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the world revealed



DATED: 11-12-2021

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NOT JUST A FLU...

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The Minister of Health Edwin Dikoloti

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CHILDREN IN THE WILDERNESS CELEBRATES 20 YEARS OF INSPIRING POSITIVE ACTION

Malebogo Ratladi

To date, CITW has enriched the lives of more than 40 000 children in eight countries which include Botswana, Namibia, Malawi, South Africa, Rwanda, Seychelles, Zambia, and Zimbabwe – creating armies of young eco-warriors.

At primary school level, CITW runs dozens of weekly Eco-Clubs, led by Eco-Mentors (specially trained teachers), spreading conservation learnings and ethos. Across the regions once a year, Wilderness camps closest to a partner school close to paying guests in order to host up to 30 local children for four days of immersion in the wilderness, wildlife experiences, practical training, and games.

The CITW Botswana programme is currently being implemented in eight schools in Botswana's North West District, in the villages of Seronga, Gunotsoga, Eretsha,

Beetsha, Gudigwa, Sankoyo, Tubu, Habu and Maun, six schools in Bobirwa, and one in Gaborone (Tshwaragano Primary School in Old Naledi).

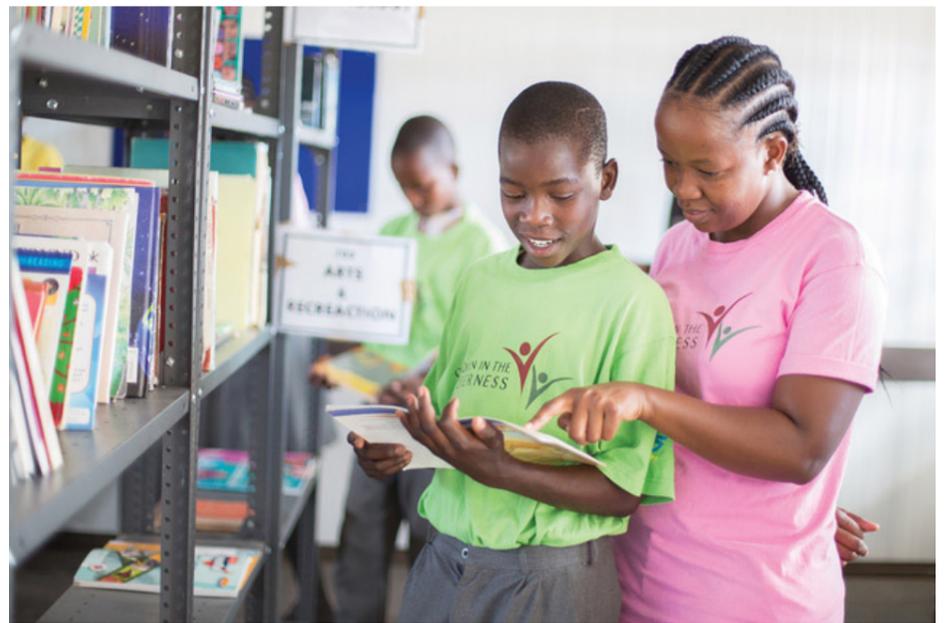
CITW Botswana also recently partnered with the FNB Foundation at Parakarungu Primary School, signing a Memorandum of Understanding to facilitate a three-year partnership designed to further expose children to sustainable environmental conservation through CITW Botswana. With YES – the Youth Environmental Stewardship Programme – CITW supports secondary school students who show an aptitude for environmental leadership, building their skill-sets and preparing them for careers in conservation and related fields. Recently, CITW Botswana ran a Conservation Science Camp for Girls in rural areas, funded by the US Embassy in Gaborone. The aim of the Camp is to help girls in rural areas develop their interest in environmental conservation and

STEM related subjects.

The long-term goal of this initiative is to help ensure participants continue into environmental and STEM-based tertiary degree programmes and career trajectories. The next camp is being hosted in December 2021.

CITW also offers up to 600 scholarships annually to help students finish school, as well as post-graduation employment counselling, further training, and internships. To date, over 4 000 children in Botswana have participated and benefited from the CITW programme.

