Media Statement To All Media 29 April 2024

## 45 BOTSWANA NATIONALS HUMAN REMAINS TO BE REPATRIATED

Limpopo Health MEC, Dr. Phophi Ramathuba will lead the repatriation process of the remains of 45 Botswana citizens at Polokwane International Airport on Tuesday, 30 April 2024. The human remains belong to individuals who lost their lives in a tragic bus accident on 28 March at the Mamatlakala bridge on the R518 road, with only one survivor.

A dedicated multidisciplinary team, including the SAPS victim identification unit, Biology Section of the Forensic Science Laboratory Unit, Forensic Pathology Services, and their Botswana counterparts, has been tirelessly working since the day of the accident to recover and positively identify the human remains through the DNA process. This meticulous process ensures that the human remains are repatriated to their respective families.

"It has been a long, tiring, and equally traumatizing journey to the team. However, we are comforted by the fact that the families will finally find closure," said MEC Ramathuba.

Health MEC, Dr Phophi Ramathuba, together with Botswana High Commissioner, Her Excellency Sanji Monageng, and other dignitaries will join a final send-off prayer session at the following details:

Date: Tuesday, 30 April 2024

Venue: Polokwane International Airport (Polokwane Municipality, Capricorn

District) Time: 08h00

For further inquiries, please contact:

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