HRDC CALL FOR PARLIAMENT NOT TO CONFIRM MWAPASA AS INSPECTOR GENERAL

The Human Rights Defenders Coalition (HRDC) is against confirming of the Acting Inspector General of Police **Mr. Duncan Mwapasa** appointment. This petition provides a platform to represent Malawians in their association and in millions country wide expressing disappointment in the candidature for the office of the Inspector General by the name of **Mr. Duncan Mwapasa** for the following reasons:

- That it is a well-known fact that the subject person to be confirmed was embroiled in the food ration scandal which Malawians fail to fathom government’s consideration to the highest man in police uniform
- That under his belt as Deputy Inspector General he failed to protect the abduction and killings of people with albinism
- That it is during his tenure of office as Deputy Inspector General of Police responsible for operations that he has failed to keep peace during protests
- That he is on record to agitate protesters with alleged order to police to fire live bullets in support of the DPP government. The allegations are all over in the social media
- That his confirmation as the Inspector General of the Malawi Police Service will bring the current police further from the people who have lost trust in it
- That he – alongside Rodney Jose and Peter Mukhito - is named in the Presidential Commission of Inquiry Report on the murder of Polytechnic student activist Robert Chasowa a scenario that raises suspicion on his possible role in Chasowa murder.
- That he – just like the former IG – is a “confessed” DPP cadet whose appointment (subject to Parliament confirmation) is strong based on patronage, nepotism and “politics of poverty of ideas” rather than on merit and professionalism. Mwapasa appointment is clearly a typical President Mutharika’s ploy to maintain the Malawi Police Service under DPP capture at the expense of public interest.
- As evidence of his involvement in partisan politics, he has failed to protect citizens of Malawi at time when they needed him most. This is evidenced by the Blantyre Fracas on 25th of September, 2019 where DPP Cadets were visibly seen beating peaceful demonstrators including renowned Activist Billy Mayaya at the watch of his Police men. Worse Still, DPP cadets were seen being led under the escort of the same Malawi Police Service which had failed to provide security to peaceful demonstrators. Its therefore evident enough that citizens have has lost complete trust in the Police under his leaderships an Acting Inspector General. Right now Citizens have become enemies with the police and we have witnessed the Police are aimlessly arresting innocent citizen back walking innocently back home from peaceful demonstrations. Voting for Mwapasa is voting for a police state which we cannot accept. The coming in of Malawi Defense Force to provide public order is an indication that police has miserably
failed under his leadership. His failure to bring to book cases connected to the Democratic Party Cadets only justifies how compromised his leadership is.

- If Parliament Approves Mr Mwapasa, Citizens will have no any other option but to shut down Parliament next week in protest on the aforementioned reasons.

Signed by:

Timothy Mtambo

Gift Trapence

HRDC Chairperson

HRDC Vice Chairperson