Our Esteemed Madam Notemba Tjipueja,

**PETITION TO HOLD THE MALAWI ELECTORAL COMMISSION ACCOUNTABLE FOR PRESIDING OVER AN ALLEGED FRAUDULENT ELECTORAL PROCESS, STRIPPING OFF THE MEC FROM THE ECF SADC PRESIDENCY AND OUR CALL FOR THE REMOVAL OF THE CHAIRPERSON, JUSTICE DR. JANE ANSAH, HER ENTIRE COMMISSION AND YOUR INSENSITIVENESS TO THE POLITICAL IMPASSE IN MALAWI.**

**Guided** by our conviction in support of the SADC’s own goal of existence viz being to further socio-economic cooperation and integration as well as political and security cooperation among 16 Southern African countries, we Malawians gather and elsewhere throughout the country express our concerns over your insensitive to the prevailing political impasse in Malawi.

Madam Chairperson and your entire SADC delegation, we know that you are alive to the fact that Malawians have been on the streets protesting of 21st May 2019 presidential results. Through its leadership in the name **Justice Dr. Jane Ansa**h the Malawi Electoral Commission presided over an elections marred by inexcusable irregularities.
Madam Chairperson and your entire SADC delegation, Malawians country wide, some of whom gathered here in your full view, should be well pleased to have you informed that the Malawi Electoral Commission exhibited high levels of incapacity and incompetence in managing the electoral process during 21st Tripartite Elections evident in the following:

- **THAT Dr. Jane Ansah and** her Commissioners **accepted** and **acted** on tippexed or obliterated results sheets against their own set rules- this being averred and admitted during one of Malawi Electoral Commission’s press briefing held by the Commission at COMESA Hall in Blantyre prior to the announcement of the Presidential results and indeed unequivocally accepted by Justice Dr. Jane Ansah herself on behalf of the entire commissioners during interviews with a local television station – the Zodiak

- **That Dr. Jane Ansah announced** results of the elections before resolving a colossal number of complaints

- **That Dr. Jane Ansah Never made it known** to the stakeholders all complaints brought before the attention of the Electoral Commission

- The Commission’s brazen failure to heed to the reasonable calls of various stakeholders to halt the announcement of the Presidential results to give room for resolution of outstanding and emerging complaints

- **Justice Dr. Jane Ansah’s** disposition of character as she was seen celebrating with the alleged victors after results were announced and her known prejudiced comments against and for a specific contender in the election process.

- **That** the entire commission turned a blind eye to the allegations against and arrests of officials of MEC for doctoring results sheets to subvert the will of the Malawian voters

- **That** the Malawi Electoral Commission behaved as a competitor and against the opposition parties during the aftermath of the results of the 21st May Tripartite Elections

**We**, the petitioners, under the aegis of the Human Rights Defense Coalition (HRDC) therefore are of the strongest view that this manner and fashion of managing the electoral process is deplorable and signal below the expectations of the trust reposed in the high office of the Electoral Commission and as such renders the entire Malawi Electoral Commissioners incompetent to
manage elections the country expects to hold whether in the immediate or later future in the life of our democracy in Malawi.

As a result of this incompetence and unprofessionalism alongside the prejudiced behavior exhibited by some members of the Commission including the chairperson herself, the country is now in a political turmoil with an apparent prevailing tense as a result of the fraudulent 21st May 2019 Presidential Elections which millions of Malawians have without compromised not accepted.

Madam Chairperson and your delegation, allow us to venture into reminding the SADC region and the entire world that due to alleged colossal number of irregularities at the hands of this commission the country awaits the decision of a constitutional court seating in Lilongwe trying a case in which the 2 main opposition parties challenge the decision of the Malawi Electoral Commission.

Madam Chairperson and your delegation, it is for the reasons advanced above that millions of Malawians stand perplexed with your wisdom in accepting to be hosted in Malawi by the same commission that has entirely lost trust by indigenous Malawi. We protesters wonder if SADC now has become insensitive with domestic politics as your action seem to speak volumes of support to an electoral body which has brought a political stalemate in its own country. We demonstrators were of the view that the SADC region should have waited for Malawians to deal with its problems especially that this conference has a direct resonance with the outcry against the electoral injustice at the perpetuation of the Malawi electoral commission.

In view of the above we therefore demand the following

- That your conference help Malawians to resolve the political impasse that has engulfed Malawi due to the fraudulent electoral process
- Implore Dr. Jane Ansah and her entire commission to resign and pave way for a better accountability of the electoral process
- Strip the Malawi Electoral Commission over the presidency of the regional body due to the factors advanced above

To the Malawi nation at large, this opportunity further affords our call to call for the resignation from the office of the chairperson Justice Dr. Jane Ansah and
the entire Commission. We ask madam to reconsider your arrogance but love Malawians by resigning from your position.

Viva Malawi Viva!

Timothy Mtambo  
Chairperson (HRDC)

Gift Trapence  
Vice Chairperson (HRDC)