

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE IN RESPECT OF ARTICLE HEADED "INSIDE THE BOTSWANA HEALTH SECTOR "CAPTURE" " PUBLISHED IN THE SUNDAY STANDARD DATED NOVEMBER 12-18, 2023



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1. GABORONE, Botswana// 17th November 2023 - The Botswana Public Officers' Medical Aid Scheme (BPOMAS) is aware of recent media reports suggesting improprieties within our organization. The Management Committee (ManCo) of the Botswana Public Officers Medical Aid Scheme (BPOMAS) wish to assure and provide clarity to our members and the public.

*\*Please note that the Management Committee (ManCo) is the equivalent of a "Board of Trustees" or "Board of Directors"*

2. BPOMAS would like to assure its members, stakeholders and the public at large that the Scheme is dedicated to upholding the highest standards of integrity and transparency in its operations. The BPOMAS procurement process is led by the BPOMAS ManCo through the Procurement Sub-Committee with the aim of fostering fairness, competition, and integrity in the procurement process. The values associated with such a process contribute to the overall transparency, efficiency, and credibility of all our business transactions.

3. At BPOMAS, we recognize the significance of fostering trust among our stakeholders, including members, clients, partners, and the public. BPOMAS takes the allegations levelled against ManCo and the Executives seriously. To that effect, while we are confident that the Scheme Procurement Policies were not flouted, BPOMAS remains open to any investigations by the Country's law enforcement and anti-corruption agencies.

4. Notwithstanding the above, BPOMAS wishes to express a concern and disappointment that the Sunday Standard failed to provide the Scheme with a right to reply to such allegations. We note that at the end of the Article, the Sunday Standard makes reference that the "story continues next week". BPOMAS trusts that the Sunday Standard will exercise the necessary care and attention to any further articles published by it.

5. BPOMAS is fully committed to transparency, accountability, and the well-being of our members. We will continue to focus on our mandate of providing affordable and quality healthcare services to our members. We appreciate the continued support of our members and stakeholders.

6. For further inquiries, please contact Ms Lesire Sebowe through email [lsebowe@bpomas.co.bw](mailto:lsebowe@bpomas.co.bw) and office line **3702913**.

17th NOVEMBER 2023

BY ORDER OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

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**About BPOMAS**

The Botswana Public Officers' Medical Aid Scheme (BPOMAS) came into existence through a Presidential Directive and was registered as a society (with the Registrar of Societies) in 1990. BPOMAS is a closed Scheme, which provides medical aid cover to public service employees as well as employees of parastatals (that were previously Government departments) who opt to remain members of the Scheme.

BPOMAS is a member of the Board of Healthcare Funders of Southern Africa (BHF). This membership gives BPOMAS access to expertise and knowledge from within the health insurance industry worldwide.