

DRAFT

Speech delivered by the Secretary to the Treasury, Dr. Mafuta Mwale at the Roundtable Dialogue on Strategy and Responses to the Impacts of Russia- Ukraine Conflict on Malawi

Date: Wednesday, 20th July 2022

Venue: Sunbird Capital Hotel, Lilongwe

Salutations

Representative of the UNDP Resident Representative, **Ms. Julie Van Daseen, Governance
Portfolio Manager and Acting Deputy Resident Rep.**

Representative of the Director General of the National Planning Commission, **Dr. Joseph
Nagoli, Director of Knowledge Management and Learning**

The Executive Director of MwAPATA Institute, **Mr. William Chadza**

Senior Officials from Development Partners

Senior Officials from Civil Society Partners

Senior Officials from Civil Service Commission

Ladies and Gentlemen.

It is with great pleasure that I am able to be with you this afternoon on this important roundtable event that will discuss the strategies and responses to the impacts of Russia-Ukraine conflict on Malawi.

Since the onset of Russia-Ukraine conflict on 24th February 2022, many countries reacted by imposing sanctions targeting Russian individuals including the broader economy. This has

had a number of implications on Malawian economy as you are already aware. All sectors, including the financing flows to the NGO sector, have been affected.

Ladies and gentlemen, considering that the impacts are already here, what is important is to take advantage of the emerging opportunities of the conflict if we are to move forward as a nation.

I understand that there are a number of institutions that have been independently working on the implications of the Russia-Ukraine conflict on Malawi. This roundtable event provides a good platform to consolidate all those findings for informed policy formulations and actions.

Ladies and gentlemen, I would like therefore to urge all stakeholders here present; the academia, government ministries, and agencies (MDAs), the donor community, civil society, the media and UN agencies to be candid in this important conversation so that we agree on the key policy conclusions regarding this important matter.

As the Ministry, we commit to follow the discussions in this roundtable with keen interest and look forward to the key policy conclusions from this roundtable dialogue.

Thank you all for your attention!