

**NATIONS UNIES**  
**HAUT COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME**



**UNITED NATIONS**  
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24 August 2007

Excellency,

I write following the letter sent by Mrs. Gertrude Lynn Hiwa, Chief Parliamentary Draftsperson on 25 June 2007(ref. No. C.443/G) requesting that Malawi be granted more time to submit its overdue initial to sixth periodic reports, due from 11 July 1997 to 11 July 2007.

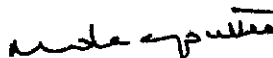
As you recall, a constructive preliminary dialogue held by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination with the delegation of Malawi at its 69<sup>th</sup> session, on 15 August 2006, and written replies were submitted by your Government in relation to the list of issues sent by the Committee in August 2005 (CERD/C/MWI/Q/5/Add.1). Given the assurances made by your Government's delegation, the Committee decided that the overdue reports of Malawi on the implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, to be submitted in a single document, should be sent to the Committee as soon as possible, and no later than 30 June 2007.

As you will also recall, I had drawn your attention in my letter of 17 August 2006, that in case of non-receipt of the report by 30 June 2007, the Committee would examine the situation under its review procedure at its 71<sup>st</sup> session, to be held in Summer 2007, and would proceed to the adoption of concluding observations in the absence of a report.

H.E. Mr. Steve Dick Tennyson Matenje,  
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary  
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Permanent Mission of the Republic of Malawi  
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Bearing in mind, however, the request for technical assistance made by Your Excellency's Government and current plans to ensure the provision of training on the Convention and on reporting to the Committee made by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Committee decided to grant Malawi an additional delay for the drafting and submission of its overdue reports **until 30 June 2008**. In case of non-receipt of the report by 30 June 2008, the Committee will examine the situation under its review procedure at its 73<sup>rd</sup> session, to be held in Summer 2008, and will proceed to the adoption of concluding observations in the absence of a report and on the basis of other information at its disposal from other sources, including non-governmental organisations.

Yours sincerely,



Régis de Gouttes  
Chairman, Committee on the  
Elimination of Racial Discrimination