BANK OF BOTSWANA

PRESS RELEASE

NEW P2 COIN TO BE ISSUED

The Bank of Botswana is announcing today that it will shortly begin issuing a new P2 coin for circulation.

The main features of the coin, such as its basic colour, shape and inscriptions are the same as those on the existing coin. However, its dimensions and, therefore, its size, have been changed to make it more consistent with the other coin denominations.

The new coin has the following features:

- (a) the diameter/size has been reduced from 26.50 mm to 24.50 mm and it is slightly thinner;
- (b) the metal composition of the coin is bronze plated steel, instead of cupro-nickel alloy;
- (c) the inscription/features on the existing coin have been retained, and;
- (d) it retains its heptagonal (seven-sided) shape with milled sides and plain corners.

As a result of the above changes, the new coin is slightly smaller and lighter than the old P2 coin, and the colour will appear a little different because of the change in metal composition.

Posters with a picture of the new coin and its specifications will be displayed shortly in various public places.

The public is further informed that the existing P2 coins remain legal tender and will continue to circulate alongside the new coins.

March 2, 2005

For Further Information Please Contact: Mr Chepete Chepete Public Relations Officer

Tel: 360 6580