REPUBLIC OF MALAWI

MINISTRY OF HOMELAND SECURITY

NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR COUNTERING TERRORISM AND PREVENTING VIOLENT EXTREMISM

2023 – 2028

FOREWORD

Terrorism is a global phenomenon and serious threat to national, regional and international peace and security, economic development and social integration. No country is immune to the threat of terrorism. Terrorism poses fundamental challenges to Malawi, the SADC region and the international community. It risks and undermines core values of the constitution, rule of law, respect to human rights, civilian protection, tolerance and peaceful resolution to conflicts.

Government of Malawi through the Ministry of Homeland Security and security agencies has developed National Counter Terrorism and Prevention of Violent Extremism strategies. The ultimate goal is to protect Malawi's territory from all forms of terrorism and violent extremism activities. The Strategy conforms to the Constitution of the Republic of Malawi, Penal Code, National Security Policy and the Malawi 2063 Vision among others.

These strategies facilitate prioritization of national response to terrorism and preventing violent extremism as an integral part of broader national security efforts, and support to regional, continental and global efforts in response to terrorism. Furthermore, the country understands that kinetic (hard) measures alone cannot fully address this threat. Therefore, national Strategies on Countering Terrorism and Preventing Violent Extremism have been designed in a way that they reflect both hard and soft measures and remains adaptive to the changing nature of the threat.

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Minister of Homeland Security

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ACRONYMS

ACB   Anti-Corruption Bureau

ACSRT   African Centre for the Study and Research of Terrorism

ADCs   Area Development Committees

ADF   Allied Democratic Forces

AERA   Atomic Energy Regulatory Authority

ASWJ   Al-Shabab wa Jama'a

AU   African Union

BWC   Biological Weapons Convention

CBRN   Chemical Biology and Radiation

CSOs   Civil Society Organizations

CTBTO   Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization

CTC   Counter-Terrorism Committee

CTED   Committees Executive Directorate

DEC   District Executive Committee

DHRM   Department of Human Resource Management

DICTS   Department of Immigration and Citizenship Services

DRC   Democratic Republic of Congo

ECOWAS   Economic Community of West African States

FIA   Financial Intelligence Authority

IAEA   International Atomic Energy Agency

ICAO   International Civil Aviation Organization

IGAD   Intergovernmental Authority on Development and Economic Community of West African States

IMO	International Maritime Organization
ISIS	Islamic State of Iraq and Syria
MACRA	Malawi Communication Regulatory Authority
MANPADS	Man-Portable Air-Defence System
MHRC	Malawi Human Rights Commission
MLA	Mutual Legal Assistance
MLC	Malawi Law Commission
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
MoD	Ministry of Defence
MoE	Ministry of Education
MoEST	Ministry of Education, Science and Technology
MoFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MoGCD&SW	Ministry of Gender, Community Development and Social Welfare
MoHS	Ministry of Homeland Security
MoID	Ministry of Information and Digitization
MoJ	Ministry of Justice
MoLGUC	Ministry of Local Government Unity & Culture
MoM	Ministry of Mining
MoNRCC&E	Ministry of Natural Resources, Climate Change & E
MoTI	Ministry of Trade and Industry
MoT&PW	Ministry of Transport and Public Works
MISA	Media Institute of Southern Africa
MPS	Malawi Police Service
MRA	Malawi Revenue Authority
NGO	Non-Governmental Organizations

NICE	National Initiative for Civic Education
NIS	National Intelligence Service
NRB	National Registration Bureau
NRI	National Research Institute
OAU	Organization of the African Union
OPCW	Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons
OPC	Office of the President and Cabinet
PAC	Public Affairs Committee
PLAC	Parliament Legal Affairs Committee
POA	Programme of Action
PPPs	Public Private Partnerships
PPPC	Public Private Partnerships Commission
PS	Malawi Prison Service
P/VCE	Prevention of Violent Extremism
RBM	Reserve Bank of Malawi
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SAMIM	SADC Mission in Mozambique
TNT	Trinitrotoluene
TV	Television
UN	United Nations
UNODC	UN Office on Drugs and Crime
VDCs	Village Development Committees
WCO	World Customs Organization
WMB	Weapons of Mass Destruction

GLOSSARY

Citizen: A native or naturalized member of a state or nation who owes allegiance to its Government and is entitled to its protection (distinguished from alien).

Civil Society: Persons or organizations that comprise but are not limited to nongovernmental, non-political or non-commercial enterprises.

Community Policing: An approach to policing in which police officers, citizens and community groups work together in an accepted partnership to solve mutually agreed policing problems.

Defence: Military action or resources protecting a country against potential threats.

Governance: Exercise of power in the economic, political and administrative management of a country's resources.

Human Security: An integrated, sustainable, comprehensive security from fear, conflict, ignorance, poverty, social and culture deprivation and hunger resting upon positive and negative freedom. The human security paradigm challenges the traditional notion of national security by arguing that the proper referent for security should be the individual rather than the state.

Intelligence: The product resulting from the collection, collation, evaluation, analysis, integration, and interpretation of collected information which is useful to policy makers in making decisions – specifically, decisions about potential threats to national security and the larger national community.

Migration Management: A term used to encompass numerous governmental functions within a national system for the orderly and humane management for cross-border migration, particularly managing the entry and presence of foreigners within the borders of the State and the protection of refugees and others in need of protection.

Money Laundering: The process of concealing the sources of money that have been gained through illegitimate means to appear to have been obtained through legitimate means.

National Interests: A country's goals and ambitions, whether military, social, economic, political or cultural that needs to be pursued or protected. National interests may include international commitments and obligations.

National Security: Is the protection of the territory of a State, its people, their property, rights and freedoms, and national interests and assets against external and internal threats.

National Strategy: A master plan providing strategic guidelines for accomplishing the national security goals in support of the national interest.

Preventing / Countering Violent Extremism: Policies and activities that aim to prevent and counter individuals and groups from committing or materially supporting ideologically motivated violence against innocent targets by discrediting the messages and propaganda of the extremists, disrupting their plans and activities, and challenging their actions. It also includes measures to engage and change the behaviour of violent extremist offenders, rehabilitate and reintegrate them back to society.

Public Security: The function of the government which ensures the protection of the citizens, organizations and institutions against threats to the wellbeing and the prosperity of their communities.

Radicalization: The process by which individuals and groups are introduced to an overtly ideological message and belief system that encourages movement from moderate, mainstream beliefs towards embracing extremist views that are increasingly accepted, justified and promoted regarding the use of violent acts / means to advance a political and / or ideological objective(s).

Refugee: "means a person who -

(a) Owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality and is unable or unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country; or who, not having a nationality and being outside the country of his former habitual residence as a result of such events is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to return to that country; or

(b) Owing to external aggression, occupation, foreign domination or events seriously disturbing public order in either part or the whole of his country of origin or nationality, is compelled to leave his place of habitual residence in order to seek refuge in another place outside his country of origin or nationality.

Smuggling: The procurement, in order to obtain, directly or indirectly, a financial or other material benefit, of the illegal entry of a person into a State Party of which the person is not a national or a permanent resident.

Terrorist Activities: Activities that involve the use of force, violence and intimidation on civilians with the intention of intimidating or coercing a Government, the civilian population, or any segment thereof, in furtherance of political or social objectives.

Terrorist Financing: Activities where any person by any means, directly or indirectly, unlawfully and wilfully, provides or collects funds with the intention that they should be used or in the knowledge that they are to be used, in full or in part, in order to carry out:

(a) An act which constitutes an offence within the scope of and as defined in a universal anti-terrorism treaty; or

(b) Any other act intended to cause death or serious bodily injury to a civilian, or to any other person not taking an active part in the hostilities in a situation of armed conflict, when the purpose of such act, by its nature or context, is to intimidate a population, or to compel a government or an international organization to do or to abstain from doing any act.

Threats: Menace or something that is a source of danger to the public, the State, civilians, or the environment, that may be socio-economic, natural, political or military in nature.

Transnational organized crime: Organized crime coordinated across national borders, involving groups or criminal networks of individuals working in more than one country to plan and execute illegal business ventures.

Violent Extremism: This is a diverse phenomenon without a clear definition. For the purposes of this instrument, violent extremism is defined as the beliefs and actions of persons who support, promote or use ideologically motivated violence to achieve social-economic, political, ethnic and religious objectives.

Vulnerable Groups: Groups of persons who are susceptible to abuse as a result of their age, disability, gender or stigma.

Whole-of-Government Approach: The coordinated, collaborative and integrated efforts, required by all Government actors, line Ministries, Departments and Agencies as required by their established mandates, and as provided in this Policy Framework to prevent and counter violent extremism.

Whole-of-Society Approach: The efforts by individuals, families, communities, civil society organisations, faith-based organisations, ethnic associations, leaders and influencers, women and youth representatives, academia, think tanks, media, voluntary organisations, the private sector and other non-governmental stakeholders to prevent and counter violent extremism in accordance with the guiding principles and core objectives set forth in this instrument.

INTRODUCTION

1. Comprehensive and Integrated Approach

This instrument comprises an overarching Declaration with accompanying national Strategies on Countering Terrorism and Preventing Violent Extremism. It is a logical and increasingly pressing response to the growing threat of terrorism and violent extremism on the Continent, especially in Southern Africa.

The UN Global Counter Terrorism Strategy (2006), the Organization of the African Union (OAU) 1999 Convention on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism, as well as other regional instruments notably the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Counter Terrorism Strategy, contain essential guidelines for the fight against terrorism which underpin this instrument. The national Strategies on Countering Terrorism and Preventing Violent Extremism tailor these and other key principles and legal obligations to Malawi's unique national threat conditions and realities, embedding them within a national framework to ensure coherence and consistency of approach across all engaged stakeholders.

The key priority is the security and protection of Malawi's sovereignty, territorial integrity and State institutions. This instrument, has assessed the nature and scale of the threat, setting out basic principles and factors that underpin Malawi's responses to countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism. Together, these principles and factors serve to prioritise and evaluate national efforts against violent extremism and terrorism, optimising their effectiveness.

2. Rationale

The security and protection of Malawi's territorial sovereignty and citizens is the primary responsibility of the Government. The values and institutions of the State are key in building resilience of the nation against violent extremism and terrorism.

Building increased resilience in a manner appropriate and proportionate to the growing threat is a core underpinning principle of this instrument. The ultimate goal is to have a country free of all forms of domestic and foreign terrorist activities, maintain peace and stability while ensuring state security and development, in collaboration with national, regional and international partners. This instrument will facilitate appropriate prioritisation of countering terrorism and preventing extremism initiatives as an integral part of broader national security efforts, and support national, regional, and sub-regional strategic objectives in the fight against terrorism. The priority area include information sharing, communication, coordination, and cooperation mechanisms improvement, both internally within Malawi across national agencies and partners as well as with regional and international partners.

Furthermore, it is fully understood from what is known about the conditions conducive to violent extremism as well as combating terrorism that kinetic measures alone cannot fully address the

threat facing Malawi. Therefore, the national Strategies on Countering Terrorism and Preventing Violent Extremism reflect both hard (including kinetic) as well as soft measures. They must also remain flexible and responsive to the constantly evolving and changing threat and risk landscape, such as the nature and forms of violent extremism that may emerge from time to time which should determine the appropriate type and mix of measures, tools and programs that should be applied. Both Strategies reflect this inherent need for flexibility as the threat and accompanying factors evolve and change.

These Strategies should further assist in addressing serious challenges facing Malawi such as preventing the efforts of terrorists and extremists to operate across its porous borders. They are also important frameworks for coordinating efforts to tackle national security threats and crimes linked to the financing of terrorist activities, including money laundering, the trafficking of drug, humans, illicit arms and light weapons, cattle rustling, poaching and piracy. The commendable efforts to date to counter terrorism and prevent violent extremism, much as they cover important national defence and security areas, lack crucial and decisive features. They are not structured within a collective counter terrorism focussed framework driven by a sense of common purpose that allows for fully harmonised, specialised, holistic, synergetic, coordinated and complementary joint national effort.

Furthermore, traditional defence and security approaches were not necessarily fully informed by or intended to address different facets of Malawi's unique terrorist and violent extremist threats and vulnerabilities, nor were they designed to deal with the softer but equally essential elements of countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism. This is significant since the experience of those governments elsewhere who have sought to rely on traditional kinetic approaches in isolation have been that they are counterproductive in further marginalising communities since they are commonly perceived as overly-coercive. This makes them difficult to distinguish from the modus operandi of violent extremist groups who commonly use instability and the threat of extreme violence to provoke a response that they can use to build their own support.

3.   Linkages with Other Key Related Policies

In developing this instrument, reference has been made to Malawi's existing key related policies and strategies, notably Malawi 2063 Vision (MW2063) and its National Security Policy adopted in 2017. Key themes, underpinning principles, priority areas, implementation approaches have been reflected within the national Countering Terrorism and Preventing Violent Extremism have been carefully aligned to such existing national policies and strategies.

4.   Methodology

In developing this strategy, a desk review was conducted drawing upon existing good practices on the International and Regional organisations. A debt of gratitude is owed accompanied by deep appreciation of the availability of excellent pool of International and Regional organisations resources upon which to draw, which have been tailored towards Malawi's unique context regarding terrorism and violent extremism matters.

Specifically, the following International and sub-regional instruments have informed Malawi's

approaches as reflected in this instrument:

- UN Global Counter Terrorism Strategy
- SADC Regional Counter Terrorism Strategy;
- ECOWAS Political Declaration and Common Position against Terrorism: Counter-Terrorism Strategy;
- IGAD Regional Strategy for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism;

Furthermore, it should be reported that this instrument, including the development of its Strategies, has benefited from the resourcing, drafting assistance and other support of a multi-sectoral taskforce comprising the SADC Regional Counter Terrorism Center, the African Center for the Study and Research on Terrorism (ACSRT), and the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

This instrument together with its accompanying Strategies has been closely aligned to Malawi's constitutional, national, regional and international legal obligations to ensure that the rule of law, good governance, democratic values, respect for and protection of human rights remain front and centre at all times to their accompanying activities.

5. Inclusive Process

In developing this instrument, the Government is cognisant that to be effective, these Strategies require both a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach. This is essential for ensuring that the advice and opinions, together with the experience and expertise, of all key relevant stakeholders on terrorism and violent extremism issues adequately inform all aspects of the development and delivery of Malawi's national Strategies to ensure their coherence and comprehensiveness. Furthermore, the crucial role of Malawi's people, culture and diversity are considered to represent some of the nation's greatest assets against terrorism and violent extremism.

Consequently, this instrument was formulated through an inclusive process, drawing upon the inputs and support of governmental and non-governmental stakeholders drawn from core constituencies. The process involved several Expert Roundtables to progress and develop the draft Strategies followed by a period of wider consultation and engagement on their draft texts prior to their eventual finalisation and adoption. Specifically, three counter-terrorism regional consultation workshops took place between 20-24 February 2023 in Blantyre, Mangochi and Mzuzu with a cross-spectrum of stakeholders. Comments, concerns and recommendations made by these stakeholders are reflected within the Strategies. The Government is committed to coordinating its efforts to ensure effective implementation of this instrument through the core constituencies, including through partnering for safer and resilient communities.

A key guiding principle is that a whole-of-society must be built on mutual trust and confidence, accompanied by the sharing of solutions and building of networks and increased resilience for effectively combating terrorism as well as preventing and countering violent extremism. To facilitate this, available resources will be targeted to support a multi-stakeholder approach to the implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and so forth of both Strategies, such as through building capacity.

