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This is the Manifesto of a winning party.

The establishment of the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) marked a new era in the history of politics in Malawi.

The DPP was established to restore the confidence of the people in their Government.
The people of Malawi want a government they can trust.

They want a Government that can deliver.

They want a government that will ensure that we, the people of Malawi believe in ourselves and take full control of our destiny.

The DPP Government has delivered on its promises.

Malawi effectively emerged from food begging to food self-sufficiency; Malawi has better roads, better schools and better hospitals; Malawi has successfully implemented policy reforms in the public and private sectors; Malawi has leadership with a clear vision and people know where we came from, where we are now and where we are going; Malawi, during the past five years has become one of the best managed economies in Sub-Saharan Africa.

We in the DPP believe that we have the capacity to solve our own problems.

We believe that Malawi will get better.

During the past, Government had failed to keep its promises and as such people lost confidence in the political system.

Similarly, the international community and the development partners had lost confidence in the Malawi Government, the political institutions and in the leadership.

The DPP supports my advocacy that for a Government to be effective, it must enjoy the confidence and trust of the people.

Those who aspire to lead others must have clean hands and be free from corruption.

The DPP is established to fight underdevelopment, economic and social injustice, inequality, corruption, theft of public funds and abuse of power.

It is established to serve people.

We believe that leaders must lead by example and not by words.

For as the saying goes: a man of words and not of deeds is like a garden full of weeds.

I strongly believe that people come first.

Therefore, all people in Malawi have a right to have good food, good shelter and good clothing.

This is contained in the United Nations Universal Declaration on Human Rights.

The preceding Governments in Malawi had failed to provide these basic needs.
The DPP has a clear vision on how our people, especially the poor, can benefit from development.

Our shared vision of the DPP is that of a country in which all people are united by a common identity, a common purpose and a common destiny.

It is a country where appointment to public positions are made on the basis of capability and genuine commitment to serve the people; a country where people with disabilities and the elderly have equal opportunity and are free to invest in any business or to engage in economic pursuits of their choice; a country in which people's lives are valued; a country in which human rights and the rule of law are recognized and respected; a country in which there is freedom of worship and of association.

The pillars of the DPP are prosperity, justice and security.

These in turn will help to raise the standard of living and the welfare of all people.

We in the DPP believe that if a government does not care about people, it has no right to govern.

Therefore, our shared vision is that of a country in which endemic poverty or preventable diseases are eliminated; a country in which all people are given the opportunity to learn to read and write; and a country in which people's stand and on their own feet and are able to feed themselves.

This Manifesto represents the shared vision of a party that is both democratic and progressive.

It is a party with leaders that work for the good of the people and not to promote their self-interests.

It is a party where leaders are freely elected by the people based on competence, capacity and dedication to serve.

On behalf of the Democratic Progressive Party, I am happy to invite all Malawi citizens within and outside the country, to join the winning party, the DPP and to participate in the political, economic and social development of our country.

I also cordially welcome Malawi citizens of European, American, Asian and Arabic descent who have made their home in Malawi or who are residing here, to join DPP so that we can build our country together for the benefit of our children, our grandchildren and for all generations to come.

DPP WOYEEE!
DR BINGU WA MUTHARIKA
FOUNDER AND PRESIDENT
DEMOCRATIC PROGRESSIVE PARTY
LILONGWE

OUR COLLECTIVE VISION
Our collective vision is to see our country resume economic growth fast enough to bring about prosperity, to reduce poverty significantly, and to make life better for everyone; to produce enough food for all; to see that our country transforms from being a predominantly importing and consuming country to being a predominantly producing and exporting country, and to gradually emerge as an industrial nation capable of transforming our agricultural primary commodities, other raw materials and minerals, so as to create new wealth for our people.

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to instill confidence in the economy and to persuade Malawians to believe in ourselves that we can achieve macroeconomic growth and reduce poverty through sound financial management and fiscal prudence; to create more jobs; to redistribute incomes by promoting significant domestic savings, foreign financing and investment in our agricultural processing, industrial production and manufacturing; and to thereby increase the supply of quality goods and services for the domestic and international markets.

OUR PLEDGE

Our pledge is to unite the people of Malawi, regardless of tribe, race, colour, religion or creed, political belief or affiliation, so that together we can build the kind of Malawi we want for ourselves, our children and our grand children; to provide sound political and exonomic leadership and to work with all Malawians, including those in the opposition, in a spirit of political tolerance, understanding and reconciliation, thereby consolidating peace, harmony, security and stability as the basis for prosperity of our country.

CHAPTER 1

BUILDING ONE MALAWI AND ONE NATION

1. In 2005 when the Democratic Progressive Party was established, our country was divided.

There was disunity among our people and corruption had robbed the ordinary people the chance to prosper.

The hopes, dreams and expectations that were created during the Referendum of 1993 had vanished.

Indeed, for ordinary people, things had changed for the worse.

2. The DPP Government brought about new hope for a united Malawi.

Our development agenda is to create new wealth, incomes and more jobs so that our people can enjoy the fruits of independence.

to achieve growth, Malawi needed a genuine change in the way our country had been governed.

We needed new and dedicated leadership with a clear vision for sustained growth and development.
We needed a new sense of direction based on the real need and aspiration of our people.

In short, the DPP believes that leaders should unite and not divide people.

3. The DPP has established a Government that is tolerant, honest, dependable, just and accountable to the people.

We stand for discipline, hard work and dedication.

We also call for a constitution in which people at all levels are guaranteed the liberty to belong to any political party and to participate in decisions affecting them.

No Government can succeed in any political, economic and social programmes without the support of the people.

The DPP Government will truly be a "government of the people, for the people and by the people".

4. The DPP pledges to strengthen conditions for unity of all people in our country.

Within that context, the task of determining Malawi's new political agenda rests on the leadership in consultation with all people at all levels of the society.

5. The DPP is a party made up of all the people of Malawi regardless of tribe, religion, race, colour and creed who are given the opportunity to discuss and agree on the new political philosophy.

The political leadership provides a sound framework to translate our manifesto into a viable and sustainable development strategy.

We have agreed on new directions, new structures, new institutions and a new policy framework by which Malawi can strengthen and consolidate its democracy.

6. The DPP strongly believes that we must create new wealth, so as to be in a better position to eliminate under-development and poverty.

Therefore, the conceptualization and design of a new political system is the task for all our people and not the preserve of a few.

We believe that we cannot build a new Malawi based on old institutions.

There is need for a real change.

We shall therefore continue to work towards a political consensus through dialogue and debate about our understanding of multiparty democracy and what this means for the country, for the civil society and for each citizen.

Without such a broad consensus, the interpretation of democracy might be left to a few individuals.

Who may be tempted to merely promote self-interests.
7. The DPP Manifesto is based on unity of all people in Malawi.

It addresses the problems of regionalism that divides the people according to the regions where they are born.

Such division has caused great confusion among our people and is in itself a hindrance to development and progress.

The DPP will unite all people in Malawi regardless of whether they come from Northern, Central or Southern Regions.

8. The DPP upholds the democratic principles that "people come first" and that the unity of the people is the basis for a political structure based on convergence and consensus.

The people must be the centre for all economic development.

We believe that democracy should not be by word of mouth.

It must be seen to be practiced.

9. The DPP Government condemns actions based on greed, vengeance and retribution.

We cannot build Malawi while preventing free expression by all political parties.

We cannot build a strong Malawi while sowing seeds of disunity and suspicion among the various tribes.

DPP will therefore build Malawi through love, understanding, tolerance and respect of all people.

We Malawians are all one people.

We will build Malawi together.

10. The DPP’s main philosophy is that Malawi is indivisible.

There is only one Malawi.

This belongs to all Malawians regardless of the tribe, colour, religion or creed. Malawian politics should not be based of tribal or ethnic considerations or on regional hegemony.

We must unite together to fight against poverty.

Malawians should rise above petty regionalism and tribalism so as to forge national unity.

The prosperity of Malawi is for all people of Malawi to enjoy.

The DPP believes that democracy, like a fixit tree, must be cultivated and nurtured until it bears fruit.
Therefore, under multiparty democracy, we must learn to work together and believe that what happens to one happens to all.

Consequently, this Manifesto calls for a new culture that promotes with the broadest representation and people emancipation.

The DPP will ensure popular participation and co-ownership of the political and economic processes.

CHAPTER 2

PRINCIPLES AND GUIDELINES

12. The DPP principles and guidelines are as follows:-

(i) All Malawi citizens living in the country and abroad will work together and freely participate in elections and in building and strengthening our new democracy.

No Malawi citizen should be excluded from voting because he is not resident in the country.

(ii) Democracy involves the evolution of common principles, understanding, hopes, expectations and aspirations based on respect of our traditions, norms, customs and culture.

(iii) Politicians will have no right to divide, scare, intimidate, exploit or cheat, or deceive the people who have elected them.

(iv) No person in Malawi should ever believe that Malawi is his/her personal property.

Malawi belongs to all Malawians.

(V) No leader should manipulate the law or the Constitution in order to stay in power beyond the period stipulated in the Constitution.

(vi) No person in Malawi will be denied basic rights, civil liberties and the rule of law.

(vii) There shall be political tolerance and understanding and democracy will not imply tribalism, ethnic superiority / and regional hegemony.

(viii) The political machinery shall be governed by clearly defined and agreed "performance criteria" based on full transparency and accountability at all levels of political decisions.

The political leadership will be judged by such criteria.

(ix) Extremism and fundamentalism in all its forms shall be stamped out of the political system and civil society in Malawi.

(X) The Malawi Constitution will serve as the basis of our political, economic and social transformation.
The interests of all our people shall be enshrined and safeguarded in the Constitution.

