

14. Recommendations

1. Refer the budget to the Budget and Finance Committee for public hearings, subject to Section 178 of the Constitution. Allow at least 21 days for debate to consider all significant inputs. (page 11)
2. Include funds in the budget to enable oversight Committees to do their work professionally, and for training for Members of oversight Committees whose portfolios are critical for poverty reduction. (page 12)
3. Consult with the Budget and Finance and Public Accounts Committees before new finance and audit legislation is drafted. Ideally meetings of these Committees with Cabinet Committees on the economy and budget would also help. (page 12)
4. Designate in the budget a limited number of specific programmes that are likely to be most important for reducing poverty. Cost the inputs for these programmes realistically, and code all funds budgeted for these programmes from all sources as Priority Poverty Expenditures. (page 13)
5. Present the budget, at least for Priority Poverty Expenditures, in a format with the features outlined in Section 2.5.2. (page 14)
6. Provide quarterly reports with features outlined in Section 2.6.8, at least for Priority Poverty Expenditures. (page 16)
7. Guarantee that total funds actually spent on programmes designated as Priority Poverty Expenditures will not be less than the amount budgeted for them from all sources, and seek prior approval from Parliament for any change in funding for Priority Poverty Expenditures. (page 17)
8. Include in the budget a complete accounting of all uses of HIPC funds for 2000/2001, and commit to use HIPC funds exclusively for designated Priority Poverty Expenditures. Commit to provide quarterly reports on uses of HIPC funds as outlined in Section 3.2.3. (page 19)
9. Increase membership of PRSP working groups and participation in district consultations to ensure participation by poor Malawians, women, people with front-line service delivery experience, and MPs. Increase administrative and technical support to ensure adequate notice of meetings and assistance as needed. Include representatives from the Budget and Finance Committee and civil society on the Technical Committee for the PRSP. Take the trouble to have MPs actively participate. (page 22)

10. Substantially increase the budget for Government extension services, and designate the budget as a Priority Poverty Expenditure. (page 27)
11. Substantially increase the budget for support for programmes that provide credit and related services to poor farmers, and designate the same as a Priority Poverty Expenditure. (page 27)
12. Substantially increase the budget for the Targeted Inputs Programme (TIP), include funds adequate to ensure proper distribution and associated delivery of extension services, and designate the same as a Priority Poverty Expenditure. (page 28)
13. Substantially increase the budget for training primary school teachers, and designate the same as a Priority Poverty Expenditure. (page 30)
14. Substantially increase the budget for personal emoluments (salaries and benefits) for teachers, and designate the same as a Priority Poverty Expenditure. (page 30)
15. Substantially increase the budget for teaching and learning materials for primary schools, and designate the same as a Priority Poverty Expenditure. (page 31)
16. Substantially increase the budget for training front-line health care professionals, and designate the same as a Priority Poverty Expenditure. (page 32)
17. Substantially increase the budget for personal emoluments (salaries and benefits) for front-line health care professionals including nurses, and designate the same as a Priority Poverty Expenditure. (page 33)
18. Substantially increase the budget for drugs and medical supplies, include adequate funds for proper distribution and increased security for drug stores, and designate the same as a Priority Poverty Expenditure. (page 34)
19. Substantially increase the budget for rehabilitating and constructing rural roads and bridges, and designate the same as a Priority Poverty Expenditure. (page 34)
20. Substantially increase the budget for constructing safe drinking water systems, include funds for community training in maintenance, and designate the same as a Priority Poverty Expenditure. (page 35)

21. Substantially increase the budgets for training and employment for the Police Service (