivates the audience."

When asked about what it takes to be a Parade Commander, Senior Superintendent Kgosiemang said it needs determination, selflessness, devotion, a high standard of emotional stability and optimism.

"As a Parade Commander, you have to maintain a high standard of proficiency in the execution of your commands and parade movements which takes lots and lots of practice and patience."

He said he always cherishes saluting the dignitaries with the sword, the elegance in bringing the sword in front of his face while the blade is pointing up.

"The strength and power presented by the sword movement gives me the authority to command the parade. "Voice projection and its longevity are also key in parade commanding and for me, I ensure that I drink lemonade warm water in preparation for calling the Commands."

Mr Kgosiemang further stated that it is also important to have a sharp memory to be able to remember the various commands and movements adding that for the five years that he has been a Parade Commander, they having been changing parade formations and styles yearly.

He said his other role as Parade Commander is to guide the entourage that inspects the Parade. He has to ensure that a safe distance is kept between them and the parade.

"It's a gracious moment for me to lead the entourage which usually is headed by His Excellency the President, the Minister or the Commissioner of Police."

The Parade Commander said the purpose of the drill is to instil discipline and also develop the sense of obedience to orders in the trainees as they only act upon instructions to 'remove the civilian coat' over and above ensuring both mental and physical fitness. He added that Parade also promotes teamwork, alertness and endurance.

Mr Kgosiemang said that music is incorporated in the drill to break the monotony, to distract

one from focusing on the drill movements as well as to provide a celebratory mood.

"The drill would not be successful without the input of the Police Band which offers the riveting music that makes it easier to coordinate the Parade."

To get an understanding on the input of the Band in the Parade, the reporter also caught up with Sergeant Mogomotsi Mosweu who is the Drum Major of the Botswana Police Band. The melodious songs which always move the audience in their seats at the parade arena are played by the Band.

The Drum Major explained that the band provides a regular marching tempo and musical accompaniment which contributes to the success of the parade movements.

"There is nothing that gives me pleasure than directing the musical performance of the band during the Parade."

Sgt Mosweu said, with the twenty-one years he spent conducting the Band and being part of it, he has mastered the intervals as to when to stop the music to allow the Parade Commander to give out commands.

He also mentioned that as the Drum Major, he knows when it is time to pay compliment to the dignitaries and also when to break from slow to quick march. Furthermore, he explained that he and the Parade Commander work as a team.

"The music and the drill are so synchronised to a point that if by any chance, the Commander makes a mistake in his call of commands, the music will engulf that and often the audience does not even realise that."



“As a Parade Commander, you have to maintain a high standard of proficiency in the execution of your commands and parade movements which takes lots and lots of practice and patience.”







# Traffic Cops Conference



**Mr Busang C. Lesola**  
**Deputy Commissioner, Crime Investigations**

By Cst Tshepang Boemo &  
Cst Olorato Gadibolae

**M**aun Lodge, on the banks of Thamalakane river was decked in maroon and gold, marking Botswana Police Service's (BPS) Annual Traffic Commanders Conference.

The event is meant for traffic officers to review their road policing strategies for the past year and formulate new ones to be implemented under the current year. The two-day Conference was held under the theme "Rethinking Road Policing for Safe and Secure Communities."

When giving a keynote address, The Deputy Commissioner Crime Investigations, Mr Busang Cornelius Lesola said that traffic violations have significantly increased by 5.3% as depicted by cases recorded between the years 2021 and 2022. The Deputy Commissioner revealed that 365 336 cases were registered in 2021 compared to 384 747 in 2022.

"Amongst these violations, speeding, driving without a licence and drunken driving

accounted for a larger percentage of this increase."

He stated that these causes of road traffic accidents have been recurring over the years, calling traffic cops to come up with strategies that would focus on the said factors.

For his part, Deputy Commissioner, Operations, Mr Solomon Mantswe, advised officers to work as a team in the fight against crime, stating that teamwork results in productivity.

