

BOTSWANA RECEIVES CRITICAL MEDICAL SUPPLIES UNDER UNITY HEALTHCARE PARTNERSHIP

Gaborone, Botswana – Today, Botswana Development Corporation (BDC), in partnership with the Unity Healthcare Fund, marked the arrival of a critical consignment of medical supplies from Dubai under the Unity Healthcare Botswana Partnership I (UHBP I).

The shipment, comprising 36 tonnes of essential medicines covering more than 85 life-saving treatments, will immediately help stabilise supply in hospitals and clinics across Botswana, easing pressure on frontline staff and providing relief to patients and families.

BDC Managing Director, Mr Oteng Keabetswe, underlined that the Unity Healthcare Fund is not a stop-gap measure but a long-term solution to strengthen resilience in the health sector. He highlighted BDC's P100 million anchor investment, explaining that it reflects the Corporation's strategic repositioning towards being a partner of choice for projects that generate both economic returns and lasting social impact. He stressed that this milestone demonstrates BDC's role in pioneering industries, unlocking opportunities, and ensuring that investments leave a lasting mark on the social and economic fabric of Botswana

In his keynote address, the Honourable Minister of Justice and Correctional Services, Nelson Ramaotwana, said the delivery represents a vital turning point for the health sector. He spoke of the strain that shortages have placed on families and health workers, noting that the consignment restores confidence, saves lives, and reaffirms Botswana's commitment to putting the health of its people first. He further outlined Government's ongoing priorities: strengthening primary healthcare, tackling non-communicable diseases, investing in maternal and child health, and preparing for future health emergencies, including through innovation and digital health. He described the consignment as *"not simply the arrival of cargo, but the arrival of renewed hope, restored trust, and reinforced determination to build a healthcare system worthy of our people."*

Closing the ceremony, the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Trade & Entrepreneurship, Mr Joel Ramaphoi, highlighted that this initiative is also an investment into Botswana's economic future. He reminded the audience that a healthy nation underpins productivity, innovation, and competitiveness, noting that healthcare must be seen not as a cost but as a driver of prosperity. He further emphasised that access to medicines strengthens human capital and directly supports the ambitions of Vision 2036, concluding that *"every child with access to medicines is a future innovator, entrepreneur or leader. Every mother who survives childbirth strengthens the foundation of her family, and by extension, our society."*

The Unity Healthcare Fund is a blended-finance initiative designed to stabilise Botswana's essential medicines supply chain and strengthen resilience in the healthcare sector. It brings together Government, development finance institutions, and private sector partners to ensure the availability of medicines, create sustainable procurement systems, and promote regional health security. With BDC's P100 million anchor investment, the Fund is positioned to attract further co-investments, ensuring both urgent relief and long-term systemic improvements.

This landmark partnership demonstrates the power of public-private collaboration to deliver immediate impact while securing sustainable healthcare solutions for the future. It reflects Botswana's commitment to ensuring that social progress and economic transformation move forward hand in hand. - **ENDS**

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NOTES TO THE EDITOR

ABOUT BDC

Botswana Development Corporation Limited, or 'BDC,' is the country's main agency for commercial and industrial development. Established in 1970, under the Companies Act, BDC is a company Limited by Shares and fully owned by the Government of Botswana. BDC is mandated to provide, facilitate and support funding of commercially viable enterprises that contribute towards building a sustainable and diversified Botswana economy; stimulate the growth of the private sector; to invest in the region and internationally; whilst generating wealth for the Shareholder.

The Corporation invests in commercially viable projects across all sectors of the economy except large-scale diamond mining. These include Energy, Manufacturing, Industry, Property, Services, Tourism, and Technology locally.

Throughout, BDC intends to promote best practices in business, governance and environmental standards in the funds or companies they choose to invest in. BDC conducts its business on a commercial basis and exercises special care and regard to economic and commercial merits.