



NATIONAL PEACE POLICY

August, 2017

FOREWORD

I am extremely proud to introduce the first ever National Peace Policy (NPP) for Malawi. This Policy clarifies the institutional arrangements within which peace building initiatives will be coordinated and collaborated among stakeholders that include government, traditional leaders, civil society, women, youth, media and other organs. It seeks to strengthen the capacity to deal with current and future threats to peace and unity in Malawi in a collaborative manner. This is an important milestone in the sustenance of peace and unity not only for law and order and political stability but also for the socio-economic and cultural development of Malawi.

This Policy also complies with the constitution which in section 13(1) requires the State "to strive to adopt mechanisms by which differences are settled through negotiation, good offices, mediation, conciliation and arbitration".

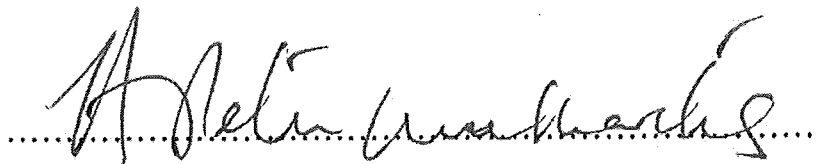
The sustenance of peace and unity is not a new phenomenon to Malawi. As attested throughout our history, Malawi has resolved a number of conflicts including the quelling of tribal and ethnic wars and internal uprising against the colonial masters. However, peace does not only mean the absence of direct violence which result in hurting people or loss of life and damaging property, but also the absence of indirect/structured violence embedded in social, cultural, economic, religious and political systems that perpetuate exploitation, injustice and inequalities.

Recent trends have unveiled a wide range of threats to the sustenance of peace and unity which emanate from political transitions and pressures; civil liberties and political rights; socio-economic and development rights, including political and economic opportunities for women and youth. These new challenges require proactive and coordinated responses. Therefore, Malawians have taken this historic step of coming up with this National Peace Architecture Policy.

As Head of State, I will ensure that there is full Government support towards the successful implementation of this Policy. All Stakeholders are to execute their roles efficiently and effectively in

implementing this policy based on shared principles of partnership for the betterment of our beloved country.

May the Almighty God bless and protect our country.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Arthur Peter Mutharika', written over a horizontal dotted line.

His Excellency Professor Arthur Peter Mutharika
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MALAWI

PREFACE

The Government of Malawi is committed to the sustenance of peace and unity in order to establish harmony, order and justice and a prosperous society which upholds the fulfillment of human rights and dignity for all. The realization of a peaceful and unified Malawi is a great contribution to national, regional and international peace and improved welfare for all people. Crucial is how peace building initiatives are coordinated. Therefore, it is important that Government has come up with this National Peace Policy (NPP) that clearly specifies the institutional arrangements within which peace building initiatives will be coordinated and collaborated among all stakeholders.

It is important that the Policy upholds the values of efficiency and economy. By emphasising coordination and collaboration among all stakeholders, the NPP averts overlaps and duplication to ensure harmony, efficiency, economy and cost effectiveness.

The process of formulating this Policy involved inclusive and extensive consultations with various stakeholders. These included traditional leaders, political leadership, government officials from the executive, judiciary and the legislature, private sector, CSOs/NGOs, FBOs, CSOs, the academia, media, citizens, women, youth and people with special needs in an effort to ensure the Policy reflects the views and aspirations of all Malawians.

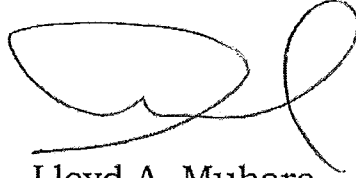
The sustenance of peace and unity is challenged by the lack of an enabling national policy and the legal and policy framework to operationalise section 13(l) of the Constitution. The absence of a central institution to formally coordinate peace building initiatives results in ad-hoc, non-holistic and reactive approaches.

The Policy also demonstrates Malawi's compliance with its international and regional obligations which require member states to, among other things, establish inclusive infrastructures for peace and development. These include the UN resolution 1325 on "Women and Peace and Security, the 2001 African Union Heads of State Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Security, Stability, Development and Cooperation in Africa, the 2004 SADC Strategic

Indicative Plan for the Organ (SIPO) on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation, and the 2013 AU/SADC Maseru Declaration.

In this respect, it is my sincere hope that this Policy will facilitate unity of effort and provide the foundation for the achievement of sustainable peace and unity and a prosperous Malawi.

Finally, I wish to extend my sincere gratitude to all who participated in the development of the Policy.



Lloyd A. Muhara

CHIEF SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT

ACRONYMS

AU	: African Union
CCJP	: Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace
CMPD	: Centre for Multi-Party Democracy
CONGOMA	: Council for Non-Governmental Organizations
CPCM	: Centre for Peace and Conflict Management
CSOs	: Civil Society Organizations
DCP	: Democracy Consolidation Programme
DPC	: District Peace Committee
ES	: Executive Secretary
FBOs	: Faith Based Organisations
ICT	: Information Communication Technology
M&E	: Monitoring and Evaluation
MGDS II	: Malawi Growth and Development Strategy II
MPLCs	: Multi-Party Liaison Committees
NAFPESCO	: National Forum for Peaceful Settlement of Conflicts
NECOF	: National Elections Consultative Forum
NGO	: Non-Governmental Organization
NICE	: National Initiative for Civic Education
NPA	: National Peace Architecture
MPC	: Malawi Peace Commission
NPP	: National Peace Policy
OPC	: Office of the President and Cabinet
PAC	: Public Affairs Committee
PCDG	: Presidential Contact and Dialogue Group
SADC	: Southern African Development Community
UN	: United Nations
UNDP	: United Nations Development Program
YPU	: Young Politicians Union

GLOSSARY

Conflict: energy that builds up when individuals or groups of people pursue incompatible goals in their drive to meet their needs and interests; opposition or antagonistic interactions.

