

**Digital boxes on sale by April****22 July 2009**

Set Top Boxes (STBs), which are to be used as part of the Broadcasting Digital Migration (BDM) process, are likely to be available at retail stores during the first half of 2010

BDM is a process of converting the broadcast of television signals from analogue to digital technology. The process aims to improve service delivery and further e-governance services to the public.

Addressing reporters ahead of the launch of the Digital Dzonga on Tuesday, Director of Broadcasting Policy in the Department of Communications, Mashilo Boloka, said the boxes are expected to be retailed from April.

"The actual date will be confirmed and communicated to the public as soon as all relevant logistical, legal, technical and policy issues have been addressed. This is anticipated to be during the first half of 2010," he said.

On 1 November 2008, the country officially switched-on the digital signal converting its television broadcasting signals from analogue to digital technology. The analogue signal is expected to be switched-off on 1 November 2011.

In order to receive the digital signal on current analogue TV sets, households will need to purchase STBs that convert the digital signal into analogue signal.