



Nyumba ya Malamulo

Newsletter

Representing the Aspirations of the People of Malawi

December, 2025

Special Edition

Volume 2



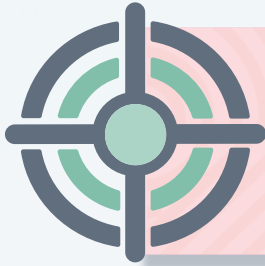
**PRESIDENT
MUTHARIKA
OPENS 52ND
SESSION OF
PARLIAMENT**

OTHER STORIES:

Hon. Suleman
elected as Speaker

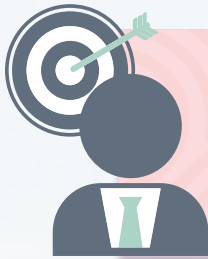
New Parliamentary
Commission Constituted

PARLIAMENT OF MALAWI PROFILE



VISION

To be a Parliament that is independent, accessible and responsive to the people's needs.



MISSION

To perform representative, legislative and oversight functions for good governance.



GOAL

A Parliament that works for the attainment of the aspirations of the people of Malawi.



CORE VALUES

- Professionalism
- Responsiveness
- Accountability
- Integrity
- Service delivery
- Excellence

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Message from the Speaker



Let me welcome you, our esteemed readers, to the Special Edition of the Nyumba ya Malamulo Newsletter with a special focus on the start of the 2025 to 2030 Parliamentary Term.

Firstly, let me express my deepest appreciation to Honourable Members of Parliament for entrusting me with the responsibility of overseeing the august House and leading the institution of Parliament as your Speaker.

Let me also extend my warmest congratulations to all Honourable Members whom Malawians have entrusted to represent them, make laws and hold the Government accountable for the next five years. Your continued commitment reminds us of the noble responsibility we collectively carry—serving the people of Malawi.

On behalf of fellow Members of Parliament, I would like to vow that the 2025 to 2030 Term of Parliament will be the most hands-on and practical Parliament leaving no stone unturned as we take on this huge responsibility of representing the aspirations of Malawians through legislation and oversight.

As I said in my acceptance speech, this must be a Parliament that leads by example and contributes to efforts on economic recovery and food security, challenges that Malawians are looking up to us to resolve.

Returning home to this institution, and seeing the familiar faces I have worked with as an ‘ordinary’ Member of Parliament, has been both refreshing and encouraging.

My agenda as Speaker is straightforward: to make Parliament relevant, responsive, and responsible. This vision can only be achieved if we work as a team and I will count on the full support of the Honourable Members of Parliament, Parliament Management and staff to ensure that our actions reflect diligence, prudence, and accountability.

In gearing up for a proactive Parliament in the next five years, Members of Parliament have so far undergone orientations on their roles as MPs as well as practical sessions on oversight role in Committees.

It has been a great opportunity to learn, relearn, and for returning Members of Parliament, an opportunity to unlearn and start this term on a clean slate. I urge all Honourable Members to make use of all the resources that our eminent resource persons made available to us.

It would be remiss of me if I did not extend heartfelt appreciation to various stakeholders who made it possible for the orientations, and receptions to be such a success. I would like to assure all our partners that the 2025 to 2030 Parliament is more than ready to work with them as we strive to serve our people.

Lastly, a word to all Honourable Members and Parliament staff, is that we must remove obstacles that hinder our progress knowing that the journey will not always be smooth, but as the saying goes, “difficult roads often lead to beautiful destinations.” I have confidence in our collective ability.

It is an honour to serve alongside you, and I humbly submit myself to the service of this institution we proudly call home.

Let us commit to work—and work we must.

Thank you, and may God bless us all and our nation.

Sameer Gaffar Suleman, MP

Speaker of Parliament

Word from the Clerk



As the 2025–2030 Parliamentary Term begins, let me on behalf of Parliament of Malawi Secretariat extend my warmest welcome to all newly elected Honourable Members of Parliament and congratulate them on their hard won victories.

Olemekezeka, takulandirani and we stand ready to support all Members of Parliament with professionalism and commitment as they embark on this journey of legislation, oversight, and representation.

This new term also marks the beginning of a fresh chapter in leadership here at Parliament. We are delighted to welcome the new Speakership: the Speaker Right Honourable Sameer Gaffar Suleman, MP, the First Deputy Speaker Honourable Victor Musowa, MP and the Second Deputy Speaker, Honourable Esther Jolobala, MP.

The Speaker has already challenged us to work diligently and demonstrate our skills by being leaders who use our competencies for the growth of this institution.

Alongside the Speaker, the new Parliamentary Service Commission ably led by the Speaker is here to provide strategic oversight and institutional direction, ensuring that Parliament remains strong, effective, and responsive to the needs of Honourable Members and the citizens they represent.

Ahead of the First Meeting of the 52nd Session of Parliament which His Excellency the President, Prof. Arthur Peter Mutharika opened, the Secretariat held one Orientation workshop as a critical first step in equipping new and returning Members with the knowledge, skills, and networks required to discharge their constitutional roles effectively.

The sessions covered administration and entitlements, Parliament's relationship with other governance institutions, and mastery of parliamentary procedures. This blend of practical

guidance and strategic insight ensured that both first time and returning Members are empowered to contribute meaningfully to the work of Parliament.

I would like to describe the orientation workshop as a success but this would not have been possible without the generous support of our partners. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the UN Family, the European Union through the Phungu Wanga Project, Save the Children, the Centre for Civil Society Strengthening, the Chinese Embassy, AFIDEP, and our valued partners in the private sector including Standard Bank, First Discount House, National Bank of Malawi, MASM, Old Mutual, CDH Investment Bank, NBS Bank, ESCOM, Nico Holdings, and First Capital Bank. Their contributions have ensured that Honourable Members are well prepared to serve with confidence and impact.

The orientation programme was just the beginning of a series of capacity building initiatives that Parliament has prepared for the Members of Parliament. In addition to the orientation on Parliamentary Committees held on 3rd November, 2025, MPs will go through the Parliamentary Training Programme soon.

As we move from election to action, let us build a Parliament that is not only the guardian of democracy but also a driver of progress for all Malawians. Together, we will ensure that every decision made within these walls echoes positively in the lives of our citizens.

Fiona Kalembe

Clerk of Parliament

Editor's Note



Greetings!

