

REPUBLIC OF MALAŴI THE PRESIDENT

STATE HOUSE LILONGWE MALAŴI

11th November, 2023

Dear Scotland Malawi Partners,

As you gather to celebrate and further explore Global Citizenship, my thoughts are with you, howbeit wishing I was able to join you in person. However, since I am prevented from doing so by prior obligations, I elected to send my Minister of Tourism, Honourable Vera Kamtukule, to represent me, along with officials from our Mission in London. Even so, I felt compelled to write you directly with a few words of my own.

From what I know of your commitment to people to people exchanges between our two countries, it comes as no surprise that you are renewing your pledge to the pursuit of our friendship today. The design of this meeting around reuniting and rekindling our deep-rooted connections is an opportunity to take our partnership to greater heights in the coming years. As both our countries grapple with the challenge of sailing through the troubled waters of the global economy and global diplomacy, we must make the most of the wellsprings of mutual solidarity that Scotland and Malawi share to unlock powerful new links and collaborations.

Scotland Malawi Partners
Edinburgh City Chambers
High Street
EDINBURGH

I was personally fortified in this belief when I met First Minister Humza Yousaf in London in May and when he attended and addressed the Malawi Partners Conference that I hosted on the margins of the United Nations General Assembly in New York in September. I am thus looking forward to seeing Malawi and Scotland stand together in support of the concerns of the Global South at COP28 later this month, especially to amplify the voices of our youth, who have every right to demand a sustainable future. Additionally, I am hopeful that the First Minister's desire to visit Malawi next year will be yet another opportunity to expand our partnership in matters of mutual benefit.

All in all, my friends, let us remember that even though we have endured so much together, our commitment to each other and our renewal of the same at this gathering is a promissory note that guarantees that the best days of our partnership are yet to come.

Lazarus McCarthy Chakwera

PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MALAWI