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MEDIA ADVISORY

FORMER US PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH AND MRS LAURA BUSH TO VISIT BOTSWANA

Gaborone, 31 March 2017: The Ministry of International Affairs and Cooperation wishes to inform that the Former President of the United States of America George W. Bush and Mrs. Laura Bush, are scheduled to visit Botswana from 4th to 5th April 2017.

This is the second time that Former President Bush and Mrs. Bush are visiting Botswana following their State Visit to Botswana in July 2003. The visit underscores their commitment to the support that they continue to provide to the people of Botswana through the work of the George W. Bush Institute's (GWBI) global leadership programs such as the Pink Ribbon Red Ribbon initiative.

The Pink Ribbon Red Ribbon is a global partnership that builds upon the HIV/AIDS platform to combat cervical and breast cancer. Since 2012, GWBI has been working in partnership with the Government of Botswana, and so far more than 22,000 women have benefitted from screenings for cervical cancer and more than 70,000 girls have received vaccinations against the human papilloma virus (HPV).

Former President Bush and Mrs. Bush will also assess the remarkable progress made over the past two decades to address the challenges of poverty, security and health, as well as the critical role that U.S. foreign assistance has played in delivering lifesaving treatment for the HIV/AIDS pandemic through PEPFAR.

Whilst in Botswana, the Former President Bush and Mrs Bush will visit Tlokweng Clinic and Therisanyo Primary School to appreciate the efforts and challenges in the screening and treatment services for cervical cancer and the country's vaccination program. They will also have audience with His Excellency the President of the Republic of Botswana, to discuss issues of mutual interest. The Media is invited to cover the visit as per the schedule below. For accreditation purposes, media practitioners are advised to contact the Public Relations Office in the Ministry of Health and Wellness at 0800600740 or 3632574/2020.

4th April 2017

0900hrs: Arrival at SSKIA (VVIP Lounge) 0950hrs: Tour of the Tlokweng Clinic 1100hrs: Tour of Therisano Primary School (Old Naledi)

5th April 2017

1100hrs: Departure from SSKIA

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