



**CIVIL SOCIETY AND CITIZENS' PETITION ON EMBARRASSING LEVELS OF  
EXECUTIVE THIEVING, CORRUPTION AND IMPUNITY**

***OPERATION CHOTSA MBAVA: TIME TO RESTORE OUR DESTINY***

***“Your rulers are rebels. Partners with thieves. They all love bribes and chase after gifts.  
They do not defend the cause of the poor”- Isaiah 1:23***

**TO:** THE PRESIDENT OF REPUBLIC OF MALAWI, HIS EXCELLENCY PROFESSOR ARTHUR PETER MUTHARIKA – HEAD OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT

**CC:** THE VICE PRESIDENT OF REPUBLIC OF MALAWI  
THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND CABINET (OPC)  
THE SPEAKER, NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
THE CHIEF JUSTICE, JUDICIARY  
THE MALAWI HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION  
THE MALAWI LAW COMMISSION  
ALL POLITICAL PARTIES IN MALAWI  
ALL RELIGIOUS MOTHER BODIES IN MALAWI  
ALL DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS IN MALAWI

**DATE:** 21<sup>ST</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2018

## **1. BACKGROUND**

We, members of the civil society organisations under the banner of Human Rights Defenders Coalition (HRDC) and Malawian citizens of goodwill gathered in all the 4 cities of Lilongwe, Mzuzu, Blantyre and Zomba petition you again today your Excellency Sir over the worsening DPP-orchestrated executive thieving, corruption, and impunity. Our second coming has, of course, been provoked by your inaction to our petition delivered to you on 27<sup>th</sup> April, 2018, exacerbated by the worsening levels of theft, abuse, corruption, Executive arrogance and impunity championed by your government. We had sincere hope and trust that-- as per the accountability tenets such as Chapter III of the Constitution of Malawi--your Excellency would accord our petition the utmost urgency and seriousness. However, Your Excellency grew nonchalant to the petition, as evidenced by your government's appalling response which was not born out of deep conviction to address the issues raised in the petition but rather to score a political point that we have a responsive government when in actual fact your government continues to take Malawians for granted.

Just a few days ago when we had demanded your presence at the dialogue table with your government so that we could amongst other things ask you why you did not implement the 10-point demand petition, your government team told us that we were "expecting too much" to have you – our servant- and cabinet ministers at a roundtable. This was a dialogue your government wanted, but you did not have even the courage to face us! As Civil Society and all Malawians of goodwill, we are at pains to learn that a servant can have the audacity to refuse to meet his employers in order to account for how he was using the powers to govern on their behalf. Not only do we see these recent developments as signs of lack of Servant Leadership, but also a clear expression of your continued Executive Arrogance where Your Excellency Sir feels too executive and important to be approached by heavily taxed ordinary Malawians. You seem to be a leader who has unfortunately lost touch with reality on the ground, and as such Malawians have every right to conclude that you take them for granted.

The table below summarises your performance in addressing the 10-Point Demand Petition presented to you on 27 April 2018.

<b>No</b>	<b>Demand</b>	<b>Rate (Out of 10)</b>
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	We demand your Excellency Sir to reverse your decision on the appointment of Rodney Jose - who was implicated in the murder of Robert Chasowa in 2011- as Acting Inspector General of Police within <b>10 days (27 April to 11 May 2018)</b> . In the absence of completion of investigations into Chasowa's murder, such an appointment is an insult to the family of Chasowa and the general public who continue to seek justice on the matter. We demand Parliament to reject such an appointment if brought before it for approval.	0/10
2.	Demand on the resignation or firing of Minister of Finance Goodall Gondwe and Minister of Local Government Kondwani Nankhumwa within <b>20 days (27 April to 11 May 2018)</b> over their dubious role in the K4 Billion payout aimed at rewarding MPs who rejected the people's electoral reforms including 50%+1 electoral system of electing the President. The K4 Billion scandal has raised more questions than answers on the integrity of not only the two ministers but also the entire government... Malawians are now asking the following questions: What else does the Mutharika government steal from Malawians in secret?	0/10
	We demand that the disbursement of the K4 Billion dubious funds be completely cancelled within <b>30 days (27 April to 11 June 2018)</b> as its objective and motives were not to pursue public interest but rather to reward betrayal of public trust through the rejection of the peoples' electoral reforms	0/10
	Anti-Corruption Bureau should expedite the investigation of both the K4 Billion dubious fund scandal and also the alleged linkage between the rejection of electoral reforms and K4 Billion payout.	0/10
	We demand the re-tabling and enactment of the all the elections related bills including 50%+1 electoral system of electing the President in their original form as proposed by the Law Commission within <b>40 days (27 April to 25 June 2018)</b> . We demand these elections related laws including the 50%+1 to be enacted in their original form as proposed by the Malawi Law Commission.	0/10