Civil Society: political space between state and family occupied by a range of institutions or persons, groups or organisations separate from state or government and private sector and may comprise but not limited to non-governmental, community based organizations, disabled people's organizations, faith-based organizations, media, professional associations, trade unions, student organisations, cultural society, non-political or non-commercial enterprises.

Conflict cycle: distinct phases a conflict goes through from the outset to termination and covers pre-conflict stage, confrontation, crisis, crisis outcome and post conflict stage.

Conflict early warning: an act of alerting a competent authority about the emerging threat/tension of a new or renewed conflict sufficiently in advance for preventive action to be initiated.

Conflict early warning mechanisms: processes and structures that collect and analyse data on conflict indicators and provide advance warning information on conflict risks and vulnerabilities.

Conflict management: actions undertaken with the objective to manage and contain conflict and prevent vertical (intensification of violence) and horizontal (territorial spread) escalation of existing violent conflicts.

Conflict mapping: a technique used for conflict analysis to represent conflict graphically by placing parties in relation to the problem and to each other to learn about each other's experience, perceptions, core issues or content and level of conflict and context of conflict.

Conflict Prevention: measures taken to avert the escalation of conflict into violence.

Conflict resolution: comprehensive solving of deep sources of conflict by addressing behaviours (no longer indulging in violence), attitudes (no longer hostile) and changing the structure of conflict through dialogue, negotiation and problem solving approaches.

Conflict sensitivity: understanding interaction between intervention/mechanisms and context and acting on interventions to avoid negative impact and maximising positives.

Conflict transformation: actions and processes seeking to transform a conflict that has potential of turning negative, violent and destructive into positive and constructive outcomes. It involves addressing the root causes of a conflict including the structural, behavioural and attitudinal aspects of conflict like inequality, discrimination and social injustice.

Ethnicity: fact of belonging to a particular tribe and race.

Gender: socially constructed norms defining one to be a man or woman as prescribed by reproductive, productive and communal roles in society.

Governance: exercise of power in the economic, political and administrative management of a country's resources.

Human Security: freedom from fear "...arising from threat of violence, discrimination, crime of war and freedom from want in relation to economic, health, environmental threats to people's lives.

Inclusive: not excluding members or participants on the grounds of gender, disability, race, ethnic and social group; system where no person is restricted to attain any service, providing space and voice, participation and accessibility to resources available in a non discriminatory manner and regardless of gender or disability.

Persons with disability: those with long-term physical, mental, intellectual, or sensory impairments that pose various barriers in interaction and hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others.

Mitigation: measures undertaken to limit adverse effects that may result from a conflict.

National Interest: a country's goals and ambitions, whether military, social, economic, political or cultural that needs to be pursued or protected. National interests may include international commitments and obligations.

National Peace Architecture: the dynamic network of interdependent structures, mechanisms, resources, values and skills which through dialogue and consultation contribute to conflict prevention and peace building in a society.

National Policy: a broad set of principles, guidelines, objectives that inform the authoritative allocation of resources, values, practices, norms and strategies to society.

Peace: a state of harmony, order and justice in society.

Region: a geo-administratively defined area.

Threats: Menace or something that is a source of danger to the public, the State, civilians, or the environment, that may be socio-economic, natural, political or military in nature.

Unity: state of social cohesion and togetherness.

Violence: act or behaviour that is destructive and intended to cause damage, hurt or kill.

Youth: individuals whose ages range from 10-35 years.

1: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Preamble

The National Peace Policy (NPP) seeks to integrate the country's peace building initiatives and conflict prevention, management, resolution and transformation mechanisms by various stakeholders into a cohesive whole, and to provide an environment in which Malawians enjoy sustained peace and unity, experience freedom and other benefits guaranteed by the Constitution. The NPP clarifies the institutional framework within which the stakeholders will coordinate peace building mechanisms to create harmonised, integrated and cohesive approaches to sustain peace and unity in Malawi. It also complements other policies and strategies particularly the National Security Policy (NSP) in seeking to create essential conditions for successful economic development.

The NPP presents measures that must be taken by all stakeholders to promote peace and unity and protect national interests from both external and internal conflicts. In practice, this is a central unifying theme and calls for concerted national action.

Sustained peace and unity in Malawi implies continued provision of conditions that allow violence – free political discourse and democratic political change and successful socio-economic and technological development. The principles of National peace and unity are matters of consensus and are above party-political interests.

1.2 Background

The State and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) have historically been undertaking peace building and conflict management initiatives. The State interventions have included Commissions of Inquiry, Judicial mechanisms, application of Alternative Dispute resolution mechanisms to settle disputes, and provision of government security agencies to support community policing forums.

The Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) which include Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs), Community Based Organisations (CBOs), and Faith Based Organisations (FBOs) have focused on reconciliation and building relationships through inclusive mechanisms such as facilitated dialogue and problem-solving, negotiations, information sharing, education and communication, and bringing to the fore conflict situations that require government attention for resolution.

The key institutions that have played a role in conflict management and resolution include the Public Affairs Committee (PAC), Multi-Party Liaison Committees (MPLCs), Centre for Multi-Party Democracy (CMPD), National Forum for the Peaceful Settlement of Conflicts (NAFPESCO), Presidential Contact and Dialogue Group (PCDG), Council for Non-Governmental Organisations in Malawi (CONGOMA), the GIZ-funded Forum for Dialogue and Peace, Centre for Peace and Conflict Management (CPCM), Democracy Consolidation Programme (DCP), media, Judicial Services, National Social Dialogue Forum (NSDF) for Labour Disputes, National Initiative for Civic Education (NICE), Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace (CCJP), Young Politicians Forum (YPF), National Elections Consultative Forum (NECOF), Traditional leaders, women and the youth.

