

MALAWI HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION



MEDIA RELEASE

GENDER EQUALITY TODAY FOR A SUSTAINABLE TOMORROW

The Human Rights Commission joins the nation and the rest of the world in commemorating International Women's Day to celebrate, take action and transform women's and girls' lives especially rural women and make a call to action for accelerating gender parity.

In the month of March which is women's month and specifically on the occasion of International Women's Day on 8th March, 2022, we want to reiterate our commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly goal 5 which calls for the achievement of Gender Equality and empower all women and girls in line with the theme for this year **“Gender Equality Today for a Sustainable Tomorrow.”** The theme recognizes women and girls' contributions around the world, who are leading the way on climate change adaptation, mitigation, and response, to build a more sustainable future for all.

The work of rural and urban women in environment and climate change management, impact adaptation, mitigation and response should be given a voice. We call on Government and the nation at large to create spaces for women to contribute to gender related policy discourse through amplification of rural and urban women's voices through women empowerment in access and control of resources. Let us break the bias against women and girls in Malawi and empower them to build a more sustainable future.

In commemorating this day, Malawi as a state party to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) must take stock of women's participation in public life for a better and sustainable future. Worth noting, today His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Malawi, Dr. Lazarus McCarthy Chakwera, launched a website and compendium Profiling Malawian Women Professionals and Executives. The website and the compendium are joint efforts of the Commission, 'HeR Liberty' and 'For Equality' aimed at promoting gender equality through gendered public appointments. Some of the profiles are of women working towards achieving a sustainable environment including through mitigating climate change.

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