I. DECLARATION

1. PREAMBLE

Recognising the territorial integrity and sovereignty of all States;

Recognising that the prevention and combating of terrorism is central to protecting the well-being and security of populations while ensuring national, regional and international stability;

Reaffirming Malawi's unambiguous and unequivocal condemnation of terrorism, committed by whomever, whenever, wherever and for whatever purposes, and resolving to undertake necessary action to prevent and combat terrorism in all its forms and manifestations;

Recognising that linkages between terrorism, organised crime, money laundering, drug trafficking, trafficking in human beings and lack of rule of law make multi-faceted cooperation at the national, regional and international levels an imperative;

Recognising that the implementation of the United Nations (UN) Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, the Organisation of the African Unity (OAU) Convention on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism in Africa, and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Regional Counter Terrorism Strategy offer a unique opportunity to coordinate efforts and put direction on the many different initiatives of national, regional and international bodies engaged in counter-terrorism, forming strategic frameworks for enhance cooperation and coordination including among SADC countries;

Guided by the principles and recommendations of the UN Secretary General's Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism (2016);

Recognising further that the primary responsibility to implement these Strategies rests with Malawi at the national level as a Member State of the United Nations, the African Union (AU) and SADC, whilst also recognising that terrorism is a global threat and that no country or region can single-handedly prevail over this menace;

Aware of the need for increased engagement of national, regional and international organizations and partners through the utilisation of their mandates, experiences, programs, tools, and best practices to support the implementation of Malawi's national Countering Terrorism and Preventing / Countering Violent Extremism Strategies;

Aware that the regional structure, the SADC Region Counter Terrorism Centre, has already accumulated practical experiences that are useful in implementing the Joint Action Plan for the Implementation of the UN Global Counter Terrorism Strategy in Malawi;

Acknowledging other existing efforts of national, regional and international organisations, including in Southern Africa, on building capacity for the prevention and mitigation of the threat of terrorism;

Recognising that the four pillars approach of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, as reflected within the SADC Regional Counter Terrorism Strategy, is unique for its integrated, comprehensive and harmonised methodology. It recognises that in the fight against terrorism, enforcement strategies need to be combined with preventive ones that are based on the respect of human rights and on the understanding of conditions conducive to terrorism, be it ideological, socio economic, cultural or religious;

Recalling that we have become party to most International Conventions and Protocols against terrorism and are committed to implementing United Nations General Assembly and Security Council Resolutions together with AU and SADC decisions related to the prevention and combating of terrorism;

Reaffirming that in the fight against terrorism, enforcement measures need to be combined with additional responses which address conditions conducive to terrorism, including but not limited to the lack of the rule of law and violations of human rights, ethnic, national, religious and gender discrimination, and other political, ideological, socio-economic, or cultural issues;

Reaffirming further that all counter-terrorism measures must comply with our obligations under International Law, including the Charter of the United Nations and the AU Constitutive Act, African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights as well as relevant International Conventions and Protocols, in particular our obligations under international human rights law, refugee law and international humanitarian law in the context of armed conflict;

Recognising that respect for the rule of law, good governance, democratic values and human rights for all, including promoting and protecting the rights of suspects and victims, are essential components of any successful counter-terrorism and preventing / countering violent extremism strategy;

Reaffirming that terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality, race or ethnicity;

Recognising that the Media and the education system have a key role to play in promoting positive values that could counter violent extremist tendencies in Malawi, as well as in countering the narratives of extremists which can lead to radicalisation and / or other support for terrorism and violent extremism;

Expressing appreciation for the Expert Roundtables organised, as well as other forms of support given by, the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), SADC and the African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism (ACSRT), with active participation of other governmental and non-governmental stakeholders to ensure an inclusive process;

Hereby adopt this Declaration, together with its accompanying national Strategies for Countering Terrorism and Preventing Violent Extremism as comprehensive, integrated and operational frameworks for Malawi's national efforts.

2. CORE CONSTITUENCIES

There are many key stakeholders drawn from across Malawi's Government as well as its society who have a key role to play in successfully combating terrorism and preventing violent extremism. These include its Parliament with elected leaders, Government ministries, departments, military together with law enforcement and national intelligence agencies, in partnership with civil society, religious and ethnic groups, communities, women, youth, media and the private sector.

3. THREAT ANALYSIS

Terrorism remains a global phenomenon and is one of the most serious threats to national, regional and international peace and security, economic development and social integration. No country is immune to the threat of terrorism. Terrorism poses fundamental challenges to Malawi, the SADC region and the international community. It risks undermining core values of the constitution, the rule of law, respect for human rights, protection of civilians, tolerance among people and nations, and the peaceful resolution of conflict.

Modern terrorism is a complex and ever-changing phenomenon that poses a threat on multiple levels including physical violence and the exploitation of current and emerging technology such as the abuse of financial systems and the launch of cyber-attacks over sophisticated communication technologies on key infrastructure. Its motivations, financing and support mechanisms, methods of attack and choice of targets are constantly evolving, thus adding to the complexity of an effective strategy to counter it.

Developments such as globalisation, the rapid development and availability of new technologies, access to the internet, porous borders, illegal migration, and the proliferation of small arms and light weapons have created enabling environments for terrorist activities. There is also a possibility that certain groups may derive funding and support from like-minded individuals in the SADC region or abuse unwitting non-profit organisations.

In recent years, armed conflicts in Africa have increased and religiously affiliated armed groups have proliferated. Islamic fundamentalism coupled with violent extremism all punctuate the region's conflicted landscape. Despite the knowledge, that over the past three decades the SADC region has been relatively peaceful, the situation has drastically changed with undeniable evidence of the presence of violent extremist groups such as Al Sunnah Wa Jama'ah (or Al Shabaab) in Cabo Delgado, Mozambique, the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), and the proclamation of the Central Africa Province of the Islamic State clearly present serious threats to the security of the region.

Malawi just like any other country in the SADC Region is currently experiencing some elements of external and internal threats.

Externally, the military intervention in northern Mozambique, Cabo Delgado, by the SADC Mission in Mozambique (SAMIM) and Rwanda Forces has forced some individuals to either transit or seek refuge in Malawi. To this effect, the likelihood that some of these individuals could be connected to ASWJ cells in Mozambique then cannot be ruled out. The existence and the rise in transnational organised crimes involving drugs and narcotics trafficking, human trafficking, wildlife crimes, illegal mining and money laundering and irregular movement of individuals along Lake Malawi all points to vulnerabilities. Again, the presence of nationals from the terrorism prone areas such as the Middle East, Horn of Africa, North Africa, West Africa and the Great Lakes regions, heightens the threat, bearing in mind that some of these individuals could be hiding in the country as business investors or missionaries.

Much as the situation in Mozambique seems to have improved for the better, sporadic attacks against civilians continue to be registered in some parts of Cabo Delgado and other provinces in search of supplies, refuge and regrouping. It should be noted that these elements further put Malawi at risk considering the fact that it shares borders. Even though they are struggling to cross into other neighbouring countries, there is the possibility of crossing into Malawi either by lake or through the long un-manned border stretch.

Internally, there remains the risk of radicalisation of Malawi citizens towards violent extremism and terrorism, resulting in home-grown terrorist groups and so-called lone wolves who perpetrate domestic terrorism attacks and other crimes. Such individuals are often influenced by perceptions of marginalization, social and political exclusion.

Other individuals who are resident or nationals of Malawi may travel to a foreign State for the purpose of penetration, planning, or preparation of, or participation in, terrorist acts or the providing or receiving of terrorist training, including in connection with armed conflict. Fears exist that these foreign terrorists could return to Malawi and become directly involved in radicalisation efforts, active recruitment or the planning of terror attacks. Alternatively, foreigners may be trained and deployed by terrorist groups to embed themselves within Malawi as sleeper cells ready to be activated at short notice to carry out deadly terrorist attacks on Malawian territory. Such fears are not hypothetical but are already manifesting themselves in practice. Though still in their relative infancy stage, increasing activity by terrorist groups such as ISIS within Malawi indicate the increasing likelihood of terrorist attacks being perpetrated. It is therefore imperative that we act and respond to such threats clearly and robustly, enabled by the provisions of these Strategies on Countering Terrorism and Preventing / Countering Violent Extremism.

Since the terrorist threat landscape is not static rather constantly evolving, national periodic threat assessments will be conducted and the Strategies updated as appropriate during their periodic reviews.

4. RESPONSES TO DATE

In response to Malawi's threat landscape as well as its national, regional and international obligations, a number of activities have been taken to date. These have included the following:

Activities in promoting the implementation of the UN Global Counter Terrorism Strategy (Paragraph 93 of Resolution 75/291)

Malawi is in the process of domesticating the SADC Region Counter Terrorism Strategy which mirrors the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, and which forms the framework of Malawi's national Countering Terrorist Strategy as detailed later in this instrument. The instituted multi-sectoral taskforce created to develop the national Countering Terrorism and Preventing / Countering Violent Extremism Strategies will also factor in the creation and the setting up of Malawi's National Counter Terrorism Centre. The Center is envisioned to be their principal national coordinating and monitoring platform.

On legislation, it should be noted that the Malawi Government has made some strides to incorporate provisions of terrorism acts in the Penal Code. This is evident in the proposed Penal code amendment bill of 2022 (Amendment of Section 4 of Chapter 7:01) inserting in terrorism concept and its associated activities. Other than the Penal Code, Malawi also has the working Financial Crimes Act 2017 to address financial related crimes. The Financial Crimes Act clearly defines and criminalises terrorist financing. It also provides for commensurate dissuasive sanctions under Section 44 of the Act. The Country too has a National Security Policy in place.

Considering the growing level of the threat in the region, at national and regional levels, Malawi has further taken other interventions to monitor and respond to the threat such as:

    i.   Enhancement of border security by conducting sensitisation programs among communities living along the borderline;

    ii.   Initiation of poverty reduction programs to address social and economic marginalization; thus, giving loans to the youths, establishment of technical colleges across the country and increased internships for college graduates;

    iii.   Creation of a new Ministry called, Ministry of Civic Education and National Unity, to spearhead conflict resolution mechanisms in all spectrums;

    iv.   Intensified joint patrols and intelligence gathering operations;

    v.   Regularisation of mining industry to which the Reserve Bank of Malawi is buying gold from small scale miners;

    vi.   Continued holding of Joint Permanent Commission on Defence and Security (JPCDs) with Mozambique and other neighbouring countries to enhance information sharing.

Enhancing the integration of human rights, rule of law, and gender in countering terrorism (Paragraph 86 of resolution 75/291)

Existing institutional policies and practices to integrate human rights, the rule of law and gender

Malawi facilitates the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, as well as due process and the rule of law, while countering the threat of terrorism, and continues to observe the laid principles of international law, including international human rights law, as well as of international refugee law and international humanitarian law. The Nation ensures that measures taken to prevent and counter terrorism and violent extremism are non-discriminatory, and not to resort to profiling based on any discriminatory ground prohibited by international law.

Good practices in mainstreaming human rights, the rule of law and gender

Malawi respects and protects the right to privacy, as set out in article 12 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights 1948 and article 17 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights 1966. This includes in the context of digital communication, also while countering terrorism, in accordance with international law, in particular international human rights law. It further includes taking measures to ensure that interferences with or restrictions on that right are not arbitrary or unlawful and are subject to effective oversight and to appropriate redress, including through judicial review or other legal means.

The Country understands the importance of multi-lateral efforts in combating terrorism and preventing / countering violent extremism together with refraining from any practices and measures inconsistent with international law and the principles of the Charter of the United Nations. As such, Malawi stresses the importance of developing and maintaining effective, fair, humane, transparent and accountable criminal justice systems that provides fair trial and guarantees access to justice and accountability in accordance with the national law.

The Government prioritises the budgetary support to institutions charged with the roles of enforcement of these laws in order to strengthen and enhance coordination mechanisms and efficiency. Such institutions include the Human Rights Commission, the Office of the Ombudsman, the Malawi Law Commission, and the Anti-Corruption Bureau among others.

Just like other Member States, weak coordination and monitoring mechanisms, data management, impunity, capacity deficits, knowledge gap to the citizenry and inadequate resources are some of the challenges that Malawi is faced with in an effort to mainstream human rights, the rule of law and gender in the fight against the threat of terrorism.

Malawi understands that the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact is the largest coordination framework across the three pillars of work of the UN: peace and security, sustainable development, human rights and humanitarian affairs. It appreciates its core objective of strengthening a common UN action approach to support Member States, at their request, in the balanced implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and other relevant UN resolutions and mandates. From its inception, the launching of the Compact has remained a major step forward in enhancing the coordination and coherence in the work of the UN system on preventing and countering terrorism and violent extremism and the underlying spread of violent extremism, while respecting existing mandates.

Adoption of Malawi's National Countering Terrorism and Preventing Violent Extremism Strategies

The development and adoption of Malawi's first national Countering Terrorism and Preventing Violent Extremism Strategies through a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach represent a significant step forward in terms of ensuring more comprehensive, coherent and joined-up national responses.

Though closely related, Malawi has adopted two separate, complementary Strategies, recognising that terrorism and violent extremism require drawing a clear line between what the phenomena mean and responses to them, including a division between 'hard' and 'soft' responses.

Counter-terrorism by nature involves 'hard' security measures: military, law-enforcement or policing resources, covert responses that involve force, and the criminal justice system.

In contrast, approaches to radicalisation and preventing / countering violent extremism typically involve 'soft' measures, relying upon non-coercive politics, actions and programs (e.g. social, economic, political, religious, ethnic, gender) that seek to identify and address the underlying causes of violent extremism. There is often a risk reduction aspect to this which seeks to mitigate the threat from any sections of populations already engaged in violent extremism to ensure that militants do not cause harm. Risk reduction measures are increasingly focusing on research, diagnosis, and recommending innovative ways to identify and secure individuals, groups or communities at risk of radicalisation.

5. NATIONAL PRIORITIES

Counter-terrorism and preventing / countering violent extremism cut across a number of Malawi's priority national security strategy areas. As such, the provisions of this instrument should be interpreted and implemented in a manner which is consistent with and mutually reinforcing of the National Security Policy and Malawi 2063 Vision.

A number of national priorities for Malawi have been identified. These include:

- In order to prevent tensions that could lead to conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism, the Country should intensify efforts to resolve conflicts that may arise due to economic or political issues, such as water / energy crises, illegal migration, illegal mining, wildlife crimes, money laundering, inter-ethnic conflicts, and proliferation of small and light weapons;

- As instability in Cabo Delgado, Mozambique, presents a threat to the spread of terrorism in the SADC Region, efforts must intensify towards political and economic solutions. Cooperation among States and Mozambique should be supported and coordinated in the framework of regional and international organisations in the areas of cross-border projects, capacity building, information sharing, exchanges of best practices, and joint training and exercises;

- Common efforts and joint initiatives involving security services, law enforcement agencies and border management need to be strengthened;

- A more effective border management system, including coordinated initiatives towards enhanced border control and verification of identification documents, is needed for border security;

- Systematic exchange of information is necessary among SADC countries on the sources of terrorism, on its linkages with organised crime, and on early warning methodologies for its prevention;

- National development strategies of Malawi should specifically target the youth, the women, returning migrants and other vulnerable populations in initiatives for education, sustainable human development, social justice and social inclusion in order to reduce their marginalisation, which makes them vulnerable to violent extremism and recruitment by terrorists;

- There is urgent need to hasten the development of a National Counter Terrorism Centre with explicit linkages to eradicate conditions that lead to the spread of terrorism;

- The roles, responsibilities and capacities of civil society need to be enhanced for creating conditions that counter the spread of terrorism. They should be guarded against illicit and violent propaganda that can incite hatred in the region;

- Government should respect the right to freedom of religion or belief of all individuals and religious communities, particularly when adopting specific legislation and policies to counter terrorism and prevent / counter violent extremism;

- The institutionalisation of inter-faith, intra-religious and intra-ethnic dialogue needs to be supported and capacities of existing institutions strengthened;

- The capacity of Imams needs to be strengthened through specialised training courses, enhanced regional or national religious institutions / theological centers and exchanges with other Muslim countries, so that they can help educate believers in Malawi in distinguishing between traditional Islamic teachings and values and radical and extremist misinformation;

- The Media must be cultivated to serve as a platform for free expression which can foster values for human rights, tolerance and anti-discrimination and disseminate information on conditions conducive to triggering conflict and the spread of terrorism;

- Respect for all human rights and the rule of law as the fundamental basis of the fight against terrorism and violent extremism must be explicitly stated in related legislation and Strategies;

- Access to justice and criminal justice procedures, especially those applied to terrorist offences and related crimes, need to be further strengthened to comply with international human rights standards;

- Counter-terrorism measures must fully comply with international refugee law, the 1951 Convention, relating to the Status of Refugees, and must not compromise refugee protection principles or erode the institution of asylum;

- Systems of assistance need to be developed at the national and regional levels to address the needs of victims of terrorism, including the respect of victims' right to truth, justice and reparation;

- In order to ensure transparency and accountability, the national Strategies on countering terrorism and preventing / countering violent extremism should be subject to opportunity for public discussion and input.

6. OVERALL STRATEGIC VISION AND PURPOSE

The overarching strategic vision and purpose of this instrument with its accompanying Strategies is to preserve the environment of peace, security and stability. This will not only ensure the wellbeing of all citizens, but also allow Malawi to pursue its national and regional efforts on socio-economic transformation and long-term development especially with other SADC Member States by putting in place a coherent, comprehensive frameworks for action that will prevent or at least hinder terrorism and related scourges from spilling over into Malawi as well as the wider region. In this context, this instrument contributes to the larger vision of a stable, free and prosperous Malawi as well as region.

Prevailing over terrorism and violent extremism requires the adoption of robust counter-terrorism and preventing / countering violent extremism frameworks with multi-faceted and multi-pronged policy approaches. These are important for holistically and effectively providing Malawi with harmonised procedures and mechanisms that will enable it to timely detect and effectively address any political, social and economic factors that are likely to lead to violent extremism and recurrent insecurity and instability. Furthermore, it will enable Malawi to better protect its population, private and public property, and the environment against impending terrorist attacks and related scourges.

Further, Strategy-specific, objectives are stated within each the Countering Terrorism and Preventing / Countering Violent Extremism Strategies.

