



## **MALAWI ELECTORAL COMMISSION**

### **PRESS STATEMENT**

#### **STATUS AND PROGRESS OF VOTER REGISTRATION PROCESS**

Notice is hereby given to all electoral stakeholders that in accordance with the electoral calendar and the voter registration phases summary as shared and circulated, the 1<sup>st</sup> Phase of the voter registration process started on 4<sup>th</sup> April, 2020 and was set to finish on 17<sup>th</sup> April 2020. The second phase was scheduled to commence on 21<sup>st</sup> April 2020.

The Commission has considered the impact of the 21-day lockdown and additional measures declared by the Minister of Health on 14 April, 2020, to contain the Covid-19 pandemic, in relation to the electoral processes leading to the holding of the fresh presidential election on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2020 and would like to advise that it has decided to suspend the current voter registration process on 16<sup>th</sup> April, 2020. This is to allow for all the retrieval processes to take place before the lockdown.

However, the above decision is subject to the general directions and orders that may be issued by the Supreme Court of Appeal in relation to the judgment of the Constitutional Court dated 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2020 which ordered that a fresh presidential election be held within 150 days from the date of the judgment.

As an immediate measure, the Commission has also resolved to suspend all other electoral activities in view of the 21-day lockdown. Meanwhile, the Commission will proceed with phase-one voter registration retrieval processes.

Dated this 15<sup>th</sup> day of April 2020

**Justice Dr. Jane Mayemu Ansah, SC**  
**CHAIRPERSON**