It shall not be manipulated to suit one political party, one tribal group or one geographic area.

The DPP leadership shall abide by and uphold these Principles and Guidelines.

Accordingly, the DPP Government shall promote popular participation in politics and development in Malawi.

It shall adopt political structures in which all interest groups - the traditional chiefs, religious leaders, the business community, the teachers, the women, the youth, the elderly and the disabled, are fully represented and are given the voice at appropriate level in the society.

CHAPTER 3

ZERO TOLERANCE TO CORRUPTION

14. Corruption is the enemy of growth and prosperity.

It robs the Government and the people, especially the poor, of their legitimate right to economic prosperity by diverting resources away from economic and social development, into the coffers of a few.

There is empirical evidence to show that a society riddled with corruption, cannot easily implement fundamental reforms.

Through a zero-tolerance option, the DPP Government shall strengthen institutions to eliminate corruption by implementing, inter alia, the following measures:

(i) The establishment of clear "performance criteria” and "benchmarks” by which government spending will be regularly audited and validated by independent auditors.

(ii) Designing an efficient system of monitoring the allocation and utilization of all resources so that possible irregularities can be detected at an early stage in the project or programme cycle.

This will help Government to reveal the existence of fraud and corruption.

(iii) Strengthening the financial management system for detection of corruption, and ensuring investigation, prosecution and punishment of all public officers found guilty of corruption, theft, mismanagement, and abuse of power in all its forms.

(iv) Empowering the offices of the Accountant General, Auditor General, Public Accounts Committee and the Anti-Corruption Bureau, to ensure that officials in these and other institutions entrusted with public funds shall be fully accountable and transparent with regard to the management and utilization of public funds.

CHAPTER 4

CREATING NEW WEALTH
15. The DPP Government has been very successful during the past five years. It will continue to focus on investment in productive sectors as the basis for creating new wealth.

The basis for any democracy and good governance is economic growth and development.

Without economic growth and development, no democracy can be sustainable.

The DPP pledges to create new wealth and more jobs so that people can earn more incomes and be able to feed themselves.

Poverty cannot be eliminated by rhetoric or wish-full thinking.

Poverty will be eliminated only through hard work and by the creation of new wealth and new investment opportunities.

16. The DPP believes that Malawi can be developed only by Mdawians.

Donor support will be sought to supplement our national effort.

The DPP further believes that we in Malawi will not resolve our economic, and social development problems by using bonowed ideas and concepts.

We must pull ourselves up by the boot string.

17. The DPP shall promote our economic prosperity by establishing new processing industries to add value to our exports by transforming our cotton, tobacco, tea, coffee, groundnuts, fish, hides and skins into finished products.

This will generate additional incomes as well as create jobs for our people.

18. Widespread poverty is directly linked with the question about who owns the means of production and distribution in Malawi.

It is also directly linked with control of person greed and corruption.

If Malawi has to fight poverty and increase production and trade, the economy must be fully re-organized to create more wealth and more jobs.

19. The DPP shall continue to accord the highest priority to the development of indigenous small and medium business enterprises to enable them to grow and expand. These must be provided with the environment that enables them to be more competitive and productive and to access regional and international markets with direct government support.

20. The DPP is determined to attain fast economic growth of Malawi by developing a group of entrepreneurs both local and international, who are ready to embark upon serious production and exports to earn more foreign exchange.

We will encourage the private sector to increase our exports through producing efficiently, more cheaply and more competitively.
21. Based on our past track record of performance, the DPP will continue to pursue the following:-

(i) To promote increased domestic savings as well as remittances from abroad and invest resources so released to create new wealth by directly supporting indigenous enterprises especially small and medium and those owned and operated by women to take advantage of new economies of scale offered under regional economic cooperation arrangements.

(ii) To create a better environment for foreign, direct investment and for cross-border investment within the COMESA/SADC region.

Above all, we will create a domestic environment in which our own people, both within and outside the country, can be encouraged to freely invest especially in production, manufacturing, agriculture and trade so as to create goods in which to trade.

(iii) To liberalize further our economy through a privatization policy which will allow Malawians to own and operate larger businesses and enable a large number of Malawi investors to go into business with the full support of the Government.

(iv) To develop our national capacity to fight under-development, by defining our own strategies, objectives and priorities for economic recovery and growth.

We shall take full control and management of our economy and mobilize our resources to fight poverty.

(v) To shift development into the rural areas by creating "growthcentres"throughout the country around which new service facilities will be provided to rural people; to distribute wealth and jobs by encouraging private entrepreneurs to locate business in these rural growth centres and to attract commercial banks, discount houses and investment institutions to provide special incentives to investment in rural areas.

CHAPTER 5

HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE RULE OF LAW

22. Since 2004, there are no political prisoners in Malawi jails.

The Democratic Progressive Party has had a good record where human rights and rule of law are basic ingredients of good governance and of a robust society.

Human Rights abuse violates the basic principles of democracy.

The DPP shall adhere to and respect the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of the United Nations as well as the African Charter on Human and People's Rights of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) as the basis for a new civil society in a democratic Malawi.

Every individual in Malawi has been guaranteed all rights and freedoms recognized by our Constitution and other international instruments to which Malawi is a party.

23. Specifically, the DPP Government will continue to guarantee the following: -
(i) The Rule of Law including the right to a fair trial; appeal to a competent national organ for his fundamental rights; the right to be presumed innocent until proved guilty by a competent judiciary system; the right to be defended; and right to be brought to trial within a reasonable period of time.

(ii) The right to reside in any country including one's own and the right to return to one's country.

(iii) The right to economic pursuit or engage in business without distinction of any kind such as race, tribe, colour, religion, political views, social origin, social status, birth, gender or other considerations.

(iv) The right to security and protection of life, persons, business and personal property.

(v) The right not to be subjected to torture, or other cruel, inhuman or degrading punishment or treatment.

(vi) The right to be protected against arbitrary search, interference with privacy of the home, or mail and correspondence or attacks upon personal reputation and honour without justification.

(vii) The right to own property legally and not be deprived of that property.

(viii) The right to freedom of opinion and expression without interference including the right to seek receive and impart information through the media regardless of frontiers.

(ix) The right to belong to any political party and to change membership to any political party of choice.

(X) The right to religious belief, teaching, practice or worship.

(xi) The right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his/her family, including food, clothing, housing, medical care and social services and the right to social security in the event of disability, unemployment, sickness, widowhood, old age or the lack of means of livelihood due to circumstances beyond his/her control.

(xii) The right to elect representatives of their choice to the National Assembly and other elective bodies.

(xiii) The right, through the recognized political process, to vote to change the political system, including the government or representatives, and the right to demand that all elected representatives be My accountable to the people and undertake their responsibilities' and mandates with transparency, dedication and integrity.

CHAPTER 6

SEPARATION OF POWERS
24. The Democratic Progressive Party upholds the principle that three branches of Government, namely, the Executive, the Legislature and the Judiciary are separate institutions of the Government and must be seen to be so.

They function independently while collectively they complement one another and play important roles in our system of governance.

Under the principle of "Separation of Powers" their roles must be separate but together recognize the national aspirations and hopes of the people.

Consequently, the DPP will uphold the following principles: -

25. The President, as stipulated the Constitution of Malawi, shall be elected to hold office for a period of five years, subject to re-election for a second period of five years.

Under no circumstances shall the President be allowed to serve a third term of office.

26. The Executive shall at all times perform its functions in accordance with the Constitution and shall not interfere with the functioning of the Legislature or the Judiciary.

27. Upon retirement, resignation or expiry of tenure, the President and Vice President shall be granted gratuity and pension, as well as housing and state protection, as may be provided in the Constitution.

The retiring President and Vice President and their spouses shall have for the rest of their lives, full diplomatic privileges, respect and high status in the society befitting Malawi traditions.

28. There will be established an effective Cabinet that will be accountable for their activities.

The primary function of each Cabinet Minister shall be to design appropriate development strategies and policies for his/her sector and to advise the President on such matters.

29. Deputy Ministers will be appointed where appropriate and will have specific and well-defined functions to perform within the Ministry.

The Deputy Minister may deputize and take full responsibility of the Ministry while the Minister is absent.

30. A proper gender balance shall be observed to ensure women are fully represented in the National Assembly, the Cabinet, and the civil service and in all public institutions and organizations.

31. The Vice President shall be appointed by the President, to whom he shall directly report and will be the Leader of Government in the Legislature.

The Legislature

32. The Legislature is the law-making organ of the Government. Under the Constitution, the Legislature is empowered by the electorate to enact laws governing the country based on a
clear understanding of our customs, traditions and cultural values as handed down to us from our fore fathers.

33. The Legislature shall never be allowed to usurp the powers off, or to interfere with the Executive.

The DPP will ensure that there will be a Parliament duly elected by the people to represent them in the law-making body.

34. Members of Parliament will be encouraged to interact more regularly with the people through "Meet the People” sessions which will take place every three months during which any Member of Parliament or the public can ask questions for information and clarification.

35. There will be a new political forum called the "Council of representatives" composed of group interests including Traditional Chiefs, Teachers, Religious Group, Women in Business, the Youth, the Elderly, the People with Disabilities and Non-Governmental Organizations.

The Council of Representatives will be an advisory body to Parliament and shall debate issues of specific interest to them and make proposals and recommendations to the Parliament for endorsement and legislation.

The Judicature

36. The Judicature shall be the only organ of the Government competent to interpret the Constitution and the laws of Malawi and to deal with the issues of justice in our land.

Its administering justice is the important for good governance.