Over the years, CITW graduates have gone on to become field guides, chefs, camp managers, pilots, and teachers. CITW Botswana has seen tremendous impact to date, with a firm focus on the next generation of decision-makers; inspiring them to care for their natural heritage and to become the custodians of these areas in the future.



ANOTHER BLOW FOR THE TOURISM SECTOR



The immediate surge of flu cases in Botswana which has been very alarming has been characterized as highly dangerous as it is common with the new Omicron variant. Speaking recently on national television, the Task force team has explained that it is very important for people with this flu to test for Covid-19 as the new variant is highly infectious and contagious hence the need to remain cautious. He also urged people to vaccinate. The Minister of Health Edwin Dikoloti has said that at least 25 cases of the Omicron variant have been discovered in Botswana. Dikoloti explained that scientists have discovered that the new variant is highly mutative and more transmissible, urging people who have not taken the vaccine to do so.

“What we don't know is whether the new variant is more lethal or not, and how effective current vaccines are against it,” Dikoloti he explained. He said that 1,094,388 people or 78.7 percent of the targeted Botswana citizens and residents aged over 18 had received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine as of Monday, while 982,275 people or 70.6 percent had been fully vaccinated.

This however he noted Botswana did not only surpass its own target of 64 percent of the targeted population by end of 2021 but also exceeded the target set by the World Health Organization for countries to have vaccinated 40 percent of their eligible population by the end of this month.

From a population of 2.35 million, the minister noted that Botswana has so far registered 195,552 COVID-19 confirmed cases and 2,420 deaths. Early laboratory data on the effectiveness of existing vaccines against the Omicron COVID-19 variant is useful,

but it is still unclear how effective these will be in treating severely sick patients, a United Nations (UN) health agency panel said on Thursday.

According to a report by the UN, the development follows reassurance

from the World Health Organization (WHO) that available vaccines “hold up very well” in protecting people from the worst forms for six months or more, with a “minor, modest reduction” thereafter, particularly among over-65s or those with underlying

medical conditions. “The neutralization data has an underpinning, but it's really the clinical data that are going to be most influential about how to manage an Omicron situation,” said Dr Kate O'Brien, Director, Department of Immunization, Vaccines and Biologicals at WHO.

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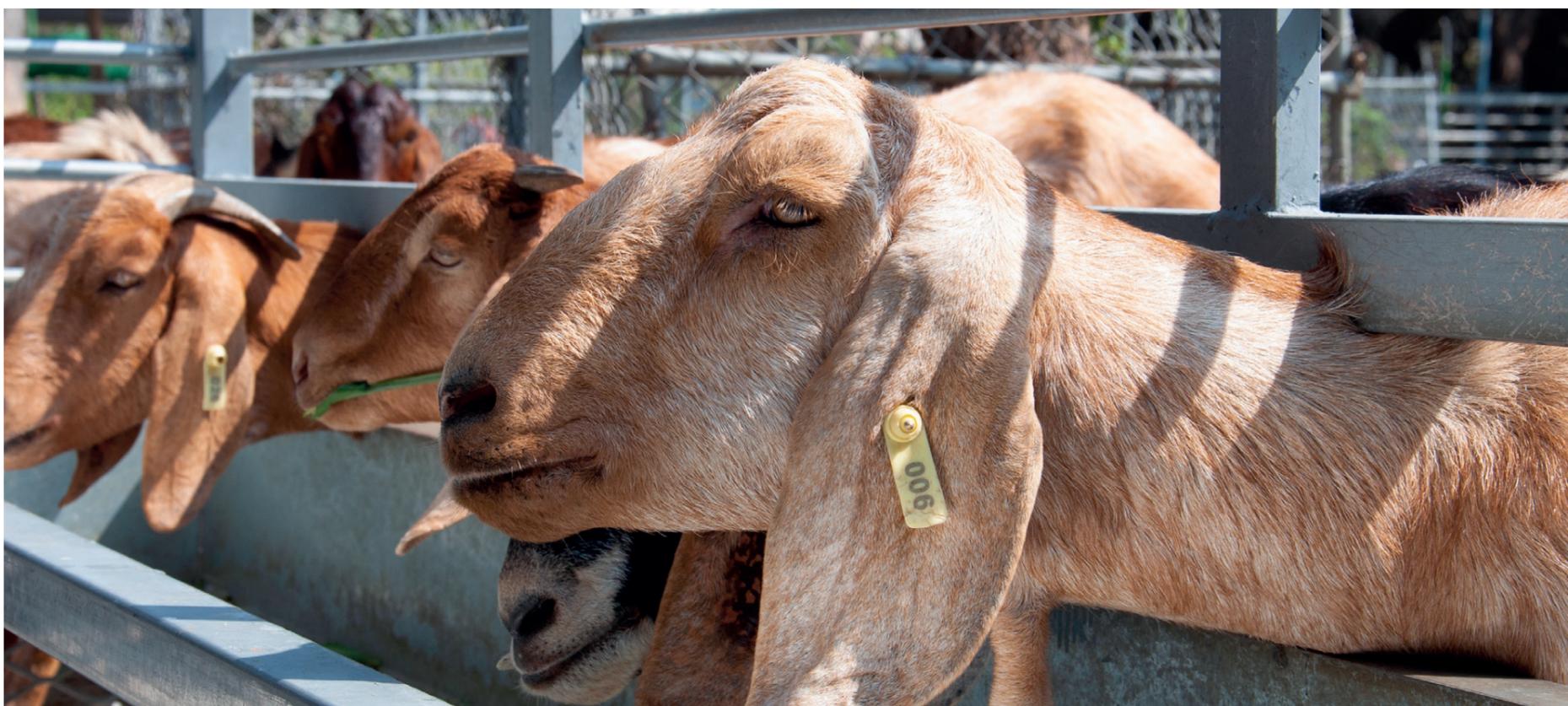
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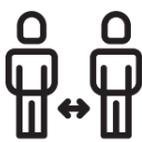
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BUSINESS



