KASANE CHIEF CHIEF JUSTICES CONFERENCE INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME TO H.E. PRESIDENT KHAMA OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA

Salutations:

Your Excellency President of the Republic of Botswana Lt. Seretse Khama Ian Khama, Honourable Chief General Justices, Deputy Chief Justices and Representatives of the Chief Justices from the member countries of Angola, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia, Zanzibar and Zimbabwe, Honourable Justice McNally of the Court of Appeal of Botswana, the Hon. Dikgakgamatso N Seretse, Minister of Justice Defence and Security, the Hon. Attorney General Dr. A. L. Molokomme, the Honourable Justices of the High Court of Botswana and other judges from Member states aforementioned; The Registrar & Master of the High Court of the Republic of Botswana Mr. G. Nthomiwa; Your Deputies, Regional Magistrates and Chief Magistrates, Our Guest speakers, and Heads of International sponsoring organizations, Member of Parliament for the Chobe District

Mr. D. Mlazie, Council Chairperson Mr. Shamukuni, Kgosi Mwezi, District Commissioner Mr Setumo, the Landboard chairman Mr. Mpofu and your Secretary, Acting Officer Commanding No. 7 District Botswana Police, Senior Supt. Baile, Officer Commanding Botswana Local Police, Supt. N. Moreng, Senior Government officers, Invited guests, ladies and gentlemen

My Lords and Ladyships, Ladies and gentlemen, we are privileged to have the presence of His Excellency Lt. General Seretse Khama Ian Khama, President of the Republic of Botswana, who has traveled a long distance this morning to meet you and say a few words. Let us all welcome him.

The President of the Republic of Botswana took office in April 2008 from his predecessor His Honour Festus G Mogae; and during October 2009, he will seek his own mandate in a general Election. Since taking office however, his Excellency has displayed one trait relevant to our meeting here, in Kasane for the next two days; that of insisting on timeous service

delivery to our communities by all concerned. His Excellency should therefore be interested to hear that meetings of our Forum are all in the quest to improve our service delivery; and to improve our worth to our respective nations and be in the a catalyst promotion of Constitutionalism, Good Governance and the Rule of Law in the whole of our region.

This conference will deliberate as anxiously and seriously as possible, on the issues concerning the contribution of the observance of the Rule of Law to socio-economic development in our region. At the end of our conference we shall publish a statement to the press and make resolutions for implementation and future guidance.

I now have pleasure and call upon your Excellency to open the conference.