

MALAWI'S INTERVENTION ON
<<Reducing Vulnerability Due to Climate Change,
Climate Variability and Extremes, Land Degradation and
Biodiversity Loss: Environmental and Developmental Challenges
and Opportunities For Least Developed Countries >>

Mr. Chairman

Honorable Minister

Your Excellencies

Representatives of International and Regional Organizations

Senior Officials

Delegates

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In Malawi, Climate Change has shown adverse impacts on agriculture, infrastructural systems, energy, human health, fisheries, and forestry, water, wildlife and gender sectors. These impacts adversely affect our socio- economic development, and are a threat to the attainment of the goals both in our Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDS) and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

The effects from these calamities include the following:

- Poor crop yields or total crop failure, leading to serious food shortages, malnutrition and chronic ailments

associated with Malaria, Cholera and diarrhoea **(though for the past few years there has been complete overturn of events due to overall increased food security)**

- Problems resulting from disruption of hydroelectric power generation in critical watersheds.
- Droughts and floods have been responsible for the declining, or even drying up, of water bodies resulting in low fish production and loss of biodiversity and
- Women are greatly impacted with drought as they have to travel long distances to collect water.

Ladies and gentlemen

Malawi is honored today to provide the efforts done by the Malawi Government through its own financial resources and that provided through the UNFCCC.

Through the UNFCCC the following areas have been covered;

- i. Sensitization of stakeholders (government, private sector, academia, civil society, the media) on climate change its effects mitigation and adaptation measures

- ii. Assessment reports on Vulnerability and Adaptation; Mitigation; Greenhouse gases Inventories; Initial and Second National Communications; National Adaptation Programs of Action (NAPA) Reports.
- iii. Have developed a US\$27 million Adaptation Project with the Global Environment Facility through the African Development Bank that will assist the vulnerable communities and areas adapt to the adverse impacts.

Other efforts include the following;

a. Malawi Growth and Development Strategy

Malawi has developed a National Framework for Managing Climate Change.

b. Greenbelt Initiative

The Greenbelt Initiative Program is aimed at intensifying irrigation farming for crop and livestock production. .

c. Carbon Sequestration and Other Ecosystem Services

d. Carbon trading

e. Enhancing clean energy use

f. Disaster risk assessment and reduction.

g. Civil society organizations, the academia and research institutions have aligned programs on mitigation and

adaptation; advocacy and awareness campaigns on adverse effects of climate change.

Ladies and Gentlemen

Climate Change is here and it is real, it is threatening but we need to cease a movement to utilize the opportunities that are offered to us now.

We all know the pillars of the United Nations Framework Convention for Climate Change are Mitigation and Adaptation. **Strategic windows** that can provide direct access to resources to address climate change in most of the Least Developed Countries are very critical.

There is need to open more windows for accessing the UNFCCC resources through institutions that have experience

Chairman, Ladies and gentlemen

In Malawi for example we have over and over again called for direct access, transparency and predictability in resource allocation for climate change related interventions on the MDGs and we believe creation of more windows will address this issue.

Malawi boasts of producing the NAPA, but its' implementation through UNFCCC resources stalled which has impediment of our ambitions to enhance adaptation to climate change. We also feel there is some credibility in mitigating to adverse effects

of climate change by conserving our energy generation through proper catchment management. Energy access is central to attaining the MDGs and MGDS' targets therefore we need to ensure more and adequate energy generation.

We hope resources will be accessible, timely and with flexible processes. This can help to further our sustainable development and attain the MDGs.

Let me ask my fellow LDCs to take up the challenge to provide projects that are fundable so that LDCs economically and sustainably grow.

I thank you for your kind attention!