



18th February 2019

**Botswana Diamonds PLC
("Botswana Diamonds" or the "Company")**

Commencement of intensification drilling on Thorny River with first kimberlite intersections

Botswana Diamonds ("BOD") the AIM and BSE listed explorer is pleased to advise that the planned intensification drilling on its Thorny River prospect in South Africa has commenced, with the first four holes intersecting kimberlite at predicted thicknesses and depths. The programme, which consists of forty reverse circulation angle percussion boreholes drilled to a depth of 30 meters is expected to be completed within the next four weeks.

The purpose of this drilling programme is to enable detailed planning for the proposed bulk sampling programme for Thorny River, which will commence on completion of drilling activities and after the necessary regulatory approvals have been received (which are expected within the next three months). Meanwhile, refurbishment of a nearby diamond processing plant is proceeding according to plan in order to process the bulk sample kimberlite.

This release has been approved by James Campbell, Managing Director of Botswana Diamonds plc, a qualified geologist (Pr.Sci.Nat), a Fellow of the Southern African Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, a Fellow of the Institute of Materials, Metals and Mining (UK) and with over 33-years' experience in the diamond sector.

This announcement contains inside information for the purposes of Article 7 of Regulation (EU) 596/2014. The person who arranged for the release of this announcement on behalf of the Company was James Campbell, Director

A copy of this announcement is available on the Company's website, at www.botswanadiamonds.co.uk

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