Welcome to the special edition of the Nyumba Ya Malamulo Newsletter.

As you are aware, Members of Parliament have just been elected to office following the 16th September, 2025 General Election. First and foremost, let me congratulate Honourable Members on their election to the august House. I wish them success as they take on this new role.

This year, Parliament of Malawi undertook several activities worth sharing. However, this special edition of Nyumba ya Malamulo Newsletter focuses on activities that have taken place since the 16th September General Election.

In this issue, we give you highlights of the orientation programme for Honourable Members which was held from 20th to 24th October, 2025 in Lilongwe; the State Opening of the 52nd Session of Parliament by His Excellency the State President Professor Arthur Peter Mutharika, the election of the Speaker and deputies as well as the orientation on Parliamentary Committees which prepared the Members for the oversight role that lies ahead of them.

We will also hear from selected Members of Parliament, new and returning, who are sharing their insights on how they will approach the next five years as they carry out their representative, legislative and oversight roles.

This 2025 to 2030 Parliamentary Term has received some interesting individuals. Apart from two Honourable Members who retired from the Defence Force and five sets of MPs who are following in the footsteps of their parents, there are two sets of siblings that we have featured in this special edition of the newsletter.

It is only befitting that this special edition of Nyumba ya Malamulo Newsletter has come out at this time to commemorate the start of a new Parliamentary term and welcome the Members in style.

I urge you to take a moment to read the newsletter to get insights about Parliament of Malawi as the institution continues to represent the aspirations of the people of Malawi.

Enjoy the read!

Gerald Kampani
Chief Public Relations Officer

President Mutharika opens 52nd Session of Parliament



President Mutharika signs the visitors book at Parliament



HE Prof. Mutharika receives a Presidential salute



Prof. Mutharika making way into the Chamber

BY WHYGHTONE KAPASULE

President Arthur Peter Mutharika officially opened the 52nd Session of Parliament at the Parliament Building in Lilongwe on 31st October, 2025 setting out his administration's mid-year priorities aimed at restoring economic stability, strengthening food security, and improving public service delivery.

In his address, President Mutharika said Malawians had "spoken with a united voice" during the 16th September General Election by choosing proven leadership, pledging to lead with humility and unity

He congratulated the new Speaker of Parliament, Right Honourable Sameer Suleman and all Members of Parliament, urging them to place national interests above personal gains.



Leader of the House Hon. Jappie Mhango presents a statement to President Mutharika

Pictorial of State Opening of Parliament

His Excellency the President Professor Arthur Peter Mutharika officially opened the 52nd Session of Parliament at the Parliament Building in Lilongwe on 31 October, 2025. Besides outlining his government's priorities following his election on 16 September, 2025, the President also congratulated Rt. Hon. Sameer Suleman on his election as Speaker of Parliament. The following pictures highlight the State Opening Ceremony of the 52nd Session of Parliament.



1. The Speaker, Rt. Hon. Sameer Suleman (R) interacts with the Leader of House Hon. Jappie Mhango and the Clerk of Parliament Fiona Kalembe as they await the President's arrival. 2. President Mutharika receives the Presidential salute at the Parliament Building mini stadium 3. The Speaker, Rt. Hon. Suleman and the Leader of House Hon. Mhango brief the President and the First Lady, Gertrude Mutharika in the Presidential Lounge. 4. Members of Parliament welcome the President in the Chamber 5. Leader of House Hon. Mhango hands over the State Opening speech to President Mutharika 6. The Vice President, Rt. Hon. Justice Jane Ansah, SC (Rtd) (R) and the Second Vice President, Rt. Hon. Enoch Chihana were also present at the State Opening. 7. The Judges were also in attendance as per tradition.

Parliament elects Hon. Suleman as Speaker

BY WHYGHTONE KAPASULE

On 29th October, 2025, Parliament of Malawi elected Right Honourable Sameer Suleman, Member of Parliament for Blantyre City Chigumula BCA-Club Banana Constituency, as Speaker of the National Assembly.

During the election that was conducted at Parliament Building in Lilongwe, Right Honourable Suleman secured 134 votes, defeating Honourable Peter Dimba, Member of Parliament for Lilongwe Phirilanjuzi, who garnered 85 votes.

In other elections, Honourable Victor Musowa, Member of Parliament for Mulanje Bale, was elected First Deputy Speaker, while Honourable Esther Jolobala, Member for Machinga East, was voted Second Deputy Speaker.

In his acceptance speech, Right Honourable Suleman pledged to preside over the affairs of the House with impartiality to ensure that every voice is heard.

"I accept this responsibility with humility, gratitude and unwavering commitment to upholding the dignity, integrity and constitutional authority of this House." He said.

According to Section 53 (5-7) of the Constitution of the Republic of Malawi, the functions and duties of the Speaker of Parliament primarily revolve around presiding over the House's proceedings, maintaining order, and ensuring the observance of the Constitution and Standing Orders.



Hon. Suleman waves after being elected



Hon. Suleman takes oath of office in company of spouse



Hon. Mwenifumbo (L) and Hon. Navitcha (R) drag new Speaker to take oath of office

Speaker's Profile

Right Honourable Sameer Gaffar Suleman, MP is a Malawian politician born on 20th June, 1977. He was elected Speaker of Parliament of Malawi on 29th October, 2025.

Right Honourable Suleman is a two term Member of Parliament for Blantyre City Chigumula BCA-Club Banana Constituency (formerly Blantyre City South East) having been elected in 2019 and then 2025.

He has served in various Parliamentary Committees including the Portfolio Committee on Agriculture and Irrigation where he was elected Chairperson and served in that position from 2019 to 2025.

He has also demonstrated leadership in the transportation sector and in football administration. He is a business person and served as Chairperson of the Road Transporters Association (RTOA) from 2016 to 2018.

In football administration, Right Honourable Suleman served as President of the Football Association of Malawi where he gained immense exposure and experience in national and regional sports administration.

Right Honourable Sameer Suleman is married to Ruksana and has three children, Tahir, Abdul and Safeera.

House confirms new Parliamentary Service Commission

BY WHYGHTONE KAPASULE

In a quest to enhance good governance, Parliament confirmed the appointment of Members of the new Parliamentary Service Commission (PSC) for 2025 to 2030, in accordance with Section 194 d (1).

The PSC is established under Section 194 (b) of the Constitution whose Chairperson is the Speaker, Right Honourable Sameer Suleman, MP.