7. CORE VALUES AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

This instrument, including the national Countering Terrorism and Preventing / Countering Violent Extremism Strategies, is underpinned by fundamental guiding principles closely aligned to Malawi's National Security Policy and Malawi 2063 Vision. Other important values and principles are articulated too which clearly separate Malawi and its law-abiding citizens from those who would use criminal violence against us and others.

The core values and guiding principles are as follows:

Protecting and furthering national interests: Notable here are those priority areas detailed in the National Security Policy and Malawi 2063 Vision of especial potential relevance to terrorist crimes and violent extremism. Broadly speaking, these are concerned with protecting Malawi's:

i.   National sovereignty, territory integrity and integrity of State data, information and communication systems including through effective intelligence management;

ii.   Public security and safety, including through a strong justice system that adheres to constitutionalism and the rule of law;

iii.   Societal security, namely the preservation of national unity, peace, stability, harmony and order, and reconciliation founded upon democracy, rule of law and justice for all;

iv.   Effective governance systems and institutions, ensuring strict adherence to the rule of law;

v.   Human security, namely survival, quality of life, social cohesion and privacy of individuals;

vi.   Economic security, ensuring self-sufficiency, competitiveness, privacy and confidentiality of private organisations;

vii.   Energy, maritime security and safety, protecting and ensuring the sustainability of these critical resources and installations; and

viii.   Cyber security, ensuring economic security, fiscal stability and sound governance.

Sub-regional, regional and global security: It is important to ensure that Malawi's national Strategies contribute positively towards ensuring sub-regional, regional and global security, and that peaceful co-existence is maintained with other States;

Prevention: Prevention of terrorism and violent extremism are the surest ways to identify and mitigate Malawi's potential vulnerabilities, pre-empt threats, and build increased resilience to them;

All-inclusive approach: It is essential to adopt a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach to the threats and challenges posed by, as well as responses to, terrorism and violent extremism. This includes the importance of establishing partnerships between Government and all key stakeholders such as the private sector, civil society, communities, religious and traditional leaders, youth and women, enabling a bottom-up / grass roots approach to combat terrorism and to prevent and counter violent extremism;

Cooperation and collaboration: Government cannot defend terrorism on its own. Cooperation and collaboration between and among State agencies, civil society and social groups at home as well as with foreign partners both regionally and bilaterally, are crucial for the successful implementation of

this framework. This requires striking an appropriate balance between openness and confidentiality to build trust whilst protecting legitimate security interests;

Respect for, and compliance with, international law: This includes regional and international treaties, both anti-terrorism and human rights related;

Human rights, the rule of law and democratic values: Counter-terrorism and preventing / countering violent extremism efforts can only be effective if they are anchored in and adhere to the principles of the rule of law and respect for human rights and dignity whilst upholding Malawi's democratic values. They are not in conflict with, rather are complementary and mutually reinforcing of, the Strategies and their primary goals.

Accountability: There must be appropriate levels of scrutiny and accountability for any human rights violations or other unlawful actions taken in the context of terrorism and preventing / countering terrorism, with adequate measures in place to prevent impunity.

Good governance and social cohesion: Successful implementation of the Strategies requires the promotion of good governance, social cohesion, and active citizen participation;

Tolerance, dialogue, mutual respect and non-discrimination: It is crucial to recognise and respect diversity, equity, tolerance, peace and equality; and reject violence as an instrument for redressing identity, socio-economic, ideological or political grievances;

Do no harm: No counter-terrorism or preventing / countering violent extremism mechanism or initiative should aggravate matters, such as exacerbating radicalisation or aiding terrorism in any way. This principle should be built explicitly into all program concepts, monitoring, evaluation and reporting of local and national programs;

Effective security apparatus: This necessitates ongoing efforts to professionalise security agents, improve inter-agency coordination and regulation, safeguard the independence of security agencies, and ensure civil control of the military;

Building increased capacity: This is required across governmental and non-governmental stakeholders, unpinned by adequate resourcing. Priority areas include resource mobilisation and allocation, research and development, education and training.

8. MEASURES TO PROGRESS PRIORITY AREAS

Malawi's measures to progress its strategic goals and priority areas as articulated in this instrument – both countering terrorism and preventing / countering violent extremism - are aligned to the four pillars of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, as incorporated in the SADC Regional Counter-Terrorism Strategy. A brief explanation of the focus of each pillar is given here.

8.1 PILLAR I: ADDRESSING THE CONDITIONS CONDUCIVE TO THE SPREAD OF TERRORISM

This pillar focuses on undertaking a range of measures aimed at addressing the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism, including but not limited to prolonged unresolved conflicts, dehumanisation of victims of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, lack of the rule of law and violations of human rights, ethnic, national and religious discrimination, political exclusion, socio-economic marginalisation and lack of good governance, while recognising that none of these conditions can excuse or justify acts of terrorism.

8.2 PILLAR II: MEASURES TO PREVENT AND COMBAT TERRORISM

This pillar is concerned with progressing measures to prevent and combat terrorism, in particular by denying terrorists access to the means to carry out their attacks, to their targets and to the desired impact of their attacks.

8.3 PILLAR III: BUILDING CAPACITY TO PREVENT AND COMBAT TERRORISM

This pillar recognises that capacity-building in all States is a core element of the global counter-terrorism effort. It encourages States to undertake measures designed to develop and augment national State capacity to prevent and combat terrorism and enhance coordination and coherence within the United Nations system in promoting international cooperation in countering terrorism, as well as at the national level.

8.4 PILLAR IV: MEASURES TO ENSURE RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS FOR ALL AND RULE OF LAW IN THE FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM

This pillar focuses on ensuring that measures progressed reaffirm that the promotion and protection of human rights for all and the rule of law is essential to all components of the Strategy, recognising that effective counter-terrorism measures and the protection of human rights are not conflicting goals, but complementary and mutually reinforcing, and stressing the need to promote and protect the rights of victims of terrorism.

9. IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

This instrument was developed through a consultative, multi-stakeholder, whole-of-government and whole-of-society process. It is important to its overall success that this approach is sustained throughout the implementation of the national Strategies. This includes putting in place a clear coordination mechanism, roles and responsibilities that achieve key priorities within defined timelines as well as a well-coordinated, joined-up approach. Research, measurement, and consistent program development should be undertaken at intervals for effective delivery of set objectives.

Additionally, more detailed implementation plans (national and local levels) should be put in place, specifying such practical modalities for action as:

    i.   Governance;

ii.   Priority components, including low hanging fruits with the potential for quick results, impact and innovation;

iii.   Key mechanisms including coordination, monitoring and strategic communications, which it is envisioned will be delivered through the platform of a National Counter-Terrorism Centre;

iv.   Oversight and accountability;

v.   Budgeting and funding;

vi.   Roles and responsibilities / structures;

vii.   Expectations and timelines;

viii.   Measuring progress/ impact;

ix.   Strategic implementation matrix;

x.   Implementation risks.

10. MONITORING AND EVALUATION ARRANGEMENTS

Targeted priorities. No government has the capacity, including the necessary financial resources, to address the multiple and often complex issues related to combating terrorism and preventing / countering violent extremism all at once. This is equally true of Malawi where all expenditure must be targeted and its impact maximised including through the articulation of clear priorities which are kept under review.

Monitoring and evaluation form a crucial element of the national Strategies and their implementation. Periodic assessment of impact of programs and initiatives delivered under them should be carried out using appropriate mechanisms, such as suitable metrics. Both Strategies should also be reviewed periodically, normally every three years or so. This is important since the phenomena of terrorism and violent extremism and their accompanying threat and risk landscape are never static rather constantly evolving. There are other associated benefits of routine, robust monitoring and evaluation processes, especially where outcomes are made public. These include winning and maintaining public trust and support through increased transparency; helping people to feel more empowered, safer and more secure as well as informed; and improving the environment for investment which can assist in tackling root causes which inspire and fuel terrorism and violent extremism. Consequently, revisions to and recalibration of the Strategies and / or their action plans should be made as is necessary to ensure they remain up-to-date and fit for purpose.

Evidence-based decision-making. It is essential to take a proactive and empirical approach to how countering terrorism and violent extremism efforts are measured and demonstrated from the beginning all the way through to the end of any programs or projects undertaken (with each element

having its own bespoke approach). Factual data and verifiable observation, together with ongoing research, are essential to ensure better informed, rigorous and evidence-based decision-making. A range of suitable tools should also be used to gather qualitative and quantitative data. Monitoring and evaluation are also important to ensure accountability, enhance the effectiveness of future efforts, and make informed decisions about to whom to allocate precious resources. Ultimately, all involved stakeholders are mutually accountable for the effective implementation of the national Strategies together with their outcomes.

Strategic communications lie at the heart of national implementation efforts. A competent team of experts is required to produce regular briefings and ensure that thoughtful messaging is appropriately disseminated in a timely manner by messengers credible to the intended recipients. This should utilise a range of platforms that harness a wide spectrum of media, ranging from digital, print, radio, and television as well as the use of more traditional locally generated outreach in schools, mosques and in other community fora.

II.   NATIONAL COUNTERING TERRORISM STRATEGY

1.   DEFINITION OF TERRORISM

There is no universally accepted definition of the concept of terrorism, though some international instruments, such as UN Security Council Resolution 1373 (2001) and the 1999 OAU Convention on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism in Africa, do include definitions as to what constitute 'terrorist' acts and crimes.

For the purposes of this national Countering Terrorism Strategy, the definition of terrorism is that reflected within Malawi's national anti-terrorism legislation, as it may be amended from time to time. At the time of adoption of this Strategy, 'terrorism' is defined as:

- Any act which is in violation of the criminal laws of a State party and which may endanger the life, physical integrity or freedom of, or cause serious injury or death to, any person, any number or group of persons or causes or may cause damage to public or private property, natural resources, environmental or cultural heritage and is calculated or intended to:-

    o   Coerce or induce any government, body, institution, the general public or any segment thereof, to do or abstain from doing any act, or adopt or abandon a particular standpoint, or to act according to certain principles; or,

    o   Disrupt any public service, the delivery of any essential service to the public or to create a public emergency; or,

    o   Create general insurrection in a State.

Any promotion, sponsoring, contribution to, command, aid, incitement, encouragement, attempt, threat, conspiracy, organizing, or procurement of any person, with the intent to commit any act referred to above.

2.   SPECIFIC COUNTERING TERRORISM STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

There are a number of specific countering terrorism strategic objectives.

One is to enhance Malawi's overall national capacity guided especially by the UN Global Counter Terrorism Strategy, the OAU Convention on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism and SADC Counter Terrorism Strategy, taking into account Malawi's specific terrorism threat conditions and realities. The accompanying Strategies provide Malawi with a comprehensive framework for collective and coordinated action in the prevention and combating of terrorism and related scourges, in compliance with its obligations under International Law. These obligations include the Charter of the United Nations and the AU Constitutive Act, African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights as well as relevant International Conventions and Protocols including on anti-terrorism and protecting human rights.

A number of priority national capacity gaps exist, notably the absence of strong legislation, human, technical and financial capabilities as well as weak institutions and structures for sharing information and intelligence. There are also significant knowledge and research gaps which impede the ability of key stakeholders to make fully informed decisions which are data informed and evidence led. It is essential for all decision and policy making to be fully informed, drawing effectively upon collective knowledge, research, experiences, comparative cases and good practices from all relevant stakeholders, nationally, regionally and internationally. This includes on such issues as better understanding the drivers of violent extremism, mobilising effective interventions and informing evidence-driven policy, decision-making and collective actions by relevant stakeholders to counter messages, ideologies, strategies and tactics of extremists.

Closely linked to capacity building is the strategic objective of facilitating and strengthening coordination across all key stakeholders. Malawi's national Strategies are intended to provide the requisite frameworks for coordinating the responses of Government, communities, and organisations including in their efforts to detect, deter and defeat terrorist and violent extremist groups. Important here will be the creation and use of diverse platforms and mechanisms for proactive and effective national and regional engagement, coordination and collaboration in the prevention and fight against terrorism, both whole-of-government as well as whole-of-society. More specifically, the Strategies are intended to help address serious challenges aiding the efforts of violent extremists to operate across territorial borders such as migration of populations, the plight of refugees in overcrowded camps, porous borders, and weak governance of sparsely populated spaces. They will further provide ideal mechanisms for coordinating efforts to tackle national security threats and crimes linked to the financing of terrorist activities, including money laundering, the trafficking of drug, humans, illicit arms and light weapons, cattle rustling, poaching and piracy.

Central to the Strategies' overall impact will be the forging of strong, strategic partnerships especially at the national level to mobilise financial support for development and socio-economic initiatives designed to address specific political or social and economic grievances and to empower at-risk communities to reject radicalisation and recruitment to violence. Any suspicion or weak partnerships between Government and non-state actors (civil society, the private sector and faith-based organisations and communities) can have the effect of undermining collaborative action and counter- narratives to effectively combat terrorism and prevent and counter the growth of radical ideologies. The proactive help of all stakeholders is essential to emphatically and continuously reject violent extremist ideologies and aims to shrink the potential pool of individuals whom terrorist groups can radicalise and recruit. The Strategy on Preventing / Countering Violent Extremism especially is intended to assist in addressing the potential spectrum of vulnerabilities or drivers of violent extremism which may exist across Malawi that enables the ideologies and agendas of violent extremists to take root. These include the presence of a large army of unemployed youth, widespread poverty, illiteracy, instability, human rights violations and weak rule of law, which can fuel perceptions of social exclusion.

Finally, this instrument is intended to provide clear mechanisms to measure progress and regularly recalibrate our national Strategies. This is important to ensure that their implementation is strategic, cohesive, sustainable, effective and consistently fit for purpose, making revisions as is appropriate. Furthermore, to ensure that all investment of resources is well targeted to ensure optimum benefits.

3. MEASURES TO PROGRESS PRIORITY AREAS

Malawi's approach to countering terrorism and preventing / countering violent extremism is aligned to the four Pillars of the UN Global Counter Terrorism Strategy as is embedded also within the SADC Regional Counter Terrorism Strategy. The content of these Pillars in both instruments comprises both countering terrorism and preventing / countering violent extremism elements. These have been assigned, as appropriate, to the relevant national Strategy, augmented where relevant by further measures specific to Malawi.

3.1 PILLAR I: ADDRESSING THE CONDITIONS CONDUCIVE TO THE SPREAD OF TERRORISM

Conflict prevention and resolution

- Every effort should be made to prevent and resolve any existing or potential tensions or conflict which could create or fuel conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism. Such efforts should not be limited to economic or political issues, rather should extend to other potential sources of tension such as water / energy crises, illegal migration, illegal mining, wildlife crimes, money laundering, inter-ethnic conflicts, and proliferation of small and light weapons.

- Specifically, Malawi's Peace and Unity Act provides the national mechanisms for fostering peace and unity, namely through the establishment of the Malawi Peace and Unity Commission and the District Peace and Unity Committees. These are national structures for conflict prevention, management, and resolution. Their overall objective is peace building.

Awareness raising, education and reporting

- Raise the awareness of the public, especially within communities, on the dangers that terrorism and violent extremism pose to Malawi, with efforts being prioritised in areas where terrorists are already present and active such as where sleeper cells have been identified;

- Learn as appropriate from other successful awareness campaigns, including through effective multi-stakeholder engagement;

- Ensure that awareness campaigns are available in as many of the languages used within Malawi as is possible;

- Educate the public across the Country on how to identify and report activities of persons who may pose a national security threat, such as suspicious behaviour;

- Ensure that effective reporting structures and mechanisms are developed and implemented, especially at the local levels;

- Explore the establishment of a phone toll-free line to report terrorism related suspicions and concerns;

- Develop and, where necessary, enhance counter-terrorism curricula for schools and universities to promote awareness of terrorism and counter-terrorism measures;

- Establish and encourage public awareness and education involving all sectors of society to promote a culture of peace, justice, human development and religious tolerance. The fight against terrorism should not be viewed as a responsibility of State agencies alone but must involve all members of the community and other stakeholders to be a whole-of-society approach;

- Mainstream the participation of civil society organisations in the planning and execution of anti-terrorism programs.

Promoting increased dialogue, tolerance and understanding

- Promote dialogue, tolerance and understanding among civilisations, cultures, peoples and religions, and promote mutual respect for religions, notably that terrorist ideology can be inspired by multiple religious and non-religious factors rather than being associated with any single religion;

- Create and strengthen existing institutions and mechanisms to enable such dialogue and outreach activities, including inter-faith, inter-religious and intra-ethnic related;

- Implement a zero-tolerance policy against racism and other forms of discrimination including those based on ethnicity, gender or religion;

- Avoid counter-terrorism measures that risk profiling or targeting specific groups or communities;

- Adopt measures aimed at reconciling communities, particularly in the aftermath of a terrorist incident, by promoting dialogue and emphasizing the individuality of terrorists.

