



**TALKING POINTS FOR THE MINISTERIAL STATEMENT BY  
MINISTER OF HEALTH, HON. ATUPELE MULUZI M.P, AT THE  
MEETING OF THE GLOBAL PREVENTION COALITION  
10<sup>TH</sup> TO 11<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2017, GENEVA, SWITZERLAND**

**Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen**

Malawi is party to the 2016 Political Declaration, for which several UN Member States reaffirmed commitment to reduce the number of new HIV infection, to less than 500,000 by 2020.

A review conducted by the Ministry of Health in June 2017, shows that Malawi is on track towards achieving the 'Fast Track' 90-90-90 targets, at an impressive 88-78-86, respectively. With this progress, I am confident that Malawi will achieve the 90-90-90 targets by 2020.

**Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen**

However, scaling up treatment alone will not ultimately lead to an end to AIDS as a public threat, as envisaged under Sustainable Development Goal 3.3. We need to turn off the tap on new HIV infections. It is for this reason that Malawi reaffirmed its commitment to revamp its HIV prevention programme.

Malawi has a National HIV and AIDS Strategic Plan and a National HIV Prevention Strategy for 2015 to 2020. Both strategies are aligned to the UNAIDS 90-90-90 Strategy. The Prevention Strategy embraces a combination approach for primary and secondary HIV prevention. It prioritizes four population groups namely: couples, adolescent girls and young women, Men who have Sex with Men (MSM) and Female Sex Workers (FSW).

**Distinguish Ladies and Gentlemen**

Allow me to highlight some of the key actions Malawi has undertaken on the five combination prevention pillars:

- Two weeks ago, I launched a new National Condom Strategy, which adopts innovative, evidence-informed and social marketing approaches to demand creation, access and distribution of condoms and lubricants at facility and end user levels.



- We are expanding our national programme on Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision (VMMC), guided by a new scale-up, plan targeting both young men and adult males.
- We have developed a new National Adolescent Girls and Young Women (AGYW) Strategy, under the leadership of an inter-ministerial taskforce commissioned by the President. The Strategy will enhance coordination, rapid scale-up and effective delivery of comprehensive package of services for AGYW.
- Additionally, we are making strides in targeted interventions for female sex workers and men having sex with men, despite some limitations in the legal environment and geographical coverage of programming. We have consciously ensured that these key populations are adequately represented in all decision making structures and processes.
- Finally, we have commenced the process of generating local evidence through implementation science, research and demonstration pilots, to guide the full implementation of Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) in the future.

In light of the Global HIV Prevention Coalition, Malawi has just recently completed a rapid assessment and national consultations. This process has accorded us an opportunity to review the current approaches and suggest more relevant innovative interventions to reinvigorate HIV Prevention in Malawi, towards reducing new HIV infections. The country consultation processes have enabled us to recognize the need for realistic prevention targets and more focused results framework for the national HIV prevention programme.

## **Distinguish Ladies and Gentlemen**

In order to reinvigorate HIV Primary Prevention, the Government of Malawi, in collaboration with development partners, civil society organizations, the private sector, key populations led organizations and traditional leadership will seek to:

1. Review the HIV Prevention Strategy and targets at national and sub-national levels, in-line with the Global HIV prevention aspirations and targets; which will be accompanied by an appropriate results framework and accountability structures at national and sub-national levels;



2. Increase domestic financing of the national AIDS response, including through active engagement of the private sector, towards achieving the quarter for prevention target;
3. Develop a national technical support plan to strengthen technical and management capacity for revitalizing primary prevention of HIV in Malawi;
4. Carry out mapping, size estimation and integrated biological and behavioural surveillance survey (IBBSS) to generate strategic information for effective key populations programme design and implementation; and,
5. Finally, the Malawi Parliament is currently reviewing the HIV and AIDS Prevention and Management Bill that will guarantee quality services for all people living with HIV, in an environment free of stigma and discrimination.

I commend the Global Prevention Coalition for putting together a comprehensive roadmap, with clear milestones to guide our joint efforts towards reducing new HIV infection globally, to less than 500,000 by 2020. I pledge my personal commitment and the commitment of the Government of Malawi, to work closely with the Global Prevention Coalition to reinvigorate primary prevention of HIV in Malawi and across the globe. Together, we can surely end HIV as a public health threat by 2030; the time to act is now.

Thank you.