37. The Judiciary shall uphold the basic principles of the Rule of Law and respect for human rights.

Every national or citizen of Malawi shall be subject to same laws of the country enacted by duly elected legislature which represents the wishes of the people.

Members of the Judiciary shall be appointed on the basis of qualification, dedication, integrity and honesty.

The Judicature

38. The Legal System will be reviewed and re-organized to restore dignity, respect and impartiality of the Judiciary.

The Law Commission and the Law Society are recognized as important watchdogs of our laws and the Constitution.

CHAPTER 7

POLICY REFORMS

39. The principal objective of the DPP Government's policy reforms is to attain a faster rate of macroeconomic growth within a stable political and economic environment.
In that regard, the Democratic Progressive Party has demonstrated that democracy can be strengthened in Malawi through appropriate economic and social policy framework.

We have also proved that the way forward for Malawi is to attain sustainable growth and development through continued policy reforms.

In that regard, irregular and uneven growth of our economy has in the past led to disastrous consequences.

The following are the broad policy guidelines adopted by DPP to deal with social and economic development of our country.

Principles of Good Governance

40. The DPP will strengthen a Government that is accountable to the people and that can be trusted.

We believe in a clean government run by men and women who have clean records and who are committed to render impeccable service to the country and to the people.

The DPP will engage the best men and women who have the highest integrity to implement government programmes.

41. The Malawi Government is run by president of the Republic supported by a Vice President, Cabinet Ministers, and officials appointed on the basis of merit and technical and managerial competence.

42. The basic principles of good governance call for the creation of new opportunities for income generation for all people, especially women and the youth.

Therefore, DPP will ensure co-ownership of the political and economic machinery by the people.

We shall establish a Government in which decision-making and power-sharing exercised through the will of people.

43. The DPP will unequivocally continue to implement the following reforms:-

(i) The Public Sector Reforms aimed at creating stable macroeconomic conditions for growth, and instilling donor confidence in our ability to adhere to international commitments.

(ii) The Civil Service Reforms aimed at improving the conditions of service and professionalism of our civil servants, and developing national capacity to resuscitate economic growth, and creating benchmarks by which performance can be monitored, assessed and evaluated.

(iii) The Agricultural Sector Reforms aimed at developing agriculture and making Malawi a "hunger free nation" through the implementation of Agricultural Input Subsidy Programmes, and increased budgetary allocation to agriculture.
(iv) The Private Sector Reforms aimed at developing and strengthening the business enterprises to contribute more positively to economic growth through Public/Private Partnerships (PPP) and Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) arrangements.

44. In addition the DPP Government will actively support the international community in the war against terrorism, drug trafficking, child abuse and trafficking, women abuse and trafficking and money laundering.

We will never allow Malawi to be used as a haven for drug offenders from other countries or a transit for trade in drugs or in humans.

Macroeconomic Policy Reforms

45. The DPP Government will give special importance to the design and implementation of sound macro-economic policies as a critical factor to support good governance. The DPP will enable the interfacing of the major economic sectors into an appropriate policy mix to enable the economy to attain full recovery leading towards sustained growth and development.

We will continue to deepen reforms in the following:-

(i) Create an enabling environment to achieve four principal objectives;

- (i) attaining macro-economic growth;

- (ii) allocating resources more efficiently;

- (iii) mobilizing domestic and foreign resources to support economic growth;

and (iv) reduction of public expenditure.

(ii) Address the internal disequilibrium in our economy characterized by serious foreign exchange shortages, unsustainable budget deficits and mounting domestic debt service burdens.

We shall ensure stability in macroeconomic indicators such as government budgets, interest rates, inflation and exchange rates.

(iii) Redesign macro-economic programming by striking a balance between short-term policy for crisis management and medium to long-term perspective planning leading to real transformation of our economy and the attainment of sustainable growth and development.

(iv) Implementation of an appropriate population policy recognizing that Ugher levels of living standards cannot be achieved in our country if population continues to grow at a rate faster than the growth in real incomes.

(v) Restoring private sector confidence in the economy and to attract foreign direct and cross-border investments into our country.

Monetary and Fiscal Policy
46. The DPP Government recognizes that a sound monetary and fiscal policy enables better economic management. It will therefore implement monetary policy reforms focused towards reduction and eventually eliminating huge domestic borrowing, reducing balance-of-payments deficits and lowering of interest rates.

Such reforms will aim at strengthening monetary controls, improving domestic savings and investment financing that focus on the following:

(i) The review of the taxation policy to take into account the level of our development and economic performance.

New measures will also be introduced to broaden the taxation base while easing the tax burden, and to improve mechanisms for tax collection so as to counter-balance revenue shortfalls.

(ii) The reduction of budget deficits as the cornerstone of sound financial policy; management of public finances will be significantly improved through drastic reductions in non-productive government spending and more disciplined budgetary controls.

(iii) Increase domestic income generating capacities and savings that enable our country to move decisively towards greater dependence on domestic resources for growth and development.

(iv) Enhance supervision of the operational efficiency of domestic financial and monetary institutions aimed at creating a new culture for domestic investment.

To that end, Malawi will shift from a "spending" to a "saving" culture so as to improve domestic finance for investment and development.

(v) Create Malawi as a "safe haven" for investors and financial institutions by creating inland off-shore and in-shore facilities to international capital along Lake Malawi.

CHAPTER 8

PRODUCING OUR OWN GOODS

47. The Democratic Progressive Party Government is convinced that industry and manufacturing are the backbone of a viable economy.

Without viable manufacturing and exports, our country cannot sustain growth and development.

We are therefore determined to ensure that Malawi should strive to industrialize much faster than in the past.

Industrialization will determine the level of our future prosperity.
Inefficiencies and low productivity of the industrial and manufacturing sectors will be eliminated.

We shall stimulate our indigenous export-oriented industries to develop high levels of standardization, packaging and quality control to enable Malawi to compete effectively in the local, regional and international markets.

48. The DPP policy on industrial development, manufacturing and trade is to transform Malawi from a predominantly importing and consuming country to a predominantly manufacturing and exporting country.

To that end, we shall focus on the following interrelated areas:-

A GOVERNMENT WE CAN TRUST

(i) To upgrade our industrial and production structures to attain high levels of efficiency and competitiveness to enable our country to produce a new range of manufactured, capital and intermediate goods.

(ii) To establish new manufacturing industries to produce new products of high international quality and standards using our own abundant agricultural raw materials, mineral and other natural resources and enhancing the development of agro-industries and processing.

(iii) To promote efficient and optimal utilization of our raw materials taking into account the need to enhance the role of small, medium and large scale industries.

(iv) To convert the whole of Malawi into a "Free Export Processing Zone" so as to attract foreign investors into areas such as production of electronic components and computer chips for export thereby increasing investments and foreign exchange earnings.

(v) To encourage industrial research, and science and technology in our country especially in the development and manufacture of new brand name products using the latest technologies.

CHAPTER 9

AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY

49. The cornerstone of the DPP Government policy is to achieve a "Green Revolution" in Malawi.

We shall develop agriculture so as to be able to feed ourselves. Acute food shortages, accompanied by hunger and malnutrition, constitute the biggest challenge facing our national development policy.

We recognize that a nation that depends on others for food cannot uphold its national sovereignty.

We are also aware that food and agriculture have been the foundation of the Malawi economy from times immemorial.
While commercial farming has enhance productivity of the agricultural sector, many of the peasant farmers need to use modem and efficient tools and equipment that will enable them to move out of the subsistence nature of our agriculture in the rural areas.

50. The DPP Government recognizes that Malawi's future economic and social transformation depends upon agriculture.

In the new development paradigm, the Government will give highest priority to agriculture as the basis for maintaining sustainable livelihoods and economic growth of our economy.

51. We are inspired by our belief that we have the capacity to grow enough food to feed ourselves and to produce enough agricultural raw materials for a successful "green revolution".

In that regard, we shall institute deep-rooted reforms in the agricultural sector to support viable ago-processing industries.

52. The DPP will improve agricultural performance through Linking agriculture with industry, transport and trade so as to improve our trade performance.

53. In order to have food for all, we shall improve our harvesting, transportation, storage and marketing systems to reduce post-harvest food loss and to make food readily accessible and affordable.

54. Within these broad policy guidelines, the will place priority in following areas :-

(a) Develop new research on climate change in order to protect our agriculture from the adverse effects of extreme weather changes.

(b) Increasing agricultural productivity, lower the costs, of agricultural inputs on a sustained basis; support rapid agricultural production by linking it with industry so as to ensure adequate and reliable supplies of raw materials to support our ago-processing industries.

(c) Develop a national food security programme through increasing efficiency in food production, storage and distribution and manufacture affordable small-scale metallic food-grain silos to ensure food security at the village level.

(d) Establish effective means of ensuring that our strategic food reserves do not fall below a level endangering our people.

Agricultural Input Subsidy Programme

55. The DPP Government has proved that the Agricultural Input Subsidy Programme is an effective instrument for attaining food security and for alleviating poverty.

The DPP will ensure that we feed ourselves.

We shall implement short, medium and long-term policy response that will enable us to produce enough food for all.
It is imperative that the Government continues its policy focus towards enabling more people to grow their own food and be able to feed themselves.

We shall be guided by the old adage: Give a person a fish, he will be hungry again, but teach a person how to fish and he will never be hungry again.

56. In this new road map, high priority will be given towards:

(i) Providing more farm inputs to the poor in order to increase yields and guarantee food security.

(ii) Encouraging dietary diversification to decrease over-reliance on maize meal, by growing other food crops such as cassava, potatoes, rice, pumpkins, millet and sorghum.

(iii) Removing all taxes on staple foods, such as maize, beans, meat, rice, cassava, potatoes, and other food crops.

