



## **PROFILE AND CURRICULUM VITAE OF NOMINEE**

This profile and Curriculum Vitae is an IFSW Bylaws requirement and informs voting members of your experience and abilities for the position. It also provides valuable information for the IFSW office. By completing and signing it you are agreeing to be a nominee for this position. Please ensure that the completed form is no longer than five (5) pages using a Times New Roman 12 font and with margins no smaller than 0.75 cm on each side.

### **IFSW Position to which you seek nomination**

- Vice President-Africa Region

### **Candidate's Name and Country**

- Joseph Kalelo, Malawi

### **Social Work and Other Educational Qualifications (include institution and date)**

1. Bachelor of Social Work, Catholic University of Malawi 2010
2. Master of Arts-Gender, Globalisation and Rights, National University of Ireland, 2020
3. Master of Science-Gender and Development, Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources, 2020

### **Professional Affiliations**

1. Association of Social Workers in Malawi-ASWIM

### **Professional Leadership Experience over the past decade**

2. District Social Welfare Officer, Department of Social Welfare (2012-2017)
3. Deputy National Child Protection Case Management Coordinator, Department of Social Welfare, 2015-2017
4. National Coordinator for Gender Based Violence and Women's Rights Programs-Department of Gender Affairs, 2017-2022
5. Principal Gender and Development Officer, Department of Gender Affairs, 2017-2022
6. SADC GBV Desk Officer for Malawi, 2018-2022
7. Coordinator for UNFPA Programs focusing on Gender, Reproductive Health and Adolescent Girls and Young Women (2018-2022)
8. AU Harmful Practices Coordinator for Malawi (2018-2022)
9. National Coordinator for the UN-EU Spotlight Initiative Project on Ending Violence Against Women and Girls (2018 to 2022)
10. Gender and GBV Sub-Cluster Lead for Emergencies and Humanitarian Response in Malawi, 2018-2022
11. Gender and Social Safeguards Unit Team Leader for the Malawi Roads Authority, 2022-2024

12. Gender and Social Inclusion Technical Lead for the \$350 Million Millennium Challenge Corporation funded Malawi Compact II

**National Association and Leadership Experience over the past decade**

1. 2025-Present, President, Association of Social Workers in Malawi
2. 2016-Present, Social Work Practice Educator
3. 2014-2016, Founding General Secretary for the National Association of Social Workers in Malawi

**Community/Volunteer and Leadership Experience over the past decade**

- Since 2012 to date, I am an active volunteer Youth Leader and Associate for the Student Christian Organization of Malawi (SCOM) which is the largest student led movement in Malawi. My role as a volunteer involves organizing workshops and conferences, motivational talks and leadership trainings for secondary/high school and University students where I facilitate sessions such as dealing with Gender Based Violence, Academic Excellency, Mental health and other social issues
- Since 2015, I volunteer as Youth Director at a community church where I use my social work knowledge and skills to support vulnerable youth navigate the challenges of life such as mental health issues, depression, school dropout

**Are you aware of the description, role and responsibilities attached to the position you wish to have within the IFSW Executive?**

**YES:**

**NO:**

**If the answer is YES, please respond to the following questions:**

**a) What are the three most important responsibilities towards IFSW:**

- i) **Advancing the IFSW Global Agenda and Action Plan**  
I will actively contribute to the implementation of IFSW's global priorities through participating in Executive and General Meetings, supporting policy positions and ensuring that regional perspectives inform global decision-making.
- ii) **Upholding Governance, Ethics and Accountability**  
I will exercise fiduciary responsibility, uphold the IFSW Constitution and By-Laws and promote high standards of ethical social work practice, transparency and institutional integrity at all levels.
- iii) **Strengthening Global Solidarity and Professional Leadership**  
To foster collaboration, knowledge exchange and collective action among regions, contributing to a strong and unified global voice for social work in advancing human rights, social justice and sustainable development.

