



Malawi Judiciary

**STATEMENT**

**BY THE HONOURABLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE**

**R.R. MZIKAMANDA, SC**

**AT**

**THE LAUNCH OF THE 2025-2030 MALAWI JUDICIARY  
STRATEGIC PLAN AND THE DIGITALISATION  
STRATEGY**

**AT**

**CHICHIRI COURT PREMISES, BLANTYRE**

**12<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER, 2025**

## **1. Salutations**

1. His Lordship Honourable Rizine R. Mzikamanda, SC- The Chief Justice of the Republic of Malawi
2. His Lordship Honourable Lovemore Chikopa, SC- The Deputy Chief Justice of the Republic of Malawi
3. Honourable Justice Healey Potani, SC JA- Chairperson, Judiciary Task Team on Development of the Strategic Plan
4. All Honourable Justices of Appeal and Acting Justices of Appeal present today
5. Hon. Justice John Chirwa, Judge President of the High Court and all Judges of the High Court present today
6. His Honour Innocent Nebi, The Chief Registrar of the Malawi Judiciary
7. Professor Marko Lehtho, Team Leader, Chilungamo Programme
8. Mr. Charles Lumanga, Programme Manager, Chilungamo Programme.
9. Members of the Judiciary Task Team on Development of the Strategic Plan and the Digitalisation Strategy
10. Members of Staff of the Judiciary

11. Distinguished ladies and gentlemen

- 2.** It is with deep satisfaction and gratitude that I take the honour of presiding over the official launch of the two critical documents for the Malawi Judiciary – the Strategic Plan and the Digitalization Strategy. I extend a very warm welcome to all our guests and all others who have taken time to join us.
- 3.** It is common knowledge that a Strategic Plan represents a long-term roadmap of any given organisation, in which are defined the organization’s vision, mission, goals and activities to be carried out to achieve what the organisation set out to do over a period of time. A good Strategic Plan must act as a comprehensive guide that provides direction and foster alignment and ensuring improved performance that is evaluated from time to time.
- 4.** A Digitalization Strategy must also be understood as a roadmap for an organisation that focuses on using digital technology (tech) to achieve business goals. Such digital tech focuses on enhancing the operations of the organisations to achieve improved service delivery and customer satisfaction. In this Digitalization Strategy, the Malawi Judiciary aims to engage in a continuous process of integrating digital tools to improve service delivery in line with the theme of our Strategic Plan - Serving People Better.
- 5.** It will therefore be appreciated that the two critical documents we are launching this morning are intrinsically related and are designed to be fully complementary of each other. Strategy is not an event as some may imagine. It is an ongoing process that

responds to continually changing circumstances in the operations of an organisation. For an organisation to be successful in fulfilling its mandate, its Strategic Plan must be applicable at all times in the time frame for which it is designed. That is why there must be midterm review to ensure that it remains aligned to the operations, goals and objectives of the organisation. We have in the past experienced the benefits of having a Strategic Plan, including the one that preceded the present. Planning makes us work better and enables us to improve service delivery.

- 6.** In a world that is rapidly changing in terms of technology and in a world that has multiple and complex challenges in service delivery, the introduction of digital technology in the justice system is no longer a subject for debate. There is no choice anymore, but for the Judiciary services to be digitalized. Those Jurisdictions that have gone ahead of us are in fact way ahead and digital solutions have undoubtedly helped to improve the administration of justice. Malawi Judiciary noticeably trailing and that accounts for many of our challenges in the administration of justice. We too would want to adopt appropriate technology to assist us in improving the delivery of justice.
- 7.** We are therefore delighted that the two documents we are launching today will be instruments of progress and not merely statistical or policy documents that the Judiciary has in place. Our commitment is to utilise these documents as we seek to improve access to justice for all, as we advance open and people-centered justice and as we seek to transform the Malawi Judiciary generally. It is of utmost importance that every member

of the Judiciary is made familiar with the entire documents and use the two as reference points. Everyone should get interested and get engaged in the documents.

8. We would not have been able to prepare the two documents in a timely manner without the generous support of the European Union Chilungamo Programme, both financial and technical. We therefore want to express our profound gratitude to the European Union for partnering with us as a true friend. We are grateful to the leadership of the Committees that worked on these documents. We thank all those who responded in the consultations that preceded the drafting of the documents. We are thankful to all those who have worked tirelessly towards the event today. Thank you for the arrangements. To those who are here to witness the launch and share the delight, we say thank you.
9. It is on that note that I must conclude. I now have the singular honour and privilege to declare the Malawi Judiciary Strategic Plan 2025-2030 and the Malawi Judiciary Digitalization Strategy officially launched.

I thank you most kindly.