"Moroto wa esi ga o ele," said the Deputy Commissioner quoting a setswana proverb which emphasises the importance of teamwork, and loosely translates to mean that the efforts of a team are more productive than those of an individual. "We cannot expect to be successful



**Mr Solomon Mantswe**  
**Deputy Commissioner, Operations**



**SACP Katlholo Mosimanegape**  
**Director, Traffic Branch**

in our operations without inter-branch collaborations. It is against this background that I challenge you to ensure cooperation between our various branches."

He warned that modern criminals were motorised and using the very roads that were



policed by traffic officers in advancing their criminal agendas. "This, therefore puts you in a strategic position as Traffic officers to intercept criminal activities before they occur."

Mr Mantswe advised the officers to make the most of the opportunity by apprehending perpetrators for other crimes besides road traffic offences.

He further emphasised the importance of community policing which he said remained a key strategy towards the prevention and reduction of crime.

The Deputy Commissioner reiterated that strong partnerships between the police and

the community has a positive impact on the detection of crime.

Furthermore, Mr Mantswe pointed out that the increased police presence on the streets and highways serves as reassurance to members of the public.

Meanwhile, the Director of Traffic, Mr Katlholo Mosimanegape said road traffic accidents occur along major highways despite police efforts. "This means that we should double our efforts to change this status."

Mr Mosimanegape said the narrative was road policing, which goes beyond road traffic violations to detecting crime.

The Director encouraged commanders to raise the standard of their services and not to limit themselves to traffic law enforcement only.

On the positive, The Traffic Chief commended traffic cops for having intercepted stolen goods including vehicles during their day-to-day patrols and roadblocks.

"I am pleased to inform you that during the year under review we have recorded a notable decrease in both fatal crashes and fatalities from 325 to 305 and 413 to 404, thus representing 6.2% and 2.2% reduction respectively," said Mr Mosimanegape

## DCPO interacts with No.5 District Operatives

By Cst Olorato Gadibolae



**S/SUPT Onious Madziba  
Officer Commanding, No.5 District**

**N**o.5 Police District operatives commended for reducing crime in Maun and surrounding areas as well

as making breakthroughs in several robberies.

The officers were appreciated by the Deputy Commissioner, Operations, Mr Solomon Mantswe during his visit to Maun.

Mr Mantswe hailed the officers for their commitment and dedication towards their work, stating that it was through such efforts that BPS could achieve positive results. He further asked them to familiarize themselves with technology as modern crime is committed through such forums. "As the world is moving towards automation of services, we are expected to be abreast with technology."

On the contrary though, the Deputy Commissioner called officers to uphold professional etiquette when dealing with their customers. "You must abide by BPS values

to ensure that you don't find yourselves behaving or operating against our mandate."

On the issues of GBV, the Deputy Commissioner reminded attendants that GBV was among the top national priorities, therefore calling for effective and relevant strategies.

Mr Mantswe warned police officers not to exempt themselves from GBV stating that incidents of GBV did not know the boundaries. "In the event that you find yourself as a victim do not be embarrassed to lodge a formal report and as colleagues we must treat such report like any other."

For his part, the Officer Commanding No.5 Police District, Senior Superintendent Onious Madziba expressed gratitude for the address, adding that this interaction will go a long way in motivating the operatives.





# CHILD FRIENDLY CENTRES OPEN AROUND THE COUNTRY

By Asp Mompoloki Mophato  
& Cst Morgan Mmereki

Child abuse has become one of the rampant social ills that the nation has to deal with daily. In many cases, child abuse is done by someone the child knows and trusts, often a parent, a relative or a family friend.

To combat this crime BPS established a Gender and Child Protection Branch in 2021 to deal with among others, issues of child abuse.

Moreover, the organisation continues to establish Child Friendly Centres in various parts of the country of which main objective is to create a conducive environment for interviewing GBV victims mostly children. At the time of writing this story, the Centres were already erected in Gaborone, Francistown, Shakawe, Letlhakane, Lobatse and Gantsi respectively.

During the official opening of the Centre in Lobatse, the Deputy Commissioner Operations, Mr Solomon Mantswe stated that the establishment of these centres complies with the international and regional instruments on the protection of children such as the 2004 Convention on the Rights of a Child (CRC).

