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MINISTRY OF HEALTH PRIVATE BAG 0038 GABORONE

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PRESS RELEASE

RECALL ALERT OF CERTAIN BRANDS OF PEANUT BUTTER PRODUCTS IN THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA.

The Ministry of Health is in receipt of some communication from Food Control: National Health Department - Republic of South Africa, regarding the recall of various brands of peanut butter with **immediate effect**. All the implicated brands, subject to the recall were sourced from a single manufacturer — House of Natural Butters. At the time of the recall, none of these products had been imported into the Botswana market.

As a precautionary measure, the ministry urges consumers not to consume the affected products when they come into contact with them. All other peanut butter products outside the indicated products, are <u>not</u> affected and, therefore, are <u>excluded</u> from the recall.

The affected products are as follows:

Product description	Pick n Pay's No Name Smooth peanut butter, 1kg
	Eden All Natural Smooth peanut butter
	Eden All Natural Crunch peanut butter
	Dischem's Lifestyle Smooth and Crunchy, 400g
	Wazoogles Superfoods- all sizes 32g to 20kg
Reason for recall	Presence of higher than acceptable levels of aflatoxins are a public health concern. Aflatoxins are toxic compounds produced by certain moulds / fungus that contaminate stored food supplies such as peanuts (the raw materials used in manufacturing peanut butter).
Health risk to consumers	Nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain and increased risk of liver cancer.
Advice to the consumer	Customers who bought any of the affected products in South Africa should follow the following steps: • Step 1: Check the packaging for the product description. • Step 2: Return the affected product to the store (or its representative in Botswana) where it was purchased for a full refund with or without proof of purchase. • Step 3: Contact Environmental Health officers in Local authorities for further clarification if needed.
Advice to all manufacturers, distributors and suppliers of peanut butter	Comply with the Food Control (Maximum levels of Aflatoxins in foods) regulation, S.I, 33, 2011 and conduct tests to assess the safety of the products on their shelves and take immediate corrective action.
Further information.	Contact the nearest Local Authority or call Ministry of Health, Nutrition and Food Control Division at 3632121/2135.