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PRESS RELEASE

THE PRESIDENTS OF BOTSWANA AND ZAMBIA TO OFFICIALLY OPEN THE KAZUNGULA BRIDGE

GABORONE, 9th May 2021: The Ministry of International Affairs and Cooperation wishes to inform that on **10th May 2021**, His Excellency Dr. Mokgweetsi Eric Keabetswe Masisi, President of the Republic of Botswana, together with His Excellency Mr. Edgar Chagwa Lungu, President of the Republic of Zambia, will officially open the Kazungula Bridge. The Bridge constitutes a road and rail bridge over the Zambezi River that connects Botswana and Zambia as well as a One-Stop-Border Post.

The Kazungula Bridge Project is a testament of the fruitful cooperation enjoyed by Botswana and Zambia. The Bridge which is the biggest development project between the two countries, is expected to contribute towards enhancing the livelihood of their citizens by among others, facilitating easier access to inter-regional trade. The Bridge will also go a long way in supporting SADC's regional integration agenda.

To mark the historic occasion of the opening of the Bridge, several Heads of State and other Government officials will be in attendance. They include His Excellency, Mr. Félix Tshisekedi Tshilombo, President of the Democratic Republic of Congo and Chair of the African Union; His Excellency Mr. Filipe Jacinto Nyusi President of the Republic of Mozambique and Chair of SADC; His Excellency Dr. Emmerson Dambudzo Mnangagwa, President of the Republic of Zimbabwe; His Excellency Dr. Nangolo Mbumba, Vice President of the Republic of Namibia; Honourable Senator Themba N. Masuku, Acting Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Eswatini; and Her Excellency Ms. Rosemary Mashaba, High Commissioner of the Republic of South Africa to Botswana.

Also in attendance will be Honourable Dr. Lemogang Kwape, Minister of International Affairs and Cooperation; Honourable Ms. Anna Mokgethi, Minister of Nationality, Immigration and Gender Affairs; Honourable Mr. Thulagano Segokgo, Minister of Transport and Communications; Honourable Ms. Peggy Serame, Minister of Finance and Economic Development; and Honourable Mr. Machana Ronald Shamukuni, Assistant Minister of Tertiary Education, Research, Science and Technology. Her Excellency Dr. Stergomena Lawrence Tax, SADC Executive Secretary will also be present.



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