**b) What are the three most important responsibilities towards your Region:**

- i) **Supporting Regional Leadership and Institutional strengthening**  
To work closely with the Regional President in strengthening regional structures, governance systems and operational effectiveness in line with IFSW frameworks.
- ii) **Promoting Professional Standards, Human Rights and Social Work Education**  
To support member countries in advancing ethical practice, human rights-based approaches and excellence in social work education and training within the region.

iii) **Enhancing Collaboration and Regional Engagement**

To facilitate communication, partnerships and peer learning among member associations, while representing IFSW in regional platforms and strengthening engagement with key institutions and stakeholders.

c) **What are the three most important responsibilities towards your national association?**

i) **Strengthening Linkages between Global, Regional and National Agendas**

I will ensure that global and regional priorities are effectively translated into national-level action while elevating national experiences and innovations to regional and global platforms.

ii) **Building Institutional Capacity and Professional Development**

I will endeavour to support the national association in areas such as policy engagement, capacity strengthening, professionalisation and resource mobilisation.

iii) **Promoting Visibility, Representation and Participation**

To enhance the participation of the national association (ASWIM) in IFSW processes, conferences and initiatives, while strengthening the visibility and voice of social workers at national, regional and global levels.

**Please demonstrate:**

- Commitment to the goals of IFSW as laid down in the Constitution

I am committed to advancing the mission and core aims of the International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW) which seeks to promote social justice, human rights and social development through international cooperation, collective action and the advancement of best practices in social work. In this regard, I will contribute to the realization of IFSW's goals through:

- **Partnerships:** Building inclusive partnerships with communities, practitioners, institutions and other professionals to strengthen social work practice and promote people-centred development.
- **Action:** Facilitating regional cooperation, shared learning and joint initiatives that respond to emerging social challenges and strengthen collective impact.
- **Policy:** Supporting the development and implementation of ethical frameworks, standards and policies that enhance the quality and integrity of social work practice.
- **Advocacy:** Championing social justice and human rights at national, regional and global levels, while promoting the recognition, regulation and strengthening of the social work profession.

Through this role, I am committed to contributing to a vibrant and united global social work community that advances dignity, equality and sustainable development for present and future generations

- Possession of language(s) capabilities (preferably bilingual)

English Only

- Identification with the region you represent, mainly by residence, work experiences, and knowledge of the main language(s) spoken in the region

I am a Malawian social work practitioner residing and working within the Africa Region, with extensive professional experience in national, regional and international platforms. My work has included engagement with regional bodies such as SADC and the African Union, as well as collaboration with international development partners. Through these roles, I have developed a strong understanding of the socio-economic, cultural and policy contexts shaping social work practice across Africa. I am proficient in English, the

primary working language within the region, and have strong contextual awareness of local languages and community systems in Southern Africa.

- Practical wisdom and objective interest in international affairs

My professional experience reflects a strong engagement with international development, policy processes and cross-border collaboration. I have contributed to regional and global initiatives in areas such as gender equality, social protection, GBV prevention and social inclusion. This exposure has strengthened my ability to navigate complex international environments with objectivity, cultural sensitivity and strategic insight, while aligning local realities with global frameworks.

- Willingness and capacity to devote time to assume work responsibilities in the Executive or Regional Committee

I am fully committed to dedicating the time and effort required to effectively serve in the IFSW Executive. I understand the demands of the role, including participation in meetings, coordination of regional activities and contribution to global processes, and I am prepared to prioritise these responsibilities alongside my professional obligations.

- Ability, in so far as possible, to attend Executive or Regional Committee meetings

I am able and willing to attend Executive and Regional Committee meetings as required. My current professional role provides flexibility for participation in both virtual and in-person engagements, and I have prior experience engaging in international meetings and conferences cutting across different time zones

- Participation, so far as possible, as delegate of the General Meeting or attendance at IFSW Conferences

While my direct participation in IFSW Conferences has so far been limited, I bring strong experience from active engagement in national and regional professional forums, policy platforms and development programmes. These have equipped me with the skills and perspective necessary to contribute meaningfully to international dialogue and collaboration.

- Importantly, I view this opportunity as a platform to deepen engagement with IFSW processes and to bring renewed energy, commitment and expanded participation

- Any other information relevant to your nomination

**Signature and Date**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. M. M. M.', written over a horizontal line.

**04-05-26**