



**Malawi Judiciary**

**ACCEPTANCE SPEECH AT THE PRESENTATION OF  
MW2063 CHAMPIONS CERTIFICATE**

**TO**

**THE HONOURABLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE  
RIZINE ROBERT MZIKAMANDA, SC**

**AT**

**MALAWI JUDICIARY HEADQUARTERS - BLANTYRE**

**11<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2022**

## 1. Salutation

- Director of Ceremonies.
- My Lords Justices of Appeal.
- My Lords and My Ladies Judges of the High Court of Malawi.
- The Chairman of the National Planning Commission, Professor Richard Mkandawire.
- The Director General of the National Planning Commission, Dr Thomas Chataghalala Munthali.
- Your Honour, the Deputy Registrar.
- Your Honours, Assistant Registrars.
- The Deputy Chief Courts Administrator.
- All members of Staff of the Judiciary.
- Members of the Media.
- Ladies and Gentlemen.

2. I must begin by extending a warm welcome to you Chairperson of National Planning Commission, Professor Richard Mkandawire, and your entourage. Thank you, Mr. Chairman for your kind remarks and words of encouragement.

3. It is an honour and a privilege to receive you here at the Malawi Judiciary Headquarters as you come to perform a noble and nationally important activity.

4. We in the Judiciary wish to thank you and the entire National Planning Commission for your thoughtfulness to accord me and the Malawi Judiciary the high honour of MW2063 Champion. As the bulwark of the rule of law in this country, the Judiciary will remain at the forefront in the administration of justice according to law. This recognition gives us as an institution the necessary impetus and momentum to serve the people of Malawi better.
  
5. On behalf of myself and on behalf of the entire Malawi Judiciary, allow me to register our unequivocal acceptance of this Champions' Certificate you have so generously awarded to me and my co-workers in the Judiciary. To us, this is no mean gesture. It is a vindication of our continuous effort to serve Malawians better all over the country, whatever challenges we face. We commit ourselves to deliver justice for all regardless of the status of any individual, rich or poor. We believe and we practice the constitutional imperative of equality before the law.
  
6. I must say that we are ready, able and willing to work with the National Planning Commission under the title of MW2063 Champions in promoting the Malawi 2063 vision and its First Ten-Year Implementation Plan. We trust the passion that all of us have in the work of administering justice according to law will significantly contribute to the national aspiration of achieving inclusive wealth creation and self-reliance for all Malawians.

Foreign direct investment or any investment for that matter, is only possible where the rule of law prevails.

7. We in the Judiciary realize that there cannot be any meaningful development in the country in the absence of justice according to law. We cannot have social justice in the absence of justice according to law. We cannot have economic justice in the absence of justice according to law. Indeed, we cannot talk of any form of justice in our society without there being justice according to law. Abandoning justice according to law means abandoning the rule of law, which in turn means lawlessness, chaos and, in worst case scenarios, mob justice. The latter is totally unacceptable in a civilized society like ours.
  
8. There can hardly be MW2063 without a strong foundation of social stability guaranteed by constitutionalism, democracy, good governance and the rule of law. Any talk about MW2063 must be grounded in the rule of law for it to succeed. We also believe that MW2063 must be action oriented beyond any rhetoric or sweet talk.
  
9. We in the Judiciary are fully committed to justice for all according to law. Section 9 of our Constitution guarantees the separate status of the Judiciary and its Constitutional mandate to interpret the Constitution and all laws under it in an independent and impartial manner having regard only to the

law and legally relevant facts. We fully understand the scope of that mandate and the need for the Judiciary to uphold the Constitution and Constitutionalism in the country. We strongly believe in constitutional supremacy.

10. The strategic plan of the Judiciary has “Serving the People Better” as its theme. We are committed to deliver justice to all and to observe the constitutional imperative of equality before the law. We must uphold the human rights of everyone in accordance with our constitution. We must give meaning to the phrase “Justice for all.”

11. We have studied the terms of reference for the Malawi 2063 Champions and we find them acceptable and doable. We commit ourselves to the ideals of MW2063 and are ready to join in the noble cause for a better tomorrow for mother Malawi.

12. Mr. Chairman, allow me to conclude by thanking you and the National Planning Commission most sincerely for recognizing the role that we in the Judiciary play in national development. Thank you for coming and thank you for the certificate. It is accepted without any reservations at all. I dedicate this MW2063 Champion’s Certificate to the entire membership of the Judiciary.

I thank you for your kind attention.

**THE HONOURABLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE  
RIZINE ROBERT MZIKAMANDA, SC**

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