WELCOME REMARKS BY THE EXECUTIVE CHAIRPERSON OF THE PUBLIC PROCUREMENT AND ASSET DISPOSAL BOARD (PPADB)

BRIDGET POPPY JOHN

AT THE SIGNING OF THE SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENTS (SLAS) BETWEEN PPADB AND ITS STAKEHOLDERS

PPAD BOARDROOM, GABORONE

18TH NOVEMBER 2014

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DIRECTOR OF CEREMONIES,

ACCOUNTING OFFICERS AND SENIOR OFFICERS FROM MEWT, MTC AND DCEC

THE MEDIA

COLLEAGUES FROM PPADB

Good morning.

It is with pleasure to welcome you to PPADB this morning for the signing of the Service Level Agreements with the Ministry of Environment Wildlife and Tourism, Directorate on Corruption and Economic Crime and the Ministry of Transport and Communications.

The objective of the Service Level Agreement is for the PPADB and the Procuring Entities to recommit in a binding manner to speed the procurement of Works, Services and Supplies to ensure that services are delivered to the nation within reasonable time. The idea is to align expectations and bring about certainty to the procurement process whilst clarifying roles between parties at every stage of the procurement process.

Both PPADB and PEs are therefore committing to performance Service Standards and upholding principles of public procurement which include transparency, competition, fairness and equitable treatment of bidders. The SLA is also dealing with issues of confidentiality during the key stages of procurement such as evaluation and adjudication, and emphasis is placed on procurement planning and adherence to such plans.

Ladies and Gentlemen, we have had situations when the budget is approved, promises are made to the nation on projects just to have such projects delayed hence PPADB has seen it fit to agree with Procuring Entities on procurement timelines to facilitate the effective use of the budget and timely services.

The Board will continue to support procurement capacity building at Ministries to ensure that competent people are assigned the procurement function hence we continue to run procurement workshops for officers as well as provide other avenues for training on procurement as demonstrated by our MOUs with the Public Service College, Botswana Accountancy College, and the USTDA.

Our desire as PPADB is to see Procuring Entities capable of handling all their tenders including the adjudication function as that would give way to full devolution and allow PPADB to play an effective oversight and regulatory role on public procurement.

It is our expectation that other Procuring Entities will come forward to sign SLAs with PPADB once they realize the benefit of working together in pursuit of an efficient procurement system.

As an ISO certified Organisation PPADB believes in continual improvement hence we seek to improve our performance and customer satisfaction over time. The SLAs will bring us closer to Accounting Officers and help us deal with issues and when they arise to avoid unnecessary blame shifting at the expense of Batswana. We look forward to a fruitful relationship.

Thank you.