

FOREWORD FROM MP JOYCE CHITSULO TO THE PEOPLE OF MWANZA WEST CONSTITUENCY

See my updates on <https://mwanzawest.org>

I greet you in the name of the Almighty God. As my five-year term as your Member of Parliament for Mwanza West nears its conclusion, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the people of this constituency for entrusting me with the honor of representing you in Parliament. Together, we have made significant strides in transforming our constituency's socioeconomic landscape, despite facing enormous challenges, particularly the COVID-19 pandemic and devastating cyclones, which severely hindered our development progress. These two "vampires" led to widespread unemployment, overburdened our healthcare system, strained our economy, and brought businesses to a standstill by disrupting supply chains. However, our greatest loss has been the lives of our loved ones, taken too soon by these difficult circumstances.

I offer my heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families, friends, and relatives. Yet, I find solace in the Holy Bible, particularly in Psalms 107:1: "Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His steadfast love endures forever."

MY FELLOW MALAWIANS OF MWANZA WEST

Over the last five years, we have achieved notable progress in advancing development, but it is time to elevate our efforts. Our journey toward success remains unfinished until our people are freed from the grips of poverty and disease, until every child has access to the education they deserve, until women are empowered through small business initiatives, and until our clinics are fully constructed and equipped. We must continue working until the elderly have dignified homes, until the girl child is fully empowered, and until our democracy reaches its fullest potential.

We must learn from both our accomplishments and setbacks over the past five years to forge a path forward. Together, we can achieve more.

WHO IS JOYCE CHITSULO?

As someone born into a low-income family, I understand the struggles of poverty and the shame it can bring. I know firsthand what it means to live in a thatched house, especially during the rainy season. If it weren't for God's grace, I wouldn't have received the education that shaped my life and allowed me to serve others. This is why my commitment to public service is rooted in sacrifice and love for humanity.

As a single parent, I have experienced the challenges of raising a child and ensuring they receive an education. Despite these difficulties, my faith in God has sustained me, and I

have always prioritized the future of my children. To my fellow single mothers, I encourage you to hold on to hope, trust in your abilities, and draw strength from God's power.

As my term comes to an end, I have traveled across our constituency, meeting people from all walks of life: farmers, teachers, youth, religious leaders, and business owners. I have listened to their stories of hardship, and yet I have also seen their extraordinary resilience. Most importantly, I have learned about their hopes and aspirations for a better future.

I come before you with humility, integrity, and a deep belief that together, we can build on what we have achieved. My connection with you is a sacred bond, and I pledge to work tirelessly to lift Mwanza West to new heights of prosperity.

A PLEDGE TO CONTINUE SERVICE

As your MP, I renew my commitment to serve with humility, dedication, and a focus on development. Together, we will continue to secure the future of our constituency by providing access to clean water, health facilities, quality education, and support for women in small businesses. We will work to ensure girls complete their education and respect our traditions and culture, which form the foundation of our social cohesion and unity. At the end of the day, *ndale sitidya* ("we don't eat politics").

This manifesto will serve as our roadmap, outlining key areas of focus for economic development, infrastructure growth, and social welfare. With your vote, I am determined to lead Mwanza West to even greater stability and prosperity.

SPECIAL GRATITUDE

I want to extend my deep gratitude to our traditional and religious leaders, whose unwavering support has been instrumental in all the development milestones achieved in our constituency. They have been a constant pillar of strength in this journey.

VISION

To create an inclusive space that meets the aspirations of all our people, regardless of differences, and to harness our collective energy to build a constituency that ensures safety, prosperity, and dignity for everyone.

MISSION

To work closely with all stakeholders, reinforcing norms and values that will improve the quality of life for all through credible leadership and sustainable development.

VALUES

While no single model of democracy exists, there are key values essential to every democracy, including:

- **Accountability:** Leaders must remain responsive to the public, with mechanisms in place to hold them accountable for their actions.
- **Transparency:** Political processes must be open and subject to public oversight.
- **Equity:** Every person deserves to be treated fairly, according to their unique circumstances.
- **Inclusion:** Diverse voices must be heard, respected, and integrated into decision-making processes.
- **Civic Participation:** Every citizen should have the freedom to exercise their political and civic rights and responsibilities actively.
- **Rule of Law:** Laws, created by elected representatives, must align with universal human rights and be fairly enforced. All citizens are subject to the law, and justice must be upheld.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Our guiding principles embody how we will translate democratic values into concrete action:

- **Teamwork:** I believe that collaboration, drawing on the expertise and experiences of others, is essential to success.
- **Responsibility:** We are accountable for our actions and their impact, both individually and collectively, always striving to promote peace and stability.
- **Integrity:** I am committed to upholding honesty, transparency, and ethical behavior in all areas of our work.
- **Respect:** I respect all political perspectives and treat every individual with dignity, fostering diversity, equity, and inclusion in every aspect of our work.

KEY PRIORITIES

1. **Education:** I will work to build more schools within walking distance for our learners, ensure that teachers have decent housing, and focus on the needs of girls and students with special needs. I will also provide sanitary pads to schoolgirls to reduce absenteeism.

2. **Healthcare:** Constructing more health clinics equipped with necessary medicines is a top priority. I will lobby for additional funding to ensure women and children can access healthcare without having to walk long distances, which can be life-threatening during critical times like childbirth.
3. **Food Security and Agriculture:** I will support small-scale irrigation and modernized farming techniques to ensure families have enough food for their own needs and surplus for trade.
4. **Infrastructure Development:** I will continue to improve road infrastructure, making it safer for children to travel to school and for goods to move efficiently, particularly during the rainy season.
5. **Clean Water:** I will expand the drilling of boreholes and work with the Southern Region Water Board to provide piped water, reducing the risk of waterborne diseases like cholera.
6. **Public Security:** I will ensure more police units are established to safeguard people and their property, and make sure police officers have proper housing and resources.
7. **Youth and Women Empowerment:** I will lobby for soft loans for small businesses and vocational training for young people, with plans to establish two vocational training centers.
8. **Sports Development:** I will promote sports as a means of fostering social cohesion, improving health, and building community spirit.
9. **Energy and Rural Electrification:** I aim to bring electricity, including solar power, to every household, enabling small businesses to thrive and creating opportunities for entrepreneurship.

CLOSING MESSAGE

To lead is to serve. I believe I am the leader who can unite our community, irrespective of faith, gender, or socioeconomic background. I will continue to put women, youth, and our entire community at the center of economic growth. With your support and your vote, we can transform Mwanza West together.

With God's grace and your trust, we will succeed.

Kwathu ku Mwanza West Constituency, Ndale sitidya!

God bless you all!