THE REPUBLIC OF MALAWI- COUNTRY REPORT

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Presentation Outline

- Basic Information on Malawi
- My position in the NGM and Job Descriptions
- Major Policies on Gender Equality in Malawi

Presentation Outline Cont'd

- Challenges in Mainstreaming Gender in Malawi
- Skills and Knowledge gained from the Seminar
- Action Plan

Basic Information on Malawi

- Established in 1891, the British protectorate of Nyasaland became an independent nation of Malawi in 1964.
- After three decades of one-party rule under President Ngwazi Dr. Hastings Kamuzu BANDA the country held multiparty elections in 1994.

Basic Information on Malawi Cont'd

- Current President Dr. Bingu wa MUTHARIKA, was elected in May 2004
- The Republic of Malawi is referred to as the "*Warm Heart of Africa*"
- Why?

The Malawi President Dr. Mutharika-addressing the UN General Assembly

Basic Information on Malawi Cont'd

- Located in Central Africa sharing boundaries with Tanzania, Zambia, and Mozambique
- Has a population of 13,013,926; & a land area of 118,480 km^2 (45,745 sq. miles) with a 350 km long fresh water great rift valley lake "***Lake Malawi***"

32°
36°
12°
16°
Karonga
TANZANIA
Mount Mahoni
6,170 ft.
NYIKA NATIONAL PARK
ZAMBIA
Mzuzu
Nkhata Bay
Mzimba
Lake
Nyasa
KASUNGU
NATIONAL PARK
Nkhotakota
Kasungu
Dowa
Salima
Mchinji
Lilongwe
Monkey Bay
LAKE MALAWI NATIONAL PARK
Dedza
Mangochi
Lake Malombe
Balaka
Lake
Chilwa
Zomba
Blantyre
Mount Mulanje
9,843 ft.
Chikwawa
Chiromo
ZIMBABWE
Nsanje
MOZAMBIQUE
INDIAN OCEAN
GREAT
RIFT
VALLEY
SHIRE
HIGHLANDS
Lugenda
Shire
Zambezi
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Basic Information on Malawi Cont'd

- Lilongwe is the Capital City of Malawi
- Official Currency is Malawi Kwacha (MK)
- Languages: English (Commercial); Chichewa (Official Local)

Basic Information on Malawi

- Malawi is rich in culture. This is evident in initiation ceremonies, traditional dances, among others.
- *"Gulewamkulu or Nyau"* which in literal translation means Supreme or Big dance is one of the most popular dance in Malawi. Below is a picture of Nyau dancers

"*Gulewamkulu*" or Supreme Dance

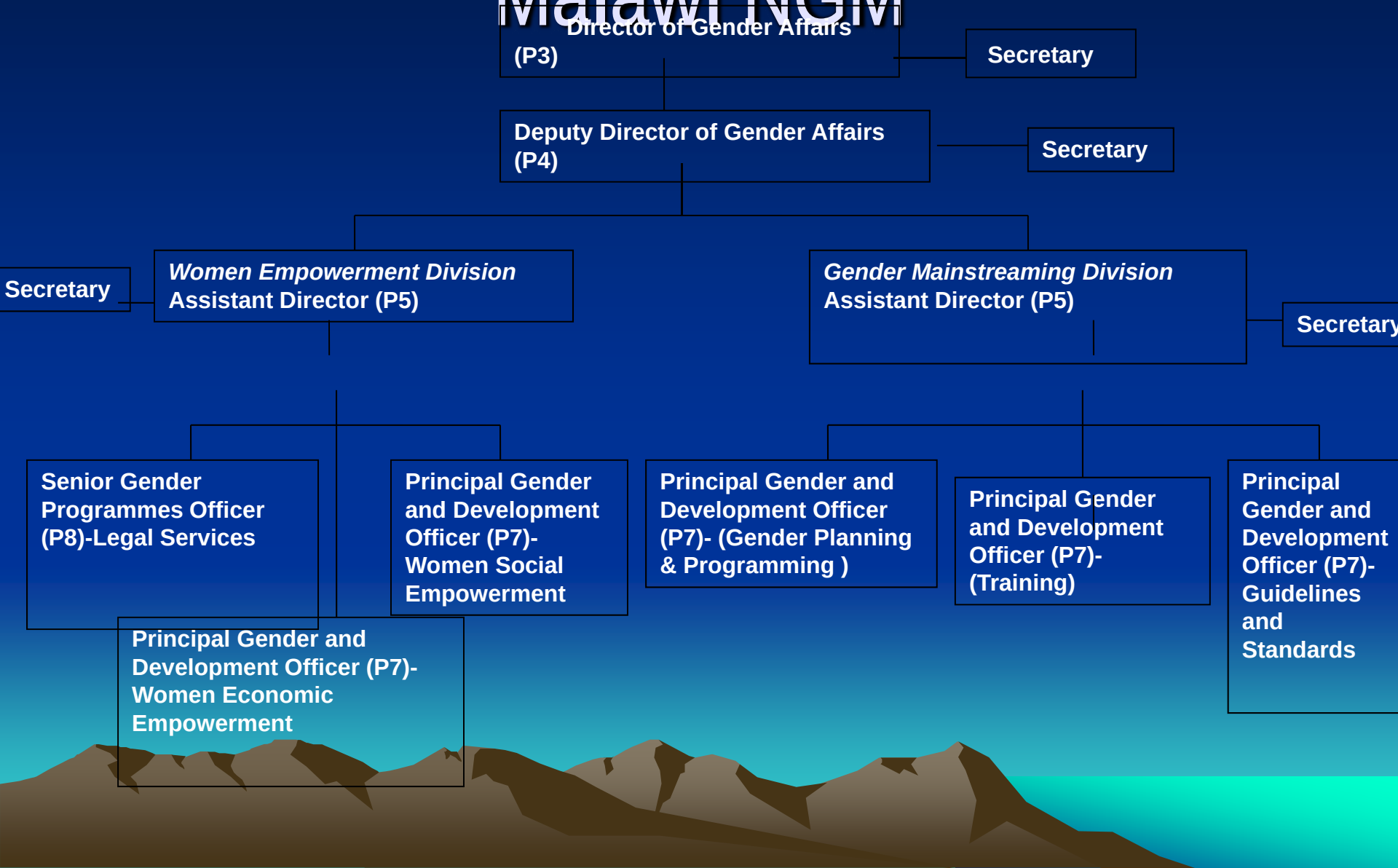
Organizational Structure of the Malawi NGM

