



MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES, ENERGY AND MINING,  
MALAWI

**NATIONAL STATEMENT**

**BY**

**MR. BRIGHT B. KUMWEMBE,  
CHIEF DIRECTOR  
ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE MANAGEMENT**

**DELIVERED AT**

**THE OPENING CEREMONY**

**OF**

**THE 6<sup>TH</sup> ASSEMBLY OF THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY**

**DANANG, VIETNAM,**

**27<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2018.**

**Mr. Chairperson, Excellencies, and Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, I** bring greetings from Malawi, The Warm Heart of Africa.

**Mr. Chairperson,** Malawi would like to join those that have spoken already in congratulating the Chief Executive Officer and Chairperson of the Global Environment Facility, the World Bank, as the GEF Trustee, and all Participants to the Seventh Replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund for the commendable work done during the Seventh GEF (GEF-7) Replenishment Cycle.

GEF-7 comes at a very critical point in time where global ecosystems continue to be degraded; hard earned development gains continue to be destroyed by floods; communities continue to be food insecure; with these trends set to increase in the future unless a major transformation of key economic systems to reduce the global environmental footprint is achieved.

Malawi would like to commend the GEF for ensuring that the GEF Focal Area strategies have been responsive to the guidance of the Conventions that they serve. Countries attest to the fact that GEF interventions have contributed to reducing environmental stress and the pressures that exacerbate environmental degradation as well as contributes to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

As a Least Developed Country which is also one of the most vulnerable to climate change and climate variability, Malawi still requires support for implementation of her national sustainable development agenda in line with her commitments to the relevant multilateral agreements that she is party. We therefore look forward to receiving our country allocations and associated funding to ensure timely interventions and implementation of our projects with the GEF 7 cycle.

Malawi welcomes and embraces the policy recommendations that have been made for GEF-7, particularly those that address the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable GEF-recipient countries. We commit to approaching our GEF-7 programming with innovation, a transformative and systematic approach, with full engagement of all stakeholders whilst leveraging private sector financing in order to ensure that GEF-7 funds will have maximum impact on our environment, ecosystems and hedge our communities to be climate resilient.

I would like to thank the Donors that have supported a strong and effective GEF-7 replenishment and for raising USD 4.1 Billion amidst them facing their own challenging national circumstances. And to all 183 member countries and GEF Agencies for the collaboration that is demonstrated through these partnerships. Malawi is proud to be part of this partnership, which is humanity's boldest effort to protect the global commons.

It's our world, let's make it a better place to live in

**I thank you for your attention.**