



## **PPADB- BAC MOU SIGNING CEREMONY - 14 July 2014**

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - TALKING POINTS**

Salutations and welcome guests

#### **BAC the Premium Institution**

BAC is one of Africa and Botswana's youngest tertiary Colleges – having been established in 1996, and the first founded as an institution of Accountancy Education and Training in Botswana (although it is also distinguished by its original narrow accountancy niche in the field of business education). From modest beginnings in the mid-1990s, offering renowned professional accountancy qualifications such as CIMA, ACCA, AAT and INSURANCE INSTITUTE OF SOUTH AFRICA (IISA) programmes, BAC emerged as one of Botswana's most distinguished and iconic Tertiary Education Institutions (TEIs). It occupies a crucial place in the preservation of professional education and intellectual heritage of Botswana.

The College plays an important role in the post-1996 campaign for economic development and diversification in Botswana, and beyond. Many of its graduates continue to serve in roles of high responsibility in nation building and economic development. The numerous luminary leaders in the public sector, industry and commerce, for which BAC was an educational home and formative experience are well documented.

Yet the importance of BAC goes beyond the development of business leaders. It remains a crucial centre to the business and wider community in Botswana and the region for business education policy advice and direction. The College is already a major contributor to not just economic development but also to political, social and civic development of its local and national locality. It represents a 'magnet' and lures to itself, aspiring young people wishing to pursue quality business education.

To contribute to sustainable and diversified human resource development through:

- the provision of high quality, accessible, and affordable business related education which is relevant to the needs of the economy.
- Delivered to international standards which meet stakeholder needs.
- And the advancement of knowledge, founded on research

### **The vision of the College is:**

We aim To be a vibrant and leading Business University providing business education, recognised in Africa and beyond for commitment to excellence and stakeholder relevance in teaching, research, and community engagement

In here lies our reason for being.

BAC is ACCA “Platinum” and CIMA Learning Quality Partner”

### **Value proposition**

The National Human Resource Development Plan seeks to ensure that human resource skills i.e. human capital is developed within the workforce in the critical areas of the economy including management of operations. Public Sector procurement and the tender process management are an illustration of one such critical area where development skills development is required to ensure that the level of good governance and efficient resource allocation is raised within the country.

Today’s ceremony represents a unique opportunity in which a foundation has been laid in which a collaborative partnership between BAC and Public Procurement & Asset Disposal Board will emerge. The foundation has been laid, but “the scaffolding is already up” to build a bridge towards providing the much awaited capacity building solution.

There is no question in my mind that the Procurement of Goods and Services, whether in the public sector or any other sector is a specialist activity requiring specialized skills at every level.

In essence the “Supply Chain” is a series of complex components of decision making - risk mitigation; the economics of value creation, financial efficiency and a clear understanding of the value for money concepts. Even as the preparation of bills of quantity is pivotal other elements of it which encompass integrity, governance and transparency are just as critical. The pricing mechanism for both intrinsic and monetary value are central to the skills –

whereas unless the Procurement ignores or overlooks the negotiations that go with it, there is a strong likelihood that we will exchange at a value far greater than is necessary. – Risk management; the budgetary process.

What I have just elucidated represents aspects of Learner Module Content which have all been put together to awaken the potential for skills development. It is not the first time we have done it – Advanced Taxation with BURS – in all cases, including in the case of the just about to be signed MOU with PPADB, difference is that we are dealing with practitioners and not undergraduates.

The Learning methodologies are a raft of ‘outcome and evidence based blended learning’ far removed from mere theory.

THEY WILL BE DEALING WITH REAL LIFE CASES, THEIR “REAL LIFE” AND THE “REAL LIFE OF OTHER SIMILAR EXPERIENCES ELSEWHERE”

We are aware of the PAC comments on a whole range of issues that emerge out of the public sector performance. From our vantage point as a Learning institution, we are all too convinced that the Auditor General’s comments and those of the PAC and others, are everything to do with skills gaps.

Ladies and gentleman thank you once again for joining us today as we mark yet another incredible milestone.

Thank you.