



DECLARATION ON THE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN MALAWI HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION (MHRC) AND THE MALAWI NATIONAL STATISTICAL OFFICE (NSO)

Adopted during the Capacity Building Workshop organized by the Network of African National Human Rights Institutions (NANHRI) for the Malawi Human Rights Commission (MHRC) and the Malawi National Statistical Office (NSO) on Harnessing a Human Rights Based Approach to Reporting on the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 and the Malawi, 2063

WE, the Malawi Human Rights Commission (MHRC) and the Malawi National Statistical Office (NSO) having attended the Capacity Building Workshop held in Lilongwe, Malawi between 29th and 31st August, 2023;

CONSIDERING the adoption of “Transforming our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” (A/RES/70/1) which provides an Agenda explicitly grounded in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, international human rights treaties, and other instruments such as the Declaration on the Right to Development;

RECALLING the commitments of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to be implemented in a manner consistent with the rights and obligations of States under international law and to develop quality, accessible, timely and reliable disaggregated data to help with the measurement of progress and to ensure that “no one is left behind”;

CONSIDERING the Constitution of Malawi, the Malawi 2063 and all the National frameworks for development;

CONSIDERING the international human rights treaties ratified by Malawi and the importance of statistical information, in particular disaggregated indicators, in the measurement of the realisation of human rights and



implementation of recommendations from international human rights mechanisms;

RECALLING the “Paris Principles” relating to the status of National Human Rights Institutions (A/RES/48/134); the Declaration of the Twelfth International Conference of the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (*‘The Mérida Declaration’*), which sets out Principles for Human Rights Institutions’ engagement with other actors for the purposes of supporting the implementation of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; and the Declaration of the Eleventh Biennial Conference of the Network of African National Human Rights Institutions (*‘The Kigali Declaration’*) which sets out the role of partnership between African National Human Rights Institutions and key stakeholders in advocating for the implementation of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the African Union Agenda 2063;

CONSIDERING the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics (A/RES/68/261), the Declaration on Professional Ethics adopted by the International Statistical Institute Council, the indicator framework developed under the auspices of the United Nations Statistical Commission to measure the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the African Charter on Statistics and the Cape Town Global Action Plan for Sustainable Development Data prepared by the High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for Statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which identifies key priorities for official statisticians in supporting measurement of progress and outcomes, the Statistics Act and the African Charter on Statistics;

CONSIDERING the publications and guidance on ‘Human Rights Indicators: A Guide to Measurement and Implementation’ and ‘A Human Rights-Based Approach to Data: Leaving No One Behind in the 2030 Development Agenda’ of The United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights;

RESPECTING the Parties’ respective mandates under the Constitution of Malawi; the Human Rights Commission (HRC) Act relating to the establishment,



organization and functioning of the Malawi Human Rights Commission, the Law relating to the establishment of the Malawi National Statistical Office (NSO), National Statistical Systems (NSS), the National Statistics Act that regulates statistical activity in Malawi;

APPRECIATING the need to work together to report on the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 through the Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) and the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM):

RECOGNISING and appreciating the strides made thereof in strengthening data collection, disaggregation, dissemination, and analysis in light of human rights standards and the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda to help measure progress and ensure that no one is left behind;

RECOGNISING FURTHER the role of the Network of African National Human Rights Institutions (NANHRI) in strengthening the capacity of NHRIs in support to the implementation of United Nations Agenda 2030, the African Union Agenda 2063 and the Malawi 2063;

AFFIRMING the mutual commitment by both institutions to establish a collaboration framework.

UNDERTAKE to:

1. Consult internally within our respective institutions on the proposed partnership;
2. Work together to finalize the draft Memorandum of Understanding between the Malawi Human Rights Commission (MHRC) and the Malawi National Statistical Office (NSO);
3. Work together to adopt and sign the Memorandum of Understanding between the Malawi Human Rights Commission (MHRC) and the Malawi National Statistical Office (NSO) within a period of 3 months;
4. Train officers at the Malawi Human Rights Commission (MHRC) and its CSO partners on Statistics and Data;



5. Train officers of the Malawi National Statistical Office (NSO) on Human Rights and Human Rights Based Approaches to Data;
6. Develop criteria for collection, collation and analysis of data in a manner that is human rights responsive;
7. Collaborate with actors including line ministries such as Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development; Development Partners, and Civil Society Organizations partners of the Malawi Human Rights Commission (MHRC) to support the objectives of the proposed partnership; and
8. Jointly seek funding to sustain the objectives of the proposed partnership.

Done in Lilongwe, Malawi this 31st day of August, 2023