



**Bank of Botswana**

October 21, 2020

**PRESS RELEASE**

**MS ITA MARY MANNATHOKO APPOINTED THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR AFRICA GROUP 1 CONSTITUENCY**

Ms Ita Mary Mannathoko has been appointed to the position of Executive Director of the Africa Group 1 (AfG1) Constituency at the International Monetary Fund (IMF), in Washington DC, USA. The appointment was announced at the ongoing IMF/World Bank Group Annual Virtual Meetings and is effective from November 1, 2020 to October 31, 2022. As the Executive Director, Ms Mannathoko will represent AfG 1 Constituency, comprising 23 Sub-Saharan African countries, in the IMF Executive Board. The IMF Executive Board, which comprises 24 Executive Directors representing various member countries and constituencies, is responsible for the conduct of the daily business and management of the IMF in the interest of member countries.

The appointment is in accordance with the AfG1 Rules of Rotation for country representation at the IMF. Ms Mannathoko has, over the past two years (November 1, 2018 to October 31, 2020), served as First Alternate Executive Director for the AfG1 Constituency. She had previously worked as an Advisor to the AfG1 Executive Directors at both the IMF and the World Bank and has also worked in the IMF's Independent Evaluation Office.

Ms Mannathoko holds a BA degree in Mathematics and Statistics from Queens University in Canada, and MA in Development Banking from American University in Washington DC, USA.

Speaking during the virtual meeting of Governors of AfG1 Constituency on October 19, 2020, Governor of the Bank of Botswana Mr Moses D Pelaelo, in his capacity as the Governor for Botswana at the Non-Executive IMF Board, described Ms Mannathoko as a seasoned economist and professional, recognised for an impeccable work ethic. He further informed the meeting that Ms Mannathoko was bringing with her a wealth of exceptional knowledge and experience of the African continent, having worked in various organisations both at home in Botswana and internationally, among others, at the Bank of Botswana, USAID, the IMF and the World Bank.

Governor Pelaelo also assured the meeting of Ms Mannathoko's commitment to serve in the region's best interest and to purposefully advocate for development and policy issues that matter most to the constituency as well as the welfare of its citizens. He further thanked Governors of the African Group 1 Constituency of the IMF, for having placed their trust and confidence in a citizen of the Republic of Botswana, to represent the constituency in the IMF Executive Board during the next two years (November 1, 2020 to October 31, 2022).

### **Note for Editors**

The 23 members of the African Group 1 Constituency are Angola, Botswana, Burundi, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, The Gambia, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

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