

Telephone: (267) 3950800
Telegrams: PULA
Telex: (267) 3956364



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
PRIVATE BAG 001
GABORONE

BGCIS 9/9/2 II (22)

21 April 2026

TO: ALL MEDIA HOUSES

PRESS RELEASE

PRESIDENT BOKO TO ATTEND THE 5TH SESSION OF THE BOTSWANA- ZIMBABWE BI-NATIONAL COMMISSION AND UNDERTAKE AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO ESWATINI

GABORONE: 21st April 2026: The President, Advocate Duma Gideon Boko, will co-chair the 5th Session of the Botswana-Zimbabwe Bi-National Commission (BNC), with His Excellency President Emmerson Mnangagwa in Harare, Zimbabwe, on 22nd April 2026.

The BNC, the highest institutional framework for bilateral cooperation between Botswana and Zimbabwe, will review progress across existing areas of collaboration, as well as identify new opportunities to deepen cooperation in priority sectors. These include, trade and investment, defence and security, tourism, wildlife conservation, and environmental management. The session is expected to culminate in the signing of seven (7) bilateral agreements aimed at strengthening economic cooperation, advancing sustainable development, and promoting regional integration. Notably, a Memorandum of Understanding on the Promotion of Cooperative Development and Small, Micro and Medium Enterprises Development (SMMEs) will be concluded, underscoring the two countries' shared commitment to inclusive economic growth and regional value chain development.

While in Zimbabwe, President Boko will undertake a number of high-level engagements. He will officiate as the Guest of Honour at the 66th Edition of the Zimbabwe International Trade Fair (ZITF), in Bulawayo, on 23rd April 2026, reaffirming Botswana's commitment to regional trade, industrialization and economic cooperation. The President will also lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at the National Heroes Acre in Harare, in honour of Zimbabwe's Liberation struggle.

Subsequent to his engagements in Zimbabwe, the President will undertake an Official Visit to the Kingdom of Eswatini at the invitation of His Majesty King Mswati III. The President will participate in the Ruby Jubilee celebrations marking the 40th anniversary of His Majesty's reign, alongside the King's 58th birthday, on 24th April 2026. During the visit, President Boko will also attend the official opening of the new International Convention Centre.

These engagements reaffirm Botswana's enduring commitment to strengthening bilateral relations, advancing regional integration, and promoting peace, stability, and shared prosperity within the SADC region.

The President and his delegation are expected to return to Gaborone on 25th April 2026. In his absence The Vice President Ndaba Nkosinathi Gaolathe will assume the role of Acting President of the Republic of Botswana.

Government Communications
Contact: 3698562