Adopting and implementing legal measures

- Adopt and implement such measures as may be necessary and appropriate and in accordance with Malawi's respective obligations under international law to prohibit by law incitement to commit a terrorist act/s and to prevent such conduct, while also respecting the rights to freedom of thought and expression;

- Take all necessary measures to ensure respect for human rights, including the right to freedom of religion or belief of all individuals and religious communities, particularly when adopting specific legislation and policies to counter terrorism;

National Strategy for Countering Terrorism and Preventing Violent Extremism

- Enhance cooperation and assistance in the rule of law, human rights and good governance on terrorism related matters.

3.2 PILLAR II: MEASURES TO PREVENT AND COMBAT TERRORISM

Sign, ratify and/or accede to and effectively implement applicable legal instruments

- Become party to all relevant UN, AU, SADC and other universal conventions and protocols against terrorism;

- Take all necessary legislative, executive and judicial measures to fully domesticate and enforce the provisions of the abovementioned instruments;

- Enact and strengthen Malawi's national counter-terrorism legal framework and other obligations, including under international law;

- Ensure compliance at all times to international law particularly international human rights law, international refugee law and international humanitarian law of Malawi's counter-terrorism efforts.

Build and enhance capacity and coordination

- Build capacity to effectively deny terrorists the support, resources and means to organize themselves or to plan and carry out terrorist attacks;

- Enhance Malawi's capacity to identify, monitor, pursue, investigate terrorist suspects, intercept and disrupt terrorist planning and terrorist networks and activities, apprehend all persons who commit terrorist acts and their facilitators and bring them to justice;

- Improve coordination and cooperation, both internally and with other SADC Member States especially, to ensure effective and efficient border management in Malawi;

- Invest in mechanisms that will strengthen Malawi's border security, focusing particularly on unapproved routes;

- Establish a National Counter Terrorism Centre;

- Enhance the roles, responsibilities and capacities of civil society to support governmental countering terrorism and violent extremism efforts, notably in the priority area of creating conditions that counter the spread of terrorism such as illicit and violent propaganda seeking to incite hatred;

- Strengthen the capacity of religious leaders through specialised training courses, enhanced regional or national religious institutions / theological centers, especially with Muslim

countries, so that they can help educate believers in Malawi to distinguish between traditional Islamic teachings and values and radical and extremist misinformation.

Enhance early warning intelligence/information management and dissemination

- Invest in mechanisms that will strengthen Malawi's operational intelligence and information gathering, sharing and analysis capacity and capability to anticipate, detect and disrupt terrorist activities;

- Leverage new technologies to ensure that information is available to decision makers in a timely manner, where necessary upgrading infrastructure which provides the tools required by front line personnel and others to share classified information in a timely, effective manner;

- Enhance early warning mechanisms, such as the identification of extremists / terrorists, terrorist organisations and their supporters, their capabilities and nature of their plans, as well as the changing threat environment;

- Enhance Malawi's rapid response mechanisms to respond to terrorist threats based on early warning signs and information;

- Enhance operational coordination and collaboration between relevant agencies – including intelligence, law enforcement, prison authorities, border management and the military – at both the national and regional levels. This should aim especially to improve the coordination of information sharing, technical assistance and activities involved in the collection of information, investigation of, first response to and prosecution of terrorism related criminal acts, as well as to regularise the sharing of such information;

- Encourage measures, in initiating institutionalised mechanisms for sharing of best practices to enhance, as appropriate, more frequent exchanges of information on cooperation and technical assistance among key national agencies and other stakeholders dealing with counter-terrorism;

- Support regional initiatives aimed at strengthening the systematic exchange of information among SADC countries on the sources of terrorism, on its linkages with organised crime, and on early warning methodologies for its prevention;

- Improve border security by enhancing the effectiveness of border management systems, including coordinated initiatives towards enhanced border control and verification of identification documents.

Law enforcement / criminal justice

- Take all necessary measures, in an appropriate, proportionate and lawful way, to mitigate potential terrorism related vulnerabilities including prosecuting individuals involved in terrorist related criminal activities;

- Take immediate actions in the aftermath of a terrorist attack to reassure the people that the Government is in control of the situation, including keeping people well informed about measures being taken such as the investigation and prosecution of suspects;

- Put in place the necessary legal instruments and processes required to ensure fair prosecution of terrorism cases should a terrorist attack or other terrorist crimes occur in Malawi.

Suppress and criminalise the financing of terrorism and associated money laundering

- Fully enact within national law the UN Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism (1999) and all relevant UN resolutions, including Security Council resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1373 (2001) and other international instruments relating to money laundering and counterfeiting;

- Enact and implement all other necessary legislation criminalising the financing of terrorism and money, including their incitement, abetment, support, solicitation and other wilful activities that facilitate terrorists' acquisition of funds directly or indirectly, including the provisions of Section 42 of the Financial Crimes Act 2017. Legislation should include appropriate penalties for those who commit offences articulated under the law;

- Suppress the financing of terrorism by freezing all terrorist funds and other assets / economic activities and resources. It will enforce strict regulations on financial and non-financial institutions, including money transfers, to ensure that such transactions and funds do not support terrorism, whether directly or indirectly;

- Strengthen financial intelligence surveillance to detect illegal transactions that may be directed at terrorist funding;

- Ensure that central banks and commercial banks and other financial institutions, including both formal and informal institutions, take stringent measures to ascertain the identities of their clients, and report irregular activities and irregular financial transaction patterns;

- Strengthen regulations for money value transfer and make registration, licensing and reporting compulsory for all money transfer services;

- Harmonise all financial Regulations to facilitate inter-state cooperation, including those relating to wire transfers and remittances, and formal and informal activities of non-profit or charity groups / organisations as well as those of cash couriers, to ensure that they are not exploited by terrorist and other criminal groups;

- Refrain and prohibit nationals or those residing in Malawi from providing any form of financial support, active or passive, to entities, persons or organisations involved in terrorist and other criminal and clandestine acts, including by suppressing recruitment of members of terrorist groups or the payment of ransom to such criminal Groups;

- Ensure that appropriate safeguards are put in place which prevent civil society and religious organisations from being misused as conduits for terrorist activities, especially terrorist financing;

- Put in place policies and mechanisms tackling illegal mining and forestry activities which may also facilitate terrorist activities including their financing.

Deny terrorists the means, space and technical capacity to carry out operations

- Continue to implement and adhere to all domestic as well as the International Civil Aviation Organization standard and practices to forestall any terrorist related activities;

- Scrupulously implement all relevant instruments and decisions adopted by regional and international policy organs, including the existing UN, AU, SADC and international legal instruments on the prevention and combating of the illicit manufacture and development, acquisition or possession, proliferation, circulation, transfer, accumulation or stockpiling and use of small arms and light weapons and weapons of mass destruction, including biological, chemical, nuclear and radiological weapons;

- Strictly prohibit and criminalise under national law with severe penalties offences related to the possession of and trade in arms and explosive materials in order to deny terrorists access to such weapons;

- Deny terrorists access to explosive materials, including commercial explosives such as TNT and dynamite, by enforcing stringent regulations and international standards, including requirements for inventory, marking of explosives and end-user reporting in order to prevent the illicit transfer and misuse of explosive materials;

- Adopt and enforce stringent regulations on the control of the transfer and circulation of small arms and light weapons. Such measures should include compulsory identification and declaration at various levels of transfer and end user. Of particular importance is the need for Malawi to regulate and monitor the production, stockpiling, possession and acquisition of and access to weapons and explosives, particularly their transfer to non-state end users. States should enforce stringent control measures such as inventory, licensing of dealers, record-keeping of sales and purchases, and a ban on all transfers of MANPADS;

- Cooperate with relevant regional and international institutions that provide expertise and technical assistance on such matters, such as IAEA, UNODC, UN PoA, CTC, CTED, Security Council Resolution 1540 Committee, OPCW, the Biological BWC Panel and CTBO, and civil society and media Organisations;

- Ensure maximum security and compliance with international safety standards for nuclear energy installations, including the transfer of sensitive facilities, technology and material (such as uranium) that can be used for or in nuclear weapons or other explosive devices, and ensure that any enrichment facility or enrichment technology is designed or operated in accordance with internationally approved standards;

- Enforce a strict ban on the unlawful possession, transfer and trade in uranium and other materials that may be diverted towards the production of explosives or their precursors;

- Enhance border control, including joint surveillance and other common border security measures;

- Develop the capacity to enforce cyber security, including the ability to detect, monitor and intercept terrorist activities through the use of the internet and other forms of wireless and electronic Communication;

- Prohibit and criminalise the use of Malawi's territory, including air, land and maritime spaces, for planning, recruiting, financing and supporting the commission of terrorist acts against their people or against other states.

Strengthen cooperation with civil society and media organisations on the prevention and combating of terrorism

- Develop a plan and mechanisms on how various stakeholders may best engage and work with the Media so it can play a productive role in reporting terrorist incidents. This includes in a manner that focuses on the plight of victims and the criminal nature of the attacks, in a manner eliminating any potential sympathy for or empathy with terrorist actors;

- Provide regular information to the Media and civil society on the national Countering Terrorism Strategy, supported by advice how best to promulgate this to the public including any priority groups;

- Develop good relationships and understanding between government departments, the Media and civil society which enable the Government through effective public messaging to demonstrate its sound leadership of terrorism related issues in Malawi to reassure the public;

- Cultivate the Media to serve as a platform for free expression which can foster values for human rights, tolerance and anti-discrimination and disseminate information on conditions conducive to triggering conflict and the spread of terrorism;

- Implement measures which sensitise Media houses and journalists especially to terrorist communication strategies to prevent them from unintentionally facilitating terrorist activities.

3.3 PILLAR III: BUILDING CAPACITY TO PREVENT AND COMBAT TERRORISM

Gap analysis and capacity building

- Identify gaps and needs in Malawi's capacity to prevent and combat terrorism informed by established and recognised criteria by international and regional organisations;

- Strengthen the capacity of existing institutions and agencies based on identified gaps and priority needs especially in the fields of law enforcement, border security management, criminal justice systems, DICTS, human rights, transport security, cybercrime, money laundering and the financing of terrorism, the ability to respond to terrorist attacks and measures to address the risk of proliferation and use of weapons of mass destruction and related activities including the criminalisation of related activities;

- Allocate substantial resources, including personnel, materials and equipment, for building Malawi's capacity to prevent and combat terrorism;

- Put in place a capacity-building program against terrorism in order to effectively coordinate, harmonise and implement counter-terrorism training programs for both civilian and military personnel;

- Develop specialised training courses on counter-terrorism matters, including intelligence gathering and sharing, investigation, prosecution and extradition, recognition of the most common weapons and explosives used by terrorist actors in the region, and international cooperation;

- Train officials to develop and strengthen operational skills to undertake technical counter-terrorism operations, including the capability to perform forensic analysis, preparation of statutory reports, drafting and processing of mutual legal assistance (MLA) and extradition requests;

- Identify and share best practice to prevent terrorist attacks on vulnerable targets with national as well as international, regional and sub-regional partners;

- Enhance multi-disciplinary cooperation between governmental agencies and civil society organisations.

Improve border control and surveillance, including aviation and maritime security

- Establish effective border patrol mechanisms, which should include the regular conducting of assessments of threats to and vulnerabilities of Malawi's borders;

- Pursue initiatives that facilitate cooperation with other States, especially those which share Malawi's borders to enhance national border security mechanisms;

- Strengthen measures to detect forged and falsified documents and to report and share such information with other agencies and, where relevant, States, especially in the SADC region;

- Scrupulously enforce provisions of relevant international conventions and protocols on the safety of civil aviation, law of the sea, and maritime navigation;

- Ensure that all vessels sailing on or using Malawi's maritime spaces are registered with long-range identification and tracking systems, and that commercial users are properly registered and licensed;

- Strengthen cooperation and coordination with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), World Customs Organization (WCO), International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the UNODC to put in place specific regulations for the inspection of cargo originating, exiting, transiting or being trans-shipped through Malawi; for the promotion of customs-to-customs cooperation on the in-bound and outbound security inspection; and the use of standardised targeting and screening criteria to detect and prevent drug, arms and human trafficking within the framework of relevant regional, continental and international instruments.

Protect critical infrastructure and diplomatic premises and other foreign interests

- Identify potential gaps and increase security at critical infrastructures and soft targets to reduce their potential vulnerability to terrorist attack, including through physical hardening measures. This should include airports, seaports, major roads, historical and cultural infrastructure, government offices, markets and shopping malls, stadiums, stock exchanges, social theatres, and foreign diplomatic premises and installations (including companies, organisations, vessels, cars and couriers);

- Criminalise acts that target critical infrastructure and diplomatic premises and other foreign interests in the territories of other States, and provide for severe penalties for offenders;

- Regularly train personnel on the protection of critical infrastructures and how to build a readiness capacity to respond rapidly to a terrorist attack, including performing technical operations such as disarming or deactivating explosives, cordoning off the crime area, dealing with victims and collecting materials for forensic evidence.

Responding to terrorist attacks

- Develop Malawi's capacity to respond proportionately, rapidly and in an organised manner to terrorist activities mitigating their impact and severity and enabling a rapid return to normalcy following terrorist attacks;

- Continue to foster coherence between the strategic, operational and tactical levels of responses in the event of a terrorist attack;

- Explore mechanisms that more fully harness the strengths of all relevant actors to quickly and effectively act simultaneously to halt any terrorist attack in all of its potential forms and manifestations;

- Continue to strengthen intra-agency and inter-agency coordination, including command

and control, mechanisms for assistance delivery, relief operations and victim support in the event of an attack;

- Develop effective communication mechanisms in the event of a terrorist attack between the Government and the general public, especially during and after a terrorist incident to give directions as well as reassurance.

Enhance criminal justice responses to terrorism

- Develop dedicated units of investigators and prosecutors who can be called upon to investigate and prosecute terrorism-related cases;

- Establish specialised units within law enforcement agencies, and where appropriate the military, to investigate terrorism-related offences, hostage negotiations and bomb disposal;

- Develop specialised training units and courses to build and maintain this capacity and expertise, aligned to Malawi's national and international obligations including on protecting human rights and respecting the rule of law.

Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) and Public Awareness

- Encourage private sector participation in contributing towards counter-terrorism capacity building since ensuring the safety and security of Malawi cannot be achieved by the Government alone, making such partnerships crucial to the overall success of Malawi's counter-terrorism efforts;

- Introduce mechanisms of sharing and implementing best practices on PPPs;

- Ensure coordination and cooperation between public, civil society and private sectors, and the NGO Regulatory Authority, in the implementation of measures including through public awareness campaigns, and partnering with the Media in PPP and Public Awareness programs.

3.4 PILLAR IV: MEASURES TO ENSURE RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS FOR ALL AND RULE OF LAW IN THE FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM

Sign, ratify and/or accede to and effectively implement applicable legal instruments

- Continue to ratify and domesticate the international legal instruments related to respect for human rights and the rule of law;

- Strengthen Malawi's criminal justice system and ensure access to justice, including respect for due process, in compliance with international and regional human rights standards;

- Establish effective partnership and dialogue with national, regional and international bodies as well as civil society organisations dealing with aspects of human rights and the rule of law;

- Respect for all human rights and the rule of law as the fundamental basis of the fight against terrorism and violent extremism must be explicitly stated in related legislation, supporting instruments and documentation;

- Access to justice and criminal justice procedures, especially those applied to terrorist offences and related crimes, need to be further strengthened to comply with international human rights standards.

Enhance the rule of law and cooperation on criminal justice and DICTS matters

- Review, identify gaps within, and strengthen Malawi's legal framework and codification regimes on criminal justice matters, ensuring the availability of a comprehensive range of terrorism-related crimes, as well as related crimes (e.g., firearms and explosives), with appropriate accompanying sanctions;

- Review, identify gaps within, and strengthen Malawi's legal framework for handing DICTS issues with appropriate accompanying sanctions, including to ensure increased safeguards which prevent the transit through or entry into Malawi of foreigners and visitors who may have terrorist associations, as well as to enable the lawful and appropriate management of asylum seekers and refugees;

- Make it a top priority for Malawi to enact and, where necessary, strengthen national legislation to criminalise and provide offences covering all key areas of the phenomenon of terrorism as provided for in the AU Comprehensive African Antiterrorism Model Law, 1999 OAU Convention on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism and its Protocol thereto, as well as the 19 universal instruments against terrorism;

- Extend all appropriate measures of formal and informal cooperation and assistance on criminal matters, including the investigation and prosecution of terrorist acts, to enable increased flexibility and efficiency of Malawi's and other countries' judicial systems. This is to facilitate the pursuit of terrorists everywhere, especially within the SADC region, as well as the more effective handling of counter-terrorism cases the investigation and prosecution of which can involve many complex issues such as those relating to forensic, technological and financial aspects;

- Cooperate on matters relating to extradition as provided for in various international and regional instruments, including those of the UN and AU, to enhance cooperation on criminal matters, and to be able to bring terrorists to justice and prevent any safe havens for them.

