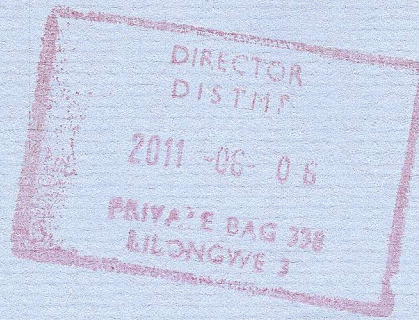




## MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND CIVIC EDUCATION



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# JOINT MANAGEMENT MEETING

# COMMUNIQUE

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5/20/2011

This is a statement of resolutions and at the end of the first joint management meeting for the Ministry of Information and Civic Education held from 19 to 20 May, 2011 at Hippo View, Liwonde.



We, Management of the Ministry of Information and Civic Education, the Malawi Communications Regulatory Authority, Malawi Broadcasting Corporation, Malawi Posts Corporation, Department of Information Systems and Technology Management Services and the Department of Information and Civic Education having met on 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> May, 2011 at Hippo View, Liwonde;

Noting that this is the first joint meeting of the Ministry;

Guided by the Minister of Information and Civic Education as well as the Mandate of the Ministry of Information and Civic Education;

## **COMMITMENTS**

We hereby commit ourselves to work together to promote team spirit and team work as well as to ensure that the Ministry fulfills its mandate of providing information and educating the masses on issues of national interest.

1. **Noting** the absence of a consolidated strategic plan in the Ministry we agree to develop a ministerial strategic plan within the 2011/12 fiscal year;
2. **Realizing** that MBC is over staffed we empower the Ministry to re-deploy the excess staff;
3. **Recognizing** inefficiencies regarding human resource at MPC, we request the Ministry to look at ways to rationalize staff accordingly;
4. Further **recognizing** the importance of networking,



- a. MPC and MBC have agreed to collaborate on stimulation of customers for MPC;
  - b. MBC and MACRA have agreed to collaborate on provision of TV services in tele-centres;
  - c. MBC and DISTMS have agreed to collaborate and bring awareness of GWAN and its services;
  - d. DoICE to collaborate with MBC for empowering District Information Officers to encourage flow of information from districts for transmission;
5. **Realising** the need for extra-budgetary resources for *ad hoc* activities, we agree that the Ministry should follow set procedures for requesting assistance from its parastatals.
6. **Realising** the importance of the Press Unit and the Civic Education Division in articulating government agenda it was agreed that capacity and professionalism should be enhanced;
7. **Noting** budgetary constraints faced by DISTMS to maintain and expand GWAN DISTMS is hereby requested to develop proposals for alternative sources of funding;
8. **Considering** challenges faced by DISTMS to run NACIT, the meeting proposed that NACIT should be delinked from Central Government to run as a parastatal;



9. **Realising** the potential of the Ministry's Civic Education Division all Government establishments under the Ministry were encouraged to fully utilize it;
10. **Realising** financial difficulties the DoICE and MBC face, we request the Ministry to ask for direct funding from OPC for VVIP National/International events;
11. **Recognising** the importance of equitable Internet access in the social economic development of the nation and noting that submarine cables have landed in the East Coast of Africa, further noting that Internet charges continue to be high in Malawi, we urge the Ministry in conjunction with MACRA and the PC (under the RCIP Project), to consider the licensing of the new entrant in the internet wholesale market as a measure of introducing competition, promote consumer interest and reducing prices;
12. **Recognising** the importance of this joint Management Meeting, we resolve to hold this meeting bi-annually.

## **APPRECIATION**

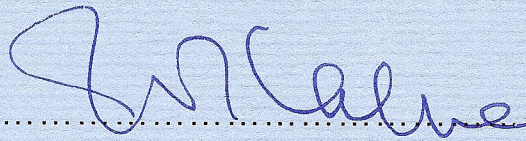
We EXPRESS our gratitude to the Minister of Information and Civic Education, Honourable Symon Vuwa Kaunda, M. P. and the Deputy Minister, Honourable Thom Tarsizio Gowelo, M. P. for providing guidance for the initiation of this joint meeting and for being present during the meeting.



We EXPRESS our gratitude also to the Secretary for Information and Civic Education, Mr. James Donald Kalilangwe, for expertly chairing the meeting.



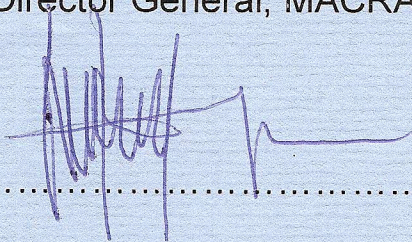
Signed on 20<sup>th</sup> May, 2011 at Hippo View, Liwonde:



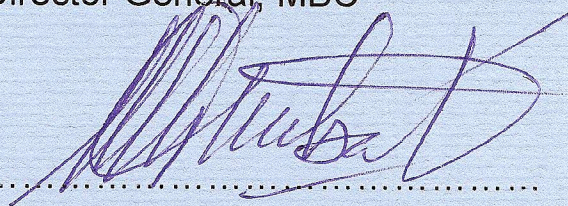
Secretary for Information and Civic Education



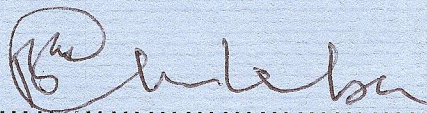
Director General, MACRA



Director General, MBC



Post Master General



Director of DISTMS



Acting Director of Information and Civic Education