



Republic of Malawi

**STATEMENT DELIVERED BY SECRETARY FOR YOUTH AND
SPORTS DEVELOPMENT MR. JUSTIN SAIDI**

AT THE

**48TH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION
ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT, NEW YORK**

13TH TO 17TH APRIL, 2015

- Mr Chairman, Malawi considers this session as an opportunity to advance efforts to ensure sustained economic growth and development. In this connection, we wish to thank the UN System, which under UNFPA, worked tirelessly with member states to come up with the Framework of Actions for Follow Up to the ICPD Beyond 2014.
- We reaffirm that dignity of the human beings is linked to human rights, which together are preconditions for a thriving and inclusive society. In this regard, we realize that investing in individual human rights, capabilities and dignity across multiple sectors and throughout the life course is the foundation of sustainable development.
- Taking into account the weaknesses of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with regards to human rights, young people and population dynamics, we are supportive of language in the outcome of the 48th Session of the CPD (Resolution 2015/1) that addresses the following:
 1. Completing the unfinished MDGs, especially MDG 5B;
 2. Addressing inequalities;
 3. Autonomy and empowerment, especially of women and girls;
 4. Strengthening health systems;
 5. Investing in young people;

6. Achieving the demographic dividend;
7. Human rights, including reproductive rights;
8. Urbanization and pro-active planning;
9. Population dynamics, data and planning for development.

- In this regard, in order to build on the successes we have achieved to date, and to ensure continued integration of ICPD Programme of Action beyond 2014 as well as Post 2015 Development Agenda in national development plans, Malawi will continue to implement interventions as follows:

1. Develop, strengthen and implement effective, integrated, coordinated, and coherent national strategies targeting marginalized or disadvantaged groups, to eradicate poverty and inequality;
2. Provide evidence based comprehensive education for young people;
3. Strengthen capacity of national institutions and partners to generate, analyse and use population data disaggregated by age and sex.
4. Increase and or sustain investments in education for girls;

5. Adopt and implement legislation, policies and measures that prevent, punish and eradicate gender-based violence within and outside the family;
6. Ensure equal opportunities for women to positions of power equal to those of men in all sectors of public life;
7. Eradicate all harmful practices, including child, early and forced marriages through integrated multi-sectoral strategies and through the promulgation and enforcement of appropriate laws;
8. Ensure social protection and income security of older persons, with particular consideration for women and their participation in the design and implementation of policies, programmes and plans that affect their lives;
9. Enable full participation of persons with disabilities in social, economic and political life;
10. Respect, protect, and promote the human rights of all people living with HIV, and enact protective laws facilitating access to health and social services to ensure that all persons living with, and at risk of, HIV can live free from stigma and

discrimination;

11. Eliminate Mother to Child Transmission of HIV;

12. Ensure that young women and girls are not left behind in the HIV response.

- We are pleased to reiterate Malawi's support to the implementation of the ICPD beyond 2014, and Integration of Population Issues into Sustainable Development Including Post 2015 Development Agenda.
- Mr Chairman, I thank you.