

# Japanese Grant Aid

## The Project for the Improvement of Equipment for Non-Revenue Water Reduction in Lilongwe Exchange of Notes Signing Ceremony

14<sup>th</sup> March 2018



Ambassador Yanagisawa exchanging the signed Notes with the Finance Minister, Hon. Goodall Gondwe



Mr. Kito, Chief Representative of JICA Malawi Office and the Finance Minister, Hon. Goodall Gondwe signing the Grant Agreement

On Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> March 2018, Ambassador of Japan to Malawi, Kae Yanagisawa and Malawi's Minister of Finance, Economic Planning and Development, Hon. Goodall Gondwe signed the Exchange of Notes for the implementation of the Project for the Improvement of Equipment for Non-Revenue Water Reduction in Lilongwe totalling **362 million Japanese Yen (approximately 3.3 million US Dollars)**. The Exchange of Notes signing was followed by the signing of the project's Grant Agreement between Mr. Koichi Kito, Chief Representative of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Malawi and Honourable Goodall Gondwe.

The project will be implemented by Lilongwe Water Board, a parastatal water utility body mandated to supply potable water to the City of Lilongwe. Currently the Board is serving around 75% of the population in Lilongwe City. However, the rate of non-revenue water is estimated to be around 36% due to the leakages and illegal connections. This unrecovered revenue negatively affects the Board as it hinders its efforts in investing in other productive activities.

In order to address this challenge, the Government of Japan decided to provide this grant to the Government of Malawi for purchasing equipment to be used in detecting and measuring non-revenue water loss. The project will therefore enhance the physical monitoring of underground pipes, detection of water leakage, promote accurate metering, and enhance customer services and other day-to-day operations. Eventually, the Board's financial status and the water supply services to the residents of Lilongwe City are expected to be improved.