BHC REMAINS FAIRLY AFLOAT

The Botswana Housing Corporation (BHC) has recorded a profit after tax of P18.1 million for the for the half year financial period 30 September 2021 registering an increase of P12.8 million compared to P5.3 million recorded in September 2020. According to the results the Corporation experienced an increase in profitability on the back of an increase in rental revenue as well as impairment reversal on rental debtors. The results show that there are signs of recovery from Covid-19, which had adversely affected prior year results.

Operating costs and staff costs increased year on year on the

back of increased business activity when compared to the same period in prior year which was characterized by lockdowns imposed to curb the spread of Covid 19.

However, the report states that costs were well contained, and this led to an increase in costs of only 6%. Statement of comprehensive

income Revenue the Corporation recorded revenues of P332 million for the six months, a decline of 0.9% when compared to the P335 million recorded in the same period in the prior year.

Sales revenue, which is the Corporation's major revenue stream, is said to have not performed well during the first half

of the financial year decreasing year on year by 18% to P74 million from P90 million.

This negative performance is reported to have been driven by low sales volumes, mainly as a result of the current economic situation of Covid-19. The Corporation's major customer, government, channeled its resources towards fighting

the pandemic. However the Corporation surpassed the sales target it had set for itself during the six months due to the fast selling Tsholofelo Apartments. The Corporation's total assets amounted to P2.943 billion, a decrease of 9% from P3.225 billion in prior year. The decline in total assets was mainly due to payment of longterm

borrowings of P37 million and contract liabilities of P194 million. Investment properties decreased by P7 million, which represent 1% decrease year on year because of sale of some investment properties. The Corporation's cash position remained strong, with total cash balances of P344 million, a decrease of P12 million from prior year

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AgriNews



CEREAL PRODUCTION FORECAST WELL ABOVE-AVERAGE IN 2021



Malebogo Ratladi

Harvesting of the 2021 cereal crops, mainly sorghum and maize, was completed in June and production is estimated at 110 000 tones, more than double the five-year average, reflecting an expansion in the planted area and above-average yields due to conducive seasonal rainfall. The favorable rainfall also benefitted vegetation conditions in rangelands and resulted in good pasture conditions across the country, which are expected to support an upturn in livestock production in 2021.

Planting of the 2022 cereal crops is anticipated to begin in November 2021 and early weather forecasts point to a higher-than-normal likelihood of above-average rains

throughout most of the cropping season. This bodes well for production prospects next year, but also increases the risk of flooding and possible damage to crops.