The Commissioners are:

Honourable Chifundo Makande, MP (DPP) – Balaka Rivirivi Constituency, Honourable Daniel Chitonya, MP (MCP) – Karonga Town Constituency, Honourable Fred Penjani Kamlepo Kalua (UTM) – Blantyre City Soche Zingwangwa Constituency, Honourable Ismail Rizzq Mkumba (UDF) – Blantyre City Ndirande Malabada Nyambadwe and Honourable Beatrice Roseby Mwale (PP) – Kasungu North Constituency.

Speaking after the confirmation, First Deputy Speaker Hon. Victor Musowa congratulated the new Commissioners that he described as youthful, urging them to uplift the values of the House.

Leader of House Honourable Jappie Mhango also congratulated the new Commissioners pledging that the government will support the commission considering the enormous responsibility that they shoulder.

According to Section 6 of the Parliamentary Service Act, the PSC is responsible for determining size and organization, and establishment of posts of the Parliamentary Service, determining conditions of service of Members of Parliament and of Parliament staff.

The Commission is also responsible for appointing, confirming and promoting employees in the Parliamentary Service.



Rt. Hon. Sameer Suleman
Chairperson



Hon. Chifundo Makande
Member



Hon. Daniel Chitonya
Member



Hon. Fred Penjani K. Kalua
Member



Hon. Ismail R. Mkumba
Member



Hon. Beatrice R. Mwale
Member

Speaker announces Parliament political leadership

BY WHYGHTONE KAPASULE

At the commencement of the First Meeting of the 52nd Session of Parliament on 5th November, 2025, the Speaker of Parliament announced the leadership of the House as submitted by various political parties.

For the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP), the leadership comprises Hon. Jappie Mhango as Leader of the House, Hon. Shadric Namalomba as Deputy Leader of the House, Hon. Patricia Wiskes as Government Chief Whip, and Hon. Martha Ngwira Munthali as Government Deputy Whip.

For the Malawi Congress Party (MCP), Hon. Simplex Chithyola Banda will serve as Leader of Opposition, with Hon. Moses Kunkuyu as Whip and Hon. Monica Chang'anamuno as Deputy Whip.

From the UTM party, the team comprises Hon. Dr. Patricia Kaliati as Leader of UTM in the House, Hon. Edgar Kapalamula as Deputy Leader of UTM in the House, Hon. Felix Njawala as Whip, and Hon. Kenneth Ndovie as Deputy Whip. The United Democratic Front (UDF) has Hon. Aisha Mambo Adams as Leader of UDF in the House, Hon. Ismail Rizzq Mkumba as Whip, and Hon. Tulinje Muluzi as Deputy Whip.

From the People's Party (PP), Hon. Duncan Kaonga is the Leader of Peoples Party in the House, while Hon. Noah Chimpeni as the party's Whip in the House.

On the Leader of Opposition, the Speaker further announced that, in accordance with Standing Order 35, Hon. Simplex Chithyola Banda, MP for Kasungu South, would be officially recognised as Leader of Opposition.



Hon. Jappie Mhango
Leader of the House



Hon. Shadric Namalomba
Deputy Leader of House



Hon. Patricia Wiskes
Govt Chief Whip



Hon. Martha Ngwira
Deputy Govt Chief Whip



Hon. Simplex Chithyola
Leader of Opposition



Hon. Moses Kunkuyu
MCP Whip



Hon. Monica Chang'anamuno
MCP Deputy Whip



Hon. Patricia Kaliati
UTM House Leader



Hon. Edgar Kapalamula
UTM Deputy Leader



Hon. Felix Njawala
UTM Whip



Hon. Kenneth Ndovie
UTM Deputy Whip



Hon. Aisha M. Adams
UDF House Leader



Hon. Ismail R. Mkumba
UDF Whip



Hon. Tulinje Muluzi
UDF Deputy Whip



Hon. Duncan Kaonga
PP House Leader



Hon. Noah Chimpeni
PP Whip

New MPs Challenged to Turn from Election to Action



Fiona Kalemba

BY WHYGHTONE KAPASULE

Clerk of Parliament Fiona Kalemba urged all Members of Parliament-elect to turn campaign promises into tangible action that improves the lives of Malawians as they leave the elections behind.

Speaking during the official opening of the five day orientation programme for Members of Parliament-elect for the 2025–2030 parliamentary term on 20th October, 2025 at the Bingu International

Convention Centre in Lilongwe, Kalemba reminded them of the weight of their mandate, stressing the need for discipline, integrity, and commitment to national service.

The orientation was held under the theme 'From Election to Action: Empowering Parliamentarians for Impactful Legislation, Governance and Transformative Leadership.'

The Clerk further congratulated the newly elected MPs on their victory in the 16th September General Election, describing Parliament as their "new home" for the next five years.

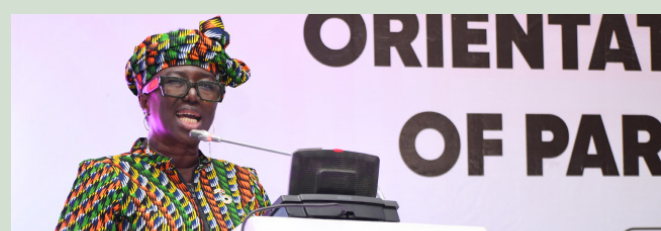
In her closing remarks at the end of the orientation programme, Kalemba called on MPs to embrace continuous learning and master the Constitution and Standing Orders, describing them as essential tools for parliamentary effectiveness.

"The Constitution and Standing Orders you have received are not mere handouts – they are your daily companions. Read them, mark them, revisit them, and make them your own," she stressed.

In her keynote address, the United Nations Resident Coordinator, Ms Rebecca Ada Dontoh challenged the Members of Parliament-elect to make tough decisions that positively impact the lives of ordinary people.



Members of Parliament-elect



Ada Dontoh giving her keynote address



Chinese Ambassador to Malawi, Her Excellency Lu Xu addressing the new MPs



Some of the MPs-elect follow a presentation

The Making of a Young MP: Hon. Khombeni's Path to Parliament at 26



Hon. Khombeni in the House

BY SUZGO KHUNGA

Honourable Rodwell Khombeni, is a Member of Parliament for Dowa Ngala Constituency who has made it into the august House at the age of 26. He talks with Suzgo Khunga on this political journey he has ventured into...