Promote democratic practices and the protection of human rights

- Promote broad-based participation and equitable representation in all governmental sectors, including economic, socio-political and cultural programs and governmental institutions;

- Promote transparency and accountability in all of Malawi's State programs and institutions, as well as policies aimed at fully emancipating marginalised communities, including minorities;

- Ensure that human rights as enshrined in the 1981 African Charter on Human and People's Rights and various UN conventions, including the 1948 Universal Declaration on Human Rights, and the 1966 International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights, are protected for every individual. To this end, Malawi shall take every measure to ensure that actions taken to prevent and combat terrorism, including the legislative and operational activities of intelligence, police and law enforcement officers, do not infringe on these rights, except under the emergency conditions allowed under national law;

- Prohibit torture in all its forms and manifestations and other degrading and inhumane treatment, including discrimination on racial, ethnic or gender basis against minorities and terrorist suspects;

- Ensure that detention, arrest, imprisonment or forced expulsion/ deportation and other sanctions against terrorist suspects are conducted strictly within the framework of the law. To this end, Malawi shall ensure that the arrest, detention, forced expulsion, imprisonment or even targeted killing of terrorist suspects is conducted through due process of the law;

- Ensure that counter-terrorism measures fully comply with international refugee law, the 1951 Convention, relating to the Status of Refugees, and do not compromise refugee protection principles or erode the institution of asylum;

- Ensure that intelligence, police and law enforcement officers, and military officials are properly trained on counter-terrorism and human rights issues;

- Take all necessary measures to discourage and stamp out corruption in both private and government sectors, particularly among police, law enforcement officers and other security and judicial officers, and businesses and set out severe penalties for those who violate anti-corruption laws;

- Put in place mechanisms to ensure transparency and accountability on matters relating to the development, implementation, monitoring, and so forth of this Strategy, including the opportunity for public discussion and input.

Protect the rights of victims

- Promote the rights of victims of terrorism, including those affected directly and indirectly by the rippling effect of terrorism, and ensure that their concerns are addressed;

- Establish mechanisms which guarantee the right of victims of terrorism and their families to truth, justice and reparation;

- Establish mechanisms whereby funds seized or recovered from terrorists can be distributed to the victims of terrorist crimes or their families;

- Establish mechanisms for the provision of other forms of assistance to victims, including medical care and reintegration into normal social life, as well as appropriate support for their families.

III. NATIONAL PREVENTING / COUNTERING VIOLENT EXTREMISM STRATEGY

1. SPECIFIC PREVENTING / COUNTERING VIOLENT EXTREMISM STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

The overarching aim of this Strategy is to contribute to the creation of an enabling environment for averting radicalisation and violent extremism, in particular by providing a coherent framework within which coordinated, innovative and impact-focused multi-stakeholder efforts to prevent and counter violent extremism should occur. This is to enable the combined efforts of engaged stakeholders to realise their optimal effectiveness without inadvertently causing negative, counter-productive impacts.

All functioning societies require traditional rule of law responses to address the terrorist threat, such as investigation, prosecution, a judiciary, and a detention system, as well as other traditional kinetic approaches as is appropriate to the threat. However, it is increasingly apparent that these measures alone cannot address the increasingly unpredictable and diffuse nature of violent extremism. Consequently, this Strategy marks an important shift in Malawi's preventing and countering violent extremism efforts from the potential for an over-reliance on 'hard' security measures to 'softer' no-coercive efforts to thwart the strategies and tactics of violent extremists. Preventing and countering violent extremism require a careful, considered, and often nuanced, approach. It needs to effectively address the enabling environment for violent extremism, including key drivers and conditions conducive to terrorism - challenging structural conditions, addressing grievances (including poverty, competitive control over territory, illiteracy, lack of employment opportunities), as well as countering ideologies that contribute to the violent radicalisation and the mobilisation of individuals or groups to violence. Such sought outcomes require a better understanding of violent extremism and recruitment, on such issues as the process of recruitment and drivers of violent extremism, in the context of individual, family and intra-community dynamics as well as the political dimensions related to other social constructs, including clans.

Consequently, this Strategy provides a framework to inform and facilitate stakeholder action, offering clear pathways, guidelines and support for citizens, communities, civil society, the private sector, media, and multilateral and bilateral partners to effectively and productively engage in preventing and countering violent extremism. One priority area is the development of policies, actions and tactics designed to achieve such outcomes as de-legitimising the ideologies of violent extremists and reducing their ability to win support. These require such approaches as devising alternative narratives and capabilities to enable at-risk individuals, groups, or communities to resist radicalisation to violence and addressing specific grievances and factors that militants exploit to recruit and radicalise populations. A strategic priority, therefore, is to support communities targeted for recruitment: by providing tools for family, friends, and trusted community, traditional and religious leaders to undertake interventions at the individual level; partnering with local civil society organisations and the private sector in efforts that promote community empowerment through civic participation, skills development, community mediation and dialogue; and working

with local civil society organisations to facilitate state-community dialogue to address community grievances.

Central to this Strategy is ensuring at all times that the fight against violent extremism adheres to the rule of law and good governance, protects the rights and freedoms of individuals and communities and does not undermine the larger efforts to consolidate democracy. This is essential to not create further grievances which could be exploited by violent extremist recruitment efforts.

Towards realising this overall objective, a number of specific strategic objectives and sought outcomes have been identified. Such lines of action, when pursued in a collaborative and coordinated fashion, will immensely advance the security of Malawi's citizens, communities and protect its democratic way of life.

One is the effective institutionalisation, mainstreaming and coordination of preventing / countering violent extremism programs from the national to the local levels. An integral aspect of this concerns effective, targeted strategic communications, including inspiring and facilitating local, communal and national rejection of extremist ideologies contrary to Malawi's National Unity and Way of Life.

Closely connected is for the people of Malawi individually and collectively to (re)embrace Patriotism as a minimum obligation to its Nationhood with accompanying service to the Nation and as a force multiplier against violent extremism. This should be promoted as transformative national values for citizens to defend Malawi, its religions and cultures from violent extremists, whilst also (re)cultivating a deep appreciation of the Malawian Way of Life as represented in the rights and responsibilities in the Constitution.

The Strategy further seeks to build and enhance existing capacity of all key governmental and non-governmental stakeholders, including individuals and communities, to prevent and counter violent extremism and to recover quickly from any violent occurrence through non-coercive approaches. One priority area for development is the ability to deploy accessible early warning and early intervention tools against the phased process of radicalisation leading to violent extremism. This needs to have the confidence of the public; it also needs to be supported by education for those most likely to intervene to mitigate it or redirect the individual to a safer, more empowering path, on such issues as how to recognise the signs and know where to seek support. In parallel, the capacity of law enforcement agencies needs to be enhanced to enable the effective, targeted utilisation of their resources to deter and prosecute radicalising individuals and institutions. Additionally they, together with other stakeholders, need improved information sharing mechanisms to facilitate their collaboration and coordination, especially between security, border and other agencies locally, nationally and regionally.

Closely linked is the strategic objective of developing the ability across the spectrum of stakeholders to delegitimise and reject violent extremist ideologies. This includes developing mechanisms and approaches which enable violent extremists to disengage from membership of terrorist groups, and where appropriate to demobilise, and to embrace de-radicalisation, rehabilitation and reintegration through coordinated governmental and community-based approaches. Normally this will be through the provision of appropriate psycho-social, financial, educational and training support.

A key objective of this Strategy is also to generate, share and develop repositories of research, knowledge, analysis and information to ensure that interventions, policies, programs, decision-making and collective action are evidence-driven and built on knowledge that is locally relevant to ensure their optimal effectiveness and do 'no harm'. This is essential to the effectiveness of preventing and countering violent extremist activities since it enables key stakeholders to have the benefit of a dynamic, action-ready and research-informed understanding of the evolution of violent extremist ideologies, organisational models, and radicalisation methodologies, including 'push' and 'pull' factors. This better equips them to counter the messages, ideologies, strategies and tactics of violent extremists.

More broadly is the objective of prioritising and targeting available resources, including financial, technical and human, for preventing and countering violent extremism initiatives which are demand-responsive for optimal impact, including for local communities that are targeted by violent extremists. Whilst care needs to be taken that any targeted investment does not inadvertently cause grievances which could become drivers of violent extremism, nonetheless it is important that available resources focus too on common locations for radicalising activities. These include ethnic associations, educational and religious institutions, internet and mass media, remand centres and prisons, refugee camps, and neighbourhood / communities. These and other sought outcomes require the forging of strategic partnerships especially at the national level to mobilise financial support for development and socio-economic initiatives designed to address specific political or social and economic grievances and to empower at-risk communities to reject radicalisation and recruitment to violence, as well as sustained support of initiatives by national and local leaders, including religious and traditional leaders.

2. DRIVERS OF VIOLENT EXTREMISM

It is important to ensure that Malawi's strategic objectives and measures are always informed by clear, evidence-based assessments of local and national drivers of violent extremism. This includes the identification of factors, or 'drivers' that may contribute to or undermine the capacity of communities to reject radicalisation to violence. The term 'drivers' is used here to refer to causes such as experiences, perceptions and narratives that provide entry points for violent extremism.

A number of drivers have been identified which are considered to be the most likely ones for violent extremism in Malawi's unique context. They are:

Ideological: There are multiple forms of violent extremist ideology. Some are secular while others claim religious legitimacy.

Socio-economic: Adverse socio-economic conditions – such as poverty, destitution, lack of development opportunity, high unemployment, cost of living crisis - create high levels of frustration and a sense of powerlessness, hopelessness, and despair. These are ideal conditions for persuading groups and individuals to embrace violent extremism and to oppose the status quo, including political, social and legal.

Legal and political: Real or perceived exclusion from political representation, discrimination, human

rights abuses and rule of law violations, mis-governance, corruption and impunity and narratives of historical injustice are powerful drivers of radicalisation. Violent extremists often invoke such injustices to inspire opposition to national political status quo.

Personal: These include the search for status, meaning, power, value, self-worth, opportunities, a sense of belonging and identity, or an all-encompassing theory to explain personal crises. Individuals personally susceptible to radicalisation include those experiencing low self-esteem, a sense of victimisation or alienation from normal social networks, boredom and frustration, hopelessness and despair, unemployment, lack of opportunities, and a sense of powerlessness to change or improve their circumstances through non-coercive/violent means.

Global/geopolitical: Global and geopolitical drivers can be the local or national effects of international struggles between violent extremists and their opponents' worldwide. Anger over such struggles have the potential to drive reactions by sympathisers with violent extremists in Malawi. In addition, proponents of extremist ideologies abroad can finance and facilitate the exportation of ideological extremism in the guise of religion.

Marginalisation: Specific societal groups can feel socially excluded, repressed or be victimized on account of such factors as their ethnicity, religion, age or gender. These can arouse strong feelings of discrimination, segregation and not belonging to as well as rejecting the Malawian Way of Life, accompanied by a profound sense of hopelessness and despair.

3. PUSH AND PULL FACTORS

There are two parallel types of drivers that can lead to an individual's participation in, or support for violent extremism. These are 'push' and 'pull' factors.

Push factors are structural conditions that make an environment more conducive to the growth of violent extremism, such as unemployment, poverty, underdevelopment, inequality, social exclusion, other socio-economic factors (although not in isolation), poor governance, human rights abuses, marginalisation, and weak governance. Such factors can fuel grievances that make individuals more receptive to violent extremism. These grievances may be felt on behalf of communities with whom individuals share a cultural, ideological, religious, ethnic or other bond, even if they are at a physical distance.

Pull factors are factors that facilitate mobilisation of individuals and groups to extreme positions / ideologies. These factors are classified as more immediate incentives that make violent extremist ideas or groups appealing. For instance, the attraction of charismatic individuals, powerful strategic communications and compelling messaging, financial or other material benefits, or the social status that some group members feel they achieve as being part of a terrorist or militant group.

Though a wealth of expertise and local insight into these phenomena exist already, there is a need for this to be more formalised and for the push and pull factors to be more systematically categorised and analysed. There is also a pressing need for further, up-to-date, research on drivers of violent extremism, including push and pull factors, to provide a clearer evidence base for informing policy and program decision-making.

4. MEASURES TO PROGRESS PRIORITY AREAS

Malawi's approach to countering terrorism and preventing / countering violent extremism is aligned to the four Pillars of the UN Global Counter Terrorism Strategy as is embedded also within the SADC Regional Counter Terrorism Strategy. The content of these Pillars in both instruments comprises both countering terrorism and preventing / countering violent extremism elements. These have been assigned, as appropriate, to the relevant national Strategy, augmented where relevant by further measures specific to Malawi.

4.1 PILLAR I: ADDRESSING THE CONDITIONS CONDUCIVE TO THE SPREAD OF TERRORISM

Activities in this area focus on addressing underlining conditions existing in Malawi, that could facilitate radicalisation, recruitment and engagement of people living on the territory in violent extremism and terror activities in Malawi and abroad.

Awareness, training and capacity building:

- The Government will engage non-governmental partners to support public awareness initiatives (e.g., events and education) on the nature and risks of violent extremism. Communities are vulnerable to the threat of extremism, but they often are not aware of the issues, do not understand the problem and may need to be sensitised;

- A key focus will be on promoting the role of civil society organisations as critical partners of Government in addressing drivers of violent extremism through awareness and educational activities, where possible also promoting networks that facilitate their efforts;

- Pursue measures that build the capacity and therefore resilience of individuals and communities who are on the frontline to identify radicalisation, prevent and counter violent extremism, and also to recover speedily where violence occurs. Violent extremists require the tacit support of sympathisers and active supporters in communities for their survival. Therefore, if violent extremists can be deprived of this support, their capacity to perpetrate violence and evade justice will be reduced significantly;

- The need is recognised to invest in wider training, equipping and building of capacity of key governmental (especially police, and prisons as potential breeding grounds of extremist ideologies) and non-governmental (including civil society organisations, the private sector, academic organisations and faith-based entities) stakeholders, including those with specific mandates and leadership or influencer roles. This requires that they possess the right skills, tools and awareness to prevent and counter violent extremism;

- Pursue measures that build confidence at the community level by providing appropriate platforms for dialogue and the early identification of grievances;

- Pursue measures that strengthen the capacity of civil society and the private sector to be effective strategic partners with governments and to undertake innovative initiatives and

community-based programs seeking to empower youth, women, faith leaders and to address drivers of violent extremism whilst maintaining their independence from Government.

Education across learning institutions:

- Development of programming within relevant institutions, such as educational, religious, governmental, and communities that enhances the appreciation of civics and character education, moral values including Malawian patriotism and Nationhood, cooperation, free thought, and positive acceptance of difference including ethnic, racial, age, gender, and religious diversity;

- Pursue measures that address radicalisation across learning institutions (elementary through to higher education levels) in an appropriate manner;

- Initiatives across educational institutions, learning platforms and schemes should promote and facilitate critical thinking, digital literacy, peace education, tolerance and respect for diversity in order to promote the culture of non-violence;

- The education sector, through its relevant agencies, should design programs to detect and prevent extremists from radicalising through educational institutions so that they are denied the ability to use education facilities to radicalise and recruit to violence;

- There should be a common State-approved curriculum used in all private and government schools regarding preventing and countering radicalisation and violent extremism, also encouraging programs that promote respect for diversity;

- The Government will explore potential partnerships to facilitate the training of teachers to identify early warning signs of potential radicalisation amongst students and to promote links between school, communities, and local police to ensure that staff and student concerns can be raised with trusted authorities.

Mobilising leadership and influencers:

- There should be proactive, ongoing engagement with leaders and other influencers drawn from across Malawian society – including political, traditional, religious, ethnic, community, youth and women - at the local and national levels;

- Such leadership and influencers should be the recipients of awareness and civic education on terrorism-related issues to better equip them in preventing / countering violent extremism outreach roles;

- Leaders and other influencers should be utilised as much as is possible to advocate for increased social cohesion, patriotism, promoting peace and non-violence, and rejection of all extremist ideologies including those based on religious, ethnic or political dogma;

- P/CVE should be considered a potential topic to be discussed during DEC meetings as a mechanism of reaching out to communities as these meetings are attended by both Village Development Committees (VDCs) and Area Development Committees (ADCs) who may discuss solutions and assist in local awareness training as well as monitoring and reporting suspicious behaviour;

- Religious leaders should be cautioned against preaching and promulgating extremist doctrines and beliefs which are likely to promote and encourage violent extremist behaviour;

- Figures of religious authority should be encouraged to issue influential declarations / statements where appropriate;

- The youth should be mobilised, including as part of governmental social outreach programs, to target schools, colleges, and universities;

- The public perception of Malawi's security forces should be enhanced through deeds and messages;

- A range of diverse mechanisms and platforms should be explored and utilised to their full potential. For example, the establishment of local fora where community members can meet with local authorities to identify, discuss and devise solutions to potential or actual grievances that may make those communities more vulnerable to recruitment efforts by violent extremist groups;

- The Government will work though its National Unity and other appropriate management structures to support local authorities to manage and mitigate potential areas of conflict or instability in communities, whilst also establishing mechanisms and opportunities for leaders, influencers, and local authorities to engage with, and feedback important information to, central Government thereby facilitating accessibility;

- Other potential activities will be explored including devising programs to support existing peace-building infrastructure such as local peace committees, and community reconciliation activities. Such programs will empower Peace and Unity committees to address and mitigate these potential situations of instability through actions such as the provision of services (dialogue, negotiation, mediation, etc.) to all groups. This will help to improve intra-community as well as community and State-society relations and decrease the space for violent extremists to leverage support.

