Civil society welcomes Malawi's continued commitment to the 2030 Agenda and the integration of the SDGs into Malawi 2063. We acknowledge the policies, programmes, and reforms undertaken since 2015.

However, progress must be measured by improvements in people's lives. Many rural communities, women, youth, persons with disabilities, informal workers, and LGBTI persons continue to face poverty, limited access to quality services, and increasing economic and climate-related shocks. Development must leave no one behind.

Malawi's greatest opportunity is its youthful population. The government should invest more in youth-led enterprises, innovation, and digital infrastructure, while transforming education systems to equip learners with entrepreneurial, technical, and innovation skills that enable them to create jobs rather than depend on scarce formal employment.

Development must be driven from the grassroots through stronger decentralisation, predictable local financing, effective local planning and meaningful participation of women and other marginalised groups. The government must also strengthen protection against gender-based violence and discrimination to protect the dignity and rights of all.

Finally, Malawi's growing debt burden is reducing resources for essential social services. The government should pursue debt restructuring and relief where feasible, strengthen public financial management, enhance domestic resource mobilisation, and ensure future borrowing finances only high-impact investments that support sustainable and inclusive growth.