

PRESS RELEASE

Research Organization Report Findings Inaccurately Attributed to the United States Government

A June 2011 report by a private, non-profit research organization, the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), has been inaccurately characterized by local media as an official report that presents U.S. Government policy and thinking with regard to Botswana. The report is titled "A Report of the CSIS Africa Program: Botswana – Assessing Risks to Stability." Articles in the July 29 edition of the Mmegi Newspaper mistakenly attribute the findings in the CSIS report to the U.S. Africa Command (AFRICOM). While AFRICOM commissioned the report on Botswana, along with nine other countries, the findings presented in the CSIS report are attributable to CSIS only and do not represent the official views of the United States Government.

"Think tanks" like CSIS are regularly commissioned by U.S. Government entities to conduct research that may or may not be used to inform government policy. The think tanks are free to draw their own conclusions and to publish them without interference from the sponsoring entity – in this case the U.S. Government.

The U.S. Government continues to value our excellent relationship with the Government of Botswana and looks forward to making it even stronger.

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