



**JOINT COMMUNIQUE**

**BETWEEN**

**THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA REPRESENTED BY  
THE  
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT  
AND COMMUNICATIONS**

**AND**

**THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA REPRESENTED  
BY THE  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS**

**ON**

**COOPERATION AND COORDINATION OF CROSS BORDER INTERFERENCE FOR  
TERRESTRIAL SERVICES AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS**

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We the Ministers of Communications for the Republic of Botswana and the Republic of South Africa met in Gaborone, Botswana on this day, the 21<sup>st</sup> of May 2015 at Gaborone International Convention Centre;

**DESIRING** to further strengthen and deepen the friendly relations which prevail between the Republic of Botswana and the Republic of South Africa in accordance with the Treaty of the Southern Africa Development Community, and other instruments on regional integration;

**DETERMINED** to find new approaches and strategies for consolidating, expanding and deepening areas of economic development, industrial, and trade cooperation between Botswana and South Africa, with specific focus on cooperation and coordination of cross border interference for terrestrial services and any other related matters which will be firmly guided by the principles of national sovereignty, opportunities to implement world class projects, and of win-win outcomes;

**Recognising** the challenges posed by the imminent GE-06 International Telecommunications Union (ITU) deadline in particular the challenges that may arise in the deployment of digital terrestrial services and the subsequent freeing up of the frequency spectrum for use of other services;

**Further recognising** the common risks that have been identified including management of analogue frequencies post switch over deadline set by ITU, licensing of new broadcasters and synchronization of the digital migration programme;

**Initiated** a meeting of officials to engage on the strategies to manage the identified challenges and risks in the areas of the use of radio frequency spectrum management and related matters, and have agreed to cooperate as follows;

1. To enhance continued collaboration of the regulators in addressing matters of mutual interest on cross-border interference on terrestrial services and any other related matters;
2. Agree to sharing of information between the countries on digital migration matters; and

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3. Continue further engagements towards the development of a Memorandum of Cooperation.


In conclusion having completed the envisaged Memorandum of Cooperation the two countries report to the bi-national commission to be held in November 2015.

Signed at Gaborone, Botswana on the twenty-first day of May, 2015:



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Honourable Tshenolo Mabeo  
Minister of Transport and Communication  
Republic of Botswana



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Honourable Faith Muthambi  
Minister of Communications  
Republic of South Africa

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