



**DECLARATION OF RESULTS FOR THE 30TH JUNE
2026 BY-ELECTION SPEECH BY JUSTICE ANNABEL
MTALIMANJA, CHAIRPERSON OF THE MALAWI
ELECTORAL COMMISSION**

**Mvuu Room,
Bingu International Convention, Lilongwe
2ND JULY 2026**

- Commissioners of the Malawi Electoral Commission;
- The Chief Elections Officer, Mr. Andrew Mpesi and all management members and Staff of the Commission secretariat;
- Representatives of various political parties and independent candidates here present;
- Election Observers and Representatives of various Civil Society Organizations;
- Distinguished Invited Guests;
- Members of the Press;
- Ladies and gentlemen;

Good Evening,

I am grateful to God, the Almighty that this evening I can present to you the results of the second set of by-elections and a fresh election for the year 2026, which were held on Tuesday, 30th June 2026 in three (3) constituencies and two (2) wards.

Before I announce the official results and declare the winners allow me to give a brief background of the process.

Background to the vacancies

As I mentioned earlier, this is the second set of by-elections after the General Election, which was held on 16th September. The by-

elections took place in three (3) constituencies and two (3) wards and the vacancies arose as follows:

- ***Lilongwe City Bwaila Constituency:*** The Commission nullified the electoral process during the 2025 Parliamentary Elections. Following this nullification, I should state that the Commission had initially planned to conduct the by-election in the constituency during the first set of by-elections held in March 2026, but we postponed the process because there was a matter in Court challenging the decision of the Commission.
- ***Machinga Mikoko Constituency:*** The vacancy arose following the death of the Member of Parliament, late Hon. Jaffalie Mussa of the Democratic Progressive Party(DPP), who passed away on 27th February 2026.
- ***Balaka Mulunguzi Constituency:*** The Constituency became vacant following Court nullification of the 2025 Parliamentary election results on 28th April 2026.
- ***Uliwa Ward in Karonga South Constituency:*** The ward became vacant following the death of Councillor Hawkins Munthali of the People's Party (PP), who passed away on 23rd March 2026.

- ***Kanjuli Ward in Machinga Central East Constituency:***

The ward became vacant following the death of Councillor Simplex Adamson Diwa of the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP), who passed away on 29th March 2026.

These by-elections have been conducted in compliance with Section 63(2)(b) of the Constitution of the Republic of Malawi, which provides that:

“any by-election to fill the vacancy shall be held in the next quarter of the calendar year after the seat of the member becomes vacant, or if the circumstances do not so permit, then as expeditiously as possible, but a by-election shall not be held where a vacancy occurs within twelve months before the holding of a General Election.”

Registration of voters

The Commission launched the by-elections on 30th April 2026 and conducted voter registration from 12th to 18th May 2026 in all the by-election areas, except Balaka Mulunguzi Constituency, because it was a fresh election ordered by the Court and according to Court Orders, no new registrants or candidates would be allowed to contest in the election.

At the end of the voter registration exercise a total of **1,960** new voters were registered. Ultimately, the combined total number of registered voters for all the five by-election across the country was therefore **133,362**.

Inspection and verification of the voters register

The Commission opened voter registration centres in all by-election areas on 30th and 31st May 2026 for all registered voters to go and inspect their details in the voters' register. During the exercise, voters were also accorded the opportunity to replace lost or damaged Voter Registration Certificates.

In addition to physical verification at voter registration centres, registered voters also had the opportunity to verify their details in the voters' register by dialling ***2509#** on both TNM and Airtel networks. This service was free of charge, and one mobile phone handset could be used multiple times by different users.

Nomination of candidates

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, candidates who were duly nominated ahead of the 2025 election in Balaka Mulunguzi and Lilongwe City Bwaila constituencies, only needed to collect, sign

and submit a Notice of Intention to Contest, to the Constituency Returning Officer (CRO), between 30th April 2026 and 8th June, 2026.

