

MALAWI HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION



STATEMENT ON THE APPOINTMENT OF WOMEN IN DECISION MAKING POSITIONS IN THE PUBLIC SERVICE.

The Human Rights Commission (the Commission) welcomes the recent public appointment of women in different Ministries, Departments and Government Agencies as a necessary and important step in governance and development. Of great significance, is the current notable appointment of four women as follows;

Ms. Colleen Zamba as Secretary of the President and Cabinet (SPC), Dr. Jean Priminta as Director for Financial Intelligence Unit (FIA), Ms. Lingalireni Mihowa as Board Chairperson for National Initiative for Civic Education (NICE) and Ms. Rachael Mijiga as Chief Executive Officer of Malawi Gaming Board.

The Commission commends His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Malawi, Dr. Lazarus McCarthy Chakwera for adhering to section 13(a) (i) & (ii) of the Republican Constitution. This mandates the State to actively promote policies and legislation in achieving gender equality through participation of women in all spheres. In addition, the Constitution calls for the implementation of principles of non-discrimination.

The Commission, specifically applauds His Excellency, the President, for complying with section 11 of the Gender Equality Act on the 40/60 gender quota for women and men respectively. Further, the Commission wishes to commend the Public Affairs Committee for confirming some of these appointments. The Commission is optimistic that this trend will continue and enable the government of Malawi to fulfil both its domestic and international obligations for gender equality and women empowerment.

The Commission would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate the appointed women leaders in their respective capacities for the well-deserved elevation.

**Ms. Scader Louis
CHAIRPERSON**

1st June, 2022