

# BOTSWANA FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS

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## PRESS STATEMENT 05 SEPTEMBER 2019

### **THE BFTU CONDEMNS THE ONGOING XENOPHOBIC ATTACKS IN SOUTH AFRICA AND CALLS FOR NORMALCY.**

1. Botswana Federation of Trade Unions (BFTU) strongly condemns and denounces this recent xenophobic attack against the lives, properties, and businesses of non-South Africans living and working in South Africa. This development is not consistent and compatible with our shared African ubuntu/Botho heritage and consciousness.
2. We find it unacceptable and ignominious that Africans in Africa can be so easily labeled "foreigners" only to expose them as targets for attacks.
3. We therefore call on the South African authorities to deploy the necessary political will to thoroughly investigate and stem the root causes of these incessant xenophobic attacks. Where non-South Africans have broken the rule of law, the extant law should be effectively marshaled to deal with law-breakers and not blanket persecution of non-nationals.
4. Furthermore, we call on African governments, especially those with high volume immigrants or sending countries to do more to ensure better welfare and wellbeing for their citizens so that migration becomes a voluntary choice and not the current zero-sum situation most African migrants' face.
5. Furthermore, we also call on Africans everywhere not to consider and adopt reprisal attacks as they are ill winds that blow no good.
6. African and workers of the world should and must organise, mobilise and collaborate to confront rapacious and irresponsible practices of organised capital and their political lackeys that skew wealth and prosperity distribution against workers and households. Our poverty should unite us to resist and reverse the trend and not be used as a pretext to prey and harm already indigent and vulnerable people.
7. Workers! let us unite against xenophobia!
8. Let brotherly and sisterly love reign across the cities, towns, suburbs, villages and homes across Africa.

**ALL CORRESPONDENCE MUST BE ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL**

9. A united Africa is a stronger Africa.

**One love Africa**

Signed Thusang Butale

Secretary General, BFTU

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