However, the levels of success in peace building and conflict management vary among the existing institutions. Overall, the peace building initiatives have not been backed by legal mandate and policy framework. They have been ad-hoc, uncoordinated and reactive.

The process of developing the NPP commenced with a workshop on 'an Infrastructure for Dialogue and Collaborative Problem-solving for Malawi' which was held on 12 - 13 March, 2012, in Mangochi. The Civil Society Task Force was established to lead the process. It engaged the Government on the proposal to establish the NPA. The government embraced and supported the idea. In 2013, twenty two consultative dialogues were held - ten in Lilongwe, six in Blantyre and six in Mzuzu.

The Civil Society workshop on the National Peace Architecture was held from 19th to 21st August, 2014, in Mangochi. The stakeholders who included representatives from the women and youths sectors, academia, NAFPESCO, private sector, political parties, NGOs, faith based organisations and the media deliberated and made recommendations on the proposal to establish an infrastructure for peace.

The traditional authorities endorsed the idea to establish a National Peace structure during the conflict management training workshop which was held at Hippo View Lodge in Liwonde from 4th to 5th December 2014. Furthermore, 12 consultative dialogues were held in November 2014 – five in Lilongwe, three in Blantyre and four in Mzuzu. There was unanimity regarding the need for the National Peace Architecture in all consultation meetings.

1.3 Rationale

Malawi has enjoyed peace and stability since independence. However, the country has a history of incidences of conflict that are traced to colonial and pre-independence periods. The Policy also recognises that some of the tension and conflicts in independent Malawi have their genesis in the one party rule starting with the 1964 Cabinet crisis. The crisis which was sparked by differences in policy direction engendered the disregard of the rule of law and socio/political upheaval as well as profound transgressions, resentment, abuse, oppression, marginalization and ethnic balkanization.

This policy recognizes that there are grievances which continue to be contentious sources of tension and require full disclosure that can lead to formal reconciliation and closure of this period while being cautious of opening old wounds.

Recent trends have unveiled a wide range of threats to the sustenance of peace and unity which emanate from political transitions and pressures; infringements of civil liberties and political rights; pressure on socio-economic and development rights,

including the lack of political and economic opportunities for women and youth. These new challenges require proactive and coordinated responses which are promoted by this Policy.

Malawi's commitment to non-violent means of resolving conflicts is specifically provided for in section 13(l) of the Constitution as one of the principles of national policy, which states that the state shall strive to adopt "mechanisms by which differences are settled through negotiation, good offices, mediation, conciliation and arbitration." However, the sustenance of peace and unity is challenged by the lack of an enabling national policy and legal framework, which necessitates the establishment of the NPA to operationalise the foregoing Constitutional provision. There is need for a central institution to formally coordinate peace building initiatives and ensure collaborative and proactive conflict management approaches in Malawi.

The levels of success of existing institutions that engage in peace building and conflict management interventions are varied. The gaps include lack of gender sensitive national peace architecture; absence of clear roles, and operating procedures; weak peace building and reconciliation initiatives; inadequate dialogue, lack of capacity building and peace education and awareness programmes, limited research and weak understanding of the root causes of conflicts that threaten peace and unity in Malawi; unguided government peace building responses and the lack of effective communication strategy.

The Policy seeks to establish a NPA that has a clear mandate, roles, and functions with the aim of promoting collaborative peace building mechanisms and addressing the gaps and weaknesses in the current interventions.

The establishment of a peace-time National Peace Architecture as a basis for sustenance of peace and unity places Malawi among a handful of proactive countries that are leading in building national institutions or mechanisms for prevention, management and resolution of conflicts at community and national levels. African

countries that have developed some form of peace architectures have been forced to do so by violent and traumatic experiences.

1.4 Linkages with other key related policies

This Policy is in conformity with Section 13(l) of the Constitution and government strategies and policies. These include:

- I. Vision 2020
- II. Malawi Growth and Development Strategy II
- III. National Security Policy
- IV. National Nutrition Policy
- V. Equalisation of Persons with Disabilities Policy
- VI. National Land Policy
- VII. National Foreign Policy
- VIII. National Environmental Policy
- IX. Social protection Policy
- X. National Gender Policy
- XI. National Youth Policy
- XII. National Population Policy
- XIII. Mines and Minerals Policy
- XIV. National Water Policy

The NPP also demonstrates Malawi's compliance with and commitment to international and regional protocols and pronouncements which underline the need for coordination in peace building and the establishment of national institutions for the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts. These include the UN resolution 1325 (2000) on "Women and Peace and Security"; the 2001 African Union Heads of State Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Security, Stability, Development and Cooperation in Africa ; and the 2013 AU/SADC Maseru Declaration and more recently Agenda 2063 (SDG (16) and the 2013 African Peace and Security Architecture.

2.0 BROAD POLICY DIRECTION

2.1 Policy Goal

The goal of this policy is to promote sustainable peace and unity in Malawi in a well coordinated, collaborative and structured manner in order to achieve political prosperity and socio-economic development.

2.2 Policy Outcomes

The NPP intends to realize the following outcomes:-

- i. Institutionalized peace building initiatives that incorporate participation of women, youth and persons with disabilities;
- ii. Enhanced coordination and harmonization of peace building efforts;
- iii. Enhanced conflict prevention, management and transformation mechanisms and capacities;
- iv. Enhanced collaborative leadership by government and other relevant stakeholders;
- v. Enhanced peace building and conflict transformation knowledge and skills for the NPA structures and relevant institutions;
- vi. Institutionalized peace education in all education institutions in Malawi;
- vii. Enhanced conflict sensitive decision making by government and other relevant institutions;
- viii. Enhanced high level of positive internal and external stakeholders' awareness, knowledge and support of the NPA activities.