	MBC is a public broadcaster NOT DPP or Party Broadcaster. We give you, Your Excellency Sir, <b>60 days (27 April to 24 July) to free MBC from DPP's capture and to allow it to work independently and professionally as provided by law. In the same vein, we demand MACRA, MBC and MEC's action on YAS, CHRR and CEDEP's letter of complaint on MBC's political biasness and contravention of the law within 60 days (27 April to 24 July 2018) .</b>	0/10
	We regret the dwindling public service delivery in the education and health sectors where public hospitals have shortage of drugs and public schools have shortage of teachers and learning materials, yet the DPP government has the audacity to plan wasting K4 Billion funds –which would have been used for these services – in rewarding MPs that betrayed the public through the rejection of Electoral reforms. We demand action to addressing these problems within <b>75 days (27 April to 7<sup>th</sup> August 2018).</b>	2/10
	Malawi is a nation in darkness. We are tired of blackouts and gensets excuses. We give you, Your Excellency Sir, <b>85 days (27<sup>th</sup> April to 21<sup>st</sup> August 2018) to address the electricity blackouts problem.</b>	3/10
	Enough of your government's celebration of impunity over extrajudicial killings implicating your cronies, Your Excellency Sir. We demand completion of investigations into the murder of Issa Njaunju, Robert Chasowa and July 20, 2011 freedom fighters <b>NOW!</b>	1/10
	Enough of mere executive rhetoric on the killings of persons with Albinism. We need action to end the killings of our brothers and sisters <b>NOW!</b>	4/10
	<b>Total</b>	<b>10/100</b>
	<b>SCORE IN %</b>	<b>10%</b>

The table above, Your Excellency Sir, clearly shows that **you scored 10%** in addressing the issues and demands raised by the CSOs and the citizens in the 10 Point demand petition addressed to you on 27 April 2018

## **2.THE FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION**

Your Excellency Sir! While it is undeniable that the country is besieged by corruption which continues to rob millions of our people a decent future, we are saddened by your government's lack of political will to curb this malpractice. Your insistence that your government is fighting corruption is not only untrue but also an indication of how detached you are from reality. We are concerned with the sad reality that many prominent cases bordering on corruption in your government are not being investigated and that suspected culprits are not being prosecuted. Sir, is it not ironic that you claim that your government is making strides in fighting corruption, yet the Director General of the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) recently told the nation that all government Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) citizenry are rotten with stinking corruption?

Recently, Malawians were shocked to learn that even you, Your Excellency, were implicated in the police food ration deal involving Pioneer Investment which deposited a sum of MK145million into an account of the party you lead, the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) and you are a sole signatory of that account.

While we note that the ACB has cleared you of any wrong doing in this matter, we are not surprised with the position by the Bureau as the graft-busting body made several puzzling statements in your defence ever since the issue came into the public domain. We were, for instance, puzzled by the inexplicable decision by the Bureau to invite a forensic expert to investigate the leakage of the report implicating you in the scandal even before those that were implicated were arrested. It is ironic that the Bureau which calls on people to report, resist and reject corruption wanted to punish whistle blowers of corruption instead of protecting them.

Despite the Bureau's insistence that you are innocent in this matter, we in the civil society maintain that you remain the prime suspect in this case. We find the Bureau's explanation that you did not directly benefit from the fraud wanting as you are a sole signatory to the account.

This is why the ACB is miserably failing to investigate and conclude numerous corruption cases, some of which, involve top government officials and gross mismanagement of resources in government entities. These include the infamous tractor-gate, abuse of public resources in district councils and financial mismanagement and fraud at Electricity Supply Commission of Malawi (ESCOM).

