

## **PRESS RELEASE**

February 7, 2014

## **PULA EXCHANGE RATE**

One of Botswana's exchange rate policy objectives is to maintain a stable and competitive real exchange rate of the Pula against a basket of international currencies. This is a critical element in the country's strategy to achieve diversified economic growth.

Following consultation with the Bank of Botswana, in line with Section 21 of the Bank of Botswana Act, His Excellency the President has approved the recommendation of the Honourable Minister of Finance & Development Planning, Mr. O. K. Matambo, relating to the Pula basket weights of 55 percent South African rand and 45 percent IMF Special Drawing Rights (comprising US dollar, euro, Japanese yen and British pound); and the Rate of Crawl of minus 0.16 percent per annum.

This means that the parameters of the crawling band exchange rate mechanism for 2013 are being maintained, as they have continued to contribute to the stability of the Real Effective Exchange Rate, which is critical for economic diversification and job creation.