

BANK OF BOTSWANA

Press Release

COUNTERFEIT P200 BANKNOTES IN CIRCULATION

The public is hereby alerted of the existence of counterfeit P200 banknotes in circulation. The counterfeits are photo/scan copies of a genuine P200 banknote with serial number AB3139104. A silver coloured substance has been applied on the position of the holographic stripe and the windowed security thread appears as black patches at the back of the counterfeit. Furthermore, the forged banknotes are copies of ordinary commercial paper; the result is that they have a smooth surface when compared to a genuine P200 banknote.

A genuine P200 banknote has a holographic stripe, which appears as a wide silver coloured stripe on the front of the banknote with switching images of a zebra's head and the number "200". The two images do not show at the same time; they alternate from one to another when the banknote is tilted from side to side. Furthermore, the genuine P200 has a windowed security thread at the back that changes colour from red to green, according to the viewing angle. When held up to light, the thread can be seen as a continuous line reading "BoB 200".

The public is urged to be vigilant and exercise caution when accepting banknotes from any source, and should closely examine the specified security features. Any suspicious banknotes should be reported immediately to the nearest Police Station or Bank of Botswana offices in Gaborone or Francistown.

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