Session SB65 (2026)

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Facilitative, Multilateral Consideration of Progress

A compilation of questions to – and answers by – **Malawi**
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Title: Lessons learned from renewable energy projects

Question From Party: New Zealand

Question raised on: 09.09.2026 CEST

Question Category: Mitigation actions, policies and measures supporting NDC implementation

Question: In its BTR Malawi reports on efforts to expand renewable energy access, including decentralised energy services. Could Malawi share any lessons learned from deploying renewable-energy mini-grids or other off-grid systems?

Answer:

The lessons learnt from deployment are as follows:

1. Sustainability of off-grid renewable energy installations is guaranteed if the electricity/energy from such installations is used for productive purposes

2. Off-grid/minigrid renewable energy systems must be resilient to impacts of climate change (flooding, strong winds) to ensure their availability. Most of the Malawi's installed solar based mini-grids get washed away from flooding especially in the lower Shire

3. the need for Battery Energy STorage Syaytems for smooth Grid Intergration

Title: GHG emission estimates for the waste sector

Question From Party: European Union

Question raised on: 09.09.2026 CEST

Question Category: National inventory report

Question: The European Union notes that the waste sector was estimated to comprise approximately 70% of Malawi's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in 2022 (Table 3-E1: Comparison between GHG emissions for reference years (during NDCS.2 estimation) and current GHG Inventory for reporting years of 2021 and 2022, page xxxiv). This is identified in the text following the table as potentially being inaccurate and a recommendation made by the Party to check the methodology and data sources for the waste sector in subsequent compilations of Malawi's national GHG inventory. Can Malawi provide an update on the measures implemented or planned to improve their emission estimates for this sector?

Answer:

The observation made by EU is correct. The observation was also made during the final national stakeholders' validation meeting. At that time, checks activity data and emission factor entries were made but the team could not identify the sources. The biggest change in the approach was that in the previous inventory, assessments were only done for urban areas but during the BTR1 estimates were done for all the districts.Malawi is currently in the process of preparing BTR 2. recalcalculations of some categories including waste sector will be done

Title: Carbon market mechanisms under Article 6.

Question From Party: European Union

Question raised on: 09.09.2026 CEST

Question Category: Mitigation actions, policies and measures supporting NDC implementation

Question: In the review report of Malawi's Initial Report, the Article 6 technical expert reviewer identified a significant inconsistency under 18.H.2 concerning the demonstration that baselines and reference levels are established conservatively and below business-as-usual emission projections, taking into account existing policies, uncertainties and potential leakage. Could Malawi indicate if and when it intends to strengthen the establishment and assessment of baselines and reference levels, for the approach already in place and for any future cooperative approaches?

Answer:

Building capacity in reporting regarding to Article 6 of Paris Agreement was one of the recommendations from TERT Review of Malawi's BTR1. Malawi is in the process of capacity building in this aspect.

Title: The exclusion of Forestry and Other Land Use (FOLU) from Malawi's baseline projections

Question From Party: European Union

Question raised on: 09.09.2026 CEST

Question Category: Progress towards/achievement of the NDC

Question: The European Union notes that emissions from Forestry and Other Land Use (FOLU) were not included in the baseline projections due to high uncertainties and the large variations between 'different FOLU GHG inventories conducted the same period' (Page 120 of Malawi's BTR). Could Malawi explain their rationale for excluding the FOLU sector from the baseline projections and provide information on the measures planned to improve emission estimates and hence projections for this sector?

Answer:

Malawi excluded FOLU emissions from its base-year projections to 2040 due to high uncertainty in the sector's activity data. This baseline was derived from the GHG inventory developed under Malawi's Third National Communication (TNC).

The high level of uncertainty was primarily attributed to limitations in the quality and availability of activity data for the FOLU subsector. The exclusion was intended to ensure emission-reduction commitments rest on credible data, consistent with the TACCC principles (Transparency, Accuracy, Completeness, Comparability, Consistency) of the Enhanced Transparency Framework.

The FOLU inventory covered only 2018–2022; the 1994–2017 time series could not be completed due to capacity constraints. Under BTR2, complete inventories spanning 1990–2024 will be developed.

Title: Waste sector emissions factors

Question From Party: Australia

Question raised on: 09.09.2026 CEST

Question Category: Mitigation actions, policies and measures supporting NDC implementation

Question: Has Malawi taken steps to enhance their activity data or emission factors in the waste sector, and, if so, what steps have they taken. If not, what would be key areas of support to assist with this enhancement.

Answer:

Malawi has taken the following steps to enhance quality and detail of activity data for waste:

1. **Establishment of a coordination system for data sharing** : Malawi established a coordination system for data sharing covering all IPCC-based sectors including Waste to support continuous collection of activity. Continual collection of waste data is possible with this arrangement. The key institutions and stakeholders involved in waste data collection include:

    1. Environmental Affairs Department
    2. National Statistical Office (NSO)
    3. City Councils (Blantyre City, Zomba City, Lilongwe City and Mzuzu City)
    4. Private Waste Operators
    5. Districts, town and municipal councils

2. Collection of waste segregated data at source is supported by the country's Development and implementation of National Waste Management Strategy as well as Environment Management (Waste Management and Sanitation) Regulations of 2008. However, implementation of strategy and enforcement of regulations are challenged due to limited financial resources. The Executive Order No. 2 of 2026 (Sanitation and Hygiene) Executive Order No. 2 of 2026 on Sanitation and Hygiene also provides a framework supporting the segregation and scheduled or continuous collection of waste

Key areas that need support

1. Digitalizing waste stream which could lead to collection of disaggregated waste data (in cities). Digitizing weighbridge records, dumpsite/landfill intake logs. Local companies waste collection records
2. Conducting waste surveys in urban areas/cities/towns/ municipal and districts periodically

In terms of development of emission factors in the Waste sector categories, Malawi is yet to commence studies.

Title: Livestock emissions

Question From Party: Australia

Question raised on: 09.09.2026 CEST

Question Category: Mitigation actions, policies and measures supporting NDC implementation

Question: Has Malawi identified any transferable lessons from its efforts to improve livestock manure management that could help address GHG emissions associated with its chemical fertiliser use?

Answer:

1. Extension services that encourage exchange and interaction between farmers were most successful in increasing adoption of good manure management practices

2. Chemical fertilizer continues to dominate share of national fertilizers mix for crop production. Apart from targeted policies and strategies, strong political will is needed to promote livestock production and improve manure availability and utilization, thereby reducing reliance on chemical fertilizers