



P.O Box Bag 2340, Lilongwe

19<sup>th</sup> May, 2019

The Chairperson

Malawi Electoral Commission

Blantyre

Dear Madam,

**Re: MEC RESPONSE TO AND POSITION ON SERIOUS ALLEGATIONS REGARDING ELECTORAL PROCESSES AHEAD OF VOTING DAY.**

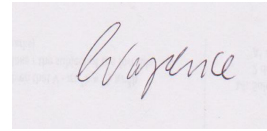
We, the HRDC, author this letter to MEC on behalf of numerous stakeholders, most especially Malawian citizens. We urge MEC to take seriously and respond in a timely manner to emerging allegations and concerns regarding the ruling party's rigging of the upcoming tripartite elections, in particular that DPP has employed cadets under the guise and uniforms of the Malawi Police Service to carry pre-marked ballot papers toward rigging the elections. Second, we inquire after the rationale of non-inclusion of police officers in Chikwawa and Nsanje in electoral monitoring. Finally, we are deeply concerned about the allegations that MACRA will condone the shut down of electronic communication and social media platforms on or around Election Day. We remind MEC that their duty lies with serving Malawians and not any particular political party. Thus, we call upon MEC to proactively respond to each of these disturbing allegations in a timely and comprehensive manner so as to ensure Malawians and other stakeholders that the upcoming elections will be free, fair, and credible. Malawians are eagerly

awaiting MEC's assurances just one day ahead of the elections.

Yours faithfully,



Timothy Mtambo  
National HRDC Chairperson



Gift Trapence  
National HRDC Vice Chairperson

CC: MEC Chief Elections Officer

Secretary General UDF

Secretary General MCP

Secretary General UTM

Secretary General DPP

Secretary General MMD

Secretary General UMODZI Party

Secretary General Independent Party