**MALAWI-UK AGRO-BUSINESS VIRTUAL EVENT**

**23RD OF JULY 2021**

**PROGRAMME:**

**Event background:**

The MALAWI-UK BUSINESS GROUP is proud to announce this year's MALAWI-UK NETWORKING EVENT which is to be held virtually on the 23rd of July 2021.

Our area of interest for this year's conference is the AGRO-BUSINESS sector in Malawi. Malawi has for long relied on tobacco as the main cash crop but with the changing winds blowing across the globe, there is an urgency in the need to diversify and build up the agro-business sector at a faster pace.

The event aims to bring together Malawian agro-business sector stakeholders with their UK counterparts to help stimulate trade and investments between the respective countries.

Public and Private entities in Malawi will have a platform to share ideas and information, make new contacts and have direct discussions with key decision-makers. We look to promote and facilitate the rapid growth in the Agro-Processing sub-sector in Malawi by driving investors and ease of access to funding for such ventures, thus increasing amount of Value Added Malawian products and produces onto the international markets. The event is especially interested in crop production mapping, creation of value chains, production industry, market chains and growth, agro-investors, funders and prospective partners.

Malawi has a number of crops that can be elevated to cash earners, from coffee, cotton, medicinal and industrial cannabis, macadamia, beans, rice, soya, maize, groundnuts and many others.

**Event format:**

This is a fully digital event, taking place on Zoom. We are delighted to have Keynote addresses by both the Minister for Agriculture and the Minister of Trade, in addition to remarks from the British High Commissioner to Malawi.

Six high-level panellists will give short presentations from: the Greenbelt Authority, the Malawian Cannabis Regulatory, National Planning Commission (Vision 2063), MITC, African Export-Imports Bank, and CDC.

We want this to be an engaging, interactive and useful event, so the majority of time will take place in breakout groups, which delegates will themselves be able to choose from and move between. There will be breakout groups for direct discussions with each of the six high-level panelists, as well as additional spaces for delegates to be able to share information, network, raise key issues, make new contacts and explore new partnerships.

To help facilitate networking, prior to the event we will electronically share summary profiles for all delegates.

**AGENDA:**

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| **UK Time** | **Malawi time** | **Activity** | **Speaker/Session** |
| 09.30 | 10.30 | Event Moderator: welcoming participants and outlining technicalities | Malawi-UK Business Group Exec Member, David Hope-Jones OBE |
| 09.33 | 10.33 | Event Lead: about this event | Malawi-UK Business Group Secretary, Mr Alex Sukali |
| 09.36 | 10.36 | Event Chair: about the Malawi-UK Business Group | Malawi-UK Business Group Chairman, Mr. Edgar Chibaka |
| 09.40 | 10.40 | Remarks by British High Commissioner to Malawi | British High Commissioner to Malawi, H.E David Beer |
| 09.45 | 10.45 | Keynote Address 1, by Malawi’s Deputy Minister for Agriculture | Agnes Nkusa Nkhoma, MP |
| 10.00 | 11.00 | Panel Discussion 1: Opportunities in Malawi | - Greenbelt Authority CEO, Mr Amon Mluwira  - Cannabis Regulatory CEO, Dr Boniface Kadzamira  - National Planning Commission (Vision 2063): Mr Hope Chavula |
| 10.20 | 11.20 | Breakout session 1 | (a) Discussions with Mr Amon Mluwira  (b) Discussions with Dr Boniface Kadzamira  (c) Discussions with Mr Hope Chavula  (d) Open space for sharing and networking RE agro-business opportunities in Malawi |
| 11.20 | 12.20 | Keynote Address 2, by Malawi’s Minister of Trade | Honourable Sosten Gwengwe, MP |
| 11.35 | 12.35 | Panel Discussion 2: Ease of doing business in Malawi | - MITC Chairman, Mr Karl Chokotho  - African Export-Imports Bank Director, Mr Chandi Mwenebungu  - CDC, Director of Investments in Agriculture, Mr Roman Frenkel |
| 11.55 | 12.55 | Breakout session 2 | (a) Discussions with Mr Karl Chokotho  (b) Discussions with Mr Chandi Mwenebungu  (c) Discussions with Mr Roman Frenkel  (d) Open space for sharing and networking RE ease of doing business in Malawi |
| 12.55 | 13.55 | Closing remarks and next steps | Malawi-UK Business Group Chairman, Mr. Edgar Chibaka |
| 13.00 | 14.00 | End of Event | All |