### **3.0. ESCOM ABUSES AND PROLONGED BLACKOUTS**

As your government continues to preach about attracting Foreign Direct Investments (FDIs) in the country four years after attaining power, your administration has clearly failed to address the challenge of prolonged power outages. We are not convinced by your response to shift the blame on previous administration's alleged failure to invest in the energy sector. We observed, for example, tremendous improvements in the energy sector during the time of your predecessor, Dr. Joyce Banda.

To add more insult to injury on this issue, your government hoodwinked Malawians into believing that your administration had a solution to the challenges through procurement of diesel-powered generators for ESCOM, only for Malawians to realise that this was another planned ploy by your government officials to siphon billions of taxpayer's money. Despite the acquisition of the so-called generators, Malawians continue to live in persistent blackouts day in and day out. Mr. President who really benefited from this deal? Again, how does ESCOM explain its recent application to Malawi Energy Regulatory Authority (MERA) to hike tariffs when there is no power?

As if this is not enough Your Excellency, we are shocked that 4.2 million litres of fuel for the generators got stolen at ESCOM. Is it not shameful Sir that your government makes shoddy procurement of the generators and later steals fuel for running the machines?

#### **4.0.NEPOTISM**

CSOs appreciate government's attempts to collect data to dispute CSOs and citizens' claims that it pursues tribalism and nepotism. However, we note with dismay that such data has just been generalised without any attempt by government to show the time-frame when the so-called Civil servants were appointed in order to make an attribution as to whether this occurred during your tenure or not. Our close investigations reflect that the majority of such appointments were effected prior to your election to power with some traced as far as the Kamuzu Banda and Bakili Muluzi eras. We are further saddened by your government's failure to differentiate tribalism from regionalism in your response to the April 2018 petition.

In our petition, we highlighted that a big majority of your appointees in senior government positions are restricted to people from your tribe. We have evidence to support this position. The table below just gives a glimpse of the extent to which you Your Excellency Sir is implementing the "Lomwelisation" project in Malawi.

<b>No</b>	<b>Name, Origin and Position</b>
1.	Francis Chinsinga – Principal Secretary of Transport and Public Works
2.	Blessings Chilabade – Principal Secretary of Civil Service Commission
3.	Joseph Mwandidya – Principal Secretary of Labour
4.	Justin Saidi – Principal Secretary of Education
5.	Erica Maganga- Principal Secretary of Information
6.	Perks Ligoya – Malawi UN Representative in New York
7.	Dr. Thomson Mpinganjira – Chairperson of ESCOM
8.	Dr. Collins Magalasi – MERA Executive Director
9.	Mavuto Bamusi – Presidential Advisor on NGOs and Civil Society

10.	Chataika CEO SMEDI
11.	Dr. Getrude Hiwa – now Solicitor General Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs
12.	Grey Nyandule Phiri – Principal Secretary Ministry of Agriculture
13.	Dr Esmie Kainja – Principal Secretary Ministry of Gender
14.	Cliff Chiunda – Principal Secretary Administration
15.	Dr Ken Ndala – Principal Secretary Trade and Industry
16.	Hiralio Chimota – Principal Secretary Department of Human Resource Management and Development
17.	Rose Mbilizi – Deputy Commissioner Malawi Revenue Authority (MRA)
18.	Mercy Kanyuka – Commissioner of Statistics
19.	James Kaphale – Director of Administration and Company Secretary of ADMARC
20.	Mr. Sai Kaphale – Deputy High Commissioner Tanzania
21.	Chris Chisoni – CEO Higher Education Loans Board
22.	Lloyd Muhara – Chief Secretary to the Government
23.	Rodney Jose – The Inspector General of Police
24.	Chrighton Chimombo – The Accountant General
25.	Levi Phelani – Deputy Chief Executive Officer of Tobacco Control Commission of Malawi
26.	Rev. Alex Maulana –Chairperson of MACRA
27.	Aubrey Sumbuleta – MBC Executive Director

Your attempt, Mr President, to include regions in justifying your appointments fell short of addressing the issue of nepotism which you are promoting. We now believe that you are the *Chief of Nepotism* because even the composition of members of Boards of Directors of parastatals is dominated by your kinsmen who are contributing to the raging corruption in their institutions since they owe their positions to patronage. We are, therefore, not surprised to learn that the Public Reforms Initiative failed miserably because most of the public institutions are being run by your incompetent and corrupt people whose sole qualification for appointment was to belong to the Lomwe belt.

