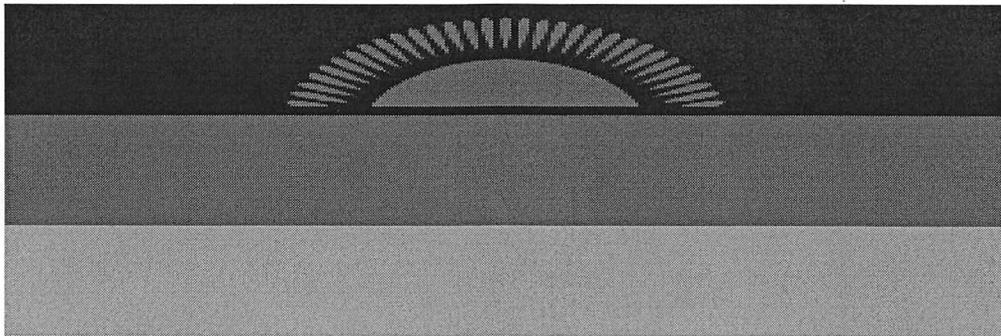




**THE REPUBLIC OF MALAWI**



**STATEMENT  
BY  
HONOURABLE CECILIA E. CHAZAMA,  
MINISTER OF CIVIC EDUCATION, CULTURE  
AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
ON  
PROGRESS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS IN  
MALAWI  
AT  
HIGH LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT  
17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> JULY, 2017  
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## **1.0 Introduction**

**Chairperson,** Malawi, popularly referred to as “the warm heart of Africa” is a landlocked country in Southern Africa with a population of approximately seventeen million people. The economy is predominantly agro based and has a GDP per capita of about \$255. As of 2015, the country's Human Development Index value stands at 0.476 which has improved by 46.4% between 1990 and 2015, and indicates an improvement in the quality of life during the period.

## **2.0 Localization of Sustainable Development Goals in Malawi**

**Chairperson,** the country comprehends and shares the global understanding of the importance of addressing economic, social

and environmental issues standing in the way of sustainable development and well-being. Malawi views implementation of the SDGs as a way to break the cycle of poverty and hunger and understands that they are a means to advance the agenda.

**Chairperson**, the President of the Republic of Malawi, His Excellency Professor Arthur Peter Mutharika has vowed to harness efforts of all stakeholders, including the private sector, development partners and civil society organizations in order to achieve the goals that have been outlined in the SDGs. To support this, His Excellency the President instituted the Public Sector Reforms with the aim of improving efficiency and effectiveness of the public service in its service delivery. The reforms and all national

development activities will be reinforced by the “Three Pillars of Development” which are “Patriotism”, “Integrity” and “Hard Work”. The agenda 2030 for sustainable development therefore offers hope for a brighter future.

## **2.1 Development of SDGs Baseline and Mainstreaming Indicators in the National M&E Framework**

**Chairperson,** Malawi recognizes the importance of mainstreaming the SDGs indicators into the National M & E framework to enable the country to report on progress. In this regard, the country has produced the SDGs Baseline Report to ease the work of sectors in coming up with SDGs

indicator targets. In this respect, Malawi has come up with baseline data on 137 indicators which are aligned to sustainable development. For example, the 2015 data for reducing child mortality was 53 deaths per 1,000 live births, compared with 244 in 1990 giving the country an ambition of setting a target of 20 deaths per 1000 in 5 years.

## **2.2 Incorporation of SDGs in the National Planning Framework**

**Chairperson,** Malawi is guided by the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDS) which is a medium term strategy for Malawi designed to meet its Vision 2020 which outlines

the aspirations of the country in all sectors of the economy and beyond. Currently, the country is in the process of developing its next development blue print, the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy III. This strategy comes at a time when the SDGs are taking shape hence they are being incorporated in the new strategy. This is being done by aligning the key performance indicators to the SDGs.

### **2.3 Institution of the National Planning Commission**

**Chairperson,** Malawi has set up a National Planning Commission (NPC) whose main duties will be to formulate and review policies and strategic plans

for national development and to recommend allocation of resources. This independent body for strategic thinking on matters of national development will ensure that resources are allocated to the country's key priority areas in line with the MGDS III. This has come about due to the financing gaps in Malawi, particularly in infrastructure and small-scale agricultural development. As a result, the government has been exploring ways of closing this gap in a sustainable basis. The commission will also help Malawi to fast-track and help in the domestication of the Sustainable Development Goals whilst simultaneously implementing them.

## 2.4 Popularization of the SDGs to Local Structures

Chairperson, the country understands the importance of ensuring that there is ownership of the SDGs for ease of implementation and is publicizing them to all sectors. The provisions of the SDGs resonate very well with the government agenda of Community Development which is aimed at building capacity of Malawians especially in rural areas to ensure that they have the requisite knowledge and skills to achieve sustainable development. Despite the fact that the SDGs are universal in nature, their implementation will occur at a local level and so local constraints such as

capacity to adopt technologies due to high illiteracy levels and opportunities such as availability of trained extension workers at community level across the country will be taken into consideration. With this in mind, the government in collaboration with all relevant stakeholders including the Private Sector, the Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and Development Partners intends to localize the SDGs in all its programmes because we have comparative advantage in community mobilization and capacity building which will influence the localization, mainstreaming and dissemination of all the SDGs at all levels. This will

accelerate localization, mainstreaming and dissemination of the SDGs to the Community Development programs at national, city, municipality, district and community levels in Malawi.

### **3.0 Conclusion**

**Chairperson**, in conclusion, the finalization of the National Planning Framework, the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy III is key to the full integration of the sustainable development in the country.

**Chairperson**, distinguished guests, I thank you all for your attention.