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## **PRESS RELEASE**

## **BOTSWANA WISHES KENYA SUCCESSFUL ELECTIONS**

**Gaborone, 26<sup>th</sup> October 2017** – The Government of the Republic of Botswana takes this opportunity to wish the people of the Republic of Kenya a successful conduct of elections, which takes place today, 26<sup>th</sup> of October 2017.

We hope that the elections will be held in a conducive and peaceful atmosphere. However, we note reports that some members of the opposition parties have expressed their intention to boycott the elections. We can only hope that they participate in the ongoing electoral process of their country.

We further note that should the opposition parties boycott the elections, it will still be within their democratic right. At least as citizens they have a Constitutional right, to freely exercise their vote to choose their leadership, a fundamental principle, which to-date eludes some countries.

Nonetheless, Botswana wishes to encourage all Kenyan nationals to exercise their democratic right and elect a leader of their choice, which is critical for the unity, stability and socio-economic advancement of their country.

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