Cereal imports decline in 2021/22 The country is a net importer of cereals, with more than 90 percent of the domestic requirements normally satisfied by imports. In the 2021/22 marketing year (April/March), cereal import requirements are estimated to have decreased to a below-average level on account of the large 2021 harvest and a high level of carryover stocks. Reflecting the reduced import needs, the pace of maize imports in the 2021/22 marketing year has been slower than the previous year.

Moderate rise in food inflation in 2021 According to the

latest data by Statistics Botswana, the annual food inflation rate in July 2021 was estimated at 6.5 percent. Rises in the price of bread and cereals, which have the largest weight in the food price index, were a primary contributor to the yearly increase, while there was a small

increase in the price of oils and fats.

Pockets of food insecurity driven by effects of COVID-19 pandemic About 36 000 people are estimated to be food insecure in the April 2021-March 2022 period, marginally higher than the level

in 2020/21. The small increase reflects the continued and adverse impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on households' access to food, primarily due to the economic slowdown and a consequent increase in unemployment.

Source: FAO

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**JANUARY
2022
INTAKE**

APPLICATION FOR RE-ADMISSION, TRANSFER AND PROGRESSION



Botswana University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (BUAN) wishes to inform all its former students who were previously enrolled in various programmes but were not successful (Fail & Discontinue and Withdrawal) that the University is open for applications for re-admission and re-instatement. In order to qualify for re-admission, students should satisfy all University regulations on Fail and Discontinue (FD) and Withdrawal.

Students who are currently studying with other tertiary institutions, whose programmes articulates with BUAN programmes and wish to transfer to BUAN are also invited to apply. This includes students who are not currently enrolled and they satisfy requirements to enrol back with their institution, they may also apply.

Graduates with Diploma qualifications that articulates with BUAN programmes who may qualify for exemptions in excess of 30 credits may also apply to enrol in the January intake.

Applicants are notified that they can submit their forms through the admissions email and they are also required to attach their proof of payment

NOTE: All applicants (excluding applicants for reinstatement and retakes) are required to pay a non-refundable application fee of **BWP 150**.

Application forms can be obtained from the University website (www.buan.ac.bw) or at Academic and Student Services office in Sebele.

Academic and Student Services Office

Block 302, Office No. 003

Enquiries: (+267) 365 0330/332/325/328 or 77330665

Email address: admissions@buan.ac.bw

Deadline for submissions: 25 February 2022

Inspiring Sustainable Growth

LIFESTYLE

BAKWENA WINS THE SAWIL AWARD



Malebogo Ratladi

Dr Malebogo Bakwena wins the award for the 2021 Strategic African Women in Leadership (SAWIL), being the only Motswana in the race this year and the first Motswana to make it to the final since its inception.

Bakwena, a lecture at the University of Botswana is heading the economics department, a position that she says has shaped the leader she is today. She joined the race of the SAWIL trailblazers after she was nominated by her friends and colleagues. She shared that the nomination did not come as a surprise because she has touched many peoples live through her profession by engaging in community projects teaching and doing researches for different bodies like United Nations Population fund

(UNFPA) and International Labour Organisation. "I worked with these different organisations to find solutions to socio-economic issues such as youth unemployment, poverty and gender inequality," she added, "These aspects gave me the opportunity to interact with diverse stakeholders, both internal and external." For instance, carrying out policy-based research and working with communities, students from all walks of life, shaped me into a leader and I am grateful for SAWIL for creating a platform that recognize and motivate women to take their leadership calling to greater heights. Established in 2014 SAWIL is an organization for African women who are leaders in their own communities. Giving the background of the organization, she says when it started SAWIL was as a South African Women in Leadership organisation serving women leaders in corporate South Africa.

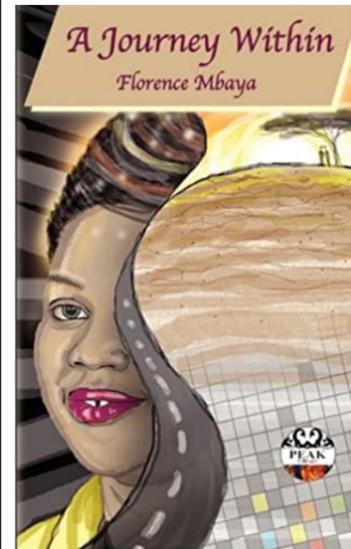
"In 2019 the organization expanded to the SADC region as Southern African Women In Leadership." Bakwena explained that the rapid growth in the SADC region informed the decision to include the rest of Africa in 2021 as what is currently known as Strategic African Women In Leadership. The mission and vision is informed by a quest to ensure that more African women become leaders and economic powerhouses in the continent.

