



REPUBLIC OF MALAWI

INTERVENTION POINTS TO BE DELIVERED BY

**HONOURABLE NANCY TEMBO, M.P.,
MINISTER OF FORESTRY AND NATURAL RESOURCES,**

**DURING SESSION EIGHT OF THE
AFRICAN REGIONAL REVIEW MEETING (ARRM) OF THE
LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES (LDCs) UNDER THE
THEME “*BUILDING CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND
ACCELERATING THE ENERGY TRANSITION IN AFRICAN
LDCS*”**

26TH FEBRUARY, 2021

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
LILONGWE 3

- **Fellow Ministers;**
- **Distinguished delegates;**
- **Ladies and Gentlemen.**

Current climate change impacts make it difficult to achieve sustainable development in most LDCs, including Malawi. Climate change is directly impacting the pillars of sustainable development namely: environmental sustainability; economic growth; and societal well-being. Due to severe climate change impacts, the environment is being destabilized, economic growth is restricted and there is increased poverty and inequalities in the Societies. To promote sustainable development in all countries within the context of climate change, climate resilient pathways need to undergo significant transformations.

Climate disasters exert a lot of pressure on our already constrained Governments' domestic budgets. For instance, a Post Disaster Needs Assessment of Cyclone Idai estimated that Malawi lost more than US\$ 220.2 million, while the total cost for recovery was pegged at US\$ 370.5 million. The need for more attention towards climate adaptation and resilience cannot be overemphasized.

Distinguished Delegates;

Ladies and Gentlemen.

Apart from having all the necessary enabling policy frameworks, strategic documents, plans and programmes in place to: guide coordinated climate action in LDCs, there is need to develop and implement ambitious and realistic Nationally Determined Contributions under the Paris Agreement on Climate Change; develop implementable National Adaptation Plans; and to invest meaningfully into adaptation and resilient measures in local communities while taking into consideration Nature- Based Solutions.

I am aware that for most of our nations, our climate resilience investment areas are well outlined and prioritised in our strategic documents, but our main challenge remains dedicated financing to implement these programmes. As one way of harmonising climate change management, Malawi established a National Climate Change Fund as a national basket for implementation of various climate related projects. However, capitalization of the Fund is still a challenge and I believe these same challenges are applicable to most of your countries too.

I hope that this meeting will explore how adaptation to climate and disaster resilient efforts can best be utilised to propel

sustainable development of LDCs as we move towards a new Program of Action.

I thank you for your attention.