

**STATEMENT on the Malawi VNR, delivered by a representative of the Stakeholder Group for
Persons with Disabilities,
15 JULY 2022**

A. Civil society organisations (CSO) led by Council for NGOs in Malawi – CONGOMA participated in the process of collecting citizen views during the VNR consultations for Malawi in partnership with National Planning Commission – NPC and Action for Sustainable Development – Action4SD. The Community consultations took place in 5 districts, with a total of 9 communities participating, with various groups of people participating. Other than physical consultations, there were online consultations which required various groups to input into the information required for VNR. After the consultations, CONGOMA ensured participation of the CSOs, including LGBTI in the drafting of the VNR. Additionally, CONGOMA has produced its 2022 People’s Report on SDGs incorporating citizen views.

B. The communities identified the following as mostly being left behind:

1. LGBTI
2. Refugees
3. Child-headed families
4. People living with mental illness
5. Citizens from hard to reach areas
6. People living with HIV and AIDS
7. People with albinism
8. Women and girls
9. Youth
10. The elderly
11. Persons with disability

Please could you outline the initiatives to include groups being left behind include incorporating the groups in development committees at all levels, consulting them when developing plans, and engaging them to participate in implementation of various programmes?

What frameworks will the Government of Malawi put in place to promote the inclusion of vulnerable groups; and identify ways of enhancing their participation?