- The National Gender Machinery's (NGM's) secretariat is the Department of Gender Affairs (DGA). It is this secretariat whose organogram has been isolated
- The NGM has 3 technical departments which are Gender Affairs; Child Affairs; & Community Development.

Organizational Structure of the Malawi NGM

- Malawi is operating in a decentralized structure. The 28 District Assemblies (DA's) in Malawi are under the administration of the District Commissioners
- The NGM only backstop district officers with technical support

Organizational Structure of the Malawi NGM



Mulanje Mountain-3001m high

Position of the Author in the NGM and Job Descriptions

I am Principal Gender and Development Officer responsible for Gender Mainstreaming with job description as follows:

- Coordinate development, review, adoption and popularisation of policies, programmes, protocols and guidelines and procedures for public, private and civil society sectors

Position of the Author in the NGM and Job Descriptions

- Strengthen and operationalise national gender systems and structures at all levels.
- Promote gender budgeting, mainstreaming capacity building initiatives at all levels in collaboration with stakeholders, training institutions, universities and development partners

Position of the Author in the NGM and Job Descriptions

- Facilitate and coordinate gender mainstreaming initiatives through developing and implementation of appropriate programmes, campaigns and advocacy activities.

Position of the Author in the NGM and Job Descriptions

- Coordinate and facilitate monitoring, communication, information sharing and documentation of best practices on gender equality initiatives within Malawi with Africa Union and globally

Position of the Author in the NGM and Job Descriptions

- Facilitate conducting of research, evaluation and country reporting on gender equality initiatives in collaboration with the department of Planning and Research

Malawi Football Team "**The Flames**"

Major Policies & Strategies on Gender Equality in Malawi

- The Malawi Constitution which enshrines the principle of equality, section 24(2).
- The Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDS), as an overarching policy document with the Gender Sub theme in the Social Development pillar.

Major Policies on Gender Equality in Malawi

- The National Gender Policy and its Programme
- Sectoral Gender Policies

Tea Picking Activity

Challenges in Mainstreaming Gender in Malawi

- Stereotypical attitudes which perpetuate beliefs and practices that leadership is a man's domain, and political violence also limit women participation
- Poor enforcement or lack of legislation, on certain specific issues like property grabbing from women who lose their spouses

Challenges in Mainstreaming Gender in Malawi

- Limited capacity of the sectors to mainstream gender in policies, projects and budgets.

Useful knowledge and skills obtained from the seminar

- Obtained diversified skills due to the diversity of topics covered by the seminar but also the diversity of the participating countries.
- Of particular interest were: Gender Budgeting; Gender Statistics; and Gender Project Cycle Management.

Pop Singer, Madonna & adopted Malawian Boy, David

Implementing Agency:

Ministry of Gender, Children & Community Development; Ministry of Finance and National Statistical Office/ Ministry of Development Planning and Cooperation

Target Group:

Public Sector Officers-Gender Focal Point Officers (50), Planning and Budgeting Officers at Central (100) and District level (64), Planning and Budgeting Directors (50); Members of Parliamentary Committee on Finance (15)

Activities

- Conduct research on unpaid economy and its potential contribution to the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP)
- Meeting with Ministry of Finance to support gender budgeting initiative

Activities

- Conduct a five day training for sectoral gender planning and budgeting officers on gender budgeting
- Conduct a five day training for District Assembly Planning and Budgeting Officers on gender budgeting

Activities

- Conduct one day orientation session for Members of the Parliamentary Committee on Finance on gender budgeting
- Hold quarterly review and planning meetings with gender focal point and planning and budgeting officers

Malawi VP Rt. Hon Joyce Banda "The Safe Motherhood Ambassador"

Expected Outcomes

- Gender Responsive Budget benefiting women, men, boys and girls
- Planning & Budgeting Officers become gender sensitive

Cost of the Project:

US$75,000 /(JPY 6,900,000)

Source of funding:

Development Partners (UNDP; UNFPA; JICA); Ministry of Gender, Children and Community Development (Other Recurrent Transaction-ORT Budget)

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