



27th March, 2026

PRESS RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE - FUEL PRICES ADJUSTMENTS

1. Botswana Energy Regulatory Authority informs the public that the retail pump prices for petrol, diesel and illuminating paraffin will be adjusted as follows:
 - a. Retail pump price of unleaded petrol 95 will be increased by 505 thebe per litre.
 - b. Retail pump price of diesel 50ppm will be increased by 877 thebe per litre; and
 - c. Retail pump price of illuminating paraffin will be increased by 1055 thebe per litre.
2. The above changes take effect from 00:01hrs on Saturday, 28th March 2026.
3. The upward price adjustment is necessitated by developments in the international oil market. Average Brent Crude oil prices have experienced significant increases, largely driven by geopolitical instabilities, particularly in the Middle East. Average Brent crude oil prices rose sharply between February 2026 and March 2026. Similarly, daily Brent Crude oil prices have been increasing during the month of March 2026 reaching highs of US\$119.50 per barrel, levels last recorded four (4) years ago. Attacks on shipping and energy facilities, along with threats to tanker traffic through the Strait of Hormuz, raised fears of severe supply disruptions. Reported attacks on commercial vessels and potential closures have disrupted maritime operations and forced some tankers to delay or re-route shipments.
4. Furthermore, average prices for refined petroleum products also experienced sharp increases between February and March 2026, reflecting heightened volatility in global oil markets. International prices of Unleaded Petrol 95 (ULP 95) rose by 59.7%, from US\$79.70 to US\$127.29 per barrel. Diesel prices increased by 90.8%, from US\$91.18 to US\$173.93 per barrel, while Illuminating Paraffin rose by 110.9%, from US\$90.97 to US\$191.87 per barrel.
5. In view of these developments, the adjustment is necessary to align local prices to international trends. It is worth mentioning that Botswana is a price taker and therefore, has no influence on international oil price drivers. The Authority will continue to monitor global market trends and make price adjustments as necessary.



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