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#### REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA

## ALL CORRESPONDENCE MUST BE ADDRESSED TO THE PERMANENT SECRETARY

### MINISTRY OF INVESTMENT, TRADE AND INDUSTRY

**REF:** TI 1/19/6 II (33)

3<sup>rd</sup> December 2019

#### PRESS RELEASE

# COMMENCEMENT OF THE COMPETITION AND CONSUMER AUTHORITY; AND THE COMPETITION AND CONSUMER TRIBUNAL

The Ministry of Investment, Trade and Industry is mandated to implement the National Competition Policy of Botswana. On that note, both the Competition Act and Consumer Protection Act were reviewed in 2018. The reviewed Acts approved the transfer of the function of the Consumer Protection Office to the new Authority named the **Competition and Consumer Authority** which replaces the Competition Authority.

The General Public and the Business Community are therefore, informed that the commencement of the new Competition and Consumer Authority and the Competition and Consumer Tribunal commenced operation on **2**<sup>nd</sup> **December 2019**.

The transfer of the mandate provides for speedy resolution of consumer complaints and enable the public to escalate unresolved complaints to the Competition and Consumer Tribunal.

The Public is also informed that services would continue at the current Consumer Protection Offices country wide whereas the Tribunal is housed at the Botswana Bureau of Standards.

For further enquiries please contact the Competition and Consumer Authority at **3934278.** 

Keganele Malikongwa

**Acting Permanent Secretary**