Protecting and promoting ethnicity, traditions and culture:

- Radicalisation at its core is an attack on the traditions, cultures and values of Malawi's people, therefore it is crucial to protect and promote Malawi's traditions, cultures and values through all available media;

- Available media to explore include embedding ethnicity, traditions and culture within school curricula, dances, story-telling, dramas, radio and TV broadcasting, social media and so forth;

- A core aim of such activities should be to showcase / demonstrate Malawi's diversity and richness of views, histories, heritage and co-existence;

- Avenues for cultural diplomacy should also be explored, such as the proactive exchange of ideas, information, art and other aspects of culture and traditions, especially in people-to-people engagement;

- Educational activities should be designed in such a way that they educate on and build increased understanding and respect for these traditions, cultures, values, etc as an integral part of Malawi's Way of Life which should be respected and celebrated.

Empowerment of the youth:

- Youth not only pose potential challenges in terms of the risk of them being radicalised and recruited by violent extremist groups, but also must play an integral, indivisible part of the solution to prevent and counter the efforts of such groups. All possible mechanisms should be explored which enable the youth to positively influence others including through peer opinion and pressure;

- The Government and its relevant agencies will engage with youth organisations to support the development of projects that focus on empowering young peoples to reject violent extremism. Priority will be given to promoting skills and training, including leadership, analytical and critical thinking skills, vocational training, employment and livelihood opportunities which (re)direct youth to productive activities and away from the potential lure of radicalisation whilst also building their resilience to resist recruitment efforts. Commonly, youth who are recruited by violent extremist groups do so through coercion, peer-pressure as well as the attraction of false promises of monetary benefits, job opportunities overseas, or simply by the perceived opportunity to have more adventure and meaning in their lives;

- Priority for youth focused initiatives should be given to those communities where the youth face increased risk of radicalisation and recruitment to violence. The Government will encourage multi-sectoral partnerships to determine youth needs and responses, in consultation with youth themselves, in designing projects;

- The Government will work with government departments and non-governmental partners to develop youth platforms to facilitate interaction between the youth and other thought leaders and influencers, as well as facilitating inter-generational dialogue, to explore and discuss broad ranging issues relevant to violent extremism;

- Appropriate safeguards will be put in place to ensure that civil society organisations engaged in these and other programs are not misused as avenues for terrorist activities, such as recruitment;

- The Government will also encourage, and where possible support, initiatives to work with youth unions, youth associations and youth faith groups to reach and communicate with youth at the grassroots level, including through such activities as sports and cultural activities. Youth should be given the opportunity to inform the design and delivery of such initiatives to ensure ownership of them as well as optimising their effectiveness and relevance to target audiences. Support will be prioritised for those programs aimed at promoting strategic partnerships between local government authorities, non-government organisations and local leadership structures to ensure the sustainability of programs created.

Empowerment of women and gender:

- Recognising the gender dynamics of violent extremism, it is imperative that due diligence be taken to mainstream gender perspectives across all preventing and countering violent extremism initiatives and mechanisms;

- Since women are significant influencers in communities and families, they should be fully engaged and empowered to be key partners in strengthening the resolve of communities to resist radicalisation and recruitment to violence, as well as deal with any consequences of these;

- In designing programs and initiatives, the perceptions and experiences of women regarding violent extremism should be fully considered since these may differ to those of men in their communities and are necessary for a more holistic understanding and responses to the violent extremism phenomenon;

- The Government, through its relevant agencies, will seek to utilise existing local and national gender fora and networks to engage women leaders, unions and civil society organisations working with girls and women for activities to prevent and counter violent extremism at the community level;

- Available platforms should be leveraged to share messages on the potential threat of radicalisation to women and girls and raise awareness on how to detect and address early signs of radicalisation in an individual. The potential of such platforms should also be explored to develop and implement programs to create safe spaces for friends and family to engage in sensitive dialogue on issues relating to radicalisation and violent extremism;

- The Government will further draw upon and support existing mechanisms, and where appropriate create additional ones, such as workshops to build capacity through the provision of leadership training, mediation and conflict resolution skills, strengthening existing women's networks and organisations to engage in activities to reduce the threat of radicalisation to violence.

Development, socio-economic and justice:

- Measures will be introduced which seek to implement specific UN and SADC development goals and agendas which aim to eradicate poverty, promote sustainable economic growth and reinforce social inclusion;

- Every effort will be made to encourage and support initiatives designed to increase development and investment in Malawi by the public, private and civil society sectors;

- Pursue initiatives which enable socio-economic and justice benefits for all will include job creation, training and apprenticeship programs, the promotion of entrepreneurship especially among young people, the fairer distribution of wealth, and more equal opportunities;

- Initiatives should be designed to assist in addressing socio-economic and justice grievances which can facilitate recruitment to violent extremism, also in rehabilitating and reintegrating those previously associated with violent extremism offering them meaning and purpose whilst also providing for their practical needs;

- Community development projects should also be introduced and developed which rebuild damaged infrastructure and social networks;

- Important to the success of such initiatives is supporting and empowering local authorities to develop community-level programs to better target and address specific local socio-economic grievances. This necessitates close collaboration with structures of civil society and the private sector focusing on grassroots development, with local authorities and communities analyzing and advising on local potential drivers of radicalization to devise optimal, context-specific, responses.

Conflict resolution:

- Every effort will be made to resolve any sources of actual or potential conflict and other conditions of potential instability, as potential drivers of violent extremism, by promoting national reconciliation, interfaith dialogue, and conflict prevention, management and resolution;

- Every effort should be made to build the capacity of local leaders in conflict resolution;

- Where appropriate, the creation of additional mechanisms should be considered, such as conflict redress committees, or the creation of conflict resolution structures at the village, area and other levels for the management of conflicts and enhancement of peace and dialogue.

4.2 PILLAR II: MEASURES TO PREVENT AND COMBAT TERRORISM

Strengthening security and law enforcement approaches:

- Steps will be taken to ensure that the necessary national legal framework exists to support P/CVE efforts, ensuring that any acts committed contrary to national laws are met with the full force of law, whenever and wherever possible;

- Mechanisms will be put in place to ensure that preventing / countering violent extremism security efforts are conducted in accordance with, and do not go beyond the parameters of, all applicable national and international laws and best practices. This is crucial for ensuring that they do no harm, and do not cause further sources of grievance or alienation and radicalisation of citizens;

- Mechanisms will be implemented that detect violent extremist/ terrorist activities in the community through effective intelligence operations and investigations that enable a solid understanding of the changing threat environment and appropriate responses;

- This Strategy recognises that law enforcement practices can easily morph into a driver of violent extremism if issues of the rule of law and respect for human rights of suspects are not upheld. Therefore, every effort must be taken to maintain good relationships between local law enforcement and communities as a powerful tool for preventing and countering violent extremism;

- Local law enforcement and community relationships should be supported by enabling mechanisms, such as local hubs for early warning and intelligence to foresee extremist behaviours with concurrent early and coordinated responses by respondents being developed, involving local chiefs and leaders as appropriate;

- Measures will be taken to enable relevant stakeholders to strengthen the competence of security, intelligence, law enforcement, prison, and judicial Agencies to guarantee effective crime prevention; prompt, certain, accountable, accessible, fair and impartial law enforcement in conformity with Malawi's Constitution, human rights and rule of law guarantees;

- It is essential that the spectrum of State criminal justice actors responsible for making, enforcing, or acting in accordance with the law in preventing and countering violent extremism are fully engaged in the development and implementation of related measures. This should include the police, judiciary, prosecution, prisons and legislature, intelligence, and military;

- Effective mechanisms will be developed for the intervention, prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration of radicalised persons and returnees, in accordance with the rule of law and human rights. Such measures and activities should be underpinned, as appropriate, by training. For example, ensuring that law enforcement officers, intelligence and military

personnel receive comprehensive training in human rights and have the necessary skills and disposition to treat violent extremist suspects humanely, with respect and in accordance with the law to prevent their actions from becoming further drivers of violent extremism;

- It is recognised that the treatment of suspects of crimes relating to terrorism and violent extremism in remand facilities, detention or prisons can become a push factor towards violent extremism. To reduce this risk, officers must ensure the rights of all suspects and prisoners in prisons and police detention cells are upheld;

- It is important that more traditional security approaches do not operate in isolation, rather in parallel with other mechanisms, including community-based approaches to security. Community policing, with its frontline officials, has a key role to play here. Mechanisms such as 'Neighbourhood Watch', Reporting Suspicious Activity (e.g., of foreigners or persons within communities) and messaging streams should form an integral component of their efforts, supported by appropriate capacity building and resourcing.

Strategic communications:

- Every effort will be made to facilitate the institutionalisation and mainstreaming of strategic communications across preventing and countering violent extremism activities. Terrorist networks advancing violent extremism use all available communications media available to them, increasingly online and in the virtual domain;

- Measures will be taken to further develop the capabilities of law enforcement, security and intelligence service agencies for effective community engagement, including raising awareness within society and empowering individuals and communities to develop and deliver messages that resonate more strongly than terrorist propaganda;

- All possible measures will be taken to disrupt and prevent the dissemination of extremist propaganda especially across virtual and digital media, notably social media - blogs, chat-rooms and messaging apps, darkweb. Its accessibility and reach have been greatly facilitated by the increasing affordability of smartphones and data. This enables borderless connectivity that allows extremist ideologies to be produced far from Malawi yet be consumed by significant audiences and to radicalise and recruit in a clandestine manner. Such efforts will ensure that no harm is done to the Media or to other communication channels, such overregulation which hinders freedom of speech and debate which are fundamental tenets of any democratic society;

- A pressing priority is to encourage and enable those actively engaged in preventing and countering violent extremism activities to focus their campaigns in the cyber space domain especially and to have the tools and mind-set to keep with the pace of innovation by terrorist groups;

- Other key efforts envisaged under this pillar include deploying counter narratives on-line, sensitising the Media not to be unwitting transmitters of images or narratives that further

the cause of terrorists, engaging the private sector in communications technologies, while encouraging citizens to identify and resist extremist speech on-line;

- International good practice demonstrates that often the institutions of Government alone are not necessarily the most effective or appropriate communicators in this regard. It is therefore critical that credible partners, who are positive and relatable voices representing the rich tapestry of Malawi's diverse society, are identified who can serve as influencers and opinion leaders in the domain of strategy communications both online and offline if the most vulnerable being drawn towards violent extremism are to be reached;

- It is essential to build the capacity of credible partners, including victims and repentant formers, and to adequately resource the development of powerful, resonant narratives that can then be deployed across a range of digital and non-digital communications channels including radio, television, the Internet, mobile platforms, story-telling, dramas, music, sport, debates, cultural activities;

- Whenever possible, strategic communications activities should be underpinned by an increased research-led evidence base. This is necessary to establish a clearer baseline of current perceptions of extremism, violent extremism and to better inform proactive strategic communications, especially in the areas of counter-ideological or counter-narrative programming to maximise their effectiveness whilst also optimising the use of underpinning resources;

- It is necessary to ensure training and capacity building support to key stakeholders, notably to Media practitioners and professionals on Media ethics, awareness raising and sensitisation to prevent extremists from radicalising and spread propaganda using the Media;

- Every effort will be made by appropriate parts of Government to provide Media practitioners with timely and accurate information as appropriate on extremist activities together with the actions national government is taking to counter them.

Countering ideological narratives:

- Ideologies leading to violent extremism may be sourced in religious and / or non-religious influences. Therefore, every effort must be made to protect Malawi's population against such ideologies, particularly by promoting values of freedom, democracy and tolerance, and Patriotism;

- The Government will support various initiatives seeking to identify and counter radicalising ideologies. For example, fora involving religious, governmental, and civil society representatives seeking to develop joint strategies for harmonising and strengthening the curriculum taught in schools and institutions;

- Other initiatives, such as the creation of platforms for the promotion and facilitation of intra-faith as well as inter-faith tolerance, dialogue, cooperation and peaceful existence, will

be supported too, recognising that extremists can play on differences between faith groups as a mechanism for radicalisation and recruitment to violence.

Psycho-social measures:

- Measures will be put in place to better understand linkages between, and effective responses to, mental health issues and vulnerabilities to terrorist activities such as recruitment efforts;

- Measures will be developed which address the psycho-social needs of individuals who have embarked on the path of radicalisation, and been recruited and joined, or even been taken against their will (forcibly or otherwise) by violent extremist groups. Early warning and early intervention mechanisms will play a crucial role here in identifying such persons;

- A priority area is developing and implementing programs and other initiatives that support the disengagement, (re)education, rehabilitation, and re-integration of reformed extremists to enable them to live meaningful, law-abiding lives whilst also better understanding radicalisation and recruitment processes to further refine existing approaches;

- Every effort will be made to engage with violent persons associated with proscribed groups and to change their behaviour through a value-based and human rights approach;

- Work will also be undertaken as appropriate with religious and community leaders, scholars and relevant civil society groups to develop de-radicalisation and reintegration programs and to promote mainstream religious teachings, inter-faith and inter-ethnic dialogues and reconciliation. Where such programs are aimed at youth they should seek to address conditions conducive to youth radicalisation, including unemployment, lack of participation and representation in political and economic processes, injustices, lack of education, social delinquencies, frustration and deprivation;

- Reformed persons will be deployed, as appropriate, as assets for countering violent extremist narratives and recruitment efforts;

- It is important that psycho-social programs are gender-sensitive, recognising that women and children can also be caught up in the activities of violent extremists whether voluntarily or forcibly, and that programs are readily scalable as required;

- Provision of education and other forms of support will be given to the families and social networks of reformed persons;

- Though the challenges necessitating psycho-social interventions are still in their relative infancy within Malawi, the growing threat landscape requires increased efforts and investment to build local and national capacity in preparation.

4.3 PILLAR III: BUILDING CAPACITY TO PREVENT AND COMBAT TERRORISM

Strengthening the research and evidence base:

- The inherent value of and need for research, analysis, local knowledge, data, and other forms of evidence from initial radicalisation – including drivers, push and pull factors, the role of the internet and mobile technology, counter-messaging – through to recruitment, rehabilitation, and reintegration is fully recognised. Every effort will be made to strengthen local and national capacity for generating and sharing research knowledge, information, and analysis;

- Every effort will be made to ensure that national policies, programs, and other initiatives to prevent and counter violent extremism are underpinned and informed by robust research and evidence that is specifically tailored to the unique challenges facing Malawi. This is crucial for optimising national efforts and resources towards achieving a safe, secure, and stable country. It also reduces the potential to inadvertently assist rather than counter the radicalising and recruitment efforts of violent extremist groups;

- Researchers and academic faculties will be encouraged and facilitated to better engage with security Agencies to improve the quality of data, conduct more targeted field studies to guide policy formulation, implementation, and strategic approaches to preventing and countering violent extremism.

4.4 PILLAR IV: MEASURES TO ENSURE RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS FOR ALL AND RULE OF LAW IN THE FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM

Law and policy:

- A key objective of this pillar is to ensure that P/CVE efforts are underpinned by respect for and adherence to human rights and rule of law. To achieve this purpose, necessary actions aimed at reforming legal frameworks, policies and guidelines on preventing and countering violent extremism where required will be promoted;

- As is necessary, national laws to criminalise recruitment, propaganda, incitement and support for or the attempt or conspiracy to participate in violent radical ideologies, including hate crimes and the use of religion to commit violent acts leading to death, injury or damage to property, will be developed or strengthened;

- Relevant laws and policy frameworks form an indivisible element of effective preventing and countering violent extremism. Consequently, there will be regular periodic review of the efficiency, legality, appropriateness and proportionality of law and policies for preventing and countering violent extremism;

- To ensure ongoing public trust and confidence in support of this Strategy, periodic reviews should not be confined to the relevant parts of Government, rather scrutiny should extend across the spectrum of non-governmental stakeholders;

- A variety of mechanisms should be used for periodic reviews of law and policies, such as a whole-of-society consultation process which engages with relevant stakeholders including political, traditional and religious leaders at the local and national levels, communities, civil society, women, youth and the research community;

- In addition to ensuring the prompt and fair prosecution of unrepentant perpetrators and / or those who have committed significant crimes, consideration will also be given to designing and implementing alternative mechanisms for reconciling victims and repentant perpetrators if and when this becomes relevant to Malawi;

- If appropriate to Malawi's situation, appropriate mechanisms will be introduced for alternative accountability, dispute resolution and reconciliation, such as mediation and restorative justice to resolve conflict, to avert perceptions of injustice and achieve sustainable peace;

- Proper regard will be given to the nature and role of any involvement of women and children, including whether they are victims and / or willing perpetrators of the crimes of violent extremist groups, when determining the most appropriate manner of dealing with them;

- Every effort will be made to adopt and, where necessary, review and strengthen policies to ensure transparency, equality, inclusivity and broad-based representation of various segments of society, including ethnic, religious, gender and youth groups, across all governmental platforms.