Bakwena said the award celebrate years of hard work and has given her the platform to reach and inspire more mentees. "Through mentorship, young female economists will have the courage and confidence to break glass ceilings." She said the SAWIL award is an inspiration to young people who wants to be in leadership. Countries who also made it to the top 10 are South Africa and Nigeria.

A JOURNEY WITHIN

Published: 2008

By Florence Mbaya



A journey within is a novel by Kenyan author Florence Mbaya. The storyline revolves around the career life of the leading character in the novel – Monika Saliku. At the beginning of the novel, Monika appears as a fresh graduate hopeful of acquiring a job within the city. On the contrary she lands a job in a remote part of the country. She leaves behind friends such as Stella (her former college mate and best friend) and family such as Miriam (her sister). Having to settle for a career she dislikes (teaching) turns out as the opportunity she needed to have the chance of self-discovery.

As the title of the novel suggests, the novel focuses on Monikas' journey of self-discovery and insight. On arrival at Kostas Secondary school following her posting, she receives a cold welcome from most of the fellow teachers, among them Max, a male teacher at Kostas Secondary School and later on her lover. Monika and Max later fall in love and start preparing for marriage and movement to Nairobi towards the end of the novel.

Mr. Mulandi is the head-teacher of Kostas Secondary School and falls in love with Monika as soon as she arrives at Kostas. What follows is a silent struggle to between Mulandi and Max, each aspiring to win over

Monikas' heart. In the end, Monika makes up her mind and opts for with Max, after learning of Mr. Mulandis' undisclosed and scandalous past. She continues communicating with friends and family in Nairobi through writing of letters. On a particular visit to Nairobi during holidays, she finds Stella (her best friend) having settled in marriage and already having delivered a baby.

As Monika settles down at Kostas she encounters different challenges, which lead to her maturity as time progresses. She goes on to lead the schools' drama club into victory at the national level, after having experienced defeat a year before. By the end of her third year at Kostas Secondary School, Monika comes forth, through the author as a more mature and positive lady in facing the challenges that face her. She is also seen as coming to terms with almost everyone she had not gotten along with at the beginning of her teaching activities. Monika further impacts positively everyone around the school at Kostas. The faculty at Kostas Secondary school laments and feels robbed on an invaluable member, by her departure after her three-year period of service in the school comes to an end. It eventually turns out that Monika has developed a liking for teaching, and considers it for a career after all. As Monika heads for Nairobi from Kostas, her good performance as a teacher and drama leader precedes her, where a number of school heads in Nairobi would like to have her on board as a member of staff in their schools. She is also pregnant by Max, who rejoices at the thought of becoming a father. The novel comes to an end with much hope being spelt out with regards to Monikas' future and career.

MOTORING



2021 Alfa Romeo Giulia GTAm Radicalizes the Sports Sedan

Italian sports cars don't get much prettier than this

The Alfa Romeo Giulia GTAm is a car that is more about the past than it is about the future. It's a gas-burning, fender-flared winged beast of a sports sedan whose origins can be traced back to the 1960s.

Back then, Alfa's racing engineers slimmed down the weight of the Alfa Romeo Giulia Sprint GT, upgraded its engine considerably, and anointed their creation the Giulia GTA. One of the most successful touring cars of its time, the GTA had everyday life and checkered-flag greatness baked in.

Alfa Romeo engineers recently applied the spirit of that GTA, which stands for Gran Turismo Alleggerita, the final word meaning lightened in Italian, to the Giulia Quadrifoglio. The GTA cut a claimed 100kg while adding various aerodynamic aids. To drop the weight, the doors are aluminum and the drive shaft, hood, roof, front bumpers, and wheel-arch extensions at the front and rear are carbon fiber. New engine electronics, higher boost pressure, and an Akrapovic titanium exhaust system tickled out 533 horsepower from the twin-turbo 2.9-liter V-6, 28 horses more than the standard Quadrifoglio. Only 500 of the Giulia GTA will be made, and included in that short run is the even more extreme GTAm, a race-ready and street-legal version that ditches its rear seat to shed another 25kg compared to the GTA.