For those that were joining the race during the by-election period and those who changed affiliations, they had to pay relevant nomination fees and thereafter collect nomination papers from their Councils, from 30th April 2026. As per the set practice, the Commission set 8th June 2026 for pre-inspection of the nomination papers. Candidates were, however, free to have their nomination papers presented for pre-inspection earlier than this date. Candidates presented their nomination papers to their respective Constituency Returning Officers on the 9th of June 2026.

Analysis of Nomination Papers

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, after examining and analysis of all the nomination papers received, all the candidates were found to have met the eligibility criteria. They were subsequently approved as duly nominated candidates and allowed to contest in the by-election.

The Commission, however, wishes to note that out of the Twenty Four (24) registered political parties, only five fielded candidates

in these by-elections and these are UTM, Democratic Progressive Party, Malawi Congress Party, United Democratic Front, and Peoples Party. This number is lower than the Twelve (12) political parties that contested in the 17 March 2026 by-elections.

Official campaign period

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, the official campaign period started on 30th April 2026. As is required by the law, the campaign period ended at 06.00AM on 28th June 2026.

The Commission wishes to commend all political parties, independent candidates and their followers in the by-election areas for maintaining law, order, peace and calm during the entire campaign period. The Commission never received any complaint pertaining to violation of the code of conduct for political parties and candidates.

Polling, counting and results

Polling took place on Tuesday, 30th June 2026. All polling stations opened and remained operational for people to vote. Stations that delayed in opening, compensated for the time lost through an equivalent extension of time beyond 4:00pm.

Counting of results began immediately after closing of the polls. This happened in the same polling stations where voting took place. Results from the polling stations were subsequently taken to the respective Constituency Tally Centres where they were tabulated and transmitted electronically and physically to the National Tally Centre in Lilongwe, by the Constituency Returning Officers.

At this juncture, allow me on behalf of the Commission, to further thank all political parties and candidates who sent their representatives to monitor polling and tallying of the election results at polling stations and Constituency Tally Centres, respectively. Their presence enhanced the transparency and credibility of the electoral process.

Appreciation to stakeholders

The Commission wishes to sincerely thank the Government of Malawi, through the Ministry of Finance, for providing the resources that were utilised to make these by-elections possible. The Commission is equally grateful to traditional and faith leaders, civil society organisations, the media, the Malawi Police Service, District Commissioners, District Election Supervisory Teams (DEST), Multiparty Liaison Committees, political parties, independent candidates and their representatives and all other

stakeholders whose collaboration contributed to the successful conduct of the by-elections. Special appreciation goes to the Malawi Electoral Commission Commissioners and all secretariat staff, both permanent and temporary, for their professionalism and dedication demonstrated during these by-elections. Above all, we thank all the registered voters who turned out to vote.

Analysis of Complaints

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, it is a requirement that at the beginning of the determination of election results the Commission must resolve all matters that have been subject of complaints, and were referred to the Commission by the CROs.

In accordance with section 86 of the Presidential, Parliamentary and Local Government Elections Act, the Commission provided all polling stations with Complaints Logbooks for use to record complaints from stakeholders. The law requires that all complaints and any irregularity that are submitted at the polling stations should be resolved by the Presiding Officer. In the event that the complaints are not satisfactorily resolved at that level of authority, the complaints should be examined and decided upon by the Commission. Where an irregularity has been confirmed, the Commission must take action to correct or address the

irregularity and the effect of the irregularity on the election outcome.

In respect of these by-elections, the Commission retrieved and reviewed all the Complaints Logbooks placed in all polling stations and Complaints and Incident Logbooks from all Constituency Tally Centres. It was observed that all complaints that had been recorded were resolved at the Polling Stations and the Constituency Tally Centres and at the National Tally Centre

Examination of void votes

It is also a requirement of the Presidential, Parliamentary and Local Government Elections Act that the Commission must examine all the votes that have been classified as void in accordance with Section 96 of the Act, wherever the total number of void votes is greater than the difference between the first and second placed candidates.