(iv) Reduction of the price of fertilizer, seeds and other agricultural chemicals, to make them affordable to poor rural farmers; and

(v) Facilitating the establishment of credit co-operatives or village banks and providing financial support for capitalization of village based credit schemes.

57. To achieve this, we are developing the "Green Belt" that will stretch from Karonga all the way to Nsanje.

This will entail irrigation of land up to 20 kilometres from the lake shores to provide water for irrigation.

We shall grow rice mainly for export and other food crops such as maize, millet, potatoes, cassava, beans, wheat, lentils, sugar, cotton, groundnuts and sunflower.

The Green Belt

58. The DPP Government is determined to reduce our dependence on rain-fed agriculture through extensive irrigation.

We have abundant water which is the basis for our agriculture.

In order to resuscitate the agricultural sector, the greatest priority will be to develop viable small, medium and large scale irrigation schemes throughout the country in order to tap the huge water resources of Lake Malawi, Lake Chilwa, the Shire River and the many rivers in this country.

59. The aim of the DPP Government is to enable the country to produce at least two crops of maize, cereals and other food crops each year as a way of eliminating hunger.

To that end we shall undertake the following:-

(i) Improve food security by growing at least two crops within a year and thus make Malawi a hunger-free nation.
(ii) Expand irrigation farming by encouraging our people in other areas in the villages to construct small earth dams that can hold water for irrigation.

Over time, this will result in raising the water table throughout Malawi, thereby making even dried up boreholes produce water.

(iii) Increasing food production through winter cropping and irrigation methods, using low cost technologies.

We shall supply more rural farmers with treadle pumps, sprinklers, and motorized pumps.

CHAPTER 10

DIVERSITY THE ECONOMY

60. The DPP Government has resolved that our country should not continue to depend on one agricultural commodity for driving this economy.

Therefore, high priority is given to diversification of production and manufacturing in order to increase the supply of goods for domestic and international markets.

61. The DPP believes that an error of judgment was made by the previous governments in allowing our country to depend only on tobacco to drive our economic growth. This created serious vulnerability of our economy to externalities and machinations by unscrupulous tobacco buyers who have been cheating our farmers by offering very low prices, and thus created chronic foreign exchange shortages and dependence on donors for budgetary support.

62. The goal of our Government will be to restructure the industrial sector with a view to increasing our export earnings.

This will be achieved by industrial policy reforms discussed in the next few paragraphs.

63. The DPP is fully aware of the negative impacts on the Malawi economy resulting from the vagaries of the globalization.

Therefore, the Government will diversify our economy by establishing a "basket of commodities" that will initially include cotton, tobacco, sugar, tea, rice and paprika.

These will together increase our foreign exchange earnings.

64. The DPP Government will anchor our macroeconomic growth programmes on the performance of these commodities in the international markets.

The cultivation of other cash crops, such as fish, cassava, groundnuts, sunflower, and macadamia nuts, will also be enhanced so as to increase our export earning capacity thereby guaranteeing the stability of the Kwacha.

The Integrated Cotton Textiles Industry
65. The DPP Government fully recognizes the imperative of finding viable alternatives to tobacco as the major foreign exchange earner.

In the pursuit of this, the Government shall place the highest priority on diversifying the sources of foreign exchange through the establishment of an Integrated Cotton Textile Industry that will eventually incorporate several industrial processes such as:

- Cotton Ginning that will enable our country to fetch higher value for our cotton while at the same time selling cotton seed for oil and cake for livestock feeding;

- Cotton Spinning that will enable our country to sell different varieties of yarn, thereby adding value to our cotton;

- Cotton Weaving that will create possibilities for establishing plants for manufacturing dyes using local materials such as paprika as well as using cassava and rice to produce starch;

- Cotton Fabric Printing that will introduce a whole range of new designs suited for our local conditions and for external trade;

- Garment Manufacturing that will open up new windows of opportunity for our country to produce a wide range of finished garments, such as shirts, dresses, bath towels, beddings and linen, table cloths, and a variety of uniforms for civilian, police and military use.

66. We are convinced that the introduction of the integrated cotton textiles industry will enable our country to create thousands of new jobs, achieve more balanced economic growth, stable exchange rates, and better redistribution of wealth and prosperity.

However, initially Malawi will specialize in the cotton spinning industry to provide yarn and thread to the rest of the world.

Adding Value to Tobacco

67. The DPP Government will increase export earnings from tobacco by adding value to tobacco through manufacturing of cigarettes, pipe tobacco, snuff, cigars and cigarillos that will also create new jobs for our people.

Increasing Sugar Exports

68. The DPP Government will enhance the contribution of the sugar industry to economic transformation by inter alia, introducing better technologies for processing so that our sugar continues to meet international requirements.

Reorganizing the Tea Industry

69. The DPP Government is concerned that hitherto Malawi has benefited marginally from the tea industry.

The tea industry will be reviewed and reorganized to contribute more positively to the economic prosperity of our people. We plan to facilitate and to attract new investments while improving the quality of our tea in the international markets.
Developing the Paprika Industry

70. An important cash crop that can improve our export trade is paprika.

The Government will, therefore, enhance contribution of the paprika industry to our economy by, increasing investment in research and the production, processing and marketing of this crop and to encourage more farmers to grow this cash crop.

CHAPTER 11

MANAGING OUR NATURAL RESOURCES

71. The DPP Government is aware that our natural resources and the environment constitute important wealth for development of Malawi.

Competing needs from growing population, industrial development, physical infrastructures and wild life, make the issue of land and natural resources very critical for our development.

These also provide the basis for our tourism industry.

Because of the extreme pressures on land and natural resources, the protection of the environment and the ecology has become a very serious problem.

72. The DPP Government will carefully preserve our natural resources consisting of the land itself, lakes, rivers, forestry, wild life, fish and minerals.

The effective exploitation of these resources to provide a boost for our development efforts has always been a priority.

This has arisen due to the lack of a coherent land, natural resources and environmental policy coupled by lack of adequate financing and investment.

73. The DPP Government will adopt the following policies for the management of our land, natural resources and the environment:

(i) Make a comprehensive inventory of our natural mineral resources so as to determine how these will support our industrialization strategy.

(ii) Develop an appropriate policy framework linking natural resources, environment and tourism to economic and social progress.

(iii) Cooperate with international and regional institutions so as to develop a more effective programme for the management of natural resources, especially forests, for building and construction, timber, fuel-wood and also to protect our water catchments.

(iv) Intensify reforestation programmes as a national priority.

Every person will be required to plant and maintain at least one tree per year for the next five years at the end of which Malawi will have at least 50 million new trees.
(vi) Manage more efficiently the environment and ecology protection; and for controlling desertification which is threatening many parts of our country.

People at all levels will be given education and information on how best to protect the land, the environment and the consequences of its destruction.

(Vii) Control industrial pollution as well as declining, environmental bio-diversity.

Under no circumstances will the DPP government allow the dumping of toxic wastes and hazardous products in our country from other countries.

We shall also cooperate with our immediate neighbours to combat pollution and illegal dumping of toxic wastes.

CHAPTER 12

DEVELOPING THE INFRASTRUCTURE

74. The DPP is concerned that the poor and inadequate transport and communications infrastructures in our country constitute serious impediments to economic development. For instance, the Malawi roads, railways, airline, postal and telecommunications services can at best be described as disastrous.

The grain and cereal producing districts were neglected in the past making it hard for peasant farmers to transport their produce to market.

We will improve the operations and efficiency of transport and communications infrastructures so as to support increased production and trade.

75. The DPP will develop new inter-modal infrastructures to support our agriculture, industry and energy so as to ensure that these sectors help to sustain new levels of growth of our economy.

The following will be given top priority:

(i) Construct a new and comprehensive network of rural access roads and trunk roads to serve the remote agricultural areas so, that produce can reach the urban markets safety and efficiently.

(ii) Upgrading, maintaining and repairing roads, bridges, airports and lake harbours to enable them to support our new vision of development.

Develop the part of Nsanje and turn the Shire/Ruo rivers from Nsanje into a canal to use barges from the Indian Ocean.

This will support national development programmes and to develop inter-state links with Mozambique, Zambia and Tanzania as well as SADC, COMESA and the rest of the world.

(iii) Improve the railways, which continue to be the main means of transportation for Malawi, through more efficient management on a commercial basis.
We shall rehabilitate existing railways and develop new railway networks for integrating with regional networks and harmonize railways policy, administration practices and procedures to ensure that railways networks are compatible with other modes of transport.

(iv) Develop a telephone and communications systems that really works; these will be redesigned in line with national, regional and international requirements.

The new policy will aim at upgrading and modernizing existing capacity of telecommunications equipment and installations to link Malawi directly with internet.

(v) Establish E-Government and E-Commerce and satellite links within the country and the rest of the world to increase reliability, speed and efficiency in transmission of data, imaging and voice signals facilitated by satellite communications.

(vi) Improve postal services by ensuring high security to prevent loss or pilferage of mail and parcels.

The postal administration and staff shall be motivated to stop to ensure corruption and theft and damage of mail and reliability of the services as an agent for development.

Postal services in the rural areas shall be improved and expanded.

CHAPTER 13

TOWARDS GENDER BALANCE

76. The DPP Government recognizes that women in Malawi play a vital role in agriculture and food production and has achieved a lot to integrate women in the decision-making processes.

Women contribute as much as 70 percent of the total agriculture produce.

Therefore, the thrust of the DPP policy will be to accord women full recognition and unimpeded access to all aspects of Malawi's development.

