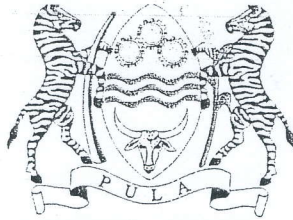


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REF: MLHA 1/14/1 III (122)

5 January 2016

PRESS RELEASE:

EMERGENCY WORK PERMITS

The Public is hereby informed that the Ministry of Labour and Home Affairs, through the Department of Labour and Social security will cease the issuance of unqualifying emergency work permits issued in terms of Section 27 (1) of the Immigration Act 2010, (Act No. 3 of 2011) with immediate effect. The Ministry will only process genuine emergency applications.

An emergency is defined as "a sudden, unexpected, or impending situation that may cause injury, loss of life, damage to the property, and/or interference with the normal activities of a person or firm and which, therefore, requires immediate attention and remedial action."

This decision follows the realisation that the majority of applicants for such permits have been abusing the dispensation by applying for emergency work permits even where there is no emergency. This has resulted in a backlog and delay in processing regular applications for work and residence permits for deserving applicants.

Thank you.

Pearl N. Matome
Permanent Secretary

VISION: Excellence in the provision of Labour and Homeland Services

VALUES: Integrity, Botho and Excellence

TAGLINE: Badisa Ba Setshaba (The Nation's Shepherd)