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PRESS RELEASE

HIS EXCELLENCY PRESIDENT MATAMELA CYRIL RAMAPHOSA TO UNDERTAKE A STATE VISIT TO BOTSWANA AND ATTEND THE 6TH SESSION OF THE BOTSWANA- SOUTH AFRICA BI-NATIONAL COMMISSION

GABORONE, 17th May 2026: His Excellency Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa, President of the Republic of South Africa, will undertake a State Visit to Botswana on 20th – 21st May 2026, at the invitation of Advocate Duma Gideon Boko, President of the Republic of Botswana.

During the visit President Boko and President Ramaphosa will co-chair the 6th Session of the Botswana-South Africa Bi-National Commission, on 21st May 2026. The Session will be preceded by the Senior Officials and Ministerial segments of the BNC. Botswana and South Africa enjoy strong and longstanding bilateral relations with cooperation spanning all sectors of the economy. South Africa remains Botswana's largest trading partner and a key strategic partner in regional development and integration.

The upcoming State Visit and 6th Session of the Botswana-South Africa BNC, will therefore provide an important platform to further strengthen the strategic alliance that exists between the two countries on socio-economic, political, defence and security, as well as regional integration matters. The engagements are expected to culminate in the signing of bilateral agreements and Memoranda of Understanding in areas such as water management, energy, corrections and prisons services, tourism, science and innovation.

While in Botswana President Ramaphosa will also tour the Botswana Vaccine Institute (BVI) to further appreciate the joint efforts underway to address animal disease concerns, such as the Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD). Additionally, the two Presidents will attend the Botswana-South Africa Business Forum that will bring together the private sector from both countries to explore investment opportunities and promote robust business partnerships. The State Visit and the 6th Session of the Botswana-South Africa BNC, are a testament of the commitment by Botswana and South Africa to deepen cooperation that contributes to the socio-economic development of both countries and enhances the livelihood of their peoples.

His Excellency President Ramaphosa will be accompanied by Government Ministers, Senior Government Officials, and a business delegation.

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