Q: Tell us about your background?

As a first-born in my family, I've always been driven to serve and lead. I hold a Bachelor's Degree in Human Resources Management from Malawi Assemblies of God University. My academic and professional journey has equipped me with the skills and knowledge to effectively serve our nation.

Q: What motivated you to become an MP?

I've always wanted to make a meaningful impact in my community and contribute to national development. The desire to serve our nation and amplify the voices of our youth drove me to take this bold step. I recognized that our country's progress hinges on the active participation of young people, and I sought to be a catalyst for change.

Q: What challenges, if any, did you experience on the journey to being an MP?

Regrettably, I faced skepticism and age-related biases during my campaign.

Opponents questioned my maturity and readiness to serve, attempting to undermine my passion and vision. However, I remained resolute, focusing on the trust placed in me by the people.

Q: As the youngest MP, what difference will you bring to the House and how will you represent the young people?

I pledge to bring a fresh perspective, energy, and unwavering commitment to this House. My priorities include championing youth empowerment, education, and economic opportunities. I'll ensure the youth voice is heard and valued. I'm committed to serving our nation, driving progress, and shaping a brighter future for Malawi.

During my campaign, opponents used my age to suggest I'm not mature enough to serve. I'll prove them wrong. I'll work tirelessly to represent my constituents and ensure the youth are at the forefront of our nation's development. We need new blood and fresh ideas to drive progress.

Q: What do you like to do in your spare time?

I like listening to music, boating, travelling and playing football.



Hon. Khombeni (2nd from right) with fellow Members in the House

From Induction to Inspiration New MPs Complete Week-Long Orientation

"Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other." – John F. Kennedy.

BY WHYGHTONE KAPASULE

This notion aptly captures the spirit that defined the week-long Orientation Programme for Members of Parliament-elect, which ran from 20th to 24th October, 2025, at the Bingu International Convention Centre (BICC) in Lilongwe and marked the end of a transformative week of learning designed to prepare the legislators for effective service in the National Assembly.

For five intensive days, the new lawmakers immersed themselves in sessions designed to build competence, integrity, and confidence as they prepare to take up their legislative duties in the National Assembly.

The programme, organised by Parliament of Malawi and brought together local and international experts – equipped the 223 MPs-elect with knowledge on lawmaking, oversight, ethical conduct, and representation.

Day One: Understanding the Institution and Role of an MP

Day One set the tone for an engaging and insightful orientation, designed to prepare new legislators for the responsibilities and rewards of parliamentary service. Sessions blended practical guidance with institutional knowledge, covering both the privileges and duties of being an MP.

Clerk of Parliament, Fiona Kalembe opened the day with an overview of Parliament's structure, core functions, and support departments, outlining MPs' roles in Plenary Sessions, committees, and international bodies.

This was followed by MacDonald Kabondo, Head of Human Resource, who briefed Members on Conditions of Service—including entitlements, allowances, financial procedures, and communication protocols.

In the afternoon, Ian Mwenye, Head of Protocol, Public Relations and Civic Education, and Harvey Chigumula, Chief Protocol Officer, guided MPs through the essentials of protocol, diplomacy, and appropriate conduct during official and public engagements.

The day concluded with Wang Xiaojue, Director of the Political Section at the Chinese Embassy, delivering a



Fiona Kalembe closes the orientation

talk on "Why the One-China Principle Is So Important to China-Malawi Friendship," underscoring the diplomatic foundations of the two nations' enduring partnership.

Day Two: Evidence and Economics in Focus

On the second day, presentations centered on strengthening Parliament's capacity to legislate based on research and data.

Velia Manyonga, Head of the Parliament Library and Research, and Dr. Eliya Zulu, Executive Director of the African Institute for Development Policy (AFIDEP), led a session titled "Optimising the Impact of Parliament through Evidence-Informed Legislation and Oversight Functions."

Professor Edrinnie Kayambazinthu from the University of Malawi's Department of Languages followed with a lively session on "Techniques for Clear and Confident Speech Delivery during Debates and Public Events" – guiding MPs on structuring arguments and engaging confidently in the Chamber.

Later, Louis Loti, Head of the Budget Office, and Dr. Winford Masanjala, Associate Professor of Economics at the University of Malawi, unpacked the intricacies of "Budgeting and Financial Oversight," helping MPs understand the national budget cycle, how to analyse budget documents, and how to monitor public expenditure effectively.

Day Three: Ethics, Oversight and Accountability

As the orientation deepened, the third day focused on legal and ethical dimensions of parliamentary work. Director of Public Officers' Declarations, Michael Chiusiwa, opened the day by stressing the centrality

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Members of Parliament-elect pose for a group photograph after the official opening

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of transparency and the mandatory declaration of assets as a cornerstone of public trust. Former Solicitor General and Secretary for Justice, Justice Anthony Kamanga (Rtd.), then provided a comprehensive overview of the legislative process – from bill drafting to passage – encouraging MPs to use their lawmaking powers responsibly.

Later, former Clerk of Parliament, Mr. Roosevelt Gondwe, discussed the structure of government and how it shapes Parliament's legislative and oversight functions. He cautioned MPs to balance authority with accountability.

In the afternoon, governance expert Dr. Henry Chingaipe led discussions on Parliament's engagement with ministries, departments, and civil society to improve service delivery and strengthen democratic governance.

Day Four: Parliamentary Practice and Standards

With the end of the week approaching, the fourth day turned to parliamentary rules, privileges, and ethical standards. Deputy Clerk of Parliament (Procedural Services) Joseph Manzi guided MPs through the Standing Orders – the backbone of parliamentary proceedings.

Head of Legal Services, Tilly Likomwa, followed with a presentation on National Assembly Powers and Privileges, addressing how MPs can safeguard the integrity of the institution.

In the afternoon, the spotlight shifted to ethics. Dr. Daniel Greenberg, CB, Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards for the UK Parliament, delivered a virtual lecture on the UK Parliament's Code of Conduct, outlining accountability mechanisms for misconduct. Complementing this, Chief Clerk Assistant Longani Kabitchi presented The Case for a Code of Conduct for the Parliament of Malawi, introducing a proposed draft code for adoption.

The day ended with a practical session on initiating and processing key House Business – from motions and petitions to financial bills – led by Assistant Clerk of Parliament, Moffat Makande.

