



---

## BOTSWANA BUREAU OF STANDARDS

---

### PRESS RELEASE

#### **World Metrology Day – 2007**

The 20th May is designated as World Metrology Day. This year's theme is '**Measurement in our environment**'. Our environment is essential to our well-being. Changes to it affect us all and are of concern as, increasingly, it is believed that current human activity might have negative effects on the environment. For that reason, measurements of our environment are more important than ever as they help us to monitor environmental changes and determine their future effects on living organisms. Metrology – the science of measurement – allows us to monitor the quality of our environment reliably by obtaining data that can be trusted by everyone.

World Metrology Day highlights the importance of metrology in supporting free and fair trade and protecting consumers.

*Metrology is the science of measurement, embracing both experimental and theoretical determinations at any level of uncertainty in any field of science and technology.*

'Metrology' should not be confused with 'meteorology' (The science that deals with the phenomena of the atmosphere, especially weather and weather conditions).

Metrology the science of measurement is not, however, purely the preserve of scientists. It is of vital importance to us all. The intricate but invisible network of services, suppliers and communications upon which we are all dependent, revolve largely on measurements for their efficient and reliable operation. For example:

- the economic success of nations depends upon the ability to manufacture and trade precisely made and tested products and components;
- measuring instruments used in monitoring and investigating our environment, needs to produce results that are reliable and accurate;
- human health depends critically on the ability to make accurate diagnosis, and in which reliable measurement is increasingly important;
- consumers have to trust the amount of petrol delivered by a pump.

In commemoration of the World Metrology Day, the Botswana Bureau of Standards (BOBS) will be hosting seminars on the **15th May 2007** from **0900hrs to 1300hrs** at **Marang Hotel in Francistown** and **16th May 2007, 0900hrs to 1300hrs** at **Bosele Hotel in Selibe Phikwe**. The events will focus on sensitizing and awareness raising on the role of measurements in our environment. **Attendance is by invitations only.**