2.3 Policy Objectives

The NPP seeks to achieve the following objectives:-

- i. establish a gender and disability sensitive NPA;

- ii. provide coordinated and harmonised peace building initiatives and mechanisms;
- iii. enhance NPA conflict prevention, management and transformation mechanisms and capacities;
- iv. conduct research on peace and conflict;
- v. enhance capacity building and training for stakeholders;
- vi. institutionalise peace education in educational institutions;
- vii. provide policy advice to government and other relevant institutions;
- viii. develop inclusive NPA communication strategy.

3.0 POLICY PRIORITY AREAS

There are seven policy priority areas. These are the establishment of a gender and disability sensitive NPA; peace building initiatives; conflict prevention, management and transformation mechanisms; capacity building-peace education and training; research; policy advice; and high level awareness and support for NPA.

3.1 Establishment of an Inclusive NPA Structure

The NPA seeks to institutionalize a gender and disability sensitive structure for the sustenance of peace and unity. The lack of peace and unity results in chaos, loss of life, property and also causes disability. The Policy recognizes the need for the establishment of an inclusive structure with the legal mandate to pro-actively respond and transform conflicts into peaceful outcomes.

3.1.1 Policy Statements

The policy will promote:-

- i. establishment of a gender and disability sensitive NPA structure at national and district levels to coordinate peace building initiatives and mechanisms among the relevant stakeholders;
- ii. development of clear roles and responsibilities of institutions involved in peace building and conflict management

3.2 Peace Building Initiatives

The Policy seeks to promote coordinated and harmonised peace-building initiatives including facilitation of dialogue and other conflict mitigation processes. The Policy recognizes that a clear peace building framework is essential for harmonised, proactive and cohesive responses by stakeholders. The previous and current attempts at conflict management and resolution remain disparate and non-holistic. There is lack of coordinated and harmonised peace building initiatives. The vertical and horizontal mechanisms and linkages for cooperation among all relevant stakeholders are unclear.

3.2.1 Policy Statements

The policy will promote:-

- i. Harmonisation of peace-building initiatives including facilitation of dialogues and other conflict mitigation processes;
- ii. Establishment of networks and partnerships for harmonised peace building initiatives and mechanisms.

3.3 Conflict Prevention, Management and Transformation Mechanisms and Capacities

This policy recognises the need to enhance pro-active, collaborated and multi-pronged peace building mechanisms including facilitated dialogues, confidence and trust building to maintain and build constructive partnerships. Section 13(l) of the Constitution also provides for negotiation, good offices, mediation, conciliation and arbitration as mechanisms for settling differences.”

The challenges include lack of conflict prevention, management and transformation mechanisms and capacities; ineffective early warning and response mechanisms, inadequate and unsystematic conflict data gathering and analysis, ineffective dialogue and failure to learn from previous conflicts to inform new responses for effective conflict prevention.

3.3.1 Policy Statements

The policy will promote:-

- i. Development of conflict prevention, management and transformation framework;
- ii. Establishment of early warning and inclusive response mechanism
- iii. Development of gender and disability disaggregated data gathering and conflict analysis and mapping systems;
- iv. Creation of spaces for dialogues and collaborative problem solving;
- v. Establishment of a core team of experts for rapid deployment and engagement in peace building

3.4 Research

This policy priority area seeks to enhance research which is critical to the formulation of national policy decisions. The policy on establishment of NPA provides for creation of inclusive research unit and documentation centre which shall provide a platform for coordination and information sharing for understanding conflict dynamics and actors and for decision making or providing early warning and response to conflicts threatening peace and unity.

The lack of research on root causes and effects of conflicts and tension, and best practices in addressing domestic and international conflicts leads to poor policy decisions. It also leads to instability and unsustainable peace and unity as well as inadequate protection of key national assets and interests, as well as waste of resources.

3.4.1 Policy Statement

The policy will promote:

- i. Commissioned research on underlying root causes and effects of violent conflict in Malawi;
- ii. Evidence based peace related decision making;
- iii. Establishment of peace and conflict data base and documentation/ resource centre;
- iv. Provision of accurate, relevant and timely information in a coordinated manner.

3.5 Capacity Building-Peace Education and Training

This policy priority area seeks to enhance peace building and conflict transformation skills for the NPA to actually resolve conflicts as well as to establish peace education in education institutions. The policy is cognizant of the need for skills and values of reconciliation, tolerance, trust and confidence building, mediation and dialogue as responses to conflicts that should be inculcated among Malawians in the earliest stages of their life.

However, the major challenges include the lack of knowledge, skills and competence in peace building which is compounded by the absence of comprehensive and coordinated capacity building/training and development in key focus area of peace building. In addition, there is no curriculum for peace education at primary, secondary and tertiary levels. Therefore, there is need for capacity building programmes for effective promotion of peace and unity.

3.5.1 Policy Statements

The policy will promote:-

- i. Development of a comprehensive Human Resource Development plan;
- ii. Development of peace building capacities for the NPA structure and other institutions;
- iii. Raising of Public Awareness on the use of non violent strategies in responding to conflicts;
- iv. Designing and development of curriculum for peace education; and
- v. Institutionalization of Peace education in educational institutions.

3.6 Policy Advice

This policy priority area seeks to promote the formulation of policies and decisions that are conflict sensitive to avoid provocations and violent conflicts. The Policy recognizes the need to design and

implement policies and decisions that are conflict sensitive in order to sustain peace and unity.

However, the main actors in a governance system which include government, the civil society and private sector are not well advised and guided to ensure conflict sensitive decision making. The challenge is the weak conflict sensitivity in decision making processes and policy formulation by government as well as in media reporting.

