Promoting access to safe medicines

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For Immediate Release

14/09/25

BoMRA MAINTAINS REGULATORY OVERSIGHT OF MEDICAL PRODUCTS

The Botswana Medicines Regulatory Authority (BoMRA) wishes to reassure the nation that the Authority operates **independently and impartially** in providing oversight of medical products distributed and used in Botswana to protect the public from unsafe as well as poor quality products.

Established in 2018, BoMRA regulates human and veterinary medical products to ensure they meet set standards of safety, quality, and efficacy. Our regulatory oversight covers the entire supply chain from importation, distribution, sale, manufacturing, to post-market surveillance, thereby ensuring that medicines reaching the public comply with approved protocols from the supplier, and even when on the market.

Following the recent declaration of a public health emergency by His Excellency the President, **Advocate Duma Gideon Boko,** BoMRA has been providing guidance to the Government through the Ministry of Health, other partners, and international organisations on regulatory requirements related to the importation of medical products in a non-routine way when responding to crises and public health emergencies.

Prior to importation, medical products destined for Batswana are subjected to rigorous checks through various mechanisms such as documentation review, and at times pre-shipment inspection and testing. Once products are on the market, there are programs in place which ensure product safety and quality is monitored through established surveillance and pharmacovigilance programs.

These stringent procedures are applied without exception, without discrimination, and irrespective of buyer, supplier, or destination.

BoMRA assures the public that the recent medical supplies from Dubai were also subjected to the same rigorous processes. The Authority remains unwavering in its mandate, applying all regulatory requirements fairly, consistently, and without compromise in its efforts to protect the public.

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In our efforts to drive public confidence, BoMRA will continue to engage and educate all its stakeholders, including the public, on the mandate of the Authority and the required regulatory compliance.

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