He said the report of the Convention recommended the establishment of such Centres and urged all member countries to take legislative,



Hon. Thapelo Matsheka  
Member of Parliament For Lobatse

administrative, social and educational measures to protect the child from all forms of abuse.

Mr Mantswe explained that as a member, Botswana complied and enacted the Children's Act of 2009.

"The Act highlights that every child has the right to a chance of harmonious development and to a standard of living adequate for physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social growth."

For his part, the Member of Parliament for Lobatse, Honourable Dr Thapelo Matsheka appreciated BPS for acknowledging the need to protect children by prioritising the fight against their ill-treatment.



Mr Solomon Mantswe  
Deputy Commissioner, Operations



Dr Joan Matji  
UNICEF Country Representative



Child Friendly Centre Porta Cabin in Gantsi





Child Friendly Centre in Lobatse

"Parents are the major stakeholders in these projects as they are the ones who should come forward to report issues of child abuse."

The Legislator went on to caution parents against harbouring perpetrators of these offences under the fallacy of protecting the family name or the reputation of such a perpetrator.

Handing over the Child Friendly Centre PortaCabin in Gantsi which was donated by the Japanese High Commission through the United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF). The UNICEF Country Representative, Dr Joan Matji commended BPS for showing a high level of commitment to ending all forms of violence against children by delivering quality child friendly services to all children who come in contact with the law whether as victims or witnesses of abuse.

She said they are oblivious of the fact that change does not happen overnight, but as UNICEF, they hoped that such Centres would play a catalytic role in facilitating the reporting of child abuse cases.

When receiving the Child Friendly Centre on behalf of the BPS, Deputy Commissioner Operations Mr Solomon Mantswe thanked the sponsors for the donation saying it will make a difference in the lives of communities in and around Gantsi.

Mr Mantswe acknowledged the Japanese High Commission for donating the Centre which he said was the third following those donated in Shakawe and Letlhakane during the month of August and October 2022 respectively.

The Deputy Commissioner said the tenets of a Child-friendly Justice system

required a multi-sectoral approach. He added that it was crucial for all partners and stakeholders to collaborate and participate in the execution of the Action Plan for the Child Friendly Justice System for Botswana.

He said this resonated with BPS mission of providing a professional policing service in partnership with the community, as it recognized the need for collaboration with the community.

In conclusion, The Deputy Commissioner thanked the community of Gantsi for their unwavering support and dedication towards the protection of children. He further urged them to utilise the GBV dedicated toll-free number 0800600144, to report incidents of child abuse without fear.





# SARPCCO Chairperson visits Botswana



**Lt Gen Joseph Shikongo**  
**Inspector General of Namibian Police Force**



**Mr Phemelo Ramakorwane**  
**Acting Commissioner of police**

By Asp Thulaganyo Keokilwe

**T**he Chairperson of the Southern African Regional Police Chiefs Cooperation Organisation (SARPCCO), Lieutenant General Joseph Shikongo, who is also the Inspector General of Namibian Police Force, was in Botswana recently on a tour of duty.

The objective of the tour was to check and evaluate the performance and implementation of the SADC Chiefs of Police Sub Committee Meeting resolutions. The tour, which extended to all SARPCCO member countries, included checking for compliance with INTERPOL's National Bureau Quality Standards.

Welcoming the Chairperson to BPS, the Acting Commissioner of Police, Mr Phemelo Ramakorwane, said Botswana and Namibia have had collaborations through bilateral meetings, joint operations and intelligence information sharing. He pointed out that the cooperation between the two countries contributed significantly towards combating transnational organised crimes along their borders.

The Acting Commissioner informed his counterpart that the implementation of decisions of the SADC Chiefs of Police Sub Committee Meeting of the Inter-State, Defence and Security held in South Africa in 2022, were progressing well.

In response, Lieutenant General Shikongo commended BPS for doing a sterling job in the implementation of SARPCCO resolutions and complying with the INTERPOL's National Bureau Quality Standards. He said BPS's commitment was demonstrated by its consistent participation in all capacity-building initiatives and training in combating cross-border and transnational organised crime.