77. The DPP Government condemns the marginalization and discrimination of women in the development process.

We shall, therefore, intensify programmes aimed at removing illiteracy, underemployment and exploitation of women.

We shall also place the highest priority on increasing the number of women in responsible policy-making positions.

78. The DPP Government will not tolerate the abuse of women in any form including discrimination against our women.

Women will be protected and respected and be facilitated to play a more positive role in our country.
The empowerment of women will be achieved through direct access to income generating activities through industry and trade.

Specifically, the following measures will be implemented:

(i) Genuinely recognize women as equal partners in development in every field of economic and political Endeavour and ensure that they are supported to become Members of Parliament and Cabinet Ministers.

(ii) Establish a clear national policy on women in development and in business so as to provide mechanism to enhance their activities in production and marketing; managerial and promotional activities, developing and providing support policies.

(iii) Identify and disseminate information on new opportunities for women to increase trade in Malawi, Africa and the rest of the world.

We shall compile case studies on successful ventures owned and operated by women to serve as models for others aspiring to emulate.

(iv) Assist in developing new enterprises for women as an integral aspect of their empowerment.

(v) Support the Gender Coordination Network, the National Association of Women in Business and other women organizations to provide an enabling forum of women entrepreneurship in commodity trade or trade-related services in banking and finance, insurance, transport, cargo operations, design, production development, to provide a new dimension for Malawi women in international trade.

(vi) Provide women with new opportunities for capital formation including modalities on how to obtain such additional capital from traditional banking institutions for the establishment or upgrading of enterprises.

Priority will be given to methods of increasing credit availability for women.

(vii) Train more women in management and technical skills, advertising, market research, product development, packaging and quality control.

Emphasis will also be given to training in the use of science and technology, to improve productivity and competitiveness.

(viii) Enact strong legislation to prevent the abuse and battering of women and to protect them from property grabbing and impoverishment of the women by relatives following the death of her husband.

CHAPTER 14

INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOPMENT

80. The cornerstone of DPP policy on poverty reduction is to take grabbing and impoverishment of the women by relatives development to mal areas.
We are convinced that people in following the death of her husband the rural areas cannot improve their welfare without access to financial capital.

We shall continue to ensure that transformation of the rural economy from subsistence to a modernized one is the pillar of the new development policy.

Rural Development Growth Centres

81. The DPP Government recognizes that the rural sector is the backbone of economic activities of the majority of our people and is the springboard for micro and smaller-scale businesses that are very vital to our people.

We have started creating new rural growth centres, each of which will have a tarred road, piped water, electricity, a bank, a post office, a hospital, a secondary school and a trading centre.

Most facilities found in urban centres will also be available in rural centres.

Land Reallocation

82. The DPP Government shall enhance land redistribution to improve the social facilities in rural areas and to invest in rural infrastructure in order to enable farmers to market their produce more efficiently.

Specifically, we shall ensure:

(a) Efficiency and productivity of the land through greater access to technology, financing and other inputs.

(b) Provision of piped water.

(c) Improve the use of agricultural land through extension and training facilities as well as introducing titles to land.

83. The new policy aims at encouraging more people engaged in rural development to have access to better information, education and financing so that they can eventually expand their activities to bigger operations.

The new measures will include:-

(a) Improve working conditions in rural traditional markets, both in urban and rural areas, where our people mostly operate.

Sanitary conditions and provision of shelters for trade operators and products on sale will be improved.

Special attention will be given to the establishment of provision of clinics, nurseries and day care facilities in traditional and urban markets.
(b) Assist financially, producers and traders to improve their transportation and storage capabilities to enable them to reduce pre-harvest and post-harvest food losses arising from the perishable nature of some food products.

(c) Actively support the informal sector operators, including rural "vendors" by assisting them to own more viable businesses, marketing or trader's associations to increase their awareness of their role and contribution towards trade development.

(d) Provide better training facilities to enable rural communities to improve their production and capacities through acquisition of skills in various forms of vocational and on-the-job training schemes; and extension of employment opportunities to the informal sector within the framework of a sound human resources development policy.

Empowering Rural Communities

83. In this Manifesto, we have recognized that many people in the rural, urban, and pen-urban areas, continue to live abject poverty.

This is despite the efforts made during the past ten years, to enable many Malawians to have access to basic social amenities such, as clean water, health services, decent housing, and good sanitation.

84. In order to effectively alleviate poverty, this will be changed by implementing policies specifically designed to balance economic and social prosperity between urban and rural areas.

This will curb rural to urban migration and thus reduce pressure on social services in urban centres.

Financing Rural Development

85. The DPP Government has determined that the provision of affordable rural financing is the key to poverty reduction.

Accordingly, we have created the Malawi Rural Development Fund (MARDEF) to provide soft loans to indigenous Malawians to enable them to start businesses. We have also received new funding for the Malawi Social Action Fund (MASAF).

Together, those two facilities will improve the lives of the rural people.

Special priority will be given to the following households that are presently facing tremendous economic and social problems:

(a) Households headed by women who single-handedly take up responsibility of raising and educating children without a husband;

(b) Households headed by elderly people with no financial means but who look after grandchildren whose parents have died of HIV/AIDS and other illnesses;

(c) Households headed by small children who are forced to look after other children because their parents have died and no one is taking care of them; and
(d) Households headed by people with physical disabilities who struggle to make a living so as to care for their children.

86. These two financial instruments will facilitate the granting of soft loans to rural people to start small businesses, or to improve existing ones.

We shall also ensure that the savings of rural entrepreneurs, are part of the mainstream of the economy, and that rural farmers and business people are getting interest on their savings on commercial terms.

Establishing Factories in Rural Areas

87. The DPP Government has introduced a major policy shift to empower rural farmers to add value to agricultural and other products from the village communities.

This will in turn create a new system of economic and financial governance that gives more power to local leaders in the communities to take control of their own destinies.

88. The establishment of new factories in rural areas will be facilitated through on-going projects such as the Malawi Social Action Fund (MASAF III), the One Village One Product (OVOP) programme, and the Malawi Poverty Reduction Strategy (MRPS), and Malawi Rural Development Fund (MARDEF).

89. The government will also develop and strengthen the capacities of rural co-operatives to earn more incomes by providing adequate financial resources, business training and marketing skills.

CHAPTER 15

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

90. The DPP Government considers public health and social services as important factors in development. We shall improve the quality of our public health and social services.

91. Another major concern of the DPP is that since independence, Malawi’s health, sanitation and social services have been concentrated in urban centres with little facilities in rural areas.

The new public health policy will include:-

(a) National campaigns against sexually transmitted diseases (STD); communicable diseases and epidemics will be intensified through more extensive education and information through mass media; the traditional chiefs and village headmen will be entrusted with the task of ensuring that new health rules are obeyed for the health of our people.

(b) All districts in Malawi will have adequate medical facilities including "primary health care" within a reasonable distance from their homes; Medical services in Malawi will be overhauled to the remotest areas of our country.
(c) All existing health and sanitation facilities in public places such as schools, hospitals, clinics, cinemas, government buildings and offices, airports, bus stations, and market places will be rehabilitated and made operational through effective maintenance and repairs.

(d) New mobile medical facilities will be introduced in the rural areas especially of hospitals and clinics; traditional markets in the rural areas should be provided with toilets and potable water through local governments or local municipalities, duly established for this and related purposes.

(e) A clear and definite shift will be made from "curative" to "preventive" medical facilities. This will imply changes in perceptions and attitudes of those in charge of health as well as general public; new training programmes, especially of Nurses and Medical Assistants, will be introduced to cater for this new orientation; political interference in the medical profession will not be allowed.

(f) Hospitals and clinics in all parts of the country will be better equipped and modernized.

The equipment presently available in our hospitals as well as drugs and medicines will be improved; harmful drugs should not be manufactured or imported into Malawi.

(g) New research in medical science and technology at the University of Malawi and private research laboratories will be encouraged to ensure that medicine and treatment of the sick conforms to the highest international standards and that these are also suitable to our needs.

(h) Extensive and intensive training programmes including skills upgrading will be introduced in the medical profession; this will be accompanied by appropriate rewards and incentives to all people working in the field of health and sanitation.

(i) Appropriate population policies and family planning will be adopted both as health issues as well as social issues.

Managing the Readily Preventable Diseases

92. The DPP Government is aware that the main challenge that our country faces is to ensure that people in rural communities, especially women, children, the elderly, and those with physical disabilities, do not have to travel long distances to a hospital or clinic, which must be adequately staffed and well equipped to meet the basic health care needs.

93. The new policy framework of the Government shall guarantee the following:

- Provision of universal health under the Millennium Development Goals, and improving access of the rural and urban poor to basic health facilities.

These will aim at combating readily preventable diseases such as malaria, tuberculosis, polio, syphilis, gonorrhea, measles, whooping cough and diarrhea.

- Ensuring adequate supply of drugs and medical supplies in every hospital, dispensary and clinic in Malawi.
Appropriate measures will be taken to curtail the stealing of drugs and medical supplies in our hospitals and clinics.

Managing the HIV and AIDS Pandemic

94. The Government will treat the HIV and AIDS pandemic as a medical crisis, an economic crisis, apolitical crisis and a social crisis.

This implies that there must be a holistic approach to the problem because there is acorrelation between poverty and difficulties in dealing with the crisis.

Specifically the following will be achieved:

(a) Provision of free antiretroviral (ARV) drugs to the poor and Eunancially and economically empowering others to be able to buy antiretroviral drugs and to have good diets.

(b) Special attention will be given to the distribution of arce anti-retroviral drugs and encourage voluntary testing in order to prolong and preserve the lives of infected Malawians.