In place of the GTAm's back seat is a roll cage, helmet rack, and fire extinguisher. The rear windows are made of lightweight polycarbonate. The carbon-fiber racing bucket seats only move fore and aft, but there's plenty of Alcantara trim and carbon-fiber bits to take in. Fabric loops replace the interior door handles, a very Porsche touch.



the twin-turbo six pushes it forward like hell. Alfa says the launch-control programming for the ZF eight-speed automatic transmission will call up 99km/h 0.2 second quicker than in the Giulia Quadrifoglio, which would put the GTAm at 3.3 seconds.

At higher speeds, drivers can safely rely on the aerodynamic improvements on the GTAm. Alfa Romeo's Formula 1 partner, Sauber, developed the parts in the wind tunnel, and Kimi Räikkönen from Alfa F1 Team Orlen fine-tuned them. The changes increase the downforce of the significantly lightened body and foster high-speed stability. The larger and manually adjustable front splitter on the GTAm and the huge rear wing—both made of carbon fiber—are not just to distinguish it from the GTA.

Specifications

2021 Alfa Romeo Giulia GTAm
Vehicle Type: front-engine, rear-wheel-drive, 2-passenger, 4-door sedan

ENGINE
twin-turbocharged and intercooled DOHC 24-valve V-6, aluminum block and heads, direct fuel injection
Power: 397kw @ 6500 rpm
Torque: 600nm @ 2500 rpm

TRANSMISSION:
8-speed automatic

PERFORMANCE
100km/h: 3.3 sec

the GTAm engine starts with the push of a steering-wheel-mounted start button. The V-6 engine roars, much more aggressively than in the Quadrifoglio, before falling to a stable idle. Pedestrian heads swivel, other drivers glance into their rearview mirror in response to the new exhaust system that ends in the center of the carbon-fiber diffuser.

A conversation with your passenger is pretty much impossible. Companionship in this car is about the GTAm and the driver, not another person. It makes the driver wonder if the weight savings actually came from completely removing all of the sound insulation.

The claimed weight reduction would put the GTAm at about 1632kg comparing to previous Giulia Quadrifoglios and

SPORTS



BOTSWANA TENNIS CONQUERS AFRICAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

STORY ON PAGE 9

Tshegofatso Molefe

The Botswana Tennis Association partook in the under 16 games in Tunisia, Tunisia where history was made. The team that was led by Coach Ernest Seleke brought home three medals, two gold medals, and one bronze medal.

Mark Nawa and Denzel Seetso participated

under the category of boy's doubles and scooped position one, earning them the 2021 African Junior Championship title, after beating Algeria's Muhammad Gechou and Muhammad Ghetas 6-1, 7-5.

Meanwhile, in the girl's singles, Ekua Refilwe Youri triumphed the 2021 African Junior Championships title under the category of girl's singles. Youri advanced to the quarter-finals after

defeating the number 1 seed, Rassil Ranim of Tunisia 6-1, 7-5 which gave her an advantage at the title.

In the same way, Seetso finished third at the African Junior Championships, in the boys singles, earning himself a bronze medal. Seetso climbed to the quarter-finals after beating Bouhlel Muhammad Sanad of Tunisia, 6-4, 6-1.

"Our champions are going for the grand slams next year and

there is still a lot of work to be done, also there is a need for investment in the players. They are at the top of their game which is an inspiring and joyful time for local tennis." Botswana Tennis Association (BTA) president, Oaitse Thipe said.

Thipe pleads with the corporate sector to assist in funding the players, for them to reach their Grand Slam dreams; however, the performance of the three players is a big triumph.

The team consisted of Denzel Seetso, Mark Nawa, Ekua Refilwe Youri, Chelsea Changanyuka, and Naledi Raguin. Ekua and Chelsea participated in the girl's doubles and lost their opening match which made them not to progress to the next level. Mark also lost his first-round match in the boy's singles.

The 16 and Under African Junior Championships started on the 29th of November and ended on