He also appreciated BPS's effort in extending the INTERPOL I-24/7 Communication System to all Botswana Police formations and eight other National Law Enforcement Agencies. The communication system has an e-Learning service, which helps with investigation techniques in cybercrime,

human trafficking, fraud and money laundering.

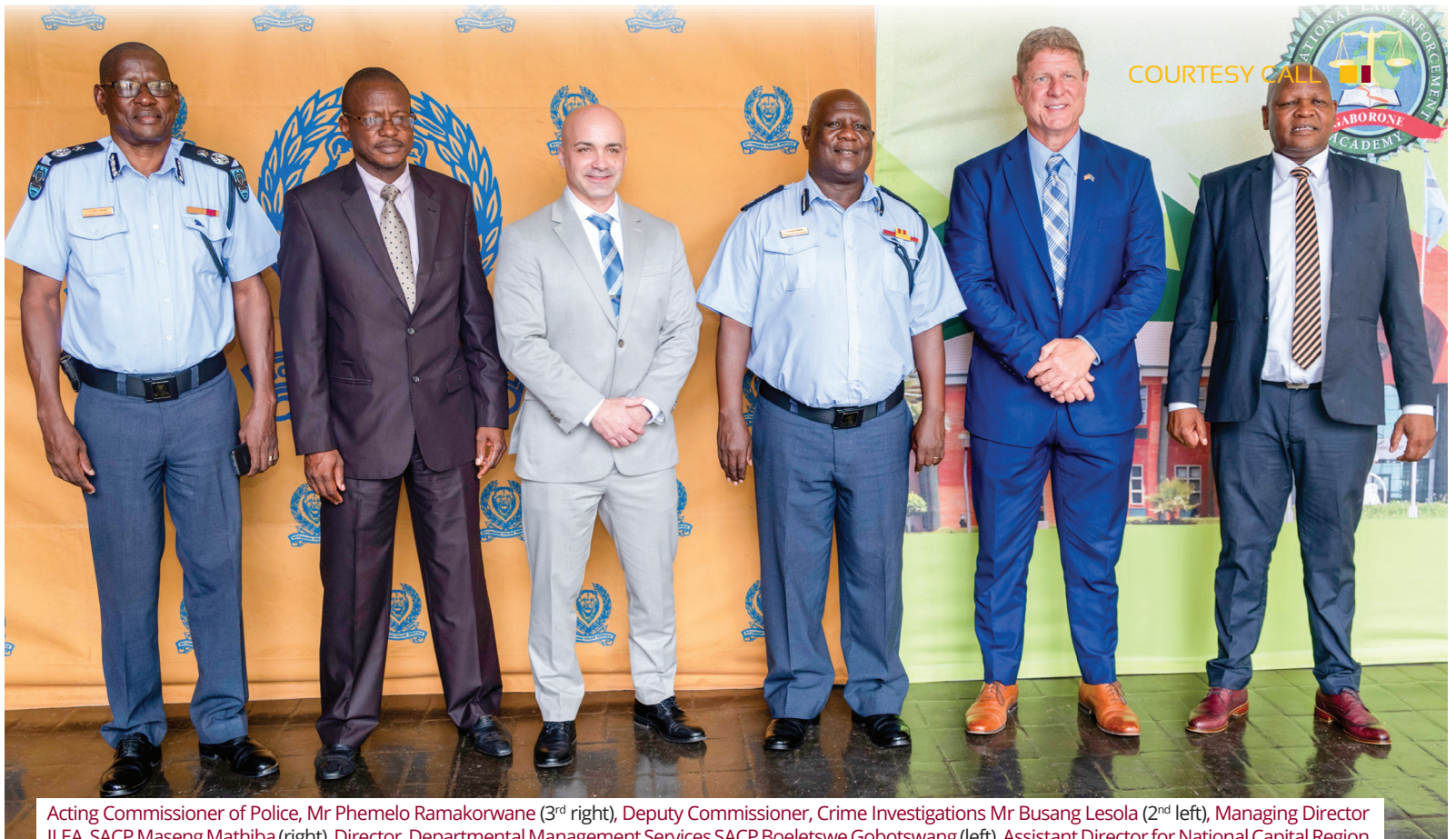
Lt. General Shikongo also noted that the BPS efforts in extending the system to the Immigration, Passport, and Border Control System (IPBCS) at the entry and exit points across the country for enquiry on any suspicious documents and wanted persons.

