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Foreword

Dear readers,
Dear friends of Malawi,

Spring is finally arriving here – and the rainy season is finally coming to an end in Malawi! The south in particular, but also some regions in the north, have received plenty of rain – in some cases, too much. Bridges have collapsed and, sadly, there have been fatalities once again. I do not wish to sound fatalistic, but the people of Malawi will have to adapt to these consequences of climate change. New insights and opportunities are breaking with tradition – and we wish to support the people of Malawi on this journey too.

We held two farewell events in Berlin for Malawi's long-serving and much-respected ambassador, Joseph J. Mpinganjira. Until a new representative of Malawi for Germany (and 22 other countries – as of recently) takes office, Derek Lakudzala, his former deputy and a frequent guest at our events, will be our point of contact.

A brief preview: This year's general meeting will take place in Berlin on 5 September 2026. Topics and speakers are still being planned, as is the question of whether, as last year, there will be an in-person meeting with the Malawian NGOs the day before. We'd love to hear your suggestions and ideas!

The Malawian diaspora group "Umodzi wa a Malawi" is considering how to celebrate their national holiday on 6 July this year. The event is to be hosted either in Berlin or, once again, in North Rhine-Westphalia – due to last year's great success!

Enjoy reading and best regards,

Yours sincerely,

Christiane Bertels-Heering



The Ambassador's Farewell

At a 'farewell dinner' held in Berlin at the end of February, the Executive Board appointed former Ambassador Joseph John Mpinganjira to the DMAg's Board of Trustees and thanked him for his excellent cooperation during his time as Ambassador of the Republic of Malawi. We are delighted that his experience and knowledge of both countries and cultures will continue to enrich the work of the German-Malawian Society in the future.



Online visas and visas on arrival are available

German nationals require a visa to stay in Malawi. This can be applied for online in advance. However, 'technical glitches' frequently occur, particularly when uploading multiple documents for several people and then having to pay online by credit card. Sometimes it works, sometimes the system simply crashes!

However, German citizens can also obtain a visa on arrival. A list published by the IA-TA and available to all parties involved (including the airlines) includes 'Germany' alongside many other countries. The visa fees remain unchanged (see Newsletter 1/2026) and should be paid in the exact amount using clean US dollar notes:



- Transit and single entry US\$50.00,
- Multiple entry within 6 months US\$150.00,
- Multiple entry within 12 months US\$250.00

Farewell ceremony for Ambassador Joseph J. Mpinganjira hosted by the Foreign Office

During a luncheon, the Federal Foreign Office, represented by the Commissioner for Sub-Saharan Africa and the Sahel: Ambassador Gesa Bräutigam bid farewell to Joseph J. Mpinganjira. In the two official speeches, as well as in the subsequent remarks by some of the participants, it became clear just how close and trusting, yet also how light-hearted and deeply personal, the collaboration had been. The German-Malawian Society was represented by Silvia Hesse (Hanover-Blantyre town twinning) and Christiane Bertels-Heering. Among those present were Dr Uschi Eid, President of the German-African Foundation; Claudia Voß, Deputy Managing Director of the Africa Association of German Business (Managing Director from 1 April 2026); Martin Schäfer, VIER Roastery, Bishop Heinrich Timmervers, Dresden-Meissen (a fellow student from Münster and Visbeck) and Dr Clara Schlaich, Honorary Consul in Hamburg, Schleswig-Holstein and Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania.





Deutsch-Malawische Gesellschaft
German Malawi Association



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Event announcement: Charity concert

**BENEFIZKONZERT
FÜR MALAWI**
09. Mai 2026
15-21 Uhr

**LIVE MUSIC, DJs,
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**FOOD, DRINKS,
GOOD VIBES**

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