The Commission retrieved and examined a total of **135 void votes** in Machinga Mikoko Constituency and subsequently confirmed 121 votes to be void. The Commission further reclassified 14 votes to be valid votes and they have been distributed as follows:

1. Gertrude Lucy Edgar CHIRAMBO (F), Independent got 0 votes
2. Francis Mukonaothana HAIYA (M), DPP: 2 votes
3. Ishmael Louis JAPAN (M), Independent: 5 votes
4. Dyton Jabilu MILANZI (M), UTM: 0 votes
5. Evereen MILONDE (F), PP: 1 vote
6. Ibrahim Rajabu OJESS (M), UDF: 6 votes
7. Alexander SHOTI (M), MCP: 0 votes
8. Yusuf TAIBU (M), Independent: 0 votes

The reclassified valid votes will be reflected in the total number of votes to be announced for each candidate.

Declaration of Results

The Commission monitored the voting process that took place on the 30th June 2026 in the Three (3) constituencies and Two (2) wards, respectively. As a Commission, we are satisfied that the by-elections were conducted in an environment where the electorate were free to elect candidates of their choice without fear and intimidation. We are also confident that the results we are about to announce reflect the will of the voters.

The Commission, therefore declares that this by-election is a credible one that has met all legal requirements and international best practices of conducting elections.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, I will now proceed to declare the results of the elections:

1. Uliwa Ward in Karonga South Constituency

Uliwa Ward had five (5) candidates. Out of a total of 17,913 registered voters, 4,613 voters turned up for polling. This represents 25.75% percent voter turnout. On the other hand, there were 19 void votes. This represents 0.41% percent of the total votes cast. The results of the voting are as follows:

1. Imedi Upendo KAMWENDO(M), of the UTM got 70 votes;
2. Robert Koyi KONDOWE (M), of the People's Party got 2,800 votes;
3. Alick Trasco MHANGO (M), of the MCP got 66 votes;
4. Tamala MHANGO (F), an Independent candidate got 49 votes;
5. Wilson Dyson MZUMARA (M), of the DPP got 1,609 votes.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, on behalf of the Malawi Electoral Commission,

I, Justice Annabel Mtalimanja now declare **Robert Koyi KONDOWE**, who contested as a candidate for the People's Party (PP), the winner in the Uliwa Ward Local Government By-election, with **2,800 Votes**.

2. Kanjuli Ward in Machinga Central East Constituency

Kanjuli Ward had seven (7) candidates. Out of a total of 12,882 registered voters, 4,837 voters turned up for polling. This represents 37.55 percent voter turnout. On the other hand, there were 47 void votes. This represents 0.97 percent of the total votes cast. The results of the voting for each candidate are as follows:

1. Allie Lali ATWABI (M) of the DPP got 2,351 votes;
2. Benito Nicodemus CHILENJE (M), an Independent candidate got 708 votes;
3. Basheal Chinyama CHIMANGO (M), an Independent candidate got 764 votes;
4. Patileki CHIMOMBO (M), an Independent candidate got 127 votes;
5. Austin Saindi ISSA (M), an Independent candidate got 562 votes;
6. Wilson Saivation MAULANA (M), of the UDF got 253 votes; and
7. Mwaiwao RICHMAN (F), of the People's Party(PP) got 25 votes.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, on behalf of the Malawi Electoral Commission,

I, Justice Annabel Mtalimanja now declare **Allie Lali ATWABI**, who contested as a candidate for the Democratic Progressive Party(DPP), the winner in the Kanjuli Ward Local Government By-election, with **2,351 Votes**.

