

Progress Report on Malawi's Experiences
and Lessons Learnt in implementation of the
2018 NEAPACOH Commitments and Country
Commitments for 2019

MALAWI

**Presented by: Hon. Eurita Ntiza Valeta, MP – Vice-
Chairperson of the Health Committee**

October 31, 2019

MALAWI COMMITMENTS AS OF 2018

NEAPACOH

- To Continue lobbying for Universal Access to Reproductive Health products for all women of child bearing age group;
- To lobby for increased Government funding towards the Health Sector; and
- To make sure that there is Continued Donor Support towards RH services.

STATUS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Specific Activity/Action	Progress towards achieving Commitment	Challenges	Lessons Learned
<p>Continue lobbying for Universal Access to Reproductive Health products for all women of child bearing age group</p>	<p>Parliament through Health Committee has continued to lobby Government for increased allocation of funding towards the Health Sector and in Particular towards family planning budget line.</p> <p><i>The Budgetary allocation towards FP has increased by 46% from 2018.</i></p>	<p>Still falling short of the Abuja declaration (15% of the national budget to be allocated to Health). The budget to the Health Sector is now at around 12% because of resource constraints.</p>	<p>The Lobbying exercise is an on-going thing and that it cannot be concluded at once.</p>

Specific Activity/Action	Progress towards achieving Commitment	Challenges	Lessons Learned
<p>Continue lobbying for Universal Access to Reproductive Health products for all women of child bearing age group</p>	<p>The Health Committee has continued engaging Government to consider recruiting more skilled health personnel and allocate them in hard to reach areas where their services are needed most.</p>	<p>Inadequate funding for recruitment and retention of skilled health workers.</p>	<p>The persistence of the committee in tabling the matters of shortage of health personnel with the Ministry of Health is helping as each year the Ministry continues to recruit more and more members of the health personnel.</p>
		<p>It is the wish of the Health Committee to conduct robust oversight activities such as public hearings to lobby the masses on matters of RH and FP</p>	<p>With the available resources, both from Government and the Donor Community, the Committee will continue with the lobbying exercise as noted that communities are adhering to the messages as evidence by increased demands for RH services.</p>

Specific Activity/Action	Progress towards achieving Commitment	Challenges	Lessons Learned
<p>To lobby for increased Government funding towards the Health Sector</p>	<p>The Health Sector has continued to remain among the priority areas for Government.</p>	<p>For a country like Malawi with a lot of competing demands, it will take time to fully meet some of the unmet needs</p>	<p>Though continuous engagement with private and donor partners the committee has motivated the availability of F/P commodities in the country.</p> <p>Budget cluster meetings have aided the Health Committee in lobbying for increased funding for the Health Sector.</p>
<p>To make sure that there is Continued Donor Support towards RH services</p>	<p>The existing partnership between the Donor Community and the Government looks promising and therefore both sides believe it has been nurtured.</p>	<p>There is need for strengthening health system on research, M&E so that provision of F/P services are evidence based</p>	<p>With a proper mechanism for research, Monitoring & Evaluation, the Committee will have proper, forecasting, quantification, budgeting and allocation for FP products and services.</p>

2019 MALAWI COMMITMENTS

- Lobby for continued increase in Government funding towards the Sector;
- To ensure that our Central Medical Stores Trust includes essential FP products in its Must – Have lists;
- Advocate for alternate health financing e.g. National Health Insurance and user fees in public referral hospitals;
- Advocate for Strengthening of the Health Systems in research and Monitoring and Evaluation.
- To ensure that adolescents and youths especially girls have access to comprehensive as well as context and age responsive SRHR information, education and timely services.

THANK YOU