

AMAI CHAIRPERSON 2021 Report



MARCH 8

Association of Malawians in Ireland
Authored by: Henry Mkumbira Phiri

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT JANUARY - DECEMBER 2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

1. AMAI Membership surpassed our projection of 100 members. We registered a 100 plus which is a milestone in the history of AMAI.
2. In year 2021, the Association managed to connect the Malawi community with NBS Bank Malawi. Many Malawians have reportedly opened bank accounts with NBS Bank.
3. AMAI is finally a member of the Dublin City Council and Dublin City South Council under Public Participation Network (PPN). We have the PPN number and eligible to get funding from the city councils.
4. The Association has managed to open clusters in most counties of Ireland, and they are very responsive when it matters. We currently have operation groups in Cork, Limerick, Galway, Roscommon, Kerry, Waterford, Laois, Louth, Mosney/Meath, Kildare, Monaghan, and Mayo.
5. During the year, we have built strong ties with the Embassy of Ireland in Malawi. We are collaborating with the embassy on issues of trade and synergies.
6. Managed to solicit funds from well-wishers and organisations to fund our Independence Day celebrations on 11 July 2021.
7. The Association had a working relationship with Moto Money, a financial institution based in the UK which sponsored our two events in 2021, the Independence Day Celebrations and AMAI Kids Got Talent competition.
8. The Chairman attended several zoom meetings *with Dublin City Council, South Dublin City Dublin, New Communities Partnership*, and International Organisation for migration (IOM) aiming at strengthening community organisations and public participation.
9. The Chairman spearheaded the revision of the AMAI constitution which will be presented to the AGM for adoption.
10. The Association worked in collaboration with the Malawi Football Team in Ireland and funded them with €100 meant for the purchase of goal nets. The Malawi FC is currently in the Division 3B of the Irish elite league – United Churches Football League.

CHALLENGES

1. AMAI Website was never done in the year because the designer had been reportedly sick and travelled to Nigeria. No cash was taken from AMAI account for this development. Still hoping to have it completed by the end of 2022.
2. Familiarisation tours to all Clusters across Ireland by December 31 were never done due to

the rising cases of COVID-19.

3. Cluster groups haven't lived up to the expectation because some Malawians were not interested to join the groups.

4. Some elected committee members were suspended from the main committee after the meeting of the 15th of July 2021 found their conduct within the committee as improper and unacceptable. The decision to suspend them was unanimous and in line with Article 4.3.2 of the constitution of AMAI.

5. The Chairperson was fully informed through a committee whatsapp meeting and social media of the alleged expired drinks at the Independence Day celebrations in IKEA on 11th July 2021. The supplier, Vincent Yapoma was tasked to provide with details of this allegation, and he officially penned the Association on 20th July 2021 that his establishment was also made aware of the same issue, and that it was reported to the Irish authorities by concerned Malawians and hence wasn't in a position to comment on it as instructed by his legal team.

On the same note, the Association was also served with an email from the Food Safety Authority (FSA) confirming of the receipt of this complaint from some Malawians. And as such, the Association is unable to make any further comments on issues that are still in the hands of the authorities.

Henry Mkhumbira Phiri

AMAJ Chairperson

amai.malawi@gmail.com

+353(0)894547123