



SPEECH TO BE DELIVERED BY

**PRINCIPAL SECRETARY FOR NATIONAL REGISTRATION BUREAU, PATRICK
MACHIKA**

**ON THE OCCASION OF THE OFFICIAL HANDOVER CEREMONY OF CERTIFICA
TE PRINTERS TO THE MINISTERS OF HEALTH AND SANITATION AND LOCAL
GOVERNMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT ON 9TH OCTOBER 2026, AT THE
MINISTRY OF HOMELAND SECURITY CONFERENCE ROOM**

**National Registration Bureau
Lilongwe**

- **Honourable Peter Mukhito, Minister of Homeland Security**
- **Dr. Chika Charles Aniekwe UNDP Deputy Resident Representative in Malawi;**
- **Your Excellency Ambassador Daniel Aristi-Gaztelumendi, EU Delegation to Malawi;**
- **Your Excellency Ambassador Katy Brady, Irish Ambassador to Malawi;**
- **Your Excellency Ambassador Anne Sofie Bjelland, ambassador of the Kingdom of Norway to Malawi;**
- **Your Excellency Dr. Penelope Campbell, UNICEF Representative in Malawi;**
- **Your Excellencies members of the Diplomatic Corps;**
- **Mrs. Linda Pacharo Moyo, Secretary for Homeland Security;**
- **Senior Government Officials here present;**
- **Distinguished members of the Press;**
- **Distinguished Guests;**
- **Ladies and Gentlemen**

Honourable Minister, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all to this important occasion marking the handover of birth and death certificate printers for deployment to health facilities and Traditional Authority offices across the country.

Today represents another significant milestone in our journey towards building a modern, efficient, and citizen-centred civil registration system. As the National Registration Bureau and the Ministry responsible for registration services, our mission is to ensure that every Malawian can access registration services efficiently, effectively, and conveniently.

We are committed to bringing services closer to the people while ensuring they are delivered with speed, accuracy, and quality. To achieve this, we continue to pursue the decentralisation, digitalisation, and integration of registration services, in line with the aspirations of the APAI-CRVS 2026-2036 framework. Our goal is to build systems that are agile, simplified, resilient, proactive, interoperable, and responsive to the needs of our citizens.

In pursuit of this vision, NRB continues to introduce innovative solutions, including the Digital ID, Digital Wallet, e-payment platforms, and electronic birth, death, and marriage registration systems. These innovations are transforming the way government services are delivered and accessed.

I therefore call upon service providers and all users of our services to embrace these innovations. In particular, I encourage financial institutions and other service providers to integrate and utilise the Nzika Digital Wallet as part of their service delivery mechanisms. The platform is secure, efficient, convenient, and authentic. I am pleased to announce that as of yesterday, over 42,000 users had successfully enrolled on the application, with many more joining every day. This demonstrates that Malawians are ready to embrace digital transformation, and we must all move forward together in this technological era.

Honourable Minister, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The printers being handed over today will greatly improve service delivery by enabling the immediate issuance of certificates to parents, bereaved families, and newly married couples. Through printing services at health facilities and Traditional Authority offices, we are truly bringing registration services closer to the people.

This means that Malawians will no longer have to travel long distances to District Registration Offices or to Capital Hill merely to obtain certificates. Instead, they will be served within their communities, saving both time and resources.

This is what responsive and proactive public service delivery looks like.

Our vision is to ensure that every health facility is equipped to print and issue birth certificates before mothers and their babies are discharged. Similarly, all 405 Traditional Authority offices should be able to provide registration services directly to their communities. We therefore appeal to development partners, the private sector, and all well-wishers to continue supporting this noble cause through the provision of computers, printers, and other essential equipment.

Honourable Minister, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Allow me to express profound gratitude to the Government of His Excellency Professor Arthur Peter Mutharika for approving the new establishment warrant for the National Registration Bureau and enabling the recruitment of additional staff. This investment demonstrates the Government's commitment to strengthening registration services and ensuring that no citizen is left behind.

I would also like to commend the staff of NRB for their dedication, professionalism, resilience, creativity, and innovation. Despite facing numerous challenges, including limited equipment, inadequate office space, and transportation co

constraints, you have remained committed to serving Malawians. Today's achievements are a testament to your hard work and determination.

Finally, allow me to sincerely thank IDT4M for their unwavering support to the National Registration Bureau. Your financial and technical assistance has been instrumental in advancing our programmes and strengthening service delivery. You have consistently stood by NRB as a trusted partner, and we greatly value this collaboration. We look forward to further strengthening this partnership as we continue building systems that serve citizens efficiently and contribute to Malawi's socio-economic development.

Honourable Minister, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The handover of these printers is not merely the distribution of equipment. It is an investment in dignity, accessibility, and the rights of every Malawian to legal identity and civil registration services. Together, let us continue working towards a future where registration services are available to every citizen, in every community, and at every stage of life.

Thank you for your attention.

God bless you, and God bless Malawi.