

Co-operation Agreement

Scotland and Malawi have a long history of collaboration, particularly in health and education. Both countries share a wish to build upon this history by actively engaging through partnership. This is a reciprocal partnership based upon sharing experiences and skills. It is an opportunity to learn from each other and to recognise the needs of our two countries.

This document outlines an agreement to co-operate on a number of broad streams, namely, civic governance, sustainable economic development, health and education. The guiding principles underpinning this agreement are as follows:

- All engagement will be consistent with current government priorities and existing policies and activity
- Engagement will build upon the context of the long standing friendship between both countries, recognising the benefits of learning and sharing from one another

Scotland and Malawi will develop and increase collaboration across the following broad themes:

Civic governance and society, in particular:

- **To strengthen governance** by working with others to develop schemes for sharing government and parliamentary experience on both a local and central government level, and for sharing legal and financial expertise by engaging with national bodies and civil society
- **To share experiences of addressing inequality and the needs of vulnerable groups in society** by supporting mechanisms for exchanging expertise and mentoring initiatives
- **To develop mechanisms for strengthening the media** by facilitating links between key partners
- **To investigate innovative ways of developing and using technology**, with particular reference to remote and rural communities

Sustainable economic development, in particular:

- **To initiate discussion on how best to stimulate enterprise** by facilitating the exchange of skills and business expertise in relevant sectors
- **To explore opportunities to stimulate tourism**, including between the two countries, by encouraging links.
- **To investigate potential collaboration between agricultural bodies**

Health, in particular:

- **To contribute to the improvement of maternal health** by supporting the increase in the number of trained midwives and facilitating the exchange of knowledge and skills required for dealing with obstetric and gynaecological emergencies

- **To increase the capacity of Health Colleges (Government and CHAM)** by developing in-country teaching support for trainee clinical officers, nurses, midwives, nurse technicians and allied health professionals
- **To support the College of Medicine in the development of specialist medical training** for health professionals and facilitate mechanisms for the exchange of medical and health management expertise
- **To support HIV/ AIDS prevention, treatment and care** by developing partnerships for sharing expertise (especially around health education) and assisting in addressing human resource capacity in services
- **To support communities to access and deliver health services at local and district level** through support of local community initiatives, especially those focussing on child health, disability and gender equality

Education, in particular:

- **To help build capacity in education** by further developing teacher exchange programmes and supporting the development of training of trainers for local delivery
- **To support the exchange of knowledge and skills** by facilitating academic links and twinning initiatives between local government, schools and higher education institutions
- **To explore how best to address access to and availability of quality education**, with particular attention to remote and rural communities
- **To initiate discussion on the provision of vocational education and training** by encouraging the sharing of best practice and expertise and the development of links with Further Education
- **To encourage equality in the participation of education** by supporting the development of initiatives to empower vulnerable groups

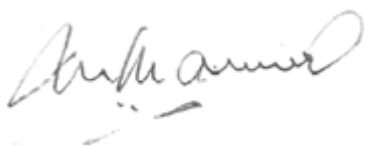
...and other areas of mutual interest that may emerge.

An action plan will be developed in discussion with key partners outlining specific actions and commitments for each theme for the next 2-5 years.

Signed in Edinburgh , November 2005



Rt. Hon Jack McConnell MSP, First Minister of Scotland



His Excellency Dr. Bingu wa Mutharika, President of the Republic of Malawi