3.6.1 Policy Statements

The policy will promote:-

- i. Enhancement of conflict sensitive decision making by government and other relevant institutions;
- ii. provision of non partisan, equitable and fair policies of national interest in a transparent and accountable manner;
- iii. Use of relevant conflict sensitive policies and specific laws to sustain peace and unity; and
- iv. Conflict sensitive reporting by media houses and journalists.

3.7 High Level Awareness and Support

The Policy seeks to achieve a high level of positive internal and external stakeholders' awareness and support of the NPA. This requires a clear communication strategy for effective implementation of strategies and programmes. The structures at national and district levels require information and timely feedback for collaborative efforts with stakeholders at all levels.

However, the lack of clear communication strategies, linkages and channels within structures on the one hand, and among institutions, stakeholders and the general public on the other hand, result in the lack of timely information on matters of peace building. This poses a serious challenge in the sustenance of peace and unity

which requires effective dissemination of information and feedback at all levels.

3.7.1 Policy Statements

The policy will promote:-

- i. development of an enabling communication strategy for information sharing; and
- ii. development and maintenance of internal knowledge.

4.0 IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENT

4.1 Institutional Arrangements

The structures and inter-agency coordination institutional arrangements for the implementation of the NPP shall consist of the Malawi Peace Commission (MPC) and District Peace Committees (DPCs).

4.1.1 Malawi Peace Commission

The President shall inaugurate a MPC as the highest umbrella body and focal point of peace building and conflict prevention, management, resolution and transformation in Malawi.

The MPC shall be an independent body responsible for coordination and engagement in peace building mechanisms, decision making and implementation of the NPP. It shall be placed in the Office of the President and Cabinet.

The MPC shall report annually to the Committee on Defence and Security of Parliament through a Minister delegated by the President.

The work of the MPC shall be guided by independence, non-partisanship and non discrimination in terms of 'race, colour, sex,

language, religion, political or other opinion, nationality, ethnic or social origin, disability, property, birth or other status.

Membership to MPC: The MPC shall comprise of nine members - with the following minimum demographic representations: 3 men, 3 women, 2 people with special needs and 1 youth. There shall be inclusivity and gender equity in the composition of members of the Commission.

The Commissioners shall be nominated by a Committee on Defence and Security of Parliament and appointed by the President.

The Chief Secretary to the Government and Secretary responsible for Home Affairs and Internal Security shall be 'ex-officio' members of the MPC.

The President may appoint a pool of experts and special representatives to assist the MPC to support peace building mechanisms that will lead to mitigation of violence.

Mandate of MPC: The mandate of the MPC shall be to promote sustainable peace and unity in Malawi, serving as the Malawi pillar for peace building, conflict prevention, management, resolution and transformation. It shall specifically be mandated to:-

- i. Oversee the implementation of NPP;
- ii. Provide conflict sensitive policy guidance to the Government;
- iii. Provide a platform upon which national Malawi dialogues on social, economic, political, ethnic and religious challenges will be held in a peaceful manner;
- iv. Engage in reconciliation and transformative dialogues that foster national peace and unity;
- v. Interact with other regional and international bodies involved in conflict management; and
- vi. Commission studies on underlying root causes and effects of violent conflicts in Malawi.

The MPC Secretariat

There shall be a Secretariat which will be the administrative structure to service and support the operations of the MPC.

The Secretariat's broad responsibility shall be to implement inclusive programmes and coordinate the functions of the Commission on a day to day basis.

The Secretariat shall liaise with stakeholders in peace building including government for collaborative and coordinated approaches that eliminate duplication in sustaining peace and unity in Malawi.

Functions of Secretariat: Specifically the Secretariat shall be responsible for the following:

- i. Coordinate and harmonise peace building, conflict prevention, management, resolution and transformation interventions;
- ii. Arrange the meetings of the MPC and facilitate Commission's processes;
- iii. Facilitate capacity building through awareness campaigns, training and mentoring to groups and organisations;
- iv. Receive, collate, analyse, publish and disseminate relevant information in an accessible and appropriate format";
- v. Serve as a think-tank for the government on peace building and conflict resolution;
- vi. Conduct research and maintain a documentation and resource centre as a point of information sharing;
- vii. Mobilize resources, technical support and other assistance for the work of the Commission and its component organs;
- viii. Develop and implement strategic plans, annual work plans, budgets and result based monitoring and evaluation system;
- ix. Develop, support and strengthen capacities through institutionalized inclusive peace education and training programmes; and
- x. Coordinate and harmonize peace-building initiatives and mechanisms with other stakeholders.

While the MPC shall serve as the central pillar of the peace architecture in Malawi, it shall work with and in support of other institutions that contribute to peace and unity in Malawi. The principle of subsidiarity shall be respected by the Commission. This shall entail upholding the understanding that conflicts shall be resolved at the lowest possible level even by structures other than MPC's.

The MPC shall establish District Peace Committees. Their composition shall mirror that of the national body. The MPC shall coordinate the work of all District Peace Committees, and organize meetings with them as often as it deems necessary.

4.1.2 District Peace Committee (DPC)

The DPCs will report to the MPC.

Membership to DPC: The DPC shall comprise nine members appointed by the MPC - with the following minimum demographic representations: 3 men, 3 women, 2 people with special needs and 1 youth. The nine members shall be nominated by a broad range of identified stakeholders and groups including traditional leaders, women and youth within the District. There shall be inclusivity and gender equity in the composition of members of the DPC.

The DPC members shall elect their chairperson.

The District Commissioner shall serve as a patron of the DPC.

