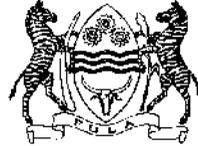


## SOCIETIES (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2023

No. 10



of 2023

### ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

#### SECTION

1. Short title and commencement
2. Amendment of section 2 of Act No. 6 of 2022
3. Insertion of section 4A in the Act
4. Insertion of section 29A in the Act
5. Amendment of section 32 of the Act
6. Insertion of Schedule in the Act

#### **An Act to amend the Societies Act.**

*Date of Assent:* 11.09.2023

*Date of Commencement:* ON NOTICE

ENACTED by the Parliament of Botswana.

1. This Act may be cited as the Societies (Amendment) Act, 2023, and shall come into operation on such date as the Minister may, by Order published in the *Gazette*, appoint.

Short title and commencement

2. The Societies Act (hereinafter referred to as “the Act”) is amended in section 2 by substituting for the definition of “society” the following new definition —

Amendment of section 2 of Act No. 6 of 2022

““society” means —

- (a) any association of 150 or more persons, for a religious society, and 20 or more persons, for any other society, formed primarily for raising or disbursing funds for purposes such as charitable, cultural, educational, social or fraternal purposes; or
- (b) a political party listed in the Schedule.”.

3. The Act is amended by inserting immediately after section 4, the following new section —

Insertion of section 4A in the Act

“Exemption of political parties from the provisions of the Act  
4A. A political party shall be exempted from the provisions of this Act, except for sections 2, 4, 5(1), 5(2) (a) and (b), 5 (3), 5(4), 5(6), 5(7), 6(1) (a) (b) (d) (e) (f) (g) (h) (j) (k) (l) (m) and (n), 13(1)(a), 29A and 32.”.

4. The Act is amended by inserting immediately after section 29, the following new section —

Insertion of section 29A in the Act

“Amendment of Schedule  
29A. The Minister may, by Order published in the *Gazette*, amend the Schedule.”.

Amendment  
of section 32  
of the Act

**5.** The Act is amended in section 32 by inserting immediately after subsection (2), the following new subsection —

Act No. 6 of 2022 “(2A) A political party that existed prior to the Societies Act of 2022 (Act No. 6 of 2022) shall continue to exist as if registered under this Act.”.

Insertion of  
Schedule in  
the Act

**6.** The Act is amended by inserting immediately after section 32, the following new Schedule —

“SCHEDULE  
(section 2 (b))

Alliance for Progressives  
Botswana Alliance Movement  
Botswana Congress Party  
Botswana Democratic Party  
Botswana Independence Party  
Botswana Labour Party  
Botswana Liberal Party  
Botswana Movement for Democracy  
Botswana Multi Party  
Botswana National Front  
Botswana Patriotic Front  
Botswana Peoples’ Party  
Botswana Progressive Union  
Botswana *Tlhoko Tiro* Organisation  
Botswana Workers’ Front  
Glorified citizens Political Party  
Marx Engels Lenin Stalin Movement of Botswana  
New Democratic Front  
Real Alternative Party  
Social Democratic Party  
The People’s Liberty Movement  
Umbrella for Democratic Change  
United Socialist Party.”.

PASSED by the National Assembly this 11th day of August, 2023.

BARBARA N. DITHAPO,  
*Clerk of the National Assembly.*