Day Five: Sharpening Chamber Skills and Closing the Chapter

The final day brought an engaging close to the week, with practical sessions focused on Effective Participation in Chamber Business. Former Nigerian legislator and ex-Speaker of the Akwa Ibom State Assembly, Hon. Onofiok Luke, led a session on strategies for impactful debate and effective representation.

Hon. Priscilla Nyokabi Kanyua, EBS, former Kenyan MP and governance advisor, built on this with a dynamic presentation on how to process motions, handle petitions, and manage Private Members' Bills – sharing lessons from the Kenyan Parliament.

At 12:30 p.m., Clerk of Parliament Fiona Kalembe officially closed the orientation, commending participants for their enthusiasm and urging them to apply the knowledge gained to strengthen the work of the House.

Immediately after, MPs-elect proceeded to the Parliament Building for a dress rehearsal ahead of their official swearing-in ceremony, which was held on Monday, 27th and Tuesday, 28th October 2025.

A Parliament Ready to Serve

By the end of the five-day programme, the MPs-elect left BICC not just as representatives of their constituencies, but as informed legislators ready to engage with the nation's pressing policy issues.

Through a rich blend of local expertise and international perspectives, the orientation reinforced Parliament's vision of cultivating an accountable, informed, and responsive Legislature for Malawi's future.



Hon. Priscilla Kanyua shares the Kenyan experience on CDF Management

New and returning MPs speak on plans, expectations

Nyumba ya Malamulo spoke to selected Members of Parliament, new and returning, to seek their views on what difference they hope to bring in the way they exercise oversight over the Executive and representation of their constituents.

Hon. Mines Ng'oma, Mzimba East



As a new Member of Parliament, I intend to bring a spirit of integrity, transparency, and service to the way I carry out my duties.

In exercising oversight over the Executive, I will focus on ensuring that government policies and projects are implemented effectively, and that public resources are used responsibly for the benefit of all citizens.

In representing my constituents, I plan to remain actively engaged with them – listening to their concerns, sharing parliamentary updates, and making sure their voices are heard in national decision-making.

My goal is to bridge the gap between Parliament and the people, and to ensure that our actions in the House translate into real, positive change in our communities.

Hon. Mary Khembo Maulidi, Neno East



As a returning Member of Parliament, I commit to being more proactive and engaged in parliamentary proceedings, while maintaining open and regular communication with my constituents, ensuring their concerns and issues are heard and addressed. I will prioritize key areas such as agriculture, education, healthcare, infrastructure development, and economic empowerment, ensuring that my constituency benefits from government programmes and initiatives.

Ultimately, I aim to be a servant leader, dedicated to serving the people of Neno East with integrity, transparency, and commitment, and to make a meaningful difference in their lives.

Hon. Gilbert Khonyongwa, Mulanje North



As a legal practitioner, I am trained to analyze and draft legislation, ensuring that laws are clear, concise, and effective and I would be in a position to input whenever there is a proposed enactment or amendment of a piece of legislation.

As a Member of Parliament with a law background, I can offer informed opinions on complex legal issues affecting the country, thereby helping shape policy decisions.

I will also be able to effectively represent my constituents' interests as representation is part of the legal training. I would be able to analyze my people's needs and properly advocate for their needs.

One effective participation in Committees, as a lawyer/MP I will be able to contribute to parliamentary Committees, scrutinize bills, and hold the government accountable.

Hon. Charles Chilambula, MP for Likoma Islands



My oversight role on government would be unique in the sense that I know some of the challenges that are there especially in the civil service. For example, since 2022 government has not remitted funds to Old Mutual for CHAM health workers; they are not being promoted and CHAM facilities not being allowed to employ health workers despite serving majority rural masses. My experience in civil service will also be an advantage because I know most of the current issues.

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On the other hand, my exposure academically and professionally will also assist me to do my oversight job well.

I have worked in the community for 16 years which will be a great advantage to deal with real issues affecting the community. For example, Likoma needs the jetty and landing bay in Chizumulu completed as soon as possible as well as a better health facility in Chizumulu, food security, good roads on the islands and sporting facilities. I felt the burden myself and I will do everything possible to have these issues addressed.

Hon. Patricia Wiskes, Lilongwe City Nankhaka, Government Chief Whip



Being back at Parliament in this capacity feels like coming back home but with a deeper purpose. Walking the familiar corridors now as a young Member of Parliament, Minister of Youth, Sports and Culture, and Government Chief Whip feels like home but this time, the sense of responsibility feels profound not only to represent the voice of young people across the country but also to ensure that our Parliament remains a place where ideas are clearly communicated and respectfully debated.

As a former employee of Parliament, I bring a deep understanding of parliamentary procedures and legislative processes which will enable me to contribute meaningfully to debates and ensure robust oversight of government actions.

As a new Minister, MP, and Government Chief Whip, I am committed to fostering transparent governance, promoting informed decision-making, and ensuring that the voices and needs of the people I represent are reflected in every aspect of our national agenda.

Hon. Edward Chileka Banda, Lilongwe Mapuyu South



As first time MP, I am hoping to help improve accountability and transparency in the management of public resources in the constituency as well as in

public institutions. Mismanagement of public resources is one key issue frustrating national development efforts.

Audit and financial reports in public institutions including councils have indicated unimaginable abuse of public resources making it difficult for the country to break the poverty cycle.

I am sure that Parliament, as mandated by the Constitution, can defend and represent the interests of the people through strengthened oversight.

So, in my view, the priority actions to be taken will include monitoring implementation of public projects and enhancing my participation in Parliament and parliamentary Committees.

Let me assure my constituents and the general public that I took an oath to defend the Republican Constitution which includes ensuring that public resources are put to intended purposes.

Hon. Maurine C. Nseula, Mwanza West



As a new Member of Parliament, it is a big responsibility that my people as well as the nation have entrusted me with, the responsibility to ensure that there's accountability and transparency in how the activities are conducted.

On both oversight and representation, I would love to be more people centered as well as evidence based because this responsibility isn't about how loud I shout but how many lives I impact.

In my oversight over executive, I intend to be an active participant in the committees and ask relevant questions and follow up on tasks given so that the people in the nation benefits fully.

On representation of my constituents in Parliament, I will never get tired of engaging with them so that when I speak it should be the voice of the people and I should just be a mouth piece. I will also be giving them feedback on the responses given by the Ministers.

I intend to listen more and speak when it's necessary. I will oppose to what needs to be opposed and agree to what will benefit my people because as for me development knows no party colours. It doesn't matter which government is ruling as long as the people benefit because we only have one Malawi and we are one people.



Honour and Impact of Bloodline Politics: The Mazombwe Siblings

BY WHYGHTONE KAPASULE

The Mazombwe family is, by all accounts, one of the most blessed political households in Malawi. Three siblings—each charting their own path—have made it into Parliament, a rare feat that has set tongues wagging and placed the family firmly on the national political map.

They are Rachel Mazombwe (Mchinji North, MCP), Goston Brown Mazombwe (Mchinji East, Independent), and Madalitso Mazombwe (Salima South, Independent).

For Rachel, the third-born in a family of eight, 2025 marks her fourth consecutive term having started her political career in 2009, a sign that she has firmly dug her heels into her constituency and built a loyal support base over the years.

Her younger brothers, meanwhile, have had journeys shaped by persistence and grit. Goston—the fourth-born and a person with a disability—finally broke through on his third attempt, while the last-born, Madalitso, burst onto the scene with a victory on his very first try.

“We thank God that we all won the parliamentary polls, even though it was in different constituencies. We know we are blessed, but what matters most is serving our people,” said Goston, the newly elected MP for Mchinji East.

He says his biggest motivation was the desire to turn things around in a constituency he describes as “far behind in terms of development.”

“I wanted to bring tangible development—things people can point at and say, our MP worked for this. Whether it’s helping needy students, supporting older people or persons with disabilities, that’s what drives me,” he said.

But he admits the journey is far from a walk in the park. “Once you win, people expect you to hit the ground running. They want immediate results and, sometimes, they also expect handouts. It’s not easy, but we try to carry out civic education so people understand the real role of an MP. With time, they will come around.” Looking ahead, he remains humble: “The future is in God’s hands—and in the hands of the people I serve. If I deliver, they will bring me back. All I can do is work hard for my constituency.”

Reflecting on how the family found itself immersed in politics, Goston says the Mazombwes had no political background to fall back on.

“Our parents were never politicians,” he explained. “It all started when my sister contested in Mchinji East in 2009 and won. That’s what lit a fire in me. I contested in 2014 and 2019 and lost both times, but as they say, fortune favours the bold. I tried again in 2025 and finally made it.”

“We thank God for what He has done for our family. This is a big achievement for us and for everyone who has supported us along the way,” Goston said.



Hon. Madalitso Mazombwe (L)



Hon. Rachel Mazombwe (L)



Hon. Goston Brown Mazombwe (L) takes oath of office

And as the Mazombwe trio take their seats in the august House—each charting their own political course in the 2025–2030 parliamentary term yet bound by the same family roots—their story embodies not only the honour that a family’s unwavering ambition can bring to a bloodline, but also the lasting impact it can make on the society they are called to lead.

Double Victory: Ndalama Siblings Charting Parallel Paths Under One Chamber

BY WHYGHTONE KAPASULE

When Veronica Pempho Ndalama took her oath as Member of Parliament for Blantyre City South Lunzu on 27 October 2025, she was not just stepping into a new chapter of her own life—she was continuing a family story woven over a decade.

Sitting in the Chamber alongside her brother, Mwayi MacPherson Ndalama of Chiradzulu–Nyungwi Constituency, she carried with her the unmistakable imprint of the woman who shaped them both: their mother, Suzan Ndalama, a long-serving MP for Blantyre Rural East whose own political journey quietly paved the way for theirs.

For Veronica, politics was never an abstract concept. It lived in her home, shaped dinner-table conversations, and formed her earliest understanding of leadership.

“Growing up with a mother who served as an MP from 2014 to 2025 made politics feel familiar and meaningful,” she recalls. “We witnessed firsthand how powerful and transformative the role can be.”

That lived experience—watching their mother champion her community, navigate national debates, and balance public duty with motherhood—became the spark that lit the siblings’ aspirations.

Yet Veronica’s decision to contest as an MP was not merely about legacy—it was a calling grounded in conviction. Armed with a Political Science degree, she felt drawn to the frontline of public service. Representing those at the margins—women and young people—became her personal mission.

Growing up as the fourth of six children, her work with NGOs—including her role as Governance and Communications Specialist at Pact—gave her firsthand insight into grassroots

challenges and policy gaps. By the time she decided in 2023 to begin her campaign in South Lunzu, she knew exactly the kind of leader she wanted to be.

Her journey to Parliament, however, was far from effortless. Entering the political arena as a young woman meant challenging deeply entrenched biases.

She faced cyberbullying, propaganda, and attempts at political sabotage, much of it rooted not in her ideas but in her identity. “When a woman steps forward to lead, people often focus more on her appearance than on her vision,” she reflects.

But Veronica was not deterred. If anything, it strengthened her resolve. Supported by her husband, siblings, friends, and a disciplined campaign team, she found joy even in the toughest days. She describes the campaign as a dream unfolded—an opportunity to live what she studied and to bring hope to communities that had gone too long without it.

As she settles into her first term, Veronica stands both humbled and energized. She dreams of transforming Blantyre City South Lunzu—building networks, championing development, and breathing new life into Machinjiri. She carries with her an ambition that many might call audacious, but she embraces without apology: one day, to become the second female President of Malawi.

For now, though, Veronica and her brother Mwayi represent something powerful—a generation stepping into Parliament not by chance, but by influence, inspiration, and purpose. Their mother’s footsteps may have paved the way, but their own journeys are shaping a new chapter in Malawi’s political story. Together, the Ndalama siblings represent a new generation of leadership—two voices, two mandates, and two parallel paths converging under one roof of national power.



The Ndalama siblings at Parliament



Hon. Veronica Ndalama (L) takes oath of office



Hon. Mwayi Ndalama (L)

CJ calls for Integrity as New MPs take Oath

BY WHYGHTONE KAPASULE

A total of 222 Members of Parliament took oath of office on 27 and 28 October, 2025 at Parliament Building in Lilongwe.

Presided over by the Deputy Chief Justice, His Lordship Lovemore Chikopa, SC, the ceremony signified the formal beginning of the 2025-2030 parliamentary term.

Following this solemn exercise, the Members of Parliament fully assumed their roles as Honourable Members, ready to represent their constituencies and discharge their constitutional duties in the august House.