We also note with sadness the desperate attempt by your administration to include public positions that have been earned on merit by people that are not from your tribe as an indication

that your appointment of public officials is representative. As human rights defenders, we reiterate our position that this country belongs to every Malawian citizen regardless of where they come from.

### **5. PROMOTING IMPUNITY**

As a nation that attained independence and multiparty democracy to be free from torture and suffering, we are saddened with the perceived lack of intent to finalise investigations into the brutal murders of ACB top official Issa Njauju and Polytechnic student Robert Chasowa.

Your response to our petition claims that the two cases are still being investigated. We are not amused that it has taken more than six years, for example, to conclude the Chasowa case despite seemingly overwhelming evidence pointing to suspects.

We are also reliably informed that government deliberately removed top Police Investigators in the Njauju murder case just when they were about to make breakthroughs into the case. We have evidence Police Investigators, namely-a Mr Mathanki, Mr Chambo and Mr. Nkuka were all unceremoniously stopped from finalising their investigations on the case. We believe that this was a deliberate attempt by your administration to stop these officers from uncovering the truth on the matter. This is why we are also not surprised to learn that your government is yet to fulfil its promise of hiring forensic investigators to work on the case.

### **6. PROTECTION OF PEOPLE WITH ALBINISM**

While we appreciate the few efforts at policy level being adopted by government to address the situation of persons with albinism, we, however, register our dismay over the failure by your government to arrest the abduction and killings of people with albinism in the country. While your response claims that your government is doing its best to address this challenge, recent attacks on people with albinism are a reminder that our brothers and sisters with albinism continue to live in fear.

We are disappointed that out of the 148 albino attacks related cases recorded to date, only 44 have been successfully tried and completed.

### **7. THE K4 BILLION DISBURSEMENT**

We note government's response on the K4 Billion "dubious" fund. However, it is misleading for government to claim that it respects the principles of separation of powers and that it is not in the interest of the Executive to interfere with operations of the legislature. The truth of the matter is that the entire K4 Billion, which was later raised to K6 Billion, was characterised by the executive's manipulation of some legislators through either inviting them to State House or rewarding them with K4 Billion for fighting the electoral reforms. The entire K4 Billion saga and the frustration of the peoples' electoral reforms only magnifies the existing public perception that we have a government which is so rooted in crookedness, corrup-

tion and hence lacks integrity to govern. It shows that the DPP government is there to serve its own selfish interests rather than public interest.

In addition, your response portrays the picture as if the DPP government was willing to shoot down the K4 Billion “dubious” fund as well as support the electoral reforms and hence shifting the blame to Parliament. This is wrong and misleading as every Malawian knows deep down their hearts that the DPP government fought tooth and nail to see the peoples electoral reforms defeated in order to satisfy their political gains. Moreover, the executive arm of government had all powers to move a motion in Parliament to suspend or completely cancel the K4 Billion. This was not done. To sum it all, while the disbursement of the K4 Billion was indeed legal and legitimised by Parliament, we want to remind you that the allocation originated from the Executive branch of government and the legislature was only used to rubber-stamp the decision which was aimed at buying the DPP’s support from parliamentarians.

### **8. BIASNESS OF MBC AND MACRA**

We are further alarmed that as the country prepares for next year’s elections, your administration continues to tighten its grip on the State Broadcaster.

Through programmes such as *Never Again* and *Ndikati Chete*, Malawi Broadcasting Corporation (MBC) continues to promote hate speech and act as a propaganda wing of the ruling party instead of serving the interests of all Malawians. We continue to press for the opening up of the airwaves to all political players and demand an immediate end of the broadcasting of propaganda.

Additionally, the Malawi Communication Regulatory Authority (MACRA) also continues to abuse the Communication Act by threatening and censoring media houses that are providing critical checks and balances to your administration while at the same time paying a blind eye to the misconduct of the state broadcaster.

