



PARLIAMENT OF MALAWI



PRESS RELEASE

INVESTIGATIONS OF THE CHIKANGAWA PLANE CRASH BY THE PARLIAMENTARY AD-HOC COMMITTEE

The Parliament of Malawi would like to inform the public that the Parliamentary Ad Hoc Committee established to conduct a fresh inquiry into the Chikangawa Plane Crash – which tragically claimed the life of late former Vice President, Dr Saulos Klaus Chilima, together with eight others – has successfully concluded its preparatory work and is now ready to commence investigations.

Completion of Preparatory Phase

The public may wish to know that, following a series of meetings and consultations, the Committee has completed the initiation and planning stages of its mandate. This included:

- Defining the purpose and objectives of the inquiry;
- Drafting the Terms of Reference;
- Developing the methodology, road map, and project management charter.

Furthermore, the Committee has undergone orientation and familiarisation sessions with technical experts to ensure it is adequately prepared for the task ahead.

Commencement of Investigations

The Committee hereby informs the public that Parliament is currently in the resource mobilisation and contracting phase. Once this is completed, investigations are scheduled to commence by mid-May 2026.

The inquiry will begin with three parallel processes:

1. A Health, Safety, Security and Environmental (HSSE) Audit of operations and systems; and
2. A Forensic Audit aimed at establishing facts and uncovering new information.
3. Autopsy to conduct post-mortem examination and related analyses to establish medical and pathological facts that may assist in understanding the cause and effect of fatalities.

These audits will run concurrently with site visits to be undertaken by the Committee. Based on the approved workplan, the Committee will then proceed with evidence gathering, analysis, and validation, culminating in the compilation and submission of its final report within the stipulated 90 days.



Parliament of Malawi



Representing the Aspirations
of the People of Malawi

Guiding Principles

The Committee assures the public that its work will be conducted through a systematic, evidence-based process. It will draw on documentary records, witness testimonies, site visits, and specialist input where necessary. The objective is to ensure the inquiry is thorough, credible, transparent, and fair.

Witness Engagement

The public may wish to know that over 150 witnesses from institutions and entities directly or indirectly associated with the aircraft or the flight will be invited to participate. A hybrid approach will be adopted: certain interviews will be held in camera, while others will be conducted through public hearings, based on clearly defined selection criteria.

In addition, the Committee invites members of the public with relevant information – including information not previously presented – to submit such information voluntarily. All submissions will be handled in accordance with established procedures to ensure fairness, proper record-keeping, and confidentiality where appropriate.

Further details on submission modalities and participation in the inquiry will be communicated through official channels.

For further information:

Deputy Clerk of Parliament
(Procedural Services) Mr. Joseph
Manzi on **0999 800 831**

For submission of information:

Hotline: **0886 597 687**

The Committee's Terms of Reference are available on the Parliament of Malawi website: <https://parliament.gov.mw/media-resources/press-releases>.



Hon. Walter Nyamilandu Manda, MP

**CHAIRPERSON OF THE PARLIAMENTARY AD-HOC COMMITTEE ON THE
CHIKANGAWA PLANE CRASH INQUIRY**

28th APRIL, 2026