



## **PRESS STATEMENT**

For Immediate Release

5<sup>th</sup> June 2020

### **MUST BELONGS TO GOVERNMENT**

Government has taken note of the blatant and politically-driven lies spread by Honourable Yerehiah Chihana, Member of Parliament for Mzimba North, about the ownership of Malawi University of Science and Technology (MUST).

Featuring on Tchutchutchu programme on Times TV, Honourable Chihana lied to the world that the University is owned by President Professor Arthur Peter Mutharika 's family.

Government, therefore, wishes to put the record straight as follows:

1. The University was established by an Act of Parliament Number 31 of 2012. This means that its ownership is defined by the Act which represents all people of Malawi. The legitimate owner of MUST is the Government of Malawi.
2. The former Head of State and late President Professor Bingu wa Mutharika donated part of his Ndata Farm to the

Government of Malawi as the proposed site for the construction of the University.

3. The University has been processing title deed for the land. All processes were completed and the Ministry of Lands shall be issuing the title deed in due course.
4. The University is run by a Council and no member of the Mutharika family is affiliated to the Council in any way.
5. The University has a Ministry of Education, Science and Technology Charter just like all other public universities.
6. The University is fully funded by the Government of Malawi through Parliament which represents the people of Malawi .
7. All students at MUST are selected through the National Council for Higher Education (NCHE) which regulates selection to all public universities.
8. Since its establishment, the University has never had any interaction with BINETH Trust or any of the children of the late Professor Bingu wa Mutharika who run the Trust.
9. Malawians may recall that His Excellency President Professor Arthur Peter Mutharika ceased to be a trustee of BINETH Trust nearly six years ago.

As these facts show, Government is deeply worried that an Honourable Member of Parliament who is supposed to speak the

truth at all times decided to do the dishonourable thing of telling people lies, probably to feed his political interests.

The Malawi University of Science and Technology is a public institution and details of its ownership are public record.

It is, therefore, disturbing that a Member of Parliament should resort to peddling cheap propaganda, instead of producing factual information by checking the readily available records from the right offices.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Mark Michael Botomani, M.P.

**MINISTER OF INFORMATION, CIVIC EDUCATION AND  
COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY**