



**VOTE OF THANKS**

**BY**

**ASSISTANT MINISTER MITI,**

**HON. KARABO S. GARE**

**OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF CEDA REVISED GUIDLINES**

**16 JULY 2020**

**ORBET FITNESS & WELLNESS CENTRE**

**TLOKWENG**

**Your Excellency, The President of the Republic of Botswana, Dr Mokgweetsi Eric Keabetswe Masisi;**

**Honourable Minister of Investment, Trade & Industry, Peggy Serame,  
Honourable Cabinet Ministers;**

**Honourable Members of Parliament;**

**Your Worship the Mayor of the City of Gaborone, Councillor Mr Father Maphongo;**

**Kgosi Puso Gaborone;**

**Permanent Secretaries;**

**CEDA, Chairperson of the Board;**

**CEO, CEDA Mr Thabo Thamane ;**

**Distinguished Guests;**

**Ladies and Gentlemen;**

**Good evening,**

1. First, I would like to thank His Excellency the President of the Republic of Botswana, Dr Mokgweetsi E. K. Masisi for his unwavering support of the Citizen Entrepreneurial Development Agency (CEDA) through its mandate to serve Botswana as diligently as possible. Throughout the years you have always availed yourself to become a part of milestone events that have been championed by the Agency such as the World Federation of Development Finance Institutions (WFDFI) when it was hosted in Gaborone in 2016, the CEDA/ DBSA University Challenge as well as officiating at our flagship events throughout the years such as the Serowe

District Show, Mosisedi Harvest Day and the Southern District Agricultural Show, amongst others.

2. Your presence shows your unremitting commitment to seeing through what you had started in the long term quest of economic empowerment of our great nation.
3. Director of Ceremonies, allow me also to thank and recognise the Honourable Minister of Investment, Trade & Industry Mme Peggy Serame who has also played a crucial role in the revision and adoption of these new guidelines. Honourable Minister, you have shown your absolute support for this process as far back as when you still held the position of Permanent Secretary for our Ministry.
4. Thank you Honourable Minister for the dedication and hard work you led with during this period of review and I am confident that these changes will be welcome by Batswana through the faith and belief that your Ministry has inculcated in all of us through the brave work you do on a daily basis all in the name of creating a conducive environment for the promotion of investment and development of sustainable industries and trade.
5. Lastly, Master of Ceremonies, allow me to thank The CEDA Team led by its Chief Executive Officer, Mr Thabo Thamane, for staying focused and putting the needs of our fellow countrymen first. In my role as the Assistant Minister of MITI, I have borne witness to the tough encounters that Rre Thamane and his team take on in order to ensure that the Agency tirelessly works at improving ways in

which they can continue to empower Batswana through funding and advisory services.

6. I also wish to thank all stakeholders who have walked this journey with us and continue to provide the Agency with critical feedback to make our operations more impactful.

10. Director of Ceremonies my task today was to give the Vote of Thanks and by this, I would like to thank you all for being a part of this auspicious event amidst the Covid-19 pandemic and I wish you all a great day.

11. Bagaetsho, ke a leboga.