We believe your promise to act on concerns over these two entities is empty since the time of your response to now, the situation at the two institutions has in fact worsened. Meanwhile, you, Mr President, have also been promoting hate speech in your rallies by threatening some members of the public using violent language. Sir, it is not Presidential to threaten that you will drop on your critics ‘like a tonne of bricks’. As the first citizen, we expect you to be exemplary in your speech and conduct.

### **9. PUBLIC HEALTH DELIVERY AND EDUCATION SERVICES**

Your Excellency Sir, it remains our concern that your government has been slow and non-committal in addressing the public outcry over health service delivery. Contrary to the picture painted in your government’s response to our petition, evidence on the ground shows that government has neglected its responsibility in provision of medical equipment in hospitals. While a few privileged Malawians can afford to fly abroad to access quality health services,

your government's failure to improve health service delivery is condemning many Malawians to needless deaths. Essential life-saving drugs and adequate doctors and nurses are perennially unavailable in our hospitals. Meanwhile, government has failed to make use of 65% vacancy gap for health personnel pressing major strain on the current limited personnel. Government recently closed down Kaporo Health Centre in Karonga because the facility is in bad shape due to your failure to rehabilitate the facility. We don't know, Your Excellency, where you think people of the area will be accessing their health services.

On education, we observe that the statistics you shared in government response were manipulated portray a false state of progress while evidently education standards continue to deteriorate. As your government claimed of developing this sector, four children died after a sub-standard school block fell on them in Zomba while our petition was outstanding. We are also quite aware of how the University and college loan schemes have been politicised to an extent that the poor who are key beneficiaries have been neglected. In summary, the teacher-pupil ratio as well as the doctor - patient ratio in our public schools and hospitals remain very pathetic.

## **10.PROGRESS ON YOUTH EMPOWERMENT AND EMPLOYMENT**

In a country whose majority citizens are youths, we are further dismayed that your government has neglected the plight of the youth. While government has failed to achieve substantial progress in job creation, its few efforts in form of provision of youth loans are politicised and only serve to benefit those connected to the ruling party. The recent introduction of the government internship programme is not a lasting solution to the challenge of youth unemployment as internships are not full time jobs. We demand your government to come up with practical solutions that will keep the youths in gainful and permanent employment and income generating ventures – steps that are sustainable.

## **11.GENDER EQUALITY**

Most of the positive steps by government on gender equality over the years are merely centred at policy, institutional, and legal framework. However, having a robust institutional, policy and legal framework on gender equality is not enough. There is need to translate that to action if the increasing cases of gender inequalities and abuse are to be reduced. Furthermore, political will is key to ensuring gender equality in Malawi. Sadly, we have noted that despite being a champion of HE/For She Campaign, Your Excellency has continued to publicly undermine the rights of women as clearly exemplified in his political rantings against the former first lady Calista Mutharika and former Minister Patricia Kaliati. The treatment of Patricia Kaliati at Parliament where she was assaulted by DPP cadets (who have never been brought to book till to date) and the verbal abuse launched against Mrs Kaliati by DPP regional governor for South Mr Charles Mchacha in full view of her husband and yourself are all regrettable and do not reflect well on the fight against gender based violence and promo-

tion of gender equality. We continue to note that your government lacks a clear articulated vision on gender equality.

## **12. WORSENING WATER PROBLEMS**

The CSOs and the citizens note the list of the projects that government is claiming to be working on to address the water problem. However, government fails to explain the extent to which the listed projects would be able to address the problem mindful of the magnitude of the problem in the country. Furthermore, it is misleading for government to allege that CSOs have stood in the way of implementation of some projects (obviously referring to Salima/Lilongwe Water Project) while CSOs were only trying to seek accountability and transparency in the way the contracts were awarded. It is a well-known fact that the awarding of the contract on this project was greeted with corruption and patronage accusations, and as such the CSOs could not keep quiet and watch the executive arm of government massaging corruption under the guise of advancing development. It is in this regard that we view government's response on this as a mere scapegoat for their failure to address the worsening water problems in Malawi.