3. Machinga Mikoko Constituency

Machinga Mikoko Constituency had eight (8) candidates. Out of a total of 30,524 registered voters, 15,922 voters turned up for polling. This represents 52.16 percent voter turnout. On the other hand, there were **121** void votes. This represents 0.78 percent of the total votes cast. The results of the voting for each candidate are as follows:

1. Gertrude Lucy Edgar CHIRAMBO (F), an Independent candidate got 516 votes;
2. Francis Mukonaothana HAIYA (M), of the DPP got 3,976 votes;
3. Ishmael Louis JAPAN (M), an Independent candidate got 4,940 votes;
4. Dyton Jabilu MILANZI (M), of the UTM got 241 votes;
5. Evereen MILONDE (F), of the PP got 332 votes;
6. Ibrahim Rajabu OJESS (M), UDF got 4,859 votes;
7. Alexander SHOTI (M), of the MCP got 101 votes;
8. Yusuf TAIBU (M), an Independent candidate got 833 votes.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, on behalf of the Commission,

I, Justice Annabel Mtalimanja now declare **Ishmael Louis JAPAN**, who contested as an Independent candidate, the winner in the Machinga Mikoko Constituency by-election, with 4,940 Votes.

4. Lilongwe City Bwaila Constituency

Lilongwe City Bwaila had seven (7) candidates. Out of a total of 37,008 registered voters, 8,985 voters turned up for polling. This represents 24.28 percent voter turnout. On the other hand there were 51 void votes. This represents 0.57 percent of the total votes cast. The results of the voting for each candidate are as follows:

1. Mike CHIMZUKIRA (M), of the DPP got 2,725 votes;
2. Precious Pempho Gama KABAMBE (M), of the MCP got 4,707 votes;
3. Grace Mbengo MNAPO (F), an Independent candidate got 27 votes;
4. Henry MUYAYA (M), an Independent candidate got 943 votes;
5. Phunziro MVULA (M), an Independent candidate got 16 votes;
6. Sandra Kamwendo NDAU (F), an Independent candidate got 152 votes;

7. Nellys Martha SENDEZELA (F), of the UTM got 364 votes;

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, on behalf of the Malawi Electoral Commission,

I, Justice Annabel Mtalimanja now declare **Precious Pempho Gama KABAMBE**, who contested as a candidate for the Malawi Congress Party (MCP), the winner in the Lilongwe City Bwaila Constituency Parliamentary by-election, with **4,707 Votes**.

5. Balaka Mulunguzi Constituency

Balaka Mulunguzi Constituency had six (6) candidates. Out of a total of 35,035 registered voters, 16,459 voters turned up for polling. This represents 46.98 percent voter turnout. On the other hand there were 187 void votes. This represents 1.14 percent of the total votes cast. The results of the voting for each candidate are as follows:

1. Daniel CHIKOTI (M), of the UTM got 96 votes;
2. James MAKHUMULA (M), of the DPP got 7,311 votes;
3. Laston Ronnex MAKULUNI (M), an Independent candidate got 40 votes;
4. Ireen MAMBALA (F), an Independent candidate got 6,462 votes;
5. Dorrah Eliya SAMSON (F), of the UDF got 626 votes;

6. Lucy TCHALE (F), an Independent candidate got 1,737 votes.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, on behalf of the Malawi Electoral Commission,

I, Justice Annabel Mtalimanja now declare **James MAKHUMULA**, who contested as candidate for the Democratic Progressive (DPP) candidate, the winner in the Balaka Mulunguzi Parliamentary By-election, with **7,311 Votes**.

Holding of by-election in Nsanje South Constituency

Distinguished ladies and Gentlemen, at this juncture allow me to inform the nation that on 30th April, 2026, the Supreme Court nullified the election results in Nsanje South this constituency, and ordered that Fresh Elections should be held. In accordance with the law, the fresh election shall be held within this quarter.

Concluding Remarks

As I conclude my statement, allow me to congratulate all candidates who have been elected and urge them to honour the trust placed in them by serving their constituents with dedication, integrity and commitment.

To those who were not successful, may I encourage you to remain engaged in the democratic process and continue offering

leadership to your communities. The Malawi Electoral Commission remains steadfast in its commitment to conducting transparent, free, fair and credible elections in accordance with the law.

May God Bless you all.

May God bless Malawi.