



We keep it flowing, for you.

MEDIA RELEASE

WATER UTILITIES WATER TOXIC ALLEGATIONS

Gaborone, October 26, 2016. The headline carried by the Gazette Newspaper of 26 October - 01 November 2016 headlined ***“Toxic, Drink Gaborone Tap Water at Your Own Risk”*** is misleading and has caused unnecessary public panic over the safety of Gaborone tap water.

Water Utilities Corporation (WUC), as the sole water treatment and supply authority in the country treats its water to potable standards in line with set national standards treatment of water for human consumption. As a responsible corporate entity, WUC would never knowingly expose water users to any water that does not meet the set standards. During the course of its operations, upon suspected pollution of the raw water or detection of any harmful substances in its water, it is the Corporation’s policy that the source under question be isolated and other sources of water be used or special treatment be introduced to treat the water to an acceptable drinking standard.

What is disheartening about the Gazette’s article is that it is clearly a sales pitch for some water purification gadgets which supposedly can treat water, already treated by WUC. What is most disturbing is that in their desperation to endorse and sell these products, which are named in the article, they are using the scare tactic to confuse the public. They are discrediting WUC supplied water simply to market their products and make the public part with their hard-earned money. . They have even gone against all journalistic principles and failed to get WUC’s side of the story before publishing such a story which has a potential to cause public anxiety and suffering. It is unfortunate that this story was given such prominence, when random tests on bottled water available in our country have indicated that some bottling companies bottle WUC water direct from the tap and sell it at exorbitant prices.

The Water Utilities Corporation would like to assure the public countrywide that it has their interest at heart. It will continue to uphold the water quality standards it has come to be known and

respected for in the forty-six years that it has been in operation. The Corporation remains committed to supplying them with the highest possible quality water and being one of a few countries in the world where anyone can drink from the tap.