



Republic of Botswana

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### **PRESS RELEASE**

## **HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT ATTENDS THE 73<sup>rd</sup> SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY (UNGA73).**

**GABORONE, 14<sup>th</sup> September 2018:** The Ministry of International Affairs and Cooperation informs that His Excellency, Mr. Mokgweetsi Eric Keabetswe Masisi, President of the Republic of Botswana, will travel to New York, United States of America on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2018 to attend the 73<sup>rd</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA73) from 25<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

The Session will be held under the theme: ***"Making the United Nations Relevant to All People: Global Leadership and Shared Responsibilities for Peaceful, Equitable and Sustainable Societies."*** Alongside the 73<sup>rd</sup> Session, His Excellency the President will also attend a number of High Level Meeting or Summits such as: Nelson Mandela Peace Summit: 24<sup>th</sup> September 2018; High-Level Event on Young People's Agenda: 24<sup>th</sup> September 2018; High-Level Meeting on the Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases: 27<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

His Excellency the President is scheduled to deliver the UNGA73 plenary statement in the morning of 27<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

President Masisi will be accompanied by the Minister of International Affairs and Cooperation, Honourable Dr. Unity Dow and Senior Government Officials for the duration of the trip.

Prior to the UNGA73 Session, from 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> September, His Excellency will pay a working visit to Tallahassee and Orlando, in the State of Florida; and Houston, in the State of Texas. H.E.'s programme will include engagement with Enterprise Florida; as well a visit to the Texas Children's Hospital

On 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2018, His Excellency will attend an event hosted by the Diamond Empowerment Fund, and will receive US\$130 000 as contribution to Botswana's Top Achievers Programme that rewards high academic performance by Botswana students.



Republic of Botswana

On the 24<sup>th</sup> September, the President will address the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) in New York, and on the 25<sup>th</sup>, attend the International Caucus Foundation Forum (ICCF), to address attendees on conservation issues.

The President will be joined by the Minister of Environment, Natural Resources Conservation and Tourism, Honourable Tshekedi Khama; the Minister of Basic Education, Honourable Bagalatia Arone; the Assistant Minister of Basic Education, Honourable Thato Kwerepe; and the Member of Parliament for Maun East, Honourable Konstantinos Markus, for the ICCF meeting.

The Minister of Health and Wellness, Honourable Dr. Alfred Madigale, and the Minister of Investment, Trade and Industry, Honourable Bogolo Kenewendo, will later join the President's delegation for the UNGA73 Session.

His Excellency and his delegation will return to Gaborone on the 28<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

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