



REPUBLIC OF MALAWI

STATEMENT

For immediate release

18th November, 2019

HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT PROF. ARTHUR PETER MUTHARIKA COMMEMORATES THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

On 20th November 2019, Malawi will join the world in commemorating the 30th Anniversary of implementing the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). As we commemorate this day, His Excellency the President, Professor Arthur Peter Mutharika wishes all children in Malawi a happy life and a prosperous future.

This commemoration also marks a time that we need as a society to reflect on how we live with children and how we alongside our Government are ensuring the protection and development of children.

His Excellency the President wishes to assure all children, parents and all Malawians that he and his Government will see to it that children are protected and supported to grow into prosperous citizens. As such, President Professor Arthur Peter Mutharika commits his administration and the Government to undertake the following;

First, Government will continue formulating and enforcing responsive policies and pieces of legislation that actively promote children's rights. Those who violate children's rights will be punished according to the law.

Second, Government will continue increasing resource allocation to the sectors of service for children. These include Ministries of Education, Health, Gender and other agencies.

Third, Government undertakes to increase children's participation in decision making process at various levels including children's parliament. Further, Government will roll out children's parliament in all districts; promote children corners at community levels; and develop national child participation guidelines in decision making processes.

Fourth, Government will train more Community Child Protection Workers in order to create more skilled human capacity for supporting children at community level.

Fifth, Government will implement mass birth registration by 2021 in order to ensure that every Malawian child is a citizen and is duly identified by the state. This will ease various processes for protecting and developing children.

Sixth, Government will take measures to integrate more children from child care institutions to their families or relations. The majority of children in institutions have homes, family or relations: Therefore, Government will continue supporting vulnerable families for them to be able to provide adequate care for their children.

His Excellency the President reiterates that his Government is committed to promoting the rights of children. Above all, the President urges all parents and guardians to always remember to look after our children well so that they grow into responsible citizens.



MGEME KALILANI

PRESIDENTIAL PRESS SECRETARY AND SPOKESPERSON

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