(c) Reducing the morbidity and mortality, particularly, among the most vulnerable groups, through the implementation of the Essential Health Package, and other national plans and programmes.

This package will be delivered free of charge at the point of delivery for those who cannot afford to pay.

(d) Intensifying the public awareness and advocacy campaigns against HIV/AIDS especially for the youth and people in rural areas.

CHAPTER 16

The National Youth Development Service

95. The way forward for our country is to effectively harness the potential of the youth and to equip them with knowledge and skills necessary for their full participation in the social, cultural, economic and political development of the country.

The areas of focus will be on skills training for self-employment, preventive health services, and provision of recreational facilities.

Empowering the Youth

96. More specifically, we shall empower the youth through the following measures:

(i) Create new opportunities for self-employment for the youth by providing them with soft loans to enable them to start their own businesses.

(ii) Establish new vocational and business training centres, especially for vendors that will empower a larger number of youths to stand on their own financially through viable busness ventures.
(iii) Encourage and assist the youth to articulate their need through the formation of area, district and national youth organizations.

(iv) Networks in the primary and secondary schools, technical colleges and universities.

The National Youth Development Service

97. The Democratic Progressive Party is very concerned about the Empowering the Youth increased Lumbers of our youth roaming in the streets and that they face a bleak future.

We are fully aware that many youths welcome the chance to serve their motherland.

In order to remove our youth from the streets and reduce crime, DPP will establish the National Youth Development Service.

98. The basic objective of the National Youth Development Service is to develop a variety of skills and programmes and will train our youth and to equip them to acquire capacities to stand on their own.

It will consist of the following elements:-

(a) Provision of vocational and other training for a period of one year depending upon the chosen field.

This training will be designed in such away that the graduates become self-employed instead of looking up to the government for jobs.

Some of them will be absorbed in the civil service or the private sector.

(b) Creating of opportunities for the cadets to participate in development projects such as agriculture, irrigation, building and construction, manufacturing, wildlife conservation and primary health care.

The National Youth Development Service will also be called upon to assist, in collaboration with the Armed Forces, in times of national disasters.

(c) Development of a sense of service by our youth who will also be called upon to assist in maintaining security and order especially during major public events taking place in our country.

(d) Provision, upon completion of their training in the National Development Service with start-up capital, tools and technical support to the graduates to go into businesses of their choice. The progress of these new business ventures will be regularly monitored to ensure they succeed and eventually form part of a truly national business community.

(e) Participation in global, continental and regional peace and security initiatives of the United Nations, the European Union, and the Organization of Africa Unity, the Southern African Development Community, the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa and other regional efforts aimed at resolving civil wars and conflicts in Africa.
CHAPTER 17
MINING AND ENERGY

99. The DPP Government is cognizant of the fact that our mining and energy resources are still largely unknown and unexploited.

However, there is evidence to show that our country is endowed with precious minerals including gold, diamonds, bauxite, lime, uranium and heavy mineral sands.

High priority will be placed on investment that leads to the identification and exploitation of minerals and energy to provide the technology and financing that will lead to discovery, exploitation and use of new minerals and energy resources of our country.

The specifically, Government implement the following:

(a) New policies to encourage the exploitation of minerals in Malawi and greater allocation of investment to this sector.

(b) New policy to deal with problems of shortages of fuel-wood for energy for the rural communities, such as fuel-wood and charcoal.

This will involve the introduction of alternative sources of energy such as solar, wind and biogas.

(c) People in rural areas will be given new incentives to use electricity while growing more trees, especially fast growing trees; to provide fuel for their cooking.

(d) More advanced technologies will be introduced for exploitation of commercial hydropower, wind and solar power owned by the government or private sector for rural electrification through, inter alia, the use of coal, geo-thermal, solar and wind energy.

CHAPTER 18
THE TOURISM INDUSTRY

100. Tourism an important source of foreign exchange and foreign visitors in, Malawi constitute an important element of our external relations.

They will be welcome.

Malawi, the "warm heart of Africa" has many potentials for tourism that still remain untapped.

Tourism can become an important source of development finance.

101. The DPP Government recognizes that Malawi will continue to face stiff competition from other attractive tourist destinations such as Kenya, Zambia, Zimbabwe and South Africa.

Consequently, the DPP will focus on the following:-
(a) Research and development of Malawi tourist attractions with a view to identifying areas or specialties which the neighbouring countries do not have.

(b) Developing unique artifacts and hand-craft specifically "Malawian" in character that can be identified as such anywhere in the world.

(c) Improving, upgrading and pricing of our hotels to enable them to offer more value for money especially for bargain-hunters and to introduce more competition in the hotel industry to avoid poor services arising from monopoly.

(d) Develop, as part of the tourist industry, off-shore banking facilities, financial services, casinos and other international land or water sporting events e.g. rallies and motor boats and water skiing that will attract visitors into our country.

(e) Enter into an agreement with the immediate neighbours, especially Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique and South Africa so as to agree on a tourism promotion and sharing packages that will enable some of the tourists to visit Malawi as part of a comprehensive regional package.

(f) Develop and upgrade national parks through an appropriate balance between agriculture, wildlife and environmental protection; introduce where necessary new species of wildlife by importation from other countries and observe strict rules to preserve rare and endangered species.

(g) Enhance a new awareness of the potential for tourism industry and encourage Malawi nationals to visit and enjoy the beauty of the land, flora and fauna of our country; implement a new programme for training for hoteliers, waiters and waitresses, tourism operators and guide to imbue a new Malawi culture in the industry.

(h) Provide maximum security and safety for tourists in all designated areas of attraction as well as protection of their property while in the country; tourists will not be harassed or molested by beggars or tricksters.

CHAPTER 19

INVESTMENT IN HUMAN CAPITAL

Basic Education

102. The Democratic Progressive Party Government believes that basic education is the right of every Malawi citizen, young or old.

We are committed to ensure that investment in education and human capital becomes the centre piece of Malawi's future development.

Our people constitute the human capital.

The basic objective of Malawi's education and literacy policy will be to instill in our nationals the awareness that education enhances the role each individual can play in development and transformation of our country: Basic education will also be designed to provide the means for
opening up new opportunities for our people to engage in trade, business, production and self-employment.

103. Our policy will give priority to the following:

(a) Elimination of illiteracy in Malawi, within the shortest possible time, so that every Malawi man and woman is given the opportunity to learn to read and write. This will be achieved through intensive and extensive education, training and capacity building programmes focusing on basic education that prepares the youth for self-employment.

(b) Encouragement of students in primary and secondary schools to learn science, technology and technical subjects in addition to tradition subjects. Computer sciences will constitute an important aspect of the curriculum.

The new culture will be to prepare them to change their mentality from preference to "white collar job" to technical and vocational jobs that can make them self-reliant.

(c) Repairing and upgrading old schools and building new ones to provide adequate schooling facilities; desks and other school equipment, will be supplied and kept in proper condition; the goal is that anywhere in Malawi no child should have to walk more than five kilometres to attend school.

(d) Significantly improving the quality, orientation and coverage of primary education with a view to making the children know more about their own country, environment, culture and historical background than that of other countries.

The Children and the Youth

104. The DPP Government firmly believes that children and the youth have special importance in Malawi’s development.

They are the future of our nation and it is from them that our future leadership will be selected.

Therefore, programmes that deal with children and the youth - health, education, entertainment, social welfare, traditions and culture - will be designed so as to equip them to grow into respected and responsible adults.

Specially, the DPP will implement the following programmes:

(a) Special Child and Youth Rehabilitation Fund will be created to enable the children and youth from impoverished families have access to vocational training so as to equip them to become self-reliant; and to prevent the youth from being exposed to drug abuse and drug trafficking.

(b) New strategy will be introduced to enable the youth to make positive contributions to support economic and social transformation of our country; ensuring that the
youth is fully represented in policy formulations that affect them; engage in productive and income generating activities; and mobilizing resources and support from the public to enable them to improve their social welfare and conditions.

The youth will be encouraged to form their associations from which they will receive guidance and leadership; they will not be trained as a force to terrorize the public or engage in criminal activities or human rights violations; the new policy will be to transform the negative image of the Youth to a positive and dynamic one for development of our nation.

(d) Children's education will be improved through new programmes designed to suit our children based on our own tradition and culture; more child welfare facilities, including clinics, nurseries, kindergartens and day-care centres will be established throughout the country especially in public places such as markets; these will be fully equipped with trained personnel, toys, books, audio-visuals and other facilities.

Secondary, Vocational and Higher Education

105. The DPP Government has designed policies to equip our youth to select agricultural, industrial, technical and vocational training.

More especially:-

(a) Secondary education will aim to enrich the, growing students through developing their abilities to appreciate the political, economic, social and cultural circumstances of our country; they will be educated to fully appreciate the relationship between formal, scientific and technological education on the one hand, and our country's development requirements on the other hand; this level of education will also be redesigned to improve the creativity of the youth so that they can take care of themselves even if they are unable to have university education.

(b) More girls hostels at secondary schools will be built throughout the country to ensure that girls receive better education.

(c) Technical and vocational training will also be redesigned to match skills with the needs of our economy; special emphasis will be on self-employment of the graduates; the policy will ensure that all people graduating from these schools find areas that will use the skills they have acquired; therefore, specialized job-placement agencies will be established with branches throughout the country to ensure that the matching is well organized and effectively implemented.

(d) Improved training and skills upgrading will be provided for teachers and instructors at primary, secondary and vocational training centres as well as lecturers and professors at the universities and other institutions of higher learning; they will be provided with the necessary tools and equipment to enable them to assimilate knowledge more effectively and efficiently; special reviews will be made to ensure that they achieve decent salaries and that they are provided with adequate and proper housing.