ACTION HEADING	DETAILED ACTIONS	IMPLEMENTATION TIMEFRAME	MONITORING/ EVALUATION FREQUENCY	STATUS	OUTCOMES	LEAD RESPONSIBLE AGENCY
COUNTERING TERRORISM STRATEGY						
PILLAR I: ADDRESSING THE CONDITIONS CONDUCIVE TO THE SPREAD OF TERRORISM						
Conflict prevention and resolution	Prevent and resolve existing/ potential tensions and conflict	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MPS/NIS/MoD/MDF/DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL UNITY/CIVIC EDUCATION/PAC
	Optimise national peace and unity mechanisms					
Awareness raising and education	Raise public awareness, esp in communities	Continuous	Annually	Pending	No safe havens	MoHS/MPS/CIVIC EDUCATION/ DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL UNITY/NGO BOARD/NIS/PAC/UNODC/PS
	Learn from other awareness campaigns	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MPS/ DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL UNITY/NGO BOARD/NIS/PAC/UNODC/PS
	Make awareness campaigns available in multiple languages	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MPS/ DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL UNITY/NGO BOARD/NIS/PAC/UNODC/PS
	Educate the public to identify/report suspicious behaviour	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MPS/ DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL UNITY/NGO BOARD/NIS/PAC/UNODC/PS
	Put effective reporting structures/mechanisms in place, esp at local level	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MPS/ DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL UNITY/NGO BOARD/NIS/PAC/UNODC
	Establishment of phone toll-free reporting line	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/NIS/MPS/DICTS

	Develop educational curricula on terrorism/ countering terrorism	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/ MoD/MoEST / MoLGUC/MPS/NIS/<mark>MDF</mark> /PAC/NGO BOARD/ UNODC
	Develop cross-sectoral awareness and education programs for whole-of-society approach	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/ MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/MoEST/PAC/ NGO BOARD/MoLG/UNODC
	Mainstream civil society program participation					MoGC&SW/MoLGUC/NGO BOARD
Promoting increased dialogue, tolerance and understanding	Promote dialogue, tolerance & understanding among civilisations, cultures, peoples & religions	Continuous	Bi-annual (2 years)	In progress	A community based on equality of all people, races, cultures and religions	MoLGUC/MPS/ PAC
	Create/strengthen existing institutions & mechanisms	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/ MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF
	Implement zero-tolerance of discrimination policy	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/ MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/MHRC
	Ensure CT measures don't profile/target specific groups	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/ MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/PAC
	Adopt measures to facilitate community reconciliation					MoLGUC/UNDP
Adopting and implementing legal measures	Adopt/implement necessary & appropriate anti-terrorism laws	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Comprehensive national anti-terrorism legislation	MoJ/OPC/MoHS/Judiciary/MLC/FI A/PARLIAMENT
	Ensure laws/policies fully respect human rights inc freedom of religion & belief	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/ MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/MHRC/PAC

	Enhance cooperation & assistance on terrorism related matters	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MoLG/ MoF/MPS/NIS/MDF/ FIA/DICTS/NRB/REFUGEES DEPARTMENT/PAC/PS/JUDICIARY
PILLAR II: MEASURES TO PREVENT AND COMBAT TERRORISM						
Sign, ratify and/or accede to and effectively implement applicable legal instruments	Become parties to all relevant regional/ international anti-terrorism instruments	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Comprehensive national anti-terrorism legislation	MoFA/MoJ/OPC
	Take all necessary legislative, executive & judicial measures to fully implement such instruments nationally	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoJ / MOTPW/MPS/NIS/MDF /JUDICIARY/DICTS/PS
	Strengthen Malawi's CT legal framework	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/ MoD/MoJ/MPS /NIS/MDF/ JUDICIARY
	Ensure full compliance of national measures with international obligations	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoJ/MoFA/LEGISLATURE
Build and enhance capacity and coordination	Build capacity to deny terrorists support, resources and means	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	More effective preventative and response mechanisms	MoHS/MoTWP/MoJ/MoLGUC/Mo D/MPS/NIS/MDF/ JUDICIARY/ FIA
	Enhance national capacity to effectively deal with all forms of terrorist activity	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoJ/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/J UDICIARY/DICTS
	Improve national/ regional CT coordination, inc border management	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoFA/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF /DICTS/PS
	Strengthen existing border security mechanisms	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoLG/MoH/MoNRE/MoD/ MPS/NIS/MDF/DICTS/MRA/ PS

	Establish a National Counter Terrorism Centre	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MDF/MoLG/MPS/DICTS/NIS/PS/RCTC/AFRICAN CENTRE FOR THE STUDY AND RESEARCH ON TERRORISM (ACSRT)/UN AGENCIES
	Enhance civil society support of gov CT/ PVE efforts	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/NGO BOARD/UN AGENCIES
	Enhance capacity of religious leaders to distinguish between traditional teachings & extremist misinformation	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/ MoLGUC/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/PAC / UN AGENCIES
Enhance early warning intelligence/ information management and dissemination	Strengthen operational intelligence & information capacity and capability across terrorist activities	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Better and effective early preventive actions	MoID/MoLGUC/MoD/NIS/MPS/FIA/MDF/NRB/DICTS/MRA/ MACRA
	Leverage new technologies to optimise timely, effective information sharing	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/DICTS /MACRA/FIA/PS/NATIONAL COMMISSION OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
	Enhance early warning mechanisms for terrorist/ extremist behaviour	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoLGUC/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/RCTC
	Enhance rapid response mechanisms to respond to terrorist threats	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoLGCU/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/NRB/DICTS
	Enhance operational inter-agency coordination & collaboration	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/NRB/DICTS/MRA/FIA/PS
	Enable mechanisms for sharing of best practices on combating	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	**MoHS/MoD/MDF**/ MPS/NIS/FIA

	terrorism between key agencies & stakeholders					
	Support regional initiatives to strengthen information sharing including on early warning	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF
	Enhance effectiveness of border management systems to improve border security	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MoNRCC&E/MoA/MoTI/MoH/MPS/NIS/MDF/DICTS/MoLG/MRA/ MBs/
Law enforcement / criminal justice	Mitigate potential terrorism related vulnerabilities inc through prosecution	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoJ/MoHS/ MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/FIA
	Ensure effective post-terrorist attack mechanisms in place for public messaging	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoID/MoLGUC/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/NICE
	Ensure measures in place to enable effective, fair prosecution of terrorism cases	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoJ/MoD/MoHS/MPS/NIS/MDF/FIA/MHRC
Suppress and criminalise the financing of terrorism and associated money laundering	Fully enact 1999 Terrorist Financing Convention & other key instruments within national law	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	**MoHS**/MoD/MoJ/MPS/NIS/MDF/MLC/FIA/JUDICIARY
	Strengthening existing legislation on criminalising terrorism financing	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	**FIA**/MoHS/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF
	Suppress terrorist financing through freezing terrorist funds/ assets	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	**FIA**/MoHS/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/ACB

	Strengthen financial intelligence surveillance for terrorist funding	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF
	Ensure banks/ financial institutions implement robust safeguards and reporting mechanisms	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/FIA
	Strengthen money value transfer regulations	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	**RBM/**MoHS/MPS/NIS/MACRA
	Sign Memorandum of Understanding on regulations to facilitate inter-state cooperation	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	**RBM/MoFA/MoF/**MoHS/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF
	Refrain/ prevent provision of financial support to terrorist groups & affiliates	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoLGUC/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF
	Implement safeguards to prevent misuse of civil society/ religious organisations for terrorist financing activities	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoLGUC/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/PAC /NGO Board
	Implement policies/ mechanism to tackle illegal mining & forestry activities	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	**MoNRCCE/MoM/**MoHS MoD//MPS/NIS/MDF
Deny terrorists the means, space and technical capacity to carry out operations	Implement & adhere to Civil Aviation Organization standards & practices	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoTPW/MoHS/ MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/MACRA
	Implement relevant international/ regional instruments & decisions on WMD/ CBRN proliferation	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	**MoD/MDF/MPS/** MoHS/ /NIS/

	Prohibit & criminalise terrorist arms & explosives activities	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoD/MoHS/MPS/NIS/MDF
	Deny terrorists access to explosive materials through stringent regulations/ standards	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoD/MoHS/MPS/NIS/MDF
	Adopt/ enforce stringent regulations to control small arms/ light weapons	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoM/MoD/MoHS/MPS/NIS/MDF
	Cooperate with relevant regional/ international institutions providing expertise & technical assistance	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF
	Ensure maximum security & compliance with international safety standards for nuclear energy installations	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoEST/ MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/AERA
	Enforce a strict ban on activities involving uranium/ other materials for explosives production	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoM/MoHS/ MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF
	Enhance border control inc joint surveillance & other common border security measures	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/DICTS
	Develop increased cyber security capacity	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/MACRA
	Criminalise use of Malawi's territory for terrorist acts	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MoJ/MPS/NIS/MDF

Strengthen cooperation with civil society and media organisations on the prevention and combating of terrorism	Develop a plan/ mechanism for effective Media engagement inc terrorist incident reporting	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoID/MoLGUC/ MoD/MACRA/MPS/NIS/MDF/MIS A MALAWI
	Sensitize Media & civil society on the national CT strategy inc its promulgation	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MoID/ MoLGUC/MACRA/ MPS/NIS/MDF
	Promote good relationship among gov, Media & civil society for effective public messaging	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MoID/MACRA/MPS/N IS/MDF
	Create Media as a platform for dissemination of fundamental rights & freedoms	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MPS/MoD/MoLGCU/MoID/ NIS/MDF/MACRA
	Sensitise Media & journalists on terrorist common strategies	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/ MoD/MoID/MoLGUC/MPS/NIS/M DF/
PILLAR III: BUILDING CAPACITY TO PREVENT AND COMBAT TERRORISM						
Gap analysis and capacity building	Identify capacity gaps to prevent/ combat terrorism	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/ MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/DICTS/PS
	Strengthen existing capacity of key agencies to respond to spectrum of terrorist activities	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoLGUC/ MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/DICTS/FIA/P S/NRB/REFUGEES DEPARTMENT
	Allocate adequate resources to prevent/ combat terrorism	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoF/MoD/MoHS/MPS/NIS/MDF/ FIA/DICTS/DHRMD/PS/ UN AGENCIES
	Develop anti-terrorism capacity-building program for civ / mil personnel	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	**MoD**/MoHS **/MDF** /MPS/NIS

	Develop specialised CT training courses	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoD/MoHS/MPS/NIS/MDF/DICTS /PS
	Develop/ strengthen operational skills to undertake technical CT operations	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoD/MoHS/MPS/NIS/MDF/PS/DI CTS
	Identify & share best practice on terrorist attack prevention	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF
	Enhance multi-disciplinary cooperation between gov agencies & civil society organisations	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/CSOs
Improve border control and surveillance, including aviation and maritime security	Establish effective border patrol mechanisms, inc border threat assessments	Immediate	Annually	In progress	Effective border control and surveillance	DICTS/MoD/MDF/NIS/ MPS/MRA
	Facilitate inter-State cooperation to enhance national border security	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoFA/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF
	Strengthen measures to detect & report forged/ falsified documents	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoJ/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/D ICTS/NRB
	Enforce international obligations on civil aviation, law of the sea, maritime navigation	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoT&PW/MoHS/ MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF
	Register vessels operating in Malawi's maritime spaces with tracking systems	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoT&PW/MoHS/MoD/MPS/NIS/ MDF
	Strengthen cooperation & coordination with key stakeholder organisations to ensure	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF

	effective detection and regulation.					
Protect critical infrastructure and diplomatic premises and other foreign interests	Increase critical infrastructure & soft target security to reduce potential vulnerabilities to terrorist attack	Continuous	Annually	In progress	Enhanced protection of major infrastructures, diplomatic premises and safeguarding of other foreign interests	MoD/MoHS/NIS/MPS/MDF/MoFA
	Criminal acts targeting critical infrastructure, diplomatic premises & other foreign interests	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/ MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/PS
	Regularly train personnel on critical infrastructure protection & building response readiness capacity	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/ MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF
Responding to terrorist attacks	Develop capacity to respond to terrorist activities in order to mitigate terrorist activities.	Continuous	Annually	In progress	Effective responses to reduce impacts of terrorist attacks	MoD/MoHS/MDF/NIS/MPS
	Foster coherence between strategic, operational & tactical level responses	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF
	Explore mechanisms enabling all relevant actors to respond to terrorist attacks effectively & simultaneously	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF

	Strengthen intra- and inter-agency coordination	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/ MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF
	Develop effective post terrorist attack comms mechanisms inc for public messaging	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/ MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF
Enhance criminal justice responses to terrorism	Develop dedicated units of specialist investigators & prosecutors	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Effective capacity to respond effectively to terrorist activities	MoJ/Judiciary
	Develop specialised CT law enforcement agency units	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/ MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF
	Develop specialised CT training units/ courses to build & maintain capacity	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/ MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF
Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) and Public Awareness	Encourage private sector participation in building CT capacity	Ongoing	Annually	Pending	Suppress other means of support for terrorists	PPPC
	Introduce mechanisms for sharing/ implementing best PPP practices	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/ MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF
	Ensure coordination & cooperation between public, civil society & private sectors for PPP programs	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/ MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF
PILLAR IV: MEASURES TO ENSURE RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS FOR ALL AND RULE OF LAW IN THE FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM						
Sign, ratify and/or accede to and	Continue to ratify/ domesticate international human	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Comprehensive national anti-	MoFA/MoJ/MHRC

effectively implement applicable legal instruments	rights & rule of law instruments				terrorism legislation	
	Strengthen criminal justice system & ensure access to justice	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoJ/ MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/JUDICIARY
	Establish effective partnerships & dialogue on human rights & rule of law issues with relevant national/ international stakeholders	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/ MoD/MoLGUC/MPS/NIS/MDF/MH RC
	Ensure human rights & rule of law are recognised as fundamental basis of CT efforts inc in legislation	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MHRC/MoD/MoHS/MPS/NIS/MDF
	Strengthen access to justice & criminal justice procedures to ensure compliance with human rights obligations	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoJ/MoD/JUDICIARY/MoHS/MPS/ NIS/MDF/MHRC
Enhance the rule of law and cooperation on criminal justice matters	Review & address criminal justice legislative gaps to ensure comprehensive CT legal framework	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Enhanced, rule of law compliant, inter-agency cooperation	MoJ/MoHS/FIA/MLC
	Review & address DICTS gaps especially transit/ entry of foreigners/ visitors & management of asylum seekers/ refugees	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoFA/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF /DICTS/ DEPARTMENT FOR REFUGEES & UN AGENCIES
	Ratify international CT provisions	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoFA/MoJ/ MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF
	Sign MoU on appropriate formal/	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/ MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF

	informal cooperation & assistance measures to facilitate handing of terrorism-related cases					
	Cooperate on extradition on terrorism related matters	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/ MoD/MoJ/MoFA/MPS/NIS/MDF
Promote democratic practices and the protection of human rights	Promote broad-based participation & equitable representation in all governmental sectors	Continuous	Annually	In progress	Good governance, sound democratic practices and human rights compliance	MHRC/Judiciary/MoJ
	Promote transparency & accountability in all Malawi State programs and institutions	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/ MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/CSOs/PARLIAMENT
	Ensure that CT measures are consistent with human rights obligations	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoJ/ MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/MHRC
	Prohibit torture et al including treatment of terrorist suspects	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/PS
	Ensure that all law enforcement/ criminal justice activities are legally compliant	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/ MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF
	Ensure that CT measures fully comply with international obligations inc 1951 Refugee Convention	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/ MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/DEPARTMNET FOR REFUGEES & UN AGENCIES
	Ensure that all security & law enforcement officials are trainined in	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/ MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/IIMGRATION /PS

	CT and human rights issues					
	Take all necessary measure to discourage & stamp out private/ public sector corruption	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	**ACB**/MoHS/ MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF
	Put in place mechanisms to ensure transparency & accountability for implementation etc of national CT/ PVE Strategies	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/ MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/CSOs/NGO Board/MHRC
Protect the rights of victims	Promote rights of all victims of terrorism, direct & indirect	Continuous	Annually	Pending	Effective framework for protecting the rights of victims of terrorism	MoGCD&SW/MoHS/MoFA/Judiciary/MHRC
	Establish mechanisms to ensure truth, justice & repatriation to victims of terrorism	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/ MoGCD&SW/ MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF & UN Agencies
	Establish mechanisms to recover terrorist funds to redistribute to victims of terrorism	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoJ/ MoD/JUDICIARY/MPS/NIS/MDF/FIA
	Establish mechanisms for provision of different forms of assistance to victims	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/ MoD/MoGCD&SW/MoFA/MoLGUC/MPS/NIS/MDF/MHRC