The Chairperson also paid a courtesy call to the Minister of Defence and Security, Honorable Thomas Kagiso Mmusi who reiterated the strong bond that existed within Southern African Development Community (SADC) Chiefs of Police and mutual collaboration matters of public security by the police services.

The Chairperson also toured the National Central Bureau (NCB) facilities at INTERPOL Gaborone, Sir Seretse Khama International Airport and Mmathubudukwane Police Station to appreciate the implementation and compliance status.







Acting Commissioner of Police, Mr Phemelo Ramakorwane (3<sup>rd</sup> right), Deputy Commissioner, Crime Investigations Mr Busang Lesola (2<sup>nd</sup> left), Managing Director ILEA, SACP Maseng Mathiba (right), Director, Departmental Management Services SACP Boeletswe Gobotswang (left), Assistant Director for National Capital Region Training Operation Directorate for ILEA Mr Mark Adamchik (2<sup>nd</sup> right), and ILEA Programme Director, Mr Mark Boswell posing for a photo at Police Headquarters

# BPS benefits from ILEA

By Cst Lethata Morogolwane

**B**otswana and United States of America (U.S.A) continue to enjoy strong bilateral ties as demonstrated by the existing strong collaboration between the two countries in key sectors like politics, defense, security, trade and culture development.

The collaboration has benefitted Botswana Police Service (BPS) immensely through training and capacity building initiatives funded by United States key security agencies and institutions such as Federal Bureau Investigation (FBI) and Federal Law Enforcement Training Centres (FLETC).

On the 1st February this year, the U.S FLETC Assistant Director for National Capital Region Training Operation Directorate for International Law Enforcement Agency (ILEA) based in the USA. Mr. Mark Adamchik, paid a courtesy call to the Acting Commissioner of Police Mr Phemelo Ramakorwane at Police Headquarters in Gaborone.

In his welcome remarks, the Acting Commissioner acknowledged the cordial relations that existed between Botswana Police Service and International Law Enforcement Agency (ILEA) adding that it

has seen police officers equipped with skills on how best to deal with the evolving crime trends.

He said, the BPS has benefitted in specialised areas such as Cyber Crime investigations, Human Trafficking, Goods Smuggling, Fraudulent documents, Countering Violent Extremism amongst others something worthy to be commended.

"We view ILEA as an integral part in growing Botswana – USA partnership and its contribution towards law enforcement capacity and institutional building in the Sub Saharan region is highly appreciated."

The Acting Commissioner further noted with gratefulness that since ILEA's inception in 2000, the academy has trained one thousand, nine hundred and forty-three (1943) participants from Botswana.

"We will continue to value ILEA training due to its positive impact on specialised skills, enhancement and law enforcement collaboration."

On crime issues, the Police Chief revealed that Botswana has been experiencing a series of crimes such as robberies, cash-in

transit heists and home invasions which were a concern that undermined public security and confidence.

In this regard, he stated that BPS has strengthened its crime counter strategies by amongst others enhancing police visibility, stakeholder engagement and public education, with a view to ensuring effective tackling of these emerging crimes.

"I am confident that the skills some of our officers have acquired from your training will come in handy to calm the situation."

For his part, Mr Adamchik said the purpose of his visit was to appreciate crime situation and also to understand how the organisation deals with incidents pertaining to security and defence.

He promised that his country would continue to train officers on various aspects of dealing with crimes.

Mr Adamchik was accompanied by ILEA Programme Director, Mr Mark Boswell and ILEA Managing Director Senior Assistant Commissioner Maseng Mathiba both based in Botswana.



