

**STATEMENT**

**BY THE**

**MINISTER OF HOMELAND SECURITY,**

**HONOURABLE NICHOLAS DAUSI MP,**

**AT THE**

**FIRST GLOBAL REFUGEE FORUM**

**HELD IN GENEVA**

**ON**

**17<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2019**

**Your Excellency, Distinguished Ladies  
and Gentlemen;**

It is an honour for me to lead the Malawi Delegation to this first ever Global Refugee Forum here in Geneva. I would like to thank the Swiss Government for the excellent hospitality provided to me and my delegation since our arrival in this beautiful city of Geneva.

Firstly, let me register Malawi's continued commitment to hosting refugees, and to roll out the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF), as reiterated by our Head of State Professor Arthur Peter Mutharika at the UN General Assembly in 2018.

**Your Excellencies**, Malawi as of end of November, 2019 is hosting about 43,000 refugees and asylum seekers. As a result of our continued commitment, a Roadmap for the implementation of the CRRF has been developed which has a number of deliverables that the country has critically considered to be implemented by 2022.

I would like to indicate that Malawi is facing a number of challenges in the management of refugees. Similarly, just as other states may have highlighted we have limited resources. The country has a protracted caseload that has been rendered dependent on food and non food assistance. Due to challenges that

come with mixed migration, there has also been an outcry for increased resources within the security institutions.

There is a need therefore, to increase the livelihood interventions and to build the capacity of all stakeholders dealing with migrants including the refugees. May, I therefore take this opportunity, to thank all Donor Agencies and our Partners for the continued support they have rendered to the Government of Malawi this far.

**Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,** Malawi has registered a number of best practices in education, health, protection and livelihoods.

The country has also engaged with its neighbouring countries to build cooperation on refugee matters. In November, we signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Government of Zambia as part of the state to state support initiative.

**Your Excellencies,** I am pleased to outline the five (5) pledges that Malawi has submitted to improve the management of refugees:

1. Include Refugees into the National Development Agenda;

2. Facilitate Legal and Policy Reform by supporting the finalization and adoption of the National Migration Policy and subsequent review of the Refugees Act;
3. Enhance Registration and Documentation of refugees and asylum seekers through the National Identification (NID) system upon amendment of the National Registration Act (2010);
4. Introduce a Settlement Approach and Self – reliance in order to enhance integrated development of the refugees and local community

5. Enhance Reception and admission – through consideration of Group Determination (*Prima Facie*) for specific cases.

As we move towards a whole of society approach on the implementation of the CRRF and our pledges, the Government will to put a balance approach between the interests of the nation and our international obligations.

Therefore, Malawi needs support in form of resources ensure maintain a favourable environment for hosting refugees and for the implementation of

the pledges the country in making today.

**Your Excellencies**, I hope we can all work together and that through the spirit of burden sharing, Malawi will be supported accordingly.

**I THANK YOU!**