



## **Government of Malawi**

### **PRESS RELEASE**

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#### **GAZETTING OF THE CONTROL OF GOODS ACT COMMENCEMENT DATE**

The Ministry of Trade would like to inform the business community and the general public that the Control of Goods Act (COGA) came into operation on 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2020 following the publishing of the Act in the Government Gazette of the 16<sup>th</sup> July, 2020.

COGA regulates importation and exportation of goods into and from Malawi by restricting, banning or allowing export/import under licence.

The Ministry further wishes to inform the business community and the general public that the new Act, is a departure from the old Act in that it brings in predictability, certainty and transparency which will facilitate investment into different sectors of the economy without interruption.

Accompanying Regulations providing detailed list of restricted and prohibited goods will be published within 7 days. Therefore, in order to import or export any goods covered under this Act, a trader is required to obtain an Import or Export Licence from the Ministry of Trade.

For agricultural products, a trader should obtain a letter of authority from the Ministry of Agriculture before applying for a Licence from the Ministry of Trade.

Any trader who imports and exports licensable goods without a requisite licence commits an offence that will be punishable by law.

**For more information on the Act and all other necessary procedures, visit the Malawi Trade Portal - [www.malawitradeportal.gov.mw](http://www.malawitradeportal.gov.mw) or contact Mr. Mayeso Msokera on +265 884 359 197.**



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**PRINCIPAL SECRETARY**  
17<sup>TH</sup> July, 2020