Family members, friends, and supporters filled the Chamber, the Visitors Gallery and Parliament Mini Stadium, celebrating the historic moment as their representatives vowed to serve Malawi with diligence and integrity.

Having initially missed the swearing-in ceremony due to a granted leave of absence, Member of Parliament for Balaka Rivirivi Constituency, Honourable Chifundo Makande, later officially took his oath of office during a session held in the Parliament Chamber in Lilongwe on 6th November, 2024, bringing total number of sworn-in Members of Parliament to 223.

Presiding over the swearing-in ceremony, Deputy Chief Justice Lovemore Chikopa, SC, urged newly sworn-in Members of Parliament to serve Malawians with fidelity, diligence, and integrity observing the oath-taking is not only a constitutional requirement but also



Deputy Chief Justice Chikopa administers oath of office to Hon. Kafwafwa

a powerful affirmation of the will of the people.

"Once sworn in, you become full Honourable Members of Parliament, mandated to legislate, represent and provide oversight," he said, describing the oath as a sacred covenant to serve Malawians faithfully and without favour.

He stressed that the National Assembly is the heart of governance, where citizens' hopes and challenges are translated into law and policy, and accountability is upheld.

"The strength of this institution lies in the integrity and diligence of its Members," he said.

Justice Chikopa encouraged MPs to serve with humility, honesty, and an unwavering sense of duty, expressing hope that the 2025-2030 Parliament will be defined by unity of purpose and loyalty to the Constitution.



Hon. Patricia Kaliati (L) takes oath of office



Members of the public watching the swearing in outside Parliament at Ministadium



Participants at the Committee Orientation workshop

Speaker calls for hard work in Committees

BY SUZGO KHUNGA

The Speaker of Parliament Right Honourable Sameer Suleman has urged Members of Parliament to work hard in parliamentary Committees because they are the engine rooms of Parliament.

Right Honourable Suleman made the call in Lilongwe on 3rd November, 2025 when he opened a two-day orientation of Members of Parliament on Parliamentary Committees.

"We are here to work, and work begins in the Committees. I expect you to work. I will need regular reports from the Committees, I will ask for programmes because I will rely on these Committees to work effectively," he said.

The Speaker said it is Committees that transform Parliament from a debating Chamber into a functioning system of checks and balances.

"Honourable Members, every Committee you shall soon serve in – whether it deals with public accounts, natural resources, health, or education – carries the responsibility to question, to probe, and to demand accountability on behalf of the people who sent you

here," he said.

In his remarks, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Representative Chika-Charles Aniekwe said the orientation was timely as it would introduce MPs to best practices on gender responsive budgeting and budget analysis, which form part of crucial Committee work.

During the orientation, MPs were taken through presentations on specialised functions of Committees, procedures and operations of Committees; and supporting parliamentary Committees and observing protocol.

//Committees transform Parliament from a debating Chamber into a functioning system"

- Rt. Hon. Suleman.



MPs listening to presentations at the orientation



Rt. Hon. Suleman delivers opening remarks



UNDP's Eniekwe speaks at the orientation

2025

ORIENTATION & SWEARING-IN OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT-ELECT

“This Orientation Programme stands as a testament to what true partnership can achieve. The support we received from our development partners and the corporate community did more than fund a programme – it strengthened Malawi’s democracy...”

Our partners walked with us every step of the way this week. Their technical and financial support did not simply facilitate the orientation – it empowered Parliament to build a stronger, more informed, and more effective legislature. This orientation has shown that Parliament does not work alone...

The generosity and expertise of our partners turned a demanding week into a transformative learning experience for our newly elected Members. The success of this week-long orientation is proof that when Parliament and its partners work together, our democracy grows stronger. Your support has helped equip Honourable Members with the knowledge and confidence to lead with integrity.”

– Fiona Kalembe, Clerk of Parliament

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Members of Parliament interact at the cocktail

FDH Bank, Old Mutual host new MPs to a Cocktail

BY GERALD KAMPANI

After a long day of learning, FDH Bank and Old Mutual Limited jointly organized a cocktail reception on 20th October where Members of Parliament had the opportunity to unwind and interact outside the workshop.

The Clerk of Parliament Fiona Kalembe described the orientation programme of Members of Parliament-elect as very important and provided the requisite knowledge and skills to the parliamentarians.

She said the Honourable Members-elect demonstrated that they were geared to execute their constitutional mandate to promote the lives of Malawians.

"A fair and honest analysis of the first day of the orientation programme gives an assurance that you, as Members of the House, will be responsive to the aspirations of the people of Malawi," said Kalembe.

She therefore applauded Old Mutual Limited and FDH Bank for providing financial support towards the orientation programme.



Members socialising at the cocktail



The Clerk of Parliament Fiona Kalembe and Deputy Clerk of Parliament (Procedural Services) Joseph Manzi interact with Hon. Sylvester Ayuba James at the cocktail.

CDH Investment Bank cherishes MPs role

BY SUZGO KHUNGA

CDH Investment Bank says it recognises that Members of Parliament play a crucial role in promoting good governance and private sector investment, and the bank will continue to call upon MPs for assistance.

Speaking in Lilongwe at a cocktail that CDH

Investment Bank hosted for MPs on 21 October, 2025, Chief Business Development Officer, Jamal Kamoto said the bank would like MPs to ensure that in addition to reducing interest rates to spur development, MPs must brainstorm and put in place policies that will ensure food security.

"We recognize the vital role that effective governance, strategic partnerships, and responsible investment play in driving sustainable development.

This will go a long way in assisting us to continue entrenching democratic values for Mother Malawi," she said.

For us as a bank, we would appreciate a policy which offers incentives for banks who lend to agriculture.

This will get banks involved in agriculture lending, which in the current state, is not significant enough to promote the needed development scale," he said.

In addition to the cocktail, the bank has supported the orientation programme with K10 million.

In her remarks, the Clerk of Parliament, Fiona Kalemba expressed appreciation to CDH Investment for the generous financial support the bank provided towards the orientation programme as well as hosting the cocktail.

"Your contribution has significantly enhanced our efforts to equip the incoming Honourable Members with the knowledge and skills required for effective delivery of parliamentary functions," she said.



