

- **January Mvula SURCOD Malawi:** I am interested to know how the planning commission embrace the issues of climate change

Climate change issues are an integral component of MW2063 as encapsulated in Enabler 7 – Environmental Sustainability which highlights ecosystem conservation, waste management and green economy, environment and climate change financing and natural disaster and climate change preparedness

- **Benjamin Carey:** Question for Dr Munthali. It's very clear that GoM and NPC are very supportive of tourism. MW2063 is a great document, and it's very encouraging to see tourism in pillar 3. But there seems to be a position that urbanisation is unavoidable. Do you agree, since this seems to undermine opportunities for youth to develop community-led rural heritage tourism?

Urbanisation is indeed unavoidable and this is in the sense of bringing development/amenities that are found in the cities for example, to the people in the rural communities. This will discourage people from migrating to our already congested cities since they will now have options of economic activities in their own localities. That said tourism will therefore play a big role in also identifying areas that can be transformed into urban centres. Places that are endowed with tourism potential will be targeted and some of the activities that will be promoted will obviously include cultural heritage tourism. MW2063 is a youth centred vision and aims at involving the youth in all aspects of its implementation which means that they will, in most cases lead in the development of their communities regardless of where they are. Thus to say any opportunity will be undermined is actually the exact opposite of promoting urbanization which seeks to bring development and investment opportunities to other areas other than existing urban areas. We wish to plan our cities and emerging secondary cities and tourism hubs without leaving them to develop by default thereby avoiding the slumming that we have seen in the existing cities.

- **Dr Malawi Ngwira:** Question about the economic infrastructure and how non state actors can get involved

MW2063 is all about ensuring a coordinated multi-stakeholder approach to development efforts. Non-state actors will therefore play a major role in contributing to the effective implementation of the vision not only in economic infrastructure but in all pillars and enablers. However, specific roles that this group can play include but is not limited to: investment financing through PPPs etc; funding/grants; quality control of government projects; civic education; human capital development in prerequisite fields; innovations; champions of the vision; holding implementers accountable.

- **Mwelura Harawa:** Hi Everyone, Mwelura Harawa working with Tigwirane Manja
- **Dan Khomba:** Its Dan Khomba from Edinburgh. I have a question on mechanisms for ensuring continuity of implementation of the policy

MW2063 has an implementation framework which has been broken down into 10 year implementation plans called the MW2063 Implementation Plans (MIPs). These plans will include within them five year quick win strategies. The first MIP, MIP 1 includes within its quickwins, projects that are currently already underway from previous governments which have been assessed to have strong transformative qualities. MW2063 is an evidence based vision and will ensure that only those interventions that will inclusively create wealth for this country and promote self reliance will be prioritized regardless of which political side they may arise from. The 10year implementation plans will thus ensure a timeframe for projects which outruns political tenure. In addition, continuous engagement with political leadership and creating an appropriate platform for engagement with them is among our strategies. In addition, it will be a requirement for political parties to align their manifestos to MW2063 in future elections. We are also amending the Political parties Act so all political party manifestoes should from now on be aligned to the country's Vision so we don't derail from it.

- **Tracy Morse:** I wonder if Dr Munthali could talk more about the role for higher education referred to in Vision 2063 and how our University partnerships can engage with these most effectively

Higher education is an important element in the vision as it relates to the human capital development enabler. We acknowledge through this inclusion that all these ambitious plans can only make sense if we have a highly skilled human capital to facilitate the implementation of the vision in its entirety. In view of this we consider the academia a critical stakeholder and we have worked with them hand in hand from the consultation process to the final formulation of the vision. We continue to partner with them in dissemination and popularization and we encourage that they make MW2063 part of their syllabi. In addition, we are calling on institutions of higher learning to adjust their programmes in alignment with the needs of the vision. We would like to see them offering courses that will provide the necessary skills and knowledge towards the attainment of the vision's pillars and enablers.

In terms of the best way to engage with them, here in Malawi the universities and colleges have an association which comprises all public and private universities and as a Commission we have a working partnership although not yet formalized. The chairperson of the Association is Dr. Sharon Pittman who is the Vice Chancellor of Malawi Adventist University. pittmans@mau.adventist.org

- **James Longwe:** Vision 2020 was vibrant in its infant stage. It later died out. Nobody mentioned it. Come 2020 we were all surprised that the target year had been reached with no much to show. What has been put in place to avoid repeating this in the current vision?

First and foremost the National Planning Commission has been mandated by law to formulate long and medium term development plans and oversee their implementation. This was not there during Vision 2020. As a result there was no responsible entity to oversee, track, monitor and evaluate the progress of Vision2020. Due to the same reason Vision 2020 had no measurable targets nor timeframes for assessment. Secondly, there was very little to no political will which so far has been demonstrated by both the governing and opposition sides this time around for MW2063. So far the support that the MW2063 is receiving from different stakeholders is quite overwhelming and it is our duty to ensure that this momentum will not die out.

- **Tiwonge Kumwenda:** Whats the monitoring framework to ensure that we are reviewing progress and ensuring adaptive prog given the ever changing context.

Same response as to Dan Khomba above.