## **13. WHEN MUTHARIKA AND DPP GOVERNMENT TAKES MALAWIANS FOR GRANTED**

The CSOs and the citizens note government concerns over the theme of the 27 April Petition which reads as follows: "For how long shall Malawians continue to be taken for granted? Time to Reclaim our destiny". According to your response, "notes with sadness that the theme of the petition insinuates that Malawians are being taken for granted. All Malawians of good will would attest to the fact that this is not the case. Government therefore finds this statement both misleading and unfortunate". However, as you have rightly put Malawians are the best judges as to whether the DPP led government takes them for granted. Without necessarily being defensive on the choice of the theme, we would like to pose the following questions to you and your government on the matter:

1. Is the dubious rejection of electoral reforms particularly 50%+1 not taking Malawians for granted?
2. Is the President and the DPP benefitting of K145 million dubious "gift" not taking Malawians for granted?
3. Is the appointment of a person implicated in the murder of Chasowa as Inspector General of Police when the investigations into the matter are not completed not taking Malawians for granted?
4. Is the assaulting of women politicians by the DPP cadets in the full sight of Police not taking Malawians for granted?

5. Is the executive thieving of tax payers' money when there are no drugs in hospital and learning materials in schools not taking Malawians for granted?
6. Is the parading of chiefs, mercenary activists and others on MBC to attack the critics of the regime of the government not taking Malawians for granted?
7. Is the rewarding of MPs who frustrated the peoples electoral reforms with K4 Billion not taking Malawians for granted?
8. Is blocking Malawians who wants to engage their President on matters of national concern as having "too much expectation" not taking Malawians for granted?
9. You have now directed that Admarc should buy pigeon peas at K230/kg. This is coming after farmers already sold the commodity to vendors, some of whom are your cronies at as low as K40/kg. In whose interest is this directive? Are you not taking Malawians for granted?

#### **14. A THIEVING AND CORRUPT GOVERNMENT HAS NO RIGHT TO GOVERN**

We note government's concerns with dismay. Nowhere in the petition are innuendos that the Peter Mutharika government is illegitimate. We appreciate that the DPP government was elected by 36% of voters under the current system. However, we note in the petition that any government that has lost trust of the people the people have the power to remove that government from office. This is ably supported by the Constitution in Section 6 and 12. It is in our considered view that by virtue of the reasons listed in the petition the DPP government has lost the legitimacy to govern and as such Malawians have the powers to decide whether to remove it from office or not. **We are also mindful** that the principle of Malawi Social Contract is also partly reflected in the 2014 Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) manifesto as follows: "We in the DPP believe that if a Government does not have integrity, it has no right to govern".(DPP Manifestoes 2014, p. 6). It is in this regard that we categorically restate that a government without integrity has no legitimacy to govern.

#### **15. VIOLENCE AND HATE SPEECH**

Your Excellency, we are shocked with the increasing number of threats and intimidation against human rights defenders, activists and opposition, but also hate speech directed the Clergy. Since you threatened to drop on your critics like a tonne of bricks, your followers have done the same. Some politicians have even the audacity to direct their hate speech at the Clergy, all in the name of gaining favour from you. We urge your government to ensure that such attacks and threats against human rights defenders are thoroughly investigated and that the crucial work carried out by civil society actors is protected. Malawians are not interested in hate speech or violence, but in policies that will liberate them from the abyss of poverty.

## **16. FRESH DEMANDS**

From the above issues, in addition to the ten-point demands we raised in the April 2018 petition, we now make the following demands:

- a) The MK145 Million from the Malawi police deal should immediately be returned to Malawians through their government with evidence produced to the public. In addition to this, Zamir Karim of Pionner Investments and all Malawi Police Officers implicated in the food rationing deal should be arrested and prosecuted.
- b) We demand answers on 4.2 million litres theft of fuel at ESCOM. We want our fuel back. The ESCOM Board and CEO must be fired.
- c) We demand independence of justice, regulatory, and accountability institutions, namely, ACB, MRA, POLICE, MACRA, NGO Board, stop politicizing them to target government critics.
- d) Bring back our K65million house for the mayor of Blantyre
- e) Call for immediate suspension of the controversial IFMIS software procurement, the process must be investigate: We want an accountable and transparent government
- f) We demand an end to corruption, investigation and prosecution of the perpetrators without favour. A corrupt government does not have the mandate to govern.
- g) The illegal appointment of Dan Mwapasa & John Nyondo must be reversed now. Let the police service commission do its job; the President should observe his limits.
- h) Government's slow action to address the rampant killing of person with albinism. We demand action now.
- i) Civil Servants' active involvement in partisan politics; A call for their resignation. We demand the immediate termination of pay roll salaries and contracts.
- j) DPP incitation of political violence and intimidation of CSOs & citizens must be stopped. We are in democracy not anarchy. A government associated with violence has no mandate to govern people.
- k) Malawi is not for party cadets: It belongs to all Malawians: Stop practicing regionalism and nepotism – we are all equal.
- l) We say no to the harassment of Human Rights defenders and opponents of government. We demand immediate review of the special law for Human Rights Defenders.
- m) Unfulfilled promises and commitment to conclude the investigations of Robert Chasowa and Issa Njauju deaths. We want justice to prevail accordingly.
- n) Good Health and affordable education is our right; we want drugs, we want better medication and learning materials.

