

CLARIFICATION ON QUALIFICATION AWARD AND PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE IN BOTSWANA

Botswana Qualifications Authority (BQA) notes recent public discourse concerning the award of qualifications and access to professional practice, following the developments with the Law Society of Botswana.

BQA wishes to clarify its mandate and provide guidance to the public.

Botswana Qualifications Authority is responsible for ensuring the quality of education and training in Botswana. This is achieved through the registration and accreditation of Education and Training Providers, registration of qualifications, and accreditation of learning programmes. The Authority sets and enforces standards and monitors compliance to ensure institutions and programmes meet established quality benchmarks.

It is important to distinguish between:

- **Academic or training qualifications** – quality assured by BQA; and
- **Professional licensing or admission to practice** – determined by relevant professional bodies in accordance with their legislation and requirements.

While BQA quality assured qualifications confirm academic quality, they don't automatically grant the right to practice in a regulated profession. To uphold standards of competence, ethics, and public safety, professional bodies often mandate requirements that complement academic credentials.

BQA continues to work closely with professional bodies and key stakeholders to promote alignment between qualifications and industry requirements. The Authority remains committed to:

- Transparency in its processes
- Fair and consistent application of standards
- Regular stakeholder engagement

Members of the public, education and training providers, and stakeholders are encouraged to seek clarification directly from BQA on:

- Accreditation status of Institutions and programmes
- Recognition of local and foreign qualifications
- Applicable regulatory requirements

For further information, please contact: **Manager, Communications and Public Relations at +267 7303 8821, Email: PR@bqa.org.bw**