

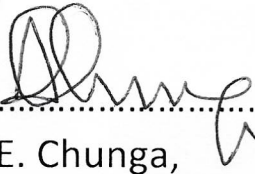



## **JOINT COMMUNIQUE BY MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EX-MINERS ASSOCIATION OF MALAWI: 13 AUGUST 2021**

Following the meeting that took place between the Ministry of Labour officials led by the PS, Mr. Dickson Chunga and the leadership of the Ex-Miners Association of Malawi, led by Mr. John Dick, on Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> August, 2021 on delays by the 1970 Provident Fund of South Africa to process benefits of qualifying ex-miners, the Parties hereby issue a joint communique as follows:


1. That Government recognizes the Ex-Miners Association of Malawi as the official representative body of ex-miners that Government deals with on issues concerning Malawian ex-miners who worked in the South African mines;
2. That it is clear that the delay to finalise the processing of payments for 81 ex-miners whose files were delivered by Ministry to the 1970 Provident Fund of South Africa on 18<sup>th</sup> June, 2021 is due to covid-19 restrictions imposed by the South African Government which has forced most employees, including the employees of the Fund, to work from home;
3. That the Ministry should ask the 1970 Provident Fund and other provident funds to be providing Traditional Authorities of the home districts of ex-miners for easy tracing;
4. That the Ministry will facilitate an audience of the Association's leadership with His Excellency the State President, Dr Lazarus McCarthy Chakwera, who has clearly shown his concern on the delays to process the benefits of ex-miners;

5. That the Ministry undertakes to provide updates on the processing of ex-miners benefits and other issues of concern to the ex-miners at least fortnightly;
6. That the Ministry should fast-track the conclusion of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Government of South Africa which has already been submitted to that Government. The MOU covers among other issues, facilitation of portability of social security benefits such as provident fund and pension benefits as well as employment injury benefits;
7. That the Ministry should follow up with the South African Ambassador to Malawi on the intervention efforts that the Embassy has made following a meeting the Ambassador had with the Ministry and that the Ministry should continue with such engagement.

Signed:   
Dickson E. Chunga,  
**Secretary for Labour**

Signed:   
John Dick  
**President of Ex-Miners  
Association of Malawi**

Signed(witness):   
Wafwile Musukwa  
**Deputy Labour Commissioner**

Signed(witness):   
McLoid Chagwa  
**General Secretary**