# The 2022 Cluster Awards Ceremony



Honourable Thomas Kagiso Mmusi  
Minister of Defence and Security



Mr Solomon Mantswe  
Deputy Commissioner, Operations



Hon Goretetse Kekgonagile  
Member of Parliament for Maun East

The awards are a token of appreciation for the selflessness demonstrated by the crime prevention activists in the country. The awards motivated the community in their partnership with the Police to prevent crime and ensure safety in their communities.

Cluster Policing is an operational model that forms part of the community policing philosophy where communities develop custom-made proactive crime prevention strategies to address the

root cause of crime in their areas. The model has proven to be very effective in augmenting the limited Police resources.

When officiating at the event, the Minister of Defence and Security Honourable Thomas Kagiso Mmusi expressed delight in the functionality of the cluster policing initiative, stating that it is driven effectively by community leaders, especially Dikgosi. He said

Dikgosi's leadership and commitment has inspired community policing clusters towards the achievements realised so far.

Minister Mmusi said that his office was aware of the challenges faced by cluster committees, amongst them transport and other logistics. He said despite limited resources the Government will continue to capacitate cluster committees for productive deliverance towards their mandate.

The Minister also encouraged BPS to leverage on technology by utilising the available print and digital media platforms to enhance police/community collaboration especially in urban and semi urban areas.

"I believe that Police and community collaboration play a pivotal role in dealing with societal ills, implementation of community policing initiatives and elimination of crime and the fear thereof," Hon. Mmusi said.

However, Honourable Mmusi expressed concern about the increasing incidents of GBV which he said was a distress to the entire nation. He said the future of children and wellbeing of women was often irreversibly destroyed by some irresponsible men, who took advantage of this vulnerable group by abusing, raping and indecently assaulting them.

For his part, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Operations, Mr Solomon Mantswe said the history of Police/Community relations can be traced to the mid-eighties when the first Crime Prevention Committees were formed.

By Cst Tshepang Boemo

U lulations from women and chants of approval from men, were the order of the day marking Botswana Police Service (BPS) 10th Annual National Community Policing Cluster Awards Ceremony. The auspicious event was held in Maun in 2022.





He said the emphasis then was largely placed on educating communities on how they could assist the Police by playing a meaningful role in the fight against crime.

Mr Mantswe said over the years, a number of community policing initiatives were developed which included, Neighbourhood Watch, Business Watch Forums, Youth Outreach Programmes and Community Cluster Policing amongst others. He highlighted that this programmes were developed in partnership with the community for the community.

"The BPS Mission statement 'to provide a Professional Policing Service in partnership with the community' was motivated by a Setswana proverb 'Se tshwarwa ke ntša pedi ga se thata,' this is to say BPS as an institution is convinced that without community participation and support, crime prevention remained an insurmountable challenge."

The Deputy Commissioner indicated that BPS has new initiatives which were aimed at enhancing the community policing drive. He said the organisation would launch a Family Cluster in the near future, whose main objective would be to promote dialogue within

a family set-up. He added that another initiative to be soon launched would be a crime prevention Cartoon Family to be used to disseminate crime prevention messages to specific targeted groups.

At the event, clusters were awarded trophies, certificates and monetary prizes for having initiated strategies that helped to curb crime in their respective areas. The Minister awarded trophies and certificates to different Clusters across the country. The best performing Division in crime reduction was scooped by Southern Division while No14 District was awarded the Minister's Award of Excellence in Community Policing.

Mogoditshane and Selibe-Phikwe Police Stations took position one for the Best Station Award, while Letlhakeng and Sir Seretse Khama Airport Police stations came second and Maun third.

Giving a vote of thanks, Member of Parliament for Maun East, Honourable Goretsetse Kekgonengile thanked BPS for hosting the awards in Maun as that would boost the tourism sector of the country.

He also appreciated BPS for Itshireletse television programme stating that it entertains and educates the community

on emerging crime trends and crime prevention tips. He concluded by urging the police to intensify their efforts in combating cybercrime.

This was a day well celebrated by all and it set the pace for the 2023 event.