(e) Children with learning disabilities, including the physically disabled or handicapped or those requiring, specialized training, will be provided with adequate facilities to enable them to train side-by-side with the rest of the children.
(f) All children will be protected from child abuse of any kind, exploitation and child labour. This will be strictly forbidden by law and heavy punishment will be imposed to offenders against children.

CHAPTER 20

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

106. Since 2005, the DPP Government adopted new programmes that fully address the problems arising from the fact that millions of people with physical disabilities in our country are deprived of the right to fully participate in the social and economic development.

The people with disabilities will be given new windows of opportunity to fully participate in the following economic and social transformation of our country:

(a) The right to social protection and to benefit from economic growth and prosperity.

The Government shall enforce measures in all Government institutions to remove all forms of discrimination against people with physical disabilities.

There will be unimpeded access to job opportunities, promotions, appointments to high positions, and access to business and personal loans.

(b) Assistance to those with impaired hearing in procuring hearing aids and sign language services, braille materials, and other such devices as will make them, perform efficiently in schools or at work.

We shall also introduce special sports for them.

(c) Developing programmes to rehabilitate, train and upgrade skills of the physically disabled that do not isolate them from the rest of the community.

An integral policy will provide them with the necessary tools and an equipment to enable them to contribute more effectively to the development process while at the same time to be self-supporting.

(d) Special preference will be given to the physically handicapped in job placements.

Organizations for handicapped will be given increased support, financially, materially and morally to enable improving their services to our nation.

(e) Redesign vocational training centres to accommodate the elderly, handicapped or disabled in the use of wheel-chairs or crutches and ramps; this will also apply to the design of roads pavements and public places in Malawi; the focus will be given to full integration of the handicapped in the mainstreams of production, trade and commerce rather than develop special institutions which isolate them; they will develop together with the rest of our communities.
107. The Government will ensure that all public buildings and transport services shall be fitted with appropriate ramps and other such devices that will enable people with disabilities to enter and exit such buildings and transport vehicles with ease and comfort.

It will also encourage similar modifications and facilities in privately-owned buildings and commercial vehicles.

CHAPTER 21

THE ELDERLY PEOPLE

108. The Democratic Progressive Party Government considers old people as important members of our society that require special attention.

It is recognized that by virtue of their physical status, they are unable to contribute fully to the development process.

DPP will introduce a new culture to enable the old people to be useful and to feel wanted and appreciated.

109. DPP is developing programmes for the elderly people to enable them to impart their accumulated wealth of knowledge and experiences to younger children and the youth so as to preserve our traditions and heritage.

They will be encouraged to form a National Association of the Elderly with branches in every city, town and village to mobilize support for programmes for our elderly people.

110. DPP will continue to adopt special measures to provide the elderly with adequate medial facilities, clothing and food; they will also be provided with support primarily within their own communities.

CHAPTER 22

POWER TO THE PEOPLE

111. The DPP believes that the local government is a sound institution for transferring power to the people at the grass-root level.

It is the pillar of democracy and social justice.

The local government is also an important and effective link between the people and their elected government in all matters relating to their economic and social welfare.

The democratization of the local government, including the procedures for electing, will be re-organized to fit the changing conditions.

112. The DPP Government will embark upon uplifting the people at local government level through the following:

(i) The traditional chiefs at all levels will be recognized as important participants in local governance. They are the guardians of our traditions, customs and cultures.
(ii) Every man and woman, poor and rich, illiterate or educated, will be encouraged to participate in local government elections.

(iii) Local representatives, in consultation with their electorate, will conceptualize, design and implement development programmes aimed at improving standards of living of their people.

(iv) Education and information of the people about their rights and obligations will be a priority aspect of the operations of Local Government.

(v) The people themselves will be responsible for determining appropriate public land use, housing, health and sanitary services; trunk and rural access roads; public municipal markets; street development and lighting; water supplies and wells; and garbage collection.

(vi) Political representatives will be encouraged to consult regularly with the people in their local areas, listen to their problems and discuss proposals for development of the areas at grass-root level.

113. The policy for Local Government will aim at enabling the entire society to participate in development.

The DPP will design new policies and programmes that place emphasis on improvement of living conditions of a large number of the rural poor, through self-help income earning activities.

These will be implemented through a system of people's empowerment by which the people themselves take the lead in conceptualizing, designing and implementing programmes that affect them.

CHAPTER 23

PROVIDING AFFORDABLE HOUSING

114. The Democratic Progressive Party asserts that every Malawi citizen has the right to housing.

This is a basic human right enshrined in the Universal Declaration on Human Rights adopted by the United Nations.

Wide-spread lack of housing and shelter must not be allowed to continue in Malawi.

New housing policies will focus on removal of impediments and creating more opportunities for people to acquire their own houses even at the low-income levels.

115. More specifically, the DPP policy for housing will focus on:

(i) Construction by Government and the private sector of low-cost, durable and habitable housing to be sold to all citizens of Malawi at cost. This will enable the low-income groups to acquire their own homes.
(ii) Privatization and reorganization of the Malawi Housing Corporation to directly assist the low-income individuals to acquire low-interest loans from building societies, commercial banks and other lending institutions.

(iii) Adoption of anew culture for maintenance and repairs of our houses and homes.

We shall not only teach our people to build new homes but also to maintain them.

There will be more vigorous policy for rehabilitation, development and maintenance of all government houses.

CHAPTER 24

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

116. The DDP is aware that there has not been a conscious policy for developing science and technology for macroeconomic growth in our country.

We have also largely depended upon external institutions to drive our research programmes.

The Government change this by giving very high priority to locally-based research programmes and adaptation and utilization of science and technology specifically designed to convert our agricultural primary commodities, minerals and other natural resources into new wealth.

Specifically the DPP Government will:

(i) Intensify research by our own universities, colleges and institutions of higher learning and in processing of our natural resources in order to produce new brands of goods for the domestic and export markets.

(ii) Allocate more resources for training in the management of information and communications technologies for development.

(iii) Research new crop varieties, including those from other countries in order to increase the supply of raw materials for agro-processing industries.

117. The Government will also provide research grants to our local institutions to develop new food products from maize, meet, sorghum, other cereals as well as tubers so as to diversify our dietary habits thereby averting hunger.

CHAPTER 25

NATIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING

118. The DPP advocates the principle that Malawi will be developed by Malawians through its own capacity.

International organizations, multilateral and bilateral institutions will support the initiatives by Malawians to design, develop and implement a strategy that can truly pull our country out of poverty.
119. The DPP fully supports the capacity building initiatives of the World Bank, the African Development Bank and the United Nations Development Programme as the basis for enabling our people to acquire managerial and technical skills required to implement our development strategy.

National Capacity for Governance

120. The DPP is concerned that our people are among the poorest in the world.

Forty years of bad governance and neglect of capacity building have worsened the economic and social conditions of our people who continue to live in abject poverty.

Unemployment has been rising while opportunities for job creating have almost disappeared.

This is to be explained by the fact that past government policies did not place capacity building of the people as a national priority.

The other reason has been the emasculation of the manpower policy to the extent that the ordinary person had no chance to improve his/her capacities to contribute meaningfully to the development process.

Motivating the Civil Service

121. The DPP strongly believes that the civil service should be motivated, professional and non-partisan.

We need to develop our capacity to implement economic and social programmes in our country.

The cardinal factor is that our civil service must be given the capacity to ensure that Malawi develops fast.

This entails the adoption of new training policy that instills confidence in the civil service.

122. The civil Service, as the operation arm of the Executive, will be reorganized to ensure the highest professional integrity and technical competence.

Its capacity will be enhanced and upgraded to meet new challenges under multiparty democracy.

Civil servants shall not be partisan but serve any Government of the day.

123. The DPP firmly believes that good governance must be supported by a well trained, competent and dedicated civil service.

The new culture will be introduced in Malawi to enhance the welfare of the people by encouraging them, interalia, to become self-reliant.
124. As part of its capacity building policy, DPP will endeavour to reverse the exodus of trained people and manpower to neighbouring and overseas countries and international institutions.

In the new democratic Malawi, the DPP will encourage all Malawi nationals throughout the world to return to participate in national reconstruction and development.

To that end, the new policy will focus on the following:

(a) Develop the professional and technical competence of the civil service and promote non-partisan approach and attitudes to their calling.

The civil service must be re-oriented to serve loyally the government of the day regardless of political beliefs.

(b) Determine the new development requirements in all sectors of the economy including the parastatals, the private sector, the business community and the non-governmental organizations to determine shortages in skills and capacities that need to be developed in the light of the new development objectives and priorities.

(c) Develop a comprehensive national roster of all Malawi experts with special know-how and skills including those national experts residing outside Malawi so as to know "who is who" among the Malawi people.

(d) Create new capacities in support services required for macro-economic planning and management which would include: rationalization and harmonization of investment codes; standardization and quality control; application of science and technology to development; engineering design and product development; research and development; training for managerial, entrepreneurial and skills development; and improvement of consultancy and contracting services.

(e) Provide resources for financing capacity development programmes in the country to provide resources to enable national experts residing outside to assist our country to acquire skills and capacities in specified areas related to economic development.

The Police Service and the Defense Force

125. The DPP believes that an important element of capacity building is the Malawi Police and Malawi Defense Force.

These constitute an integral party of our human resources essential for economic development through self-reliance.

They also constitute an important aspect of good governance.

The people must enjoy peace and security not only as individuals but also for companies, investors and entire business community.

126. The DPP is proud that we have one of the best Police Service and Defense Forces in Africa.
Therefore, the DPP will encourage the army to participate in regular development programmes and civil engineering and the utilization of the resources of the defense Forces can greatly contribute to our effort.

