

CALL FOR VIGILANCE AGAINST CYBER THREATS DURING GENERAL ELECTIONS PERIOD



In line with its mandate to provide cybersecurity services, including threat advisories under Section 6(3) of the Electronic Transactions and Cybersecurity Act (Chapter 74:02 of the Laws of Malawi), the Malawi Computer Emergency Response Team (mwCERT) urges the public to be more vigilant in safeguarding personal digital security during this electoral period.

The election season is often accompanied by increased cyber threats such as online scams, impersonation, data theft, and other malicious activities designed to exploit individuals.

To protect yourself and others, mwCERT advises members of the public to practice the following cyber hygiene measures among others:

- **Exercise caution** when engaging online, especially with unfamiliar individuals.
- **Avoid sharing** sensitive personal information on social media or other online platforms including password and pin.
- **Refrain from clicking** on unknown or suspicious links or responding to unsolicited emails and messages.
- **Verify authenticity** of any unexpected requests for personal information or financial details before taking action.

- **Report promptly** any suspicious online activity to the relevant authorities.
- **Avoid** making negative comments online. Be responsible, we can be held accountable for what we post online
- **Use Two-factor** authentication on all social and email accounts
- **Back up** critical files.

To report cybersecurity incidents, please contact the Malawi Computer Emergency Response Team (mwCERT) through the portal at www.mwcert.mw or via email at reporting@mwcert.mw.

MwCERT is a unit within MACRA established under Section 6 of the Electronic Transaction and Cyber Security Act, 2016 of the Laws of Malawi, and is responsible for the national coordination and protection of critical information infrastructure in the country.



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