- **Salim Yusuf Lorgat:** Hi it's Salim from International Humanitarian Development Charity IR Worldwide and IR Malawi - work permits for specialist staff from our partner offices

Will refer question to Department of Immigration in the Ministry of Home Affairs and Internal Security.

- **Spencer:** What measures have been put in place to make sure that the 10 year IP to be achieved? Secondly, many plans fail due to Political will, how are you going to work on this? Spencer CHIPESO

The Implementation framework for MIP 1 has adequately addressed all areas related to the attainment of quickwins, transformative interventions and flagship projects. M&E will be prioritized throughout the lifespan of the MIP 1 and will be supported by relevant legal and policy changes where need be. MIP 1 has review mechanisms that will include annual reviews in line with yearly budgets to ensure that priority sectors are adequately financed. MIP 1 also has a financing mechanism framework that defines how the pillars and enablers will be funded. As regards political

will, so far we are receiving tremendous support from both sides but as a Commission we will ensure that we create sustainable engagement mechanisms that will promote continuous dialogue with the political leadership.

- **Dorcas, Water Witness:** In terms of financing the MW2063, are there any studies done looking at possible revenue from corporate tax in Malawi?

There is a Development Finance Assessment (DFA) that is in its final stages being coordinated by Ministry of Finance which will provide insights on the various domestic resource mobilisation avenues, traditional and other innovative financing mechanisms to fund the Vision.

- **Paul Kawale:** How will you convince international development funders to fund or “invest” in large-scale industrialisation (e.g. fertiliser factories)?

Current challenges for foreign investors relate to restrictive tax regimes imposed on them as well as a major lack of essential services such as electricity and water that prevent foreign investments from coming into the country. Industrialization as one of the pillars includes promotion of FDI into the country and for this, some of the strategies include different types incentives but also obviously ensuring a favourable business environment for all investors. Under the inclusive democratic developmental state philosophy that underpins MW2063, one important element is to have the state actively engaged in partnering with private investors for a while so that once they get established, the state should pull out and sell its shares to local Malawians so as to establish a cadre of middle-class Malawians.

- **Yonah Matemba:** Where are these diaspora discussions taking place and who is being involved? I live in the diaspora and have not heard about these initiatives. Is this selective invitation?

The Commission engages the diaspora in different forms. We have a Core Advisory panel of senior experts which was set up at the onset of the Commission's operations. This panel includes a number of prominent Malawians living across the globe who have provided strategic guidance to the formulation of MW2063. In addition, we work closely with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs who have a Diaspora desk which facilitates our engagements with different groups of Malawians out there. And on occasion it has also been the initiative of some Malawians in the diaspora who have reached out to engage with the Commission. I would urge you and all Malawians out there to take a more proactive role to find out how best you can contribute to the conversations happening around MW2063 and how you can effectively contribute.

- **Joseph Kalelo:** To what extent is Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment an integral part of the Malawi Vision 2063 and its plans? To what extent is the vision addressing issues of GBV and Child Marriages which for so long have negatively affected our attainment of key development aspirations including the MDGs?

Gender and the youth are crosscutting issues and as such they cannot be isolated from the pillars and enablers to become stand alone. You will note that MW2063 aims at INCLUSIVE wealth creation and self-reliance, in essence embracing issues of gender, women empowerment and the youth. In this regard take note of the enabler on human capital development which seeks to promote a population that is able to fully harness its resource potential. Inclusivity in human capacity development looks at, amongst other issues, the promotion of gender transformative approaches for womens' economic empowerment. Furthermore, the vision ensures protection of all children by law and the requisite social services that will enable them to grow to their full potential.

- **Dan Khomba:** Dr Munthali you mentioned in you presentation that the NPC is in part created to ensure continuity of programmes prioritised under Malawi 2063 vision. What are the mechanisms, legal or otherwise, to help ensure that governments do not introduce programmes that are not in

the vision there by using resources that could otherwise be used to further the implementation of the policy?

MW2063 has been agreed to be the developmental blueprint for Malawi for the next 42 years. This has been endorsed by all Malawians through a rigorous consultation process that included numerous stakeholders including politicians across the country. From now moving forward, it will be a requirement for all stakeholders to base all plans and programmes on this vision. This includes political parties. The requirement now is that all political manifestos should talk to the vision and these will be vetted by the Commission before they are shared with the public. As pointed out earlier, we are in the process of amending the Political parties Act so that all political party manifestoes should from now on be aligned to the country's Vision so we don't derail from it.

Dr Malawi Ngwira: I am aware that in the energy sector IPP is very much welcome. What I am keen to establish is whether an equivalent model would be allowed in the other sectors such as roads, railways, ports and any other infrastructure under what is termed Private Initiated Program (PIP) as happens in other countries?

This is more than welcome as an initiative. The Commission stands ready to work with anyone/firm that wishes to isolate an area of interest for investment in the MW2063 and the First 10-Year Implementation Plan that will support it. The Commission will facilitate any such efforts to ensure that the country's development plans get to be implemented – its part of our implementation oversight mandate.

- **Dezie Trigu:** What will be done to ensure that political parties adhere to the vision in their manifestos? I wish they were highlighting how they are to achieve the vision in their manifestos cos experience has shown that each government introduces its own way of doing things and it derails development.

Similar to Dan Khomba's question above.