**Monaga 'Stiga Sola' Molefe**  
Legendary Guitarist entertaining the audience



**Deputy Commissioner, Operations (3<sup>rd</sup> right) awarding the Southern Division certificate of Best Performing Division**





**Ms Bothale Makgekgenene**  
Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Defence & Security

**Mr Phemelo Ramakorwane**  
Acting Commissioner, Botswana Police Service

**Cde Tandabantu Godwin Matanga**  
Commissioner General, Zimbabwe Republic Police

By Insp Obusitse Puleng & S/I Kefilwe Bafana

**T**he control and regulation of cross-border activities are essential in ensuring safety and security as well as promoting political and socio-economic status of countries sharing a common border.

Botswana as any other country is hard hit by cross border crimes such as drug trafficking, money laundering and livestock rustling amongst others.

These crimes have a negative impact on the countries' economies as funds that could be used in other developments are often diverted to fighting such. As a way of lessening the impact, Botswana and Zimbabwe Police Services resolved to have police officers deployed along the border.

This was one of the resolutions that emanated from the Bi-National

Commission (BNC), which was held in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe in February 2022.

Making a follow up on the assignments from the Commission, the Acting Commissioner of Police, Mr Phemelo Ramakorwane and his Zimbabwean counterpart Commissioner, General Mr Tandabantu Matanga toured Botswana/Zimbabwe borderline in June 2022.

The purpose of the visit was to appreciate progress made on the implementation of police related assignments that stemmed from the agreements.

The Commissioners toured the areas between Maitengwe and Bobonong in the North East and Bobirwa Districts. Mr Ramakorwane said as Police Commissioners of Botswana and Zimbabwe, they had a duty to ensure that

the Zimbabwe/Botswana BNC resolutions are effected.

He said that Botswana was at an advanced stage of increasing base camps along the borderline in their effort to managing trans-national crimes more especially stock rustling, which was noted as a major concern by the BNC.

He further noted that the above strategy was already bearing fruits, as there was a reduction in cases of stock theft cases recorded around that time.

Mr Ramakorwane appreciated the collaboration that existed between the two Police Services. He also acknowledged the contributions made by borderline communities in fighting transnational crime. He however, highlighted lack of youth participation in fighting crime and

## COMMISSIONERS TOUR BOTSWANA / ZIMBABWE BORDERLINE







**The two Commissioners touring the borderline**



**Commissioners inspecting a parade mounted by members of the Special Support Group at Mmamabaka Base Camp**

called for development of programmes which would infuse them in the various crime prevention structures as that could help reduce their involvement in crime.

For his part, the Commissioner General of Zimbabwe Republic Police (ZRP) Cde Tandabantu Matanga commended Botswana Police Service for its achievement of the set resolutions and promised that ZRP will work tirelessly to ensure the same was achieved on the Zimbabwean side. During their tour of the border, the two

Commissioners interacted with local authorities who appreciated the efforts realised due to the cooperation between Botswana and Zimbabwe. Kgosi Ezekiel Joel Masilo of Bobirwa said the good working relationship between the two countries would improve security in his area and reduce incidents of stock theft.

He said he desired the same relations existed between the citizens of the two countries to promote trading and improve livelihoods.

Prior to the tour of borderlines by the Police Commissioners, Cde Matanga had paid a courtesy call to the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Defence and Security, Ms Botlhale Makgekgenene in Gaborone.

Welcoming the delegation, Ms Makgekgenene applauded the visiting Commissioner for his commitment in ensuring that the Bi-National Commission (BNC) resolutions pertaining to the police mandate were implemented.

Ms Makgekgenene said it was evident that both countries were committed to the implementation of the BNC agreements. She emphasised the need for the two Services to formulate new strategies aimed at solving cross border crimes.

She concluded by assuring Commissioner General that Botswana remained resolute in her support to strategic cooperation between the two countries.



**Kgosi Ezekiel Joel Masilo**





# UAE ACTION LEADS TO ARREST OF PEOPLE SMUGGLING KINGPIN IN SUDAN

## THE ERITREAN NATIONAL HAD BEEN ON INTERPOL'S RADAR SINCE 2019

LYON, France – A notorious people smuggler, known for his particularly cruel and violent treatment of migrants, has been arrested in Sudan thanks to swift action by the United Arab Emirates, based on information shared via INTERPOL.

