

EDITORIAL

Botswana celebrated its fiftieth anniversary of independence on 30 September 2016. As part of the many commemorative events that were planned in the run-up to this milestone, the Editorial Board decided to publish a single, special, commemorative issue of the University of Botswana Law Journal (UBLJ) in 2016. A call was issued for submissions on legal issues focussing on, or relevant to, legal developments in Botswana since independence. After a rigorous selection, review and editorial process, we are happy to present, albeit belatedly, the 2016 Special Issue of the UBLJ on legal developments in Botswana since independence.

The Editorial Board is privileged and honoured to preface this special issue of UBLJ with an excellent, informative contribution from Justice Ian Kirby, Judge President of Botswana's Court of Appeal. In addition, there are eight substantive articles and one case review in this collection. All but two of the contributions are from legal scholars or professionals. The contributions from non-lawyers are from academics at the University of Botswana in the fields of Architecture and Planning, and Psychology. The Editors are especially proud of professionals from other disciplines bold enough to "take a hard look at the law".

Although the nine pieces in this collection cover a wide range of topics and issues, they can be classified as mainly concerned with either aspects of public law or the business legal environment. It would appear that Botswana has made significant strides to eliminate patriarchal, tradition-derived discrimination between men and women in its laws; to improve the regulatory environment for the insurance industry; and to modernize and improve some of its intellectual property laws in line with its commitments under some international conventions and treaties. On many of the other topics and issues covered, however, the general or summary observation or conclusion would be that the developments that have occurred are not enough. Much more needs to be done.

Editor in Chief, UBLJ