

Curriculum vitae*

Gaeimelwe Goitsemanang (Botswana)

INTRODUCTION

Mr. Gaeimelwe Goitsemanang has an accumulated 25 years of career diplomatic service, in different capacities at the Ministry of International Affairs and Cooperation of the Republic of Botswana. He joined the Ministry in November 1995, at entry level as a junior Foreign Affairs Officer. He rose through the diplomatic ranks to become the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry from 1 October 2015 until recently on 19 April 2021 when he was reassigned as the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Employment, Labour Productivity and Skills Development.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Mr. Goitsemanang currently serves as the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Employment, Labour Productivity and Skills Development, the position he assumed on 19 April 2021. As the Executive Head of the Ministry, Mr. Goitsemanang's responsibilities largely include:

- Facilitating national employment;
- Promoting productivity and high standards of work ethics in the workplace;
- Ensuring occupational health and safety;
- Guiding labour administration, and;
- Ensuring industry focused skills development.

Prior to his present role, Mr. Goitsemanang served as the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of International Affairs and Cooperation of the Republic of Botswana from 1 October 2015. As the Executive Head of the Ministry and a career diplomat, his responsibilities broadly included:

- Initiating and overseeing Botswana's foreign policy formulation and its continuous adaptation to emerging global realities;
- Ensuring effective implementation of Botswana Government policies, legislation, programmes and projects;
- Developing the Ministry's Vision, Strategic Plan and Annual Plans, as well as overseeing their rigorous implementation;
- Providing overall day-to-day operational leadership to the Ministry, including effective financial and human resources management both at Headquarters and all Botswana Diplomatic Missions abroad in a manner that safeguards public funds and ensure value for money

As part of his responsibility for the efficient and seamless management of Botswana's relations with the international community, Mr. Goitsemanang played a leading role in the coordination of various Government Ministries and Departments to advance Botswana's foreign policy objectives and adherence to the country's international obligations.

In line with the coordinative role of the Ministry, Mr. Goitsemanang served as the Chairperson of the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Treaties, Conventions and

Protocols. He is also immensely experienced in the area of stakeholder engagement, as evidenced by the overall supervision he provided for all Botswana Envoys at far-flung Diplomatic Missions abroad.

Having also served as the Director for Corporate Services in the Ministry of International Affairs and Cooperation from August 2010 to June 2011, Mr. Goitseman is well versed with issues of internal controls, institutional effectiveness and high standards of corporate governance.

For a period of five (5) years during his tenure at the Ministry of International Affairs and Cooperation, he served as the Chair for the following key Ministerial Committees which are primarily responsible for enforcing oversight, sound management and proper corporate governance:

- Ministry Procurement Committee;
- Ministry Anti-Corruption Committee; and
- Ministry Audit Committee.

Mr. Goitseman is extremely knowledgeable about the workings of the United Nations system organizations, including the specialized funds and programmes. He has participated in a number of high-level Conferences and Meetings, including numerous annual General Assembly Sessions, as well as Summits of regional and cross-regional groupings, as both a member of the Botswana delegation and on several instances as the Head of Delegation.

Over the 25 years of his professional career, Mr. Goitseman has amassed vast experience in diplomatic practice, management and leadership acquired through uninterrupted service in various capacities at the Headquarters of the Ministry of International Affairs and Cooperation as well as Botswana's Diplomatic Missions.

In the earlier days of his diplomatic career, he was entrusted a significant responsibility to open up a new Botswana High Commission in Abuja, Nigeria, in 2007. This demonstrated confidence in his ability to manage start-up operations and the associated financial implications, risk management, as well as dealing with complexity.

His other career assignments, after joining Foreign Service in 1995, included as:

- Foreign Affairs Officer III, Ministry of International Affairs and Cooperation, Gaborone, Botswana (November 1995–December 1998);
- First Secretary, Botswana Embassy, Stockholm, Sweden (January 1999–December 2003);
- Counselor/Deputy Head of Mission, Botswana High Commission, Lusaka, Zambia (January 2004–July 2007);
- Charge d'Affaires, Botswana High Commission, Abuja, Nigeria (August 2007–August 2009);
- Director for Corporate Services, Ministry of International Affairs and Cooperation, Gaborone, Botswana (August 2010–June 2011); and
- Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of International Affairs and Cooperation, Gaborone, Botswana (July 2011–September 2015).

EDUCATION AND ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

Mr. Goitseman holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science and Public Administration, University of Botswana (1995); Diploma in Public International Law (2000), Holborn College, UK; Certificate in Conflict Management and Negotiation (2002), The Inter-American Defense College, USA; Diploma in Professional Business Writing (2003), Quality of Course, Canada; Masters of Business Administration, Cavendish University, Zambia (2007); He is currently pursuing a Masters of Politics and International Relations, University of Botswana.

OTHER CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT TRAINING

In order to cement his professional capacity development, Mr. Goitseman has attended a number of Workshops and Seminars which further equipped him with requisite management and leadership skills as follows:

- Professional Course for Foreign Diplomats, Foreign Service Institute, New Delhi, India (October–December, 1996);
- E-government Programme for the Botswana Public Service, Botswana Public Service College (November, 2009);
- Critical Thinking and Writing Skills, University of Botswana (May, 2010);
- From Strategy to Action-Managing Human Performance on Strategic Projects, Civil Service College, Singapore and Botswana Public Service College (September, 2011);
- Executive Leadership Programme – Civil Service College, Singapore and Botswana Public Service College (July to August, 2012);
- Focused Leadership Experience (FLEX), International, Portland, USA (September, 2012);

Transformation Systems

- Enhancing Governance and Financial Administration in Africa, University of Botswana and African Association for Public Administration and Management (AAPAM) (July, 2014);
- Unpacking Public Service Management for Executives – Botswana Public Service College (March, 2019);
- Botswana – Rutgers Leadership Summit, Rutgers Center for Organizational Leadership, New Jersey, USA (December, 2019); and
- Emotional Intelligence – Culture and Mindset Change, Achievement Enterprises, Gaborone, Botswana (November, 2020).

Mr. Goitseman was born on 30 September 1966 in Maun, North-Western part of Botswana.