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PRESS RELEASE

HIS EXCELLENCY PRESIDENT MOKGWEETSI E.K. MASISI TO PARTICIPATE IN THE UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL COMPACT 20TH ANNIVERSARY LEADERS' SUMMIT ON 15TH and 16TH JUNE 2020

GABORONE, 15th June 2020: The Ministry of International Affairs and Cooperation wishes to inform that, His Excellency Mokgweetsi E.K. Masisi, President of the Republic of Botswana, will participate in the Virtual United Nations (UN) Global Compact 2020 Leaders' Summit, scheduled for 15th and 16th June 2020.

In the advent of COVID-19, this year's Summit, which marks the 20th Anniversary of the UN Global Compact is held under the theme, "***Recover Better, Recover Stronger, Recover Together***". This Summit will virtually bring together global leaders from government, UN, business, academia, and civil society to explore ways in which the global community can rebuild more inclusive economies and societies that also, promote a more climate resilient world.

His Excellency the President will deliver the opening remarks at the High-Level Session on "***Raise SDG Ambition to Build Back Better and Recover Stronger***" which will be held on **16th June 2020 from 11:00hrs-12:00hrs**. Other High-Level Sessions will include those focussing on climate change, private sector investment in vaccines for COVID-19, and redefining Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) leadership in a post-COVID-19 world.

The UN Global Compact was launched in 2000 to support and guide global businesses to advance UN goals and values through responsible corporate practices underpinned by key principles in the areas of human rights, labour, environment, and anti-corruption.

It is anticipated that this Summit will spur collective action towards stronger recovery and more resilient economies against COVID-19 and other future pandemics.

His Excellency the President's delegation in the Summit will include: The Honourable Minister of International Affairs and Cooperation, Dr. Unity Dow; Honourable Minister of Finance and Economic Development, Dr. Thapelo Matsheka; and Honourable Minister of Investment, Trade and Industry, Ms. Peggy Serame.

For additional information on the Summit, members of the media are encouraged to visit the Summit's media page: <https://registration.unglobalcompact.org/website/12559/media-centre/>

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