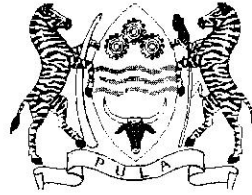


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Republic of Botswana

DIRECTORATE OF PUBLIC SERVICE
MANAGEMENT
PRIVATE BAG 0011
GABORONE

TO: All Media Houses

22 May 2026

**CLARIFICATION ON MISLEADING STATEMENTS BY NATIONAL
ALMAGAMATED LOCAL, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT & PARASTATAL
WORKERS UNION REPRESENTATIVES AT A PRESS CONFERENCE HELD
ON THE 21ST MAY 2026**

The Directorate of Public Services Management (DPSM) would like to inform Public Servants, Trade Unions, Stakeholders and Members of the Public that it is greatly concerned by the unsubstantiated, uncorroborated and unfortunate accusations by the National Amalgamated Local, Central Government & Parastatal Workers Union otherwise known as Manual Workers Union at a press conference held on the 21 May 2026.

Manual Workers Union has alleged that the Minister for State President, Defence and Security, Honourable Moeti Mohwasa, and the Director of the Directorate of Public Service Management (DPSM), Ms Gaone Macholo, acted improperly in relation to the Government Employees Motor Vehicle and Residential Property Advance Scheme (GEMVAS). However, these allegations are unfounded and without merit.

The facts of the GEMVAS Scheme are as follows:

1. The GEMVAS scheme was temporarily suspended after agreements with the participating commercial banks expired. Following the expiry, banks began charging higher interest rates due to limited cash flow in the market and the increased cost of raising funds. As a result, banks were providing loans to Public Officers at a financial loss.
2. As such the expiry of agreements with participating banks, should not be misconstrued as maladministration or an intentional denial of employee benefit.
3. The Government only provides guarantee on the scheme therefore when there is no agreement on interest rates, an administrative pause is necessary for negotiations to ensure.
4. In order to ensure continuity and sustainability that safeguards taxpayers, a team of Government representatives comprising of officials from Ministry of Finance and DPSM have successfully re-negotiated with

some banking institutions and finalized a renewed framework. The Directorate will communicate and unveil the agreement in due course.

It is worth noting that DPSM and recognized public service unions have a recognized consultation structures where employment matters are discussed. Address of press conferences by Union employees is a developing trend which is outside agreed Management/ Union relationship as clearly outlined in Recognition Agreements.

For more information, contact the Public Relations Office on 3622634/2844/2640.



Chandapiwa Maele
For/DPSM