- o) Worsening youths unemployment rate: We don't want beer parties, we want decent jobs
- p) We demand the Protection of whistleblowers at ESCOM and indeed at any government or private entity as a means to fighting corruption.
- q) We demand immediate suspension of the contract of supply of gensets to ESCOM and EGENCO pending investigations into the awarding of contract and procurement of the controversial gensets.
- r) We demand an immediate end to the practice of nepotism in appointments of senior government positions
- s) We demand that you act on the April 27 2018 Petition

**Conclusion:**

We firmly believe that, for once, you will rise above pettiness and executive arrogance and start addressing the issues raised above in earnest. Establishment of the so-called dialogue group to water down the essence of the demands will not do your government any good. Neither will the issuing of threats and empty propaganda against members of HRDC discourage us from pursuing the noble cause, which is to save this country from political, economic and governance decadence. Remember, the constitution is clear that those that govern us do so on our behalf. Section 12(c) and Section 6 of the Republican Constitution fully explains this social contract. Even the ruling DPP in its 2014 manifesto rightly observed: "We in the DPP believe that if a Government does not have integrity, it has no right to govern" (DPP Manifesto, 2014, p. 6). As citizens of goodwill, we will be all eyes and ears to ensure that the demands are implemented. Failing which, we will not hesitate to go back to streets on a weekly basis to force you to step down. Lastly, mindful of the 2019 Tripartite elections we call on all Malawians to register in large numbers and ensure that executive thieves are booted out of power. The 2019 Tripartite elections provide an opportunity to Malawians to restore their destiny by implementing the Operation Chotsa Mbava approach in order to rid the nation of executive thieves. Posterity will judge us harshly if we continue to elect thieves into political or public office. This is not the time to massage thieves!

**On behalf of all Malawians of goodwill**

**Timothy Mtambo – National Chairperson Human Rights Defenders Coalition (HRDC)**

**Gift Trapence – National Vice Chair Human Rights Defenders Coalition (HRDC)**

**Dr. Billy Abner Mayaya – Central Region HRDC Chairperson**

**Happy Mhango- Northern Region HRDC Chairperson**

**Masauko Thawe – Southern Region HRDC Chairperson**

**Madalitso Banda – Eastern Region HRDC Chairperson**

**Makhumbo “Mkanavimbundi and Executive Thieving” Munthali – Concerned citizen**

**Charles Kajoloweka – Executive Director Youth and Society (YAS)**

**Macdonald Sylvester Sembereka – Human Rights Activist**

**Steve Simsokwe – Northern Region HRDC Vice Chairperson**

**Loyce Simfukwe – Concerned Citizen**

**Thokozani Mapemba - Human Rights Defender**

**Andrew Salima - Human Rights Defender**

**Kossam Jomo Munthali - Human Rights Defender**

**Luke Tembo – Human Rights Defender**

**Thokozani Mapemba – Human Rights Defender**

**Moir Walita – Human Rights Defender**

**Beatrice Mateyo – Human Rights and Gender Activist**

**Naile Salima – Human Rights Defender**

**Dennis Msewu – Human Rights Defender**

**Madalitso Mwenda- Human Rights Defender**

**Alie Mwachande – Human Rights Defender**

**Amon Lukhere – Human Rights Defender**

**Harod Kachepatsonga – Concerned Citizen**

**Henry Mhango - Vice Chair HRDC South**

**William Liwimba - Human Rights Defender**