ACTION HEADING	DETAILED ACTIONS	IMPLEMENTA-TION TIMEFRAME	MONITORING / EVALUATION FREQUENCY	STATUS	OUTCOMES	LEAD RESPONSIBLE AGENCY
PREVENTING / COUNTERING VIOLENT EXTREMISM STRATEGY						
PILLAR I: ADDRESSING THE CONDITIONS CONDUCIVE TO THE SPREAD OF TERRORISM						
Awareness, training and capacity building	Gov will engage with non-gov partners to support public Violent Extremism (VE) awareness initiatives	Ongoing	Annually	Pending	Effectively address conditions conducive to terrorism	MoHS/MoD/MoLGUC/MPS/NIS/MDF//PAC
	Promote the role of civil society organisations as critical partners to address drivers of VE	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/ MoLGUC /MPS/NIS/MDF/PAC
	Pursue measures to build frontline capacity to identify and prevent/ counter VE activities	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/ MoLGUC/MPS/NIS/MDF/PAC
	Invest in training, equipping and building capacity of key gov & non-gov stakeholders	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/ MoLGUC/MPS/NIS/MDF/PAC
	Pursue measure that build community level confidence	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/ MoLGUC/MPS/MoD/NIS/MDF/PAC
	Strengthen civil society & private sector capacity to	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/ MoLGUC/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/PAC

	support programs empowering youth, women, faith leaders, etc					
Education across learning institutions	Program development to enhance appreciation of civics, patriotism, nationhood, etc	Continuous	Annually	Pending	Effective and sustained education, especially youth	MoHS/MoLGUC/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/MoEST/PAC/NGO BOARD /UNODC
	Pursue measures that address radicalisation across learning institutions	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/ MoLGUC /MPS/NIS/MDF/PAC
	Ensure educational initiatives promote & facilitate critical learning, tolerance, respect for diversity, etc	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/ MoLGUC/MPS/NIS/MDF/PAC
	Design programs to detect & prevent extremists from misusing educational institutions	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/ MoLGUC/MPS/NIS/MDF/ PAC
	Develop a common State-approved P/CVE curriculum to implement in all schools	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoEST/ MoLGUC /MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/PAC
	Explore potential partnerships to facilitate VE early warning & reporting	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoLGUC/MoD/MoEST /MPS/NIS/MDF /PAC/NGO BOARD /UNODC

	mechanisms in educational context					
Mobilising leadership and influencers	Enable proactive, ongoing engagement with leaders/ influencers representative of Malawian society	Continuous	Annually	In progress	Deprive terrorists of support and hinder recruitment activities	MoHS/MoLGUC/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/PAC/NGO BOARD/ UNODC
	Ensure such leaders/ influencers receive VE awareness & civic education	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoEST/MoLGUC/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF /PAC/NGO BOARD /UNODC
	Utilise leaders/ influencers to advocate for social cohesion, patriotism, etc	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoLGUC/MoEST/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/PAC/NGO BOARD/ UNODC AND UN Agencies
	Use existing village/ area development mechanisms to discuss/ educate about VE issues	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoLGUC/MoESTMoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/ PAC/NGO BOARD /UNODC
	Caution religious leaders against preaching & promulgating extremist beliefs & doctrines	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoEST/MoLGUC/MPS/NIS/MDF/PAC/NGO BOARD/ UNODC
	Encourage religious authority figures to issue influential statements etc	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoEST/MoLGUC/MPS/NIS/MDF /PAC/NGO BOARD/ UNODC

	Mobilise the youth as part of gov social outreach programs	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MoYS/MPS/NIS/MDF/MHRC/
	Enhance public perception of Malawi's security forces	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/DICTS/PS
	Utilise diverse mechanisms & platforms e.g. local to discuss/ find solutions to VE	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoLGUC/MoEST/MPS/NIS/MDF/ PAC/NGO BOARD /UNODC
	Support local authorities to manage/ mitigate potential areas of community conflict/ instability	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/ MoLGUC/ MoEST/MPS/NIS/MDF/ PAC/NGO BOARD/ UNODC
	Devise programs to support existing peace-building infrastructure	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/ MoLGUC/ MoEST/MPS/NIS/MDF/ PAC/NGO BOARD/ UNODC
Protecting and promoting ethnicity, traditions and culture	Protect & protect Malawi's traditions, cultures, values through all available media	Continuous	Annually	In progres2 W s	Effectively counter terrorist propaganda narratives	MoLGUC/MoID/MACRA/
	Utilise all available media, inc school curricula, dances, dramas, radio, TV, etc	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoID/MoLGUC/MoD/NIS/MPS/FIA/MDF/NRB/DICTS/ MRA/ MACRA
	Showcase Malawi's diversity/ richness of views, histories, heritage, etc	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoFEA/MoLGUC/MPS/NIS/MDF /FIA

	Explore diverse avenues for cultural diplomacy	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoFEA /MoLGUC/MPS/NIS/MDF /FIA
	Design educational activities to build increased understanding & respect of Malawi's way of life	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoFEA /MoLGUC/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF /FIA
Empowermen t of the youth	Proactively engage youth as integral part of P/CVE solution	Immediate	Annually	In progress	Effective and sustained youth empowerm ent to counter terrorist propaganda and recruitment activities	MoG/MoFEA/MoLGUC/MoYS
	Develop programs to empower youth to reject VE	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoGCDSW/MoFEA/MoLGUC/MoYS
	Prioritise youth focused initiatives in higher risk communities	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MoGCDSW/MoFEA/MoLGUC/MoYS//MPS/ NIS/MDF/
	Engage multi-sectoral stakeholders to develop youth platforms to facilitate dialogue, interaction on VE	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoG/MoFEA/MoLGUC/MoYS/MoD/MPS/NIS/M DF
	Put in place appropriate safeguards to	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoG/MoFEA/MoLGUC/MoYS/MoD/MPS/NIS/M DF

	prevent misuse of youth focused activities by civil society					
	Support youth initiatives at grass root level					**MoYS**/MoG/MoFEA/MoLGUC
Empowerment of women and gender	Mainstream gender dynamics across all P/ CVE initiatives	Continuous	Annually	In progress	Effective countering of terrorist activities, including protection of youth	MoGCDSW/MoFEA
	Fully engage/ empower women as key partners in community P/CVE efforts	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MoGCDSW/MPS/NIS/MDF
	Ensure perceptions & experiences of women on VE are considered in program design	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoGCDSW /MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF
	Utilise existing gender fora & networks to engage those working with women & girls	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoGCDSW /MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF
	Leverage available platforms to raise radicalisation risk awareness among women & girls	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MoGCDSW/MPS/NIS/MDF/
	Use & develop mechanisms to build women's P/CVE capacity	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoGCDSW /MoJ/ MoTPW MoLGUC/MPS/NIS/MDF/ JUDICIARY/FIA

Development, socio-economic and justice	Introduce measures seeking to eradicate poverty, promote sustainable economic growth, reinforce social inclusion	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Effectively address root causes of terrorism	MoFEA/MoHS/MoGCDSW/MoJ/MPS/NIS/MDF
	Support initiatives to increase development/ investment in Malawi across sectors	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MoGCDSW/MoFEA/MoLGUC/MPS/NIS/MDF
	Pursue initiatives which enable socio-economic & justice benefits for all	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoGCDSW/MoFEAEA/MoLGUC/MoJ/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF
	Pursue initiatives which address socio-economic & justice grievances	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/ MoJ/ MoGCDSW/MoFEA/MoLGUC/MPS/NIS/MDF/
	Develop community projects which rebuild damaged infrastructure & social networks	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/ MoGCDSW/MoFEA/MoLGUC MPS/NIS/MDF/
	Support/ empower local authorities to develop community-level, targeted socio-economic programs	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/ MoGCDSW/MoFEA/MoLGUC MPS/NIS/MDF
Conflict resolution	Seek to resolve sources of actual/	Ongoing		In progress	Ensuring a secure community	MoLGUC/MPS/OPC

	potential conflict or potential instability				living in peace	
	Build capacity of local leaders in conflict resolution	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/MoGCDSW/MoFEA/MoLGUC/
	Create additional mechanisms as needed for conflict resolution/ management	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoLGUC/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF
PILLAR II: MEASURES TO PREVENT AND COMBAT TERRORISM						
Strengthening security and law enforcement approaches	Take necessary steps to ensure robust national laws to support P/CVE efforts	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Effective capacity to prevent and respond to violent extremism	MoHS/MoJ /MoD/MPS /MDF /NIS/DICTS/MRA
	Put in place mechanisms to ensure all P/CVE security efforts do not exceed legal parameters	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoJ/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/JUDICIARY
	Implement mechanisms which detect VE/ terrorist activities in communities	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoLGUC/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF
	Take steps to ensure good local law enforcement/ community relationships	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoLGUC/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF
	Create local level enabling mechanisms, eg early warning/ intelligence hubs	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/ MoLGUC /MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/

	Strengthen the competence of involved agencies to operate in a lawful, constitutional manner	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/ MoLGUC/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF
	Ensure that spectrum of State criminal justice actors are fully engaged to develop/ implement P/CVE measures	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoJ/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF /JUDICIARY
	Develop effective mechanisms to intervene, prosecute, rehabilitate, reintegrate radicalised persons/ returnees	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoJ/MoD/JUDICIARY/MPS/NIS/MDF/DICTS
	Protect the rights of all detained suspects/ prisoners to guard against VE push factors	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/MHRC
	Enable both traditional & community-based security approaches	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoLGUC/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF
Strategic communications	Institutionalise & mainstream strategic comms	Continuous	Annually	Pending	Counter terrorist propaganda and ensure	MoHS/MoID/NIS/MACRA/MPS

across P/CVE activities				effective counter violent extremism messaging	
Develop law enforcement, security, intelligence service capabilities for effective community engagement	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoLGUC/MoJ/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/
Pursue all possible measures to disrupt/ prevent dissemination of extremist propaganda across virtual/digital media	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoID/MoD/MOFEA /MPS/NIS/MDF /MACRA
Enable cyber space domain P/CVE activities	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoID/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/MACRA
Deploy on-line counter narratives & sensitise Media to not facilitate VE propaganda	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoID/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF/MACRA
Identify & deploy key non-gov influencers/ opinion leaders to support P/CVE efforts	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF
Build the capacity of credible partners, with	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MoLGUC /MoEST/MPS/NIS/MDF/ FIA/MoTPW

	resourcing, to develop powerful P/CVE narratives across media					
	Where possible, ensure a research-led evidence base for strategic comms	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MoLGUC /MPS/NIS/MDF/ /FIA/MoTPW/NSO
	Train & build capacity of key stakeholders to raise awareness & sensitise about VE activities	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF
	Provide Media with timely, accurate information on VE activities & P/CVE efforts	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoID/MPS/NIS/MDF/MACRA
Countering ideological narratives	Protect Malawi's population against VE activities by promoting its true values, patriotism etc	6 monthly	Annually	Pending	Counter terrorist propaganda and ensure effective counter violent extremism messaging	MoLGUC/NGORA
	Support initiatives to identify/ counter radicalising ideologies	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF
	Support initiatives, eg creation of platforms, for the promotion of tolerance, dialogue,	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF

	cooperation, peaceful existence					
Psycho-social measures	Pursue measures to better understand linkages between mental health & vulnerability to VE recruitment efforts	Continuous	Annually	Pending	Prevent and hinder terrorist recruitment efforts	MoGDCSW/MoH/MoEST
	Develop measures to address psycho-social needs of persons radicalised, recruited etc	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF
	Develop/ implement disengagement, (re)education, rehabilitation, reintegration initiatives	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoEST/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF
	Engage with persons associated with proscribed groups to seek behavioural change	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MPS/NIS/MDF
	Develop de-radicalisation & reintegration programs with key stakeholders eg religious/ community leaders	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoLGUC/MPS/NIS/MDF/PAC/
	Deploy reformed persons as part of P/CVE efforts	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoLGUC/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF

	Ensure psycho-social programs are gender- sensitive	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoLGUC/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF
	Provide education/ other support to families & social networks of reformed persons	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MoLG /MoEST/MPS/NIS/MDF/ FIA/MoTPW
	Invest in building local/ national P/CVE capacity	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MoFEAEA/MPS/NIS/MDF/MoLG /MoEST/FIA/MoTPW
PILLAR III: BUILDING CAPACITY TO PREVENT AND COMBAT TERRORISM						
Strengthening the research and evidence base	Strengthen local/ national capacity to generate & share research knowledge, information, analysis	Ongoing	Annually	Pending	Build increased understanding of the terrorism phenomenon to ensure evidence-based decision-making	MoEST MoID/MDF/NIS/MPS/DICTS/ /NRI/NSO
	Ensure that national policies, programs, initiatives are underpinned/ informed by robust research & evidence	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoEST/MoID/MDF/NIS/MPS/DICTS/ NRI/NSO
	Facilitate better engagement between researchers/acade mics 7 security agencies	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoEST/MDF/NIS/MPS/DICTS/ NRI/NSO

PILLAR IV: MEASURES TO ENSURE RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS FOR ALL AND RULE OF LAW IN THE FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM						
Law and policy	Ensure that all P/CVE efforts are underpinned by respect for human rights & rule of law	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Ensure rule of law, human rights compliant P/CVE measures	OPC/MoJ/MLC/Judiciary/PLAC
	Develop/strengthen national laws to ensure adequate framework to deal with spectrum of VE related crimes	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MoJ/MPS/NIS/MDF/OPC/MLC/Judiciary/PLAC
	Conduct periodic review of P/CVE legal/policy frameworks to ensure legality, appropriateness, proportionality etc	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF
	Conduct period review across spectrum of gov & non-gov stakeholder activities	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF
	Utilise various diverse mechanisms for periodic review inc for whole-of-society consultation	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF
	Design/ implement alternative mechanisms to	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF

	reconcile victims & repentant perpetrators					
	If appropriate, introduce alternative accountability, dispute resolution, reconciliation mechanisms	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF
	Ensure proper regard given to exact nature of involvement of women/ children with VE groups	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF
	Adopt, review, strengthen policies on transparency, equality, inclusivity etc across all gov platforms	Ongoing	Annually	In progress	Conflict-free community	MoHS/MoD/MPS/NIS/MDF

ABBREVIATIONS

FIA   Financial Intelligence Authority

MACRA   Malawi Communications Regulatory Authority

MDF   Malawian Defence Force

MHRC   Malawi Human Rights Commission

MLC   Malawi Law Commission

MoEST   Ministry of Education

MoFEA   Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs

MoH   Ministry of Health

MoLG   Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development

MoFA   Ministry of Foreign Affairs

MoG   Ministry of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare

MoHS   Ministry of Homeland Security

MoJ   Ministry of Justice

MoYS   Ministry of Youth and Sports

MPS   Malawi Police Service

MRA   Malawi Revenue Authority

MOHS/MPS/NIS/MDF   Ministry Responsible for National Unity

NGORA   Non-Governmental Organisations Regulatory Authority

NIS   National Intelligence Service

OPC   Office of the President and Cabinet

PPPC   Public Private Partnership Commission

UNODC   United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

APPENDIX 1

United Nations and Universal Counter-Terrorism Instruments to which Malawi is a State Party

- 2005 International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (State Party since 7 October 2009);

- 2005 Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (State Party since 11 February 2022);

- 1999 International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism (State Party since 11 August 2003);

- 1997 International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings (State Party since 11 August 2003);

- 1991 Convention on the Marking of Plastic Explosives for the Purpose of Detection (State Party since 31 March 2014);

- 1988 Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation (State Party since 10 April 2014);

- 1980 Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (State Party since 17 December 2013);

- 1979 International Convention against the Taking of Hostages (State Party since 17 March 1986);

- 1973 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons, including Diplomatic Agents (State Party since 14 March 1977);

- 1971 Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation (State Party since 21 December 1972);

- 1970 Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft (State Party since 21 December 1972);

- 1963 Convention on Offences and Certain Other Acts Committed On Board Aircraft (State Party since 28 December 1972).

APPENDIX 2

African Regional and Continental Instruments relevant to Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism

1. 2007 African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance (entered into force: 15 February 2012);

2. 2005 African Union Non-Aggression and Common Defence Pact (entered into force: 18 December 2009);

3. 2004 Protocol to the OAU Convention on Prevention and Combating of Terrorism (to enter into force 30 days after the deposit of the fifteenth instrument of ratification);

4. 2003 African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption (entered into force: 5 August 2006);

5. 2003 Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (entered into force: 25 November 2005);

6. 1999 OAU Convention on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism (entered into force: 6 December 2002);

7. 1995 African Nuclear-Weapons-Free-Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba) (entered into force: 15 July 2009);

8. 1981 African Charter on Human and People's Rights (entered into force: 21 October 1986); and the

9. 1977 Convention for the Elimination of Mercenarism in Africa (entered into force: 22 April 1985).

APPENDIX 3

National Instruments and Legislation Relevant to Countering Terrorism and Violent Extremism

National Crime Law 2017

Peace and Unity Act 2022

Penal Code 2022

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

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