

ANNEX 8: PRESENTATION ON GWAN

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GWAN OVERVIEW

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GWAN SECTION Overview

- Created in 1999
- Mandate:
 - (Original) to ensure centralized control of payroll in a decentralized payroll processing through the PPPAI, later Human Resource Management Information System (HRMIS)
 - To develop and manage Government Electronic Network that facilitates implementation of Government Computerized systems

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GWAN overall goal

One Integrated Government network, connecting all Government offices in the country. A network that is:-

- Secure
- Reliable
- Multi-service
- Fast

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Current status

- Developed Local Area Networks and connected Capital Hill buildings in 2000 with fiber optic cables;
- Developed Local Area Networks and connected 4 buildings at City Centre in 2001 using wireless connections. Connected the City Centre buildings with Capital Hill using 2 wireless connections;
- Developed Local Area Networks and connected 9 buildings in City centre in 2007;
- Currently (2011) connecting government buildings in Lilongwe Old Town, Blantyre City and Mzuzu City.

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Technologies used

- Wireline – Fiber optic cable and copper (unshielded twisted pair)
- Wireless – Laser (Free Space Optics) and Radio Frequency (RF) links
- Switches – CISCO
- Routers – CISCO
- Firewall – CISCO
- Servers – Windows and Linux

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Current GWAN Services

Services on GWAN are:-

- Highway for IFMIS
- Highway for HRMIS
- Internet
- Email
- LAN services for Ministries and Departments
- Network Security (Up-to date Trend Antivirus, Microsoft Windows Updates)
- Website hosting for www.malawi.gov.mw; www.visitmalawi.mw; & www.foreignaffairs.mw

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Future Plans

- Roll out to Districts- 2011 and beyond
- Development of a National fiber backbone
- Connect to Regional Communications Infrastructure Project (RCIP) network
- Enhance GWAN management (introduce better network management tools)
- Introduce new services (Videoconferencing and VoIP) Facility
- Set up DNS infrastructure for .gov.mw domains
- Set up mailing list infrastructure

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Financial investment a big Challenge

- GWAN Budget for 2011/12 MK50,300,000
- RCIP pays MK46,000,000 for 10mbps
- DISTMS pays MK27,000,000 for 6mbps
- Current requirements for Internet is 30mbps
- No funds for 2011/12 for National fiber backbone project
- Roll out estimates for GoM buildings is USD12m
- National fiber backbone estimate is 3,000km