The army personnel will henceforth not be isolated from normal development activities because they too are a group of individuals who are concerned with development of our country.

127. The DPP will develop the security of our country in such a way that in addition to defending our nation from external aggression; they will contribute towards the growth and prosperity of the nation.

To that end, the DPP will undertake the following:

(a) Build and improve the capacity and professional competence of the Defense Force and the Police Service to respond adequately and urgently to the needs of our nation by providing them with adequate training, better equipment and support facilities, better housing and improved service conditions.

(b) Provide the Defense Force and Police Service the opportunity to be represented in policy-making decisions affecting them and to ensure that our views are respected in all such forums.

(c) Facilitate the qualified Police and Defense personnel to participate in the training of civilians and the youth in basic skills for self-reliance so as to prepare our youth to stand on their own feet.

CHAPTER 26

THE PRIVATE SECTOR CAPACITY

128. An important element of capacity building for development is the private sector.

A more enlightened business community enhances development and good governance.

129. The DPP will give high priority to developing and strengthening the capacity of the private sector to participate effectively in investment, production and trade. The basic problems of our private sector that need to be urgently addressed include: structural weakness in our production and trade structures; lack of adequate export incentives; poor marketing and advertising of Malawi goods both at home and abroad and continued dependence on primary commodities for our exports.

130. The DPP will adopt specific policies and programmes to deal with its instructional trade and investment relations as well as those relating to regional trade within the framework of regional economic groupings and domestic trade.

Specifically, the DPP will undertake the following:

(a) Establish "one-stop" investment centres to promote and encourage increased investment in the productive sectors especially in agriculture, mining and manufacturing so as to increase our export earnings through value addition.
(b) Develop a strong and vibrant Malawi business community with special emphasis on the Youth and women that can respond to and take advantage of a liberalized economy in order to produce improved and high quality goods for our people and for export.

(c) Strengthen and develop viable financial institutions that will undertake trade financing so that every product made in Malawi finds a market locally or abroad; and to assist Malawi entrepreneurs to enter into joint ventures with foreign investors.

CHAPTER 27

THE NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

131. The DPP recognizes the important role played by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in our economic and social development and that NGOs are an integral aspect of our national capacity building.

Malawi’s capacity to develop can be greatly enhanced by well-motivated NGOs that fully appreciate the government policy directions.

The DPP will develop a positive framework for dialogue, consultation and feedback with NGOs concerned with Malawi's development, whether locally or foreign-based, to enable them to contribute more positively to Malawi’s advancement.

CHAPTER 28

THE RELIGION AND THE STATE

132. The Democratic Progressive Party Government recognizes that religious institutions have, since times immemorial, played a key role in development and in moulding the lives of the people and in guiding political leadership in good governance.

In the old Testament, it was the prophet-men of God - who had the moral courage to challenge the kings of the time about corruption, immorality and the evils of those rulers.

133. The Government also recognizes the role of Christianity, Islam and other religions in the transformation of our country.

134. The political struggle of our country was started by a man of God, Reverend John Chilembwe, in 1914 when he realized that the people of Malawi had the right to be free.

In recent years, it was the strong position taken by the Catholic Bishops and other churches that finally brought about democracy and change in our country.

135. The DPP Government will continue to uphold the following fundamental principles:-

(a) All religions will be allowed to fully participate in the political, economic, social and cultural process.

They are an important aspect of our society.
(b) We recognize that with increasing corruption, theft and power abuse in high political
echelons of our society and increasing drug trafficking, drug abuse and moral decay, the
religious guidance is needed more than ever before to rebuild our moral ethics.

A society led by corrupt and selfish leaders cannot develop sound democratic principles.

The importance of the 'Church cannot therefore be overemphasized.

(c) DPP encourages religious institutions to be in the forefront to develop our country.

The clergy of all denominations are earnestly invited to play a new role to re-establish faith in
GOD as the basis for advancement of our country.

The DPP appeals to religious leaders to work side-by-side with the Government to develop
the kind of Malawi we want.

To that end, we shall ensure that the clergy is adequately represented in all key policy making
institutions in the civil society.

CHAPTER 29

THE SIZE OF THE GOVERNMENT

136. The Democratic Progressive Party feels that a large government is not necessarily the
most efficient in enhancing our economic and social development.

It is difficult to justify a large number of Ministries and Departments considering the size of
our country and our economy.

A smaller and more efficient government is sfficient to enhance our economic and social
advancement.

Similarly, public wage bill is far beyond what our economy can support.

The size of the deficit must be reduced and the high percentage of the budget now being
funded from donor support must be reduced.

137. The DPP Government will therefore implement the following measures:-

(a) The number of Ministerial portfolios will be maintained at 20 including the President and
Vice President.

DPP believes this is alevel that can be adequately supported by our own resources.

It is unrealistic to expect our budget to finance a grossly oversized Government.

(b) Following the relocation of the president from Blantyre to Lilongwe, considerable savings
on resources will be made by the Government.

In fact the travel expenditure of Cabinet Ministers, Senior Officials and Members of
Parliament have considerably been reduced.
(c) Reduce drastically the budgetary allocation for the maintenance of State Houses as most of them will be sold or turned into public buildings.

(d) Reduce the number of foreign missions abroad and consolidate accreditations to keep the cost of maintaining them to a minimum.

(e) Significantly reduce the allocation to non-productive activities of government or parastatal institutions while simultaneously increasing the allocation to income-generating activities.

(f) Ensure strict management and accountability in the public sector so as to prevent loss of funds through corruption, mismanagement, incompetence, or theft.

CHAPTER 30

MANAGING THE PUBLIC DEBT

138. The Democratic Progressive Party recognizes that Malawi has a crippling public debt which is clearly beyond what we can afford.

The DPP's concern arises not only because of the size of the debt stock but also the inability to service the debt.

Malawi's debt service ratio is above 50 percent which implies that over half of our Gross Domestic Product goes to service debt, leaving little for investment, for growth and development.

Our external debt is clearly unsustainable in the short, medium and long run due to the level of our productivity, income generation, export earnings and general under-development.

139. The DPP is aware that the external and domestic debt was incurred by preceding governments.

However, we have an obligation to repay it.

We are determined to find effective and lasting solutions to the Malawi debt crisis.

Our policy on debt management will centre on the following:

(a) Increase the productive and export capacity of our industries so as to increase foreign exchange earnings through value addition and diversification to alleviate the debt-servicing crisis by increasing our ability to repay the debts.

(b) Institute more strict controls and monitoring of public and private borrowing to ensure that we do not borrow beyond our capacity to repay.

We shall discourage or prevent borrowing for luxury imports but encourage borrowing for industrialization and income-generating activities.
Enter into a dialogue with bilateral creditors, multilateral institutions and international organizations to agree on appropriate strategy and framework for effective debt management in Malawi.

Negotiate with our creditors so that old loans should be written off by converting them into grants to give us a fresh start.

CHAPTER 31

REGIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION

140. The Democratic Progressive Party recognizes that the Malawi market is too small to attract large-scale investments in industrial and agriculture production, manufacturing and trade.

Therefore, we will strongly support initiatives towards market integration in order to create a viable environment for growth and development.

More specifically, the DPP will:

(a) Strengthen Malawi's participation in regional economic integration and in all regional, continental and international organizations to whose Treaties Malawi has appended its signature.

(b) Adhere to the Treaty establishing, the African Union (AU) and / or the continental economic cooperation and initiatives.

(c) Review bilateral agreements between Malawi and other countries in Eastern and Southern Africa covering a range of activities aimed at improving our relations with our cooperating partners.

CHAPTER 34

GUARANTEES AND SAVEGUARDS

145. The Democratic Progressive Party will form the next Government because it has performed its functions beyond expectation.

It has delivered on most of its promises.
In the coming period 2009 to 2014, we are confident that we shall do even better.

We have been tested and came through.

We can be trusted.

146. The Democratic Progressive Party Government will continue to unite all people in Malawi from the Northern, Central, Eastern and Southern regions regardless of race, colour or creed so as to develop one national agenda and learn to work together for the common good of all our people.

147. The DPP will continue to focus on investment rather than aid as our development policy.
We will adopt a more balanced approach to growth and development to ensure equitable allocation of financing and infrastructure in all the three regions of Malawi - Northern, Central and Southern so that Malawi can develop as one entity.

148. The DPP will continue to promote the role of women in business, in development and in the cultural heritage of our country.

We shall increase women representation in the Parliament, the Cabinet, the Civil Service and all aspects of Malawi's development.

149. The DPP shall in cooperation with the Church and other religious institutions continue to rebuild Malawi on the basis of our own resources and design our development institutions taking into account our culture, custom and traditions.

150. The DPP will continue to ensure that Malawi is a place where all bonafide investors, diplomats and international organizations will feel safe, secure and at home. They will be integrated to contribute actively and positively to our economic development.

151. The Democratic Progressive Party will continue to encourage non-governmental organizations registered in Malawi to engage in a constructive dialogue with Government to enable them to play a more positive role in the development of our country.

152. The Democratic Progressive Party will continue to strengthen youth organizations by providing them with technical and managerial advice and in enabling them to secure funding for their full development.

153. The Democratic Progressive Party will continue to develop an external policy that strengthens our national sovereignty and respect for our country.

To that end, a new compact with the donors will be agreed upon that will ensure that Malawi participates and contributes fully in the development of a new world order.

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC PROGRESSIVE PARTY PROMISES ONLY WHAT IT CAN DELIVER AND WILL DELIVER WHAT IT PROMISES.

DPP WOPEEEE!
MALAWI WOYEEE!
DPP WOYEEE!