Kidane Zekarias Habtemariam was the subject of two INTERPOL Red Notices, by Ethiopia and the Netherlands, for migrant smuggling, human trafficking and other related crimes. He is wanted for heading a major criminal organization behind the kidnapping, extortion and murder of East African migrants.

The Eritrean national had been on INTERPOL's radar since 2019 and is believed to have smuggled and trafficked thousands of victims.

In March 2022, intelligence gathered by INTERPOL's Human Trafficking and Smuggling of Migrants unit prompted a task force meeting with participants from Ethiopia, Sudan, The Netherlands, UAE, Europol and Regional Operational Centre in support of the Khartoum process and the African Union Horn of Africa Initiative (ROCK). Officers explored analytical gaps, progressively closing in on the fugitive and his associates.

This extensive collaboration generated a new batch of intelligence, allowing UAE authorities to conduct a thorough investigation of his network

and family members, identifying money laundering activities and leading to Sudan.

His location and arrest will deal a significant blow to a major smuggling route towards Europe and protect thousands more from being exploited at the hands of the crime group.

Speaking about the arrest, Brigadier Saeed Abdullah al Suwaidi, Director General, Federal Anti-Narcotics General Directorate of the UAE's Ministry of Interior said: "Thanks to the professionalism and dedication of our police officers, the world's most wanted human trafficker will no longer be able to commit his despicable actions.

The UAE will continue to deploy our full operational capabilities to protect vulnerable communities from this horrific exploitation."

Stefan Schrandt, Warrant Officer, Royal Netherlands Marechaussee welcomed the arrest, adding that he had been on the Dutch National Most Wanted List since October 2021.

"The Royal Marechaussee is grateful for the effective cooperation in this investigation with various countries coordinated through INTERPOL.

"This successful cooperation has already resulted in the extradition by Ethiopia last year of a close associate of his and is now followed

by a major arrest. He will have to face justice for his criminal activities, including the smuggling of thousands of victims under degrading and violent conditions," concluded Mr Schrandt.

Demelash Gebremichael, Commissioner General of the Ethiopian Federal Police recognized the efforts of officers who worked day and night to follow up on leads generated by the task force: "This tremendous effort has led to the arrest of an international criminal sentenced to life in prison in Ethiopia. It is a notable success."

Stephen Kavanagh, INTERPOL Executive Director of Police Services added: ***"This is a testament to the INTERPOL network and what can be achieved when countries work together."*** In today's world, it is quite simply the only way to stop criminals whose repeated cruelty strips people of their dignity.

"More than ever, we are committed to identifying all of the members in this smuggling ring, and any others that viciously exploit people seeking a better life," said Mr Kavanagh.

More arrests are expected as part of ongoing investigations and as coordination continues with several INTERPOL member countries.

Source: [www.interpol.int](http://www.interpol.int)



# Remembering Our Departed Heroes

## Revelation 14:13

*And I heard a voice from heaven saying write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on. Blessed indeed, says the spirit, that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them!"*



Sub Inspector Joseph Mapotsane

**Died:** 27.10.2022

**Last Station:** Mochudi Police



Sub Inspector Christopher P Thapa

**Died:** 25.11.2022

**Last Station:** Mogotitshane Police



D/Constable Alfred M Makete

**Died:** 01.12.2022

**Last Station:** Ramotswa Police



Constable Onkemetse Motiki

**Died:** 30.12.2022

**Last Station:** Traffic Headquarters



Constable Lentile Onkutlwang

**Died:** 19.01.2023

**Last Station:** Special Support Group



Constable Anthony Mashabe

**Died:** 22.01.2023

**Last Station:** Gerald Police



Constable Theko Kobue

**Died:** 16.02.2023

**Last Station:** Naledi Police



Sergeant Ezekiel Keakopa

**Died:** 18.02.2023

**Last Station:** Naledi Police



Constable Tshoganetso Kethuseng

**Died:** 19.02.2023

**Last Station:** Kachikau Police

## May Their Souls Rest In Peace



# THE BADGE OF MY ORGANISATION IS A SYMBOL OF PUBLIC TRUST



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