1. CDHIB's Kamoto makes his remarks
2. Clerk of Parliament Fiona Kalemba expresses gratitude to CDHIB
3. Some of the Members present at cocktail
4. Members of Parliament wine and dine at the cocktail

CoP Hails UNDP for Parliamentary Partnership



Some of the Members of Parliament and development partners listen to speeches before making merry



MPs and UN officials pose for a photograph at the cocktail



Fiona Kalembe speaking at the cocktail



Fenella Frost commends Parliament

BY WHYGHTONE KAPASULE

Clerk of Parliament Fiona Kalembe has hailed the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for its “true partnership” in strengthening the capacity and operations of Parliament of Malawi.

Speaking during a cocktail reception for Members of Parliament-elect and development partners at the Parliament Building in Lilongwe on 23 October, 2025, Kalembe acknowledged UNDP’s technical and financial backing towards parliamentary reforms and the week-long orientation programme for newly elected legislators.

She highlighted key milestones under the partnership, including the digitisation of parliamentary operations through a modern Hansard transcription system, upgraded Chamber conferencing facilities, and the establishment of Parliament Television.

UNDP also supported the orientation programme and will finance upcoming political leadership trainings for MPs.

UNDP Resident Representative, Fenella Frost, commended Parliament for organising “a well-structured and impactful induction” for the new cohort.

CoP Urges MPs to Prioritise Access to Banking Laws



The Clerk of Parliament, Fiona Kalembe makes her remarks



Standard Bank Head of Corporate and Investment Banking Frank Chantaya makes his remarks to celebrate the Members of Parliament-Elect.

BY WHYGHTONE KAPASULE

Clerk of Parliament, Fiona Kalembe, has urged Members of Parliament-elect to prioritise enacting laws that remove barriers to accessing banking services in the country.

Speaking in Lilongwe on 22nd October, 2025 during a cocktail reception organised by Standard Bank for Members of Parliament-elect, Kalembe emphasised the need for legislation that supports financial inclusion and modern banking trends.

"There are still many obstacles preventing the public from fully accessing banking services," she said.

"I urge you, Olemekezeka, to enact laws that respond to the needs of society and align with

modern financial systems."

Kalembe also commended Standard Bank for its continued partnership with Parliament of Malawi, particularly for sponsoring the orientation programme and hosting the cocktail reception.

In his remarks, Standard Bank Head of Corporate and Investment Banking, Frank Chantaya, said the Bank has developed several financial solutions tailored for the new Members of Parliament.

He encouraged them to consider purpose-driven investments and community-focused projects that can create lasting value for both their families and constituents.



Hon. Skeffa Chimoto, who is a renowned musician, performs at the cocktail.

Finance Minister tables 2025/26 Mid-Year Budget

BY WHYGHTONE KAPASULE & KONDWANI MISEU

Minister of Finance, Economic Planning and Decentralisation Hon. Joseph Mwanamvekha, MP, presented the 2025/26 Mid-Year Budget Review Statement on 21st November, 2025, describing the first half of the fiscal year as marked by poor budget performance, revenue shortfalls, rising expenditure pressures and a widened deficit.

Mwanamvekha cited persistent foreign exchange shortages, reduced import volumes, slow disbursements from development partners, and frontloaded spending—particularly in agriculture, education, health, security institutions and elections—as major factors behind the fiscal slippage.

Mid-year revenue fell 12.1% below target, while expenditure exceeded projections by K175.7 billion, widening the deficit to K2.037 trillion, a 32.8% overrun.

Key National Changes in the Revised Budget

The approved national budget has been revised upwards by K512.6 billion, from K8.077 trillion to K8.589 trillion.

Mwanamvekha highlighted the major additional allocations driving this adjustment:

- Wages and salaries: +K98.5 billion
- Debt interest payments: +K100 billion
- Pensions and gratuities backlog: +K196 billion
- Farm Input Subsidy Programme (FISP): +K129.6 billion to expand beneficiaries to 1.1 million
- Drugs for hospitals: +K17.1 billion
- Elections: +K50 billion
- Maize purchase logistics: +K20 billion
- CDF for 36 new constituencies and domestic projects: +K91.7 billion
- Introduction of free primary and secondary education, including abolition of MANEB fees, requiring K32.5 billion in the last quarter.

The fiscal deficit for the full year is now projected at K3.128 trillion, up from K2.498 trillion.

Critical Policy and Structural Reforms

To stabilise the economy and address chronic fiscal gaps, the Minister announced sweeping national reforms:

1. Tax and Revenue Measures

- Increase in VAT from 16.5% to 17.5%.
- PAYE restructuring, raising the zero bracket to K170,000 and introducing a 40% tax rate on monthly incomes above K10 million.
- Introduction of Bank Transfer Levy (0.05%) and mobile money levy on transactions above K100,000.
- A new Minimum Alternate Tax on large companies declaring perpetual losses.
- Enforcement of rental income tax for residential properties.
- Reinstatement of the 20% surcharge on imported



Hon. Mwanamvekha

cement.

2. Foreign Exchange & Export Reforms

- Reduction of export proceeds repatriation period from 120 to 90 days.
- Mandatory use of foreign currency for accommodation by tourists.
- Scaling up the gold purchase programme and restricting raw mineral exports.
- Establishment of a Commodity Market Exchange (COMEX) to curb agricultural smuggling.

3. Major Sector Shifts

- Agriculture: Expansion of FISP beneficiaries to 1.1 million; increased investment in irrigation and commercialisation projects.
- Education: Immediate introduction of free primary and secondary schooling and removal of MANEB fees.
- Health: Additional K17.1 billion for medicines
- Mining: Recommissioning of Kayerekera Mine and activation of 11 mining regulations.
- Digitalisation: Rollout of three national ICT programmes to expand connectivity.

4. Fiscal Discipline Measures

- Three-trips-per-year limit on foreign travel for senior officials.
- Mandatory economy-class travel for all senior public officers.
- Moratoriums on vehicle procurement, promotions (with exceptions), and new recruitments.
- 30% reduction in fuel entitlements for senior Government officials.
- Strict enforcement of cash budgeting, quarterly expenditure limits, and prohibition of unauthorised commitments.

Mwanamvekha further said the second half of the fiscal year will focus on stabilising public finances, restoring confidence, rebuilding forex reserves, and accelerating economic reforms under the National Economic Recovery Plan and MIP-1. He, therefore, urged Members of Parliament and stakeholders to support the measures, describing them as necessary to “restore fiscal stability and place Malawi on a sustainable growth path.”



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