Mandate of DPC: The work of DPC shall be to sustain peace and unity within the District, and create and facilitate spaces for dialogue between groups and communities and for the exchange of ideas on issues that may threaten peace and stability within the community. It shall specifically be mandated to:-

- i. engage in peace building initiatives/mechanisms including mediation, negotiation, confidence and trust

- building activities between groups and communities in conflict within the district;
- ii. provide strategic advice to stakeholders in the district;
 - iii. provide early warning on potential threats to defuse tension in the communities;
 - iv. organise training and other capacity building programmes;
 - v. engage in public education, sensation and awareness programmes about conflict indicators in the district; and
 - vi. conduct regular meetings with peace building agencies within the district for experience sharing and knowledge management.

4.2 Implementation Plan

The implementation plan which sets out priority areas and specific strategies to achieve varied objectives under each priority area is included as Annex 1.

4.2.1 Budget

The MPC shall be a government subverted institution. The Secretariat shall make Estimates of Expenditure as budgetary provisions for financing activities related to peace building and conflict resolution in Malawi. This shall cover programmes, operational and staff costs of the MPC and DPCs.

The MPC shall also establish a Peace Fund using resources from bilateral and local cooperating partners to ensure sustainability and effective implementation of peace building programmes and related activities.

4.2.2 Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation shall be an inherent component at all implementation stages of the policy. The process shall be participatory with the involvement of stakeholders in quarterly review, midterm and annual general meetings to ensure

transparency and accountability. Monitoring and evaluation functions shall aim to:

- i. Provide regular feedback for assessing relevance and sustainability of peace and unity;
- ii. Provide timely review of peace building and conflict transformation mechanisms;
- iii. Act as early warning strategy for timely and proactive remedial action;
- iv. Assess the impact of peace building programmes in terms of relevance and effectiveness.

The NPP recognises the need to review and update strategies to peace building and conflict management on the basis of the dynamics of conflict and changing political and socio-economic environment. The policy shall therefore be reviewed every five years to take into account new developments. The MPC shall hold consultations with stakeholders for purposes of reviewing and updating the policy.

The NPP is intended to promote the sustenance of peace and unity in Malawi. It is, therefore, envisaged that a legal framework and other peace building tools will be developed guided by the NPP to give effect to provisions as detailed above.

NPA POLICY IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING AND EVALUATION STRATEGY	
1.0 INTRODUCTION	
This document has been prepared as a sub-set of the main National Peace Architecture (NPA) Policy. It sets out Policy priority areas and specific strategies to achieve varied objectives under each priority area. This document has also clearly spelt out how implementation of the Policy will be achieved by various key Stakeholders and how they will be monitored.	
2.1 Policy Priority Area 1 -	NPA structure
a) Objective -	To establish an inclusive National Peace Architecture (NPA)
Strategy 1	Establish a gender and disability sensitive NPA structure
Strategy 2	Develop clear roles and responsibilities of institutions involved in peace building and conflict management
2.2 Policy Priority Area 2 -	Peace building
Objective -	To facilitate coordinated and harmonized peace building initiatives and mechanisms
Strategy 1	Facilitate harmonization of peace-building initiatives including dialogue and other conflict mitigation processes
Strategy 2	Establish networks and partnerships for harmonized peace building initiatives and mechanisms
2.3 Policy Priority Area 3 -	Conflict prevention, management and transformation mechanisms and capacities
Objective-	To enhance NPA conflict prevention, management and transformation mechanisms and capacities
Strategy 1	Develop conflict prevention, management and transformation framework and capacities
Strategy 2	Establish early warning and inclusive response mechanisms
Strategy 3	Develop data gathering and conflict analysis and mapping systems

	Strategy 4	Create spaces for dialogues and collaborative problem solving
	Strategy 5	Establish a core team of experts for rapid deployment and engagement in peace building
2.4	Policy Priority Area 4-	Research
	Objective-	To conduct research on peace and conflict
	Strategy 1	Commission research on underlying root causes and effects of violent conflict in Malawi
	Strategy 2	Enhance evidence based peace related decision making
	Strategy 3	Establish NPA data base and documentation/ resource centre
	Strategy 4	Provide accurate, relevant and timely information in a coordinated manner
2.5	Policy Priority Area 5-	Capacity building
	Objective-	To enhance peace building and conflict transformation skills and establish peace education in education institutions.
	Strategy 1	Develop a comprehensive Human Resource Development plan
	Strategy 2	Develop peace building capacities for the NPA structure and other institutions
	Strategy 3	Enhance public awareness on the use of non violent strategies in responding to conflicts
	Strategy 4	Design and develop curriculum for peace education
	Strategy 5	Institutionalize Peace education in educational institutions
2.6	Policy Priority Area 6-	Policy Advice
	Objective-	To provide policy advice to government and other relevant institutions
	Strategy 1	Enhance conflict sensitive decision making by government and other relevant institutions;
	Strategy 2	Provide non partisan, equitable and fair policies of national interest in a transparent and accountable manner
	Strategy 3	Use relevant conflict sensitive policies and specific laws to sustain peace and unity
	Strategy 4	Enhance conflict sensitive reporting by journalists
2.7	Policy Priority Area 7-	High level awareness and support

Objective-	To develop NPA communication strategy		
Strategy 1	develop an enabling communication strategy for information sharing		
Strategy 2	develop and maintain internal knowledge for NPA		
3.0 IMPLEMENTATION PLAN			
2.1 Policy Priority Area 1-			
Policy Statement 1:	NPA structure		
Objective	Strategy	Responsibility	Timeframe
To establish an inclusive National Peace Architecture (NPA) structure	mobilize financial resources	Tripartite Committee (OPC/Civil Society Task Force, UNDP), MoFEPD	By December 2016
	conduct sensitization and awareness programs	Tripartite Committee	By December 2020
	set up Secretariat and develop capacity	OPC /DHRMD, CSO TF	By December 2019
	establish Pilot NPA structures at national and district levels	Tripartite Committee	By December 2017
	develop/implement NPA Policy	Tripartite Committee	By December 2020
	review pilot NPA structure	Tripartite Committee	By December 2018
	draft Bill and legislate NPA	Tripartite Committee, MoJCA, Law Commission	By December 2018
	roll out NPA structures countrywide	Tripartite	By December 2020

