



STATEMENT FOR

**HONOURABLE MINISTER,
DR. MICHAEL BIZWICK USI**

**MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CLIMATE CHANE
REPUBLIC OF MALAWI**

**DELIVERED AT THE
LEADERS SUMMIT OF THE TWENTY EIGHTH CONFERENCE OF PARTIES TO
THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE (COP28)**

DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES (UAE)

9TH DECEMBER 2023

Your Excellences,

1. I am honored to address you today at this Resumed High Level Segment of COP28, where we gather to discuss and commit to championing ambitious climate action.
2. I am acutely aware of the profound impact that climate change is having on our nation and the entire world. It is with a sense of urgency, responsibility, and shared commitment to our planet's well-being that I stand before you today.
3. Malawi, like many countries, has witnessed the devastating consequences of climate change. Our people have suffered from extreme weather events, prolonged droughts, floods, and unpredictable agricultural seasons. These events have threatened food security, water resources, and the livelihoods of our citizens making it hard for our nation to attain the sustainable development we need. It is our moral duty to take decisive and collective action to address this global crisis.
4. Malawi is fully committed to accelerating our efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and build resilience in the face of climate change. Our revised Nation's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) reflect our dedication to these objectives.

Excellencies

5. We have convened here at COP28, as leaders from across the globe, to address the defining challenge of our time – the existential threat posed by climate change. We need to work hard at this COP to make progress in all fronts, the success of this COP will be measured by the outcomes we take, including finalization of the discussions on the operationalization of the loss and damage fund and its funding arrangements, and the first Globe stock take (GST).
6. Let me highlight on what a successful outcome would look like for my country, and I am sure for many of the developing countries, particularly the LDCs and African countries.
7. Firstly, on loss and damage, we welcome the adoption of the Fund and its funding arrangements at the opening session of this COP, and also the pledges and contributions that have been announced to the Fund. As a vulnerable country, I urge the players that will be operationalizing this Fund to design quick access procedures for our vulnerable communities to start benefitting in order to address the losses and damages incurred due to climate-related disasters.
8. **Distinguished ladies and gentlemen**, this COP will also be tested on how we will deliver the first Globe Stock take (GST) under the Paris agreement. Malawi stands united with the international community in recognizing the importance of this first global stock take. We

believe that it is an opportunity to assess our collective progress in achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement.

9. We must review our commitments, reassess our targets, and recalibrate our efforts to align with the latest climate science and the urgency of the situation.
10. We are convinced, therefore, that, at the minimum, the global stock take should provide clear guidance for enhanced climate action. The outcomes of this process should offer concrete recommendations and pathways for countries to strengthen their commitments to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and adapting to the changing climate.
11. The outcomes of the first GST should also address the need to scale up support to developing countries, particularly in fulfilling the finance gap and setting up an ambitious new collective quantified goal on climate finance that we are set to adopt next year. This will ensure that Least Developed Countries including Malawi are not left behind in the fight against climate change.

Excellences

12. Let us all remember that our actions today will shape the future of our planet, and we must not squander this opportunity. The Republic of Malawi stands ready to collaborate with all nations, large and small, south and north, east and west, in this endeavor.

13. Esteemed leaders let us use this platform to make commitments that will leave a lasting legacy for our world and the generations to come. Let us be guided by the principles of justice, equity, and sustainability as we work toward a more resilient, low-carbon, and prosperous future.

14. Thank you, and may we all work together for the well-being of our mother planet Earth and its people.