

## **Office of the Ombudsman Launches African Women's Month Celebrations**

The Office of the Ombudsman officially launched its African Women's Month celebrations on 3 August 2026 with a ceremony dedicated to recognising the contributions, resilience and achievements of women within the institution and across the nation.

The event commenced with an opening address by the Assistant to the Ombudsman, who reflected on the history and significance of African Women's Month. The address highlighted the importance of honouring the legacy of African women who have championed equality, justice and social development, while encouraging staff to continue promoting gender equality and women's empowerment in both the workplace and society.

As part of the programme, staff members participated in a heartfelt reflection session during which they shared personal messages explaining why they celebrate Basotho women and identified the Mosotho woman who has inspired them the most. The session celebrated the strength, resilience, leadership and compassion of Basotho women and provided an opportunity for staff to appreciate the positive influence of women in their lives and communities.

In recognition of the invaluable contributions of women within the Office, each female staff member received a personalised appreciation card bearing the message:

*"Thank you for your dedication, resilience and invaluable contribution to the Office of the Ombudsman."*

The launch concluded with a group photograph, symbolising unity and the Office's shared commitment to celebrating and advancing the rights and achievements of women throughout African Women's Month.

The Office of the Ombudsman remains committed to promoting gender equality, protecting human rights and fostering a workplace that values inclusion, respect and equal opportunity for all.

The African Women's Month programme will continue throughout August with a series of activities focusing on health and wellness, gender-based violence awareness, financial literacy, mentorship and community engagement.

Happy African Women's Month!