

MALAWI HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION



PUBLIC NOTICE

RE-ACCREDITATION PROCESS OF MALAWI HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

Malawi Human Rights Commission is a member of the Global Alliance for National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI). The GANHRI, through its Sub-Committee on Accreditation (SCA) and under the auspices of, and in cooperation with Office of United Nations High Office on Human Rights (OHCHR), is responsible for reviewing and accrediting National Human Rights Institutions (NANHRIs) in its compliance with the Principles Relating to the Status of National Human Rights Institutions (Paris Principles) that were adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1993. These are standards governing the independence, jurisdiction, mandate and composition of NHRIs. The Paris Principles require NHRIs to be independent in law, membership, operations, policy and control of resources. They also require that NHRIs have a broad mandate; pluralism in membership; broad functions; adequate powers; adequate resources; cooperative methods; and engage with international human rights bodies.

NHRIs that fully comply with the Paris Principles are accredited with 'A status', while those that partially comply are accredited with 'B status'. 'A status' NHRIs have independent participation rights at the UN Human Rights Council, its subsidiary bodies and some General Assembly bodies and mechanisms. They are eligible for full membership of GANHRI, including the right to vote and hold governance positions. Institutions are reviewed by the SCA every five years

The Commission was accredited with "A" Status in 2006 and has been re-accredited twice with the same status. The 'A' Status for the Commission also reflects Malawi Government's commitment to promote and protect human rights in Malawi. The Commission is due for re-accreditation in this year. As such, the Commission submitted its supporting documents to Sub Committee on Accreditation of GANHRI on 1st June, 2023 as per the requirements in readiness for the re-accreditation meeting from 23rd to 27th October, 2023. The outcome document, the Report and Recommendations, will be communicated to the Commission soon after the session.

The Commission appreciates the financial and technical support it receives from all its stakeholders including Government and Development partners during the implementation of its constitutional and statutory mandates. During the period, those partners wishing to support the process by providing independent information on the work of the Commission to the Sub-Committee on Accreditation of GANHRI should contact the Commission before 1st July, 2023.

Ms. Habiba Osman

Executive Secretary

12th June, 2023