



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **ISO REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY OF NATIONAL STANDARDS BODIES (NSBS) FOR ISO MEMBERS IN AFRICA (ENGLISH-SPEAKING COUNTRIES)**

The Botswana Bureau of Standards (BOBS) will host a regional workshop on financial sustainability for National Standards Bodies (NSBs) sponsored by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). In attendance will be ISO members from the English-speaking countries in Africa. The workshop is organized in the framework of the *ISO Action Plan for Developing Countries 2016-2020*, on the long-term financial sustainability of National Standards bodies. This workshop comes after analysis shows that many NSBs in developing countries face the challenge of securing long-term and stable funding for their organization with statistics showing that 50% of them receive more than half of funds from the government of which half is entirely dependent on the government without other means of support.

This regional workshop is a first in a series that ISO is organizing to facilitate its members to discuss, exchange ideas, identify strategies and response plans to address and manage risks to the long-term financial sustainability of the NSBs. The expected outcome of the workshop is to release a revised edition of the ISO's publication on "Financial sustainability for NSBs" enhanced with specific examples and references to challenges experienced by NSBs.

The workshop will take place at Cresta Lodge, Gaborone from the **8-10 May 2017**, Gaborone (Botswana).

The Minister of Investment, Trade and Industry Hon Vincent Seretse is scheduled to officially open this regional workshop on the 8<sup>th</sup> May 2017.

#### **Further information can be obtained from the:**

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