



PARLIAMENT OF MALAWI



**SPEECH BY THE RIGHT HONOURABLE SPEAKER, SAMEER
SULEMAN DURING THE GENERAL DEBATE AT THE 152ND
GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION
(IPU) IN ISTANBUL, TURKIYE: 15TH - 19TH APRIL, 2026**

ON THE TOPIC:

**NURTURING HOPE, SECURING PEACE AND ENSURING JUSTICE
FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS**

**MALAWI National Assembly
Private Bag B362
Lilongwe 3**

April, 2026

1. **Mr. President**, it is with great honour that I take this opportunity to address this Honourable Assembly, meeting here in this beautiful city of **Istanbul**, to contribute on behalf of the Malawi delegation to this important theme of the 152nd IPU Assembly entitled, *“Nurturing hope, securing peace and ensuring justice for future generations”*.
2. The theme of this Assembly resonates deeply with the global challenges that the World is facing today. We are meeting at a time when the world stands at a defining crossroads, under the weight of undeniable realities, conflicts that defy international law, inequalities that continue to widen, a climate crisis that threatens livelihoods, and growing uncertainty among young people.
3. **Mr. President**, these challenges are not distant realities—they are present in our communities and affect the lives of our people every day. Addressing these challenges requires strong political responsibility, with parliaments playing a central role in protecting vulnerable populations and nurturing a peaceful hope for their future in the midst of escalating conflicts and natural disasters.
4. This topic speaks directly to the values upon which the country I come from - Malawi was founded on— compassion, solidarity, and respect for human dignity. Malawi has long stood as a beacon of peace, stability, and democratic governance on the African continent. Its voice is engraved in both weight and moral suasion for advancing and defending humanitarian principles— anchored in respect for human dignity, the rule of law, as well as a rules based international order and inclusive governance— both domestically and on the global stage.
5. **Mr. President**, Malawi remains committed to these values, guided by its long-term vision, which recognizes peace as the foundation of

sustainable development. Through legislative, oversight, and representative functions.

6. **Distinguished colleagues**, the Government of Malawi and Parliament have implemented key initiatives, including programmes, to address poverty, and to target food insecurity to millions vulnerable households, such as the Affordable Inputs Programme (AIP) and Social Cash Transfer (SCT) Programme.
7. Furthermore, Malawi remains committed to international cooperation and has demonstrated this through its participation in global frameworks such as the Paris Agreement on climate change and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The country continues to uphold environmental protection through policies on sustainable land use, forestry, and water resource management.
8. In addition, Malawi is increasingly engaging on emerging issues such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), working to ensure that technological advancements are guided by democratic principles and respect for human rights. Malawi is still developing its regulatory frameworks on AI therefore; we realize that if they are left unchecked, they could deepen inequality, undermine democratic processes, and even alter the nature of conflict itself.
9. **Mr. President**, on the question of youth inclusion and intergenerational justice, Malawi acknowledges the urgent need to involve young people in decision-making. While youth representation remains low globally, our Parliament has taken steps to engage young people through parliamentary outreach programmes, youth parliament, and collaboration with civil society organizations. These platforms allow young voices to be heard and incorporated into national policy discussions.

10. Similarly, Malawi continues to promote gender equality through legislative reforms and affirmative action, which have seen the increased women's participation in politics. **Mr. President**, Of course gaps remain. However, this progress is guided by commitments such as the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Protocol on Gender and Development and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), alongside national laws like the Gender Equality Act of 2013. These efforts reflect our firm belief that a future which excludes women is not only unjust, but unsustainable.

11. In conclusion, **distinguished Delegates**, let me end by saying that history will not judge us by the speeches we make, but by the choices we take. Because in the end, nurturing hope is not an abstract aspiration—it is an obligation. Securing peace is not optional—it is a duty. And ensuring justice for future generations is not a promise—it must be our legacy. Therefore, we must re-affirm our commitment to building a world where peace, justice, and hope are not privileges for a few, but realities for all.

I thank you.