Policy Statement 2:	Develop clear roles and responsibilities of institutions involved in peace building and		
Objective	Strategy	Responsibility	Timeframe
To develop clear roles and responsibilities of institutions involved in peace building and conflict management	conduct stakeholders analysis and mapping	pilot NPA structure	By December , 2018
	define roles and responsibilities of stakeholders and areas of collaboration	pilot NPA structure	By December , 2018
2.2 Policy Priority Area 2	Peace building		
Policy Statement 1:	Facilitate harmonization of peace-building initiatives including dialogue and other conflict mitigation processes		
Objective	Strategy	Responsibility	Timeframe
To facilitate coordinated and harmonized peace building efforts by the NPA with its key players	identify and classify Peace building agencies	pilot NPA structure	By December , 2017
	develop Peace building database	OPC (Tripartite Committee), pilot NPA structure, MPC	By December 2017
	conduct collaborative conflict analysis	MPC	on going
	establish Malawi Peace Commission and District Peace Committees	OPC (Tripartite Committee), pilot NPA structure, NPC, MoHA	By December 2019
Policy Statement 2:	Establish networks and partnerships for harmonized peace building initiatives and mechanisms		
Objective	Strategy	Responsibility	Timeframe
To establish networks and partnerships for harmonized peace building initiatives and mechanisms	develop coordination and operational framework	OPC (Tripartite Committee), Pilot NPA,	By December 2017
	set up planning committees	OPC (Tripartite), Pilot NPA,	By December 2017
	establish formal Network	OPC (Tripartite), Pilot NPA,	By December 2017
2.3 Policy Priority Area 3 -	Conflict prevention, management and transformation		

Policy Statement 1:		Develop conflict prevention, management and transformation framework and capacities		
Objective	Strategy	Responsibility	Timeframe	
To enhance NPA conflict prevention, management and transformation mechanisms and capacities	develop conflict prevention, management and transformation framework	Tripartite Committee, Pilot NPA	By December 2019	
	develop peace building capacities	Tripartite Committee, pilot NPA	By December 2020	
	conduct public awareness campaigns on NPA and use of non-violent strategies for responding to conflicts	Tripartite Committee, Pilot NPA/ Malawi Peace Commission (MPC)	on going	
Policy Statement 2:		Establish early warning and inclusive response mechanisms		
Objective	Strategy	Responsibility	Timeframe	
To establish early warning response mechanisms	develop effective monitoring system of conflict indicators	Tripartite Committee, Pilot NPA, MPC	By December 2020	
	develop a coordinated early warning and response mechanism	MPC	By December 2020	
Policy Statement 3:		Develop data gathering and conflict analysis and mapping systems		
Objective	Strategy	Responsibility	Timeframe	
To develop data gathering and conflict analysis and mapping systems	develop data gathering and conflict analysis and mapping systems	Tripartite Committee, Pilot NPA	By December 2018	
	conduct conflict analysis and mapping	Tripartite Committee, Pilot NPA	By December 2018	
	analyze and synthesize data on conflict incidences	Tripartite Committee, Pilot NPA	By December 2018	

Policy Statement 4:		Create spaces for dialogues and collaborative problem solving	
Objective	To create spaces for dialogues and collaborative problem solving	Strategy	create spaces for dialogue and for problem solving
		Responsibility	Tripartite Committee, Pilot NPA, MPC
		Timeframe	By December 2020
Policy Statement 5:		Establish a core team of experts for rapid deployment and engagement in peace building	
Objective	To establish a core team of experts for rapid deployment and engagement in peace building	Strategy	Identify and engage a gender balanced pool of mediators
		Responsibility	Tripartite Committee, Pilot NPA
		Timeframe	By December 2018
Policy Priority Area 4:		Research	
Policy Statement 1:		Commission research on underlying root causes and effects of violent conflict in Malawi	
Objective	To enhance evidence based peace related decision making	Strategy	commission research on underlying root causes and effects of violent conflicts in Malawi
		Responsibility	Tripartite Committee, Pilot NPA, MPC
		Timeframe	By December 2018
Policy Statement 1		Enhance evidence based peace related decision making	
Objective	To enhance evidence based peace related decision making	Strategy	engage government and stakeholders on peace related decision making
		Responsibility	Tripartite Committee, Pilot NPA, MPC
		Timeframe	By December 2018
Policy Statement 2:		Establish NPA data base and documentation/ resource centre	
Objective	Establish NPA data base and documentation/ resource centre	Strategy	procure and install computer hardware and software
		Responsibility	MPC
		Timeframe	By December 2018
			OPC (Tripartite Committee), Pilot NPA, MPC
			By December 2018

Policy Statement 3:	Objective To provide accurate, relevant and timely information in a coordinated manner	Provide accurate, relevant and timely information in a coordinated manner Strategy Establish and operationalise M&E Unit	Responsibility Tripartite Committee, Pilot NPA	Timeframe By December 2018	
2.5 Policy Priority Area 5:					
Policy Statement 1:					
Objective	To enhance capacity building and training for stakeholders and institutionalize peace education in educational institutions	Capacity building Develop a comprehensive Human Resource Development plan	Strategy develop a comprehensive HRD plan	Responsibility MPC, DHRMD	Timeframe By December 2020
		conduct periodic inter-agency training and exercises to enhance readiness		By December 2018	
Policy Statement 2:		Develop peace building capacities for the NPA structure and other institutions			
Objective	To develop peace building capacities for NPA structures and other institutions	Strategy equip staff of the NPA and its stakeholders with peace building and conflict transformation knowledge and skills	Responsibility MPC	Timeframe By December, 2018	
Policy Statement 3:		Raise Public Awareness on the use of non violent strategies in responding to conflicts			
Objective	To raise public awareness on the use of non violent strategies in responding to conflicts	Strategy conduct public awareness campaigns on NPA and use of non-violent strategies for responding to conflicts	Responsibility Tripartite Committee, MPC and all Stakeholders	Timeframe on going	

Policy Statement 4:			
Design and develop curriculum for peace education			
Objective	Strategy	Responsibility	Timeframe
To institutionalize peace education in educational institutions	develop module on integrating Peace education in education institutions	Tripartite Committee, MPC, MoEST	By December, 2018
	print and distribute Peace education curriculum assessment guides	MPC	By December, 2020
	train and equip primary and secondary schools and tertiary teachers with peace education skills	MPC, MoEST	By December 2020
Policy Statement 5:			
Institutionalize Peace education in educational institutions			
Objective	Strategy	Responsibility	Timeframe
To institutionalize peace education in educational institutions	institutionalize peace education in educational institutions	MoEST, MPC	By December 2020
2.6 Policy Priority Area 6			
Policy Advice			
Policy Statement 1:			
Enhance conflict sensitive decision making by government and other relevant institutions;			
Objective	Strategy	Responsibility	Timeframe
To enhance conflict sensitive decision making by government and other relevant institutions	enhance conflict analysis, management and transformation capability	MPC	By December 2020
	establish Stakeholder partnership forums	MPC, Stakeholders	By December 2018
	produce periodic reports on potential conflicts	MPC	on going

Policy Statement 2:	Provide non partisan, equitable and fair policies of national interest in a transparent and accountable manner		
Objective	Strategy	Responsibility	Timeframe
To provide non-partisan, equitable and fair policies of national interest in a transparent and accountable manner	Advise Government and other stakeholders in the provision of non-partisan, equitable and fair policies of national interest in a transparent and accountable manner	MPC	on-going
Policy Statement 3:	Use relevant conflict sensitive policies and specific laws to sustain peace and unity		
Objective	Strategy	Responsibility	Timeframe
To enhance use of relevant conflict sensitive policies and specific laws to sustain peace and unity	enhance use of relevant conflict sensitive policies and specific laws to sustain peace and unity	MPC	on going
Policy Statement 4:	Enhance conflict sensitive reporting by journalists		
Objective	Strategy	Responsibility	Timeframe
To enhance conflict sensitive reporting by journalists	impart skills to media personnel on conflict sensitive reporting	MPC	on going
2.7 Policy Priority Area 7:	High level awareness and support		
Policy Statement 1	develop an enabling communication strategy for information sharing		
Objective	Strategy	Responsibility	Timeframe
To enhance high level awareness and support for NPA	NPA communication policy developed	Pilot NPA, MPC	By December 2018
	implement a Communication Strategy	Pilot MPC	By December 2018
	identify and engage print and media service providers	Pilot NPA	By December 2018
Policy Statement 2	develop an enabling communication strategy for information sharing		
Objective	Strategy	Responsibility	Timeframe
To develop internal knowledge for NPA	develop NPA website	Pilot NPA	By December 2018
	produce quarterly newsletters	Pilot NPA	By December 2018

4.0 MONITORING AND EVALUATION PLAN						
Policy Priority	NPA structure					
Area 1:						
Outcome: Institutionalized peace structures that incorporates participation of women and the youths						
Objective	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of Verification	Assumptions/ Risks
To establish an inclusive National Peace Architecture (NPA) structure	Financial resources mobilized	Peace building infrastructure, offices	on going		Annual reports, -National, Rep	Funding will be provided
	Sensitization and awareness programs conducted	No. of policies, systems, and regulatory fram	on going		Policies, strategic plans	Acceptance of government and relevant institutio
	Secretariat setup and capacity developed	No of professional staff recruited with gender balance	on going		Recruitment plans	Staff will be recruited timely
	Pilot NPA structures established		on going		presence of structures	Availability of funds and capacity
	Pilot structures reviewed		on going		Reports	Availability of funds and capacity
	NPA legislated		on going		Act of Parliament	Availability of funds and capacity
	NPA structures rolled out countrywide		on going		presence of structures	Availability of funds and capacity
To develop clear roles and responsibilities of institutions involved in peace building and conflict management	Rules and responsibilities developed	No. of institution identified	on going		Reports	Stakeholders will cooperate
Policy Priority	Peace building					
Area 2:						
Outcome: Coordinated and harmonized peace building efforts by the NPA with its key players						
Objective	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of Verification	Assumptions/ Risks
To facilitate coordinated and harmonized peace building efforts by the NPA with its key players	Peace building agencies identified and classified	No. of agencies taking part		60%	Framework developed	There will be Relevant stakeholders buy-in
	Peace building database developed		on going			Availability of funds and capacity
	Collaborative conflict analysis conducted		on going			Availability of funds and capacity
	Peace Commission and committees established		on going			Availability of funds and capacity
To establish networks and partnerships for harmonized peace building initiatives and mechanisms	Coordination and operational framework developed	Joint initiatives undertaken	on going		Records	Availability of funds
	Planning committees setup	No. of joint committees set up	on going		Committee reports	Staff have requisite skills and competencies
	Network formally established					Adequate funding will be provided
						Readiness of stakeholders
Policy Priority	Conflict prevention, management and transformation					
Area 3:						
Outcome: Enhanced conflict prevention, management and transformation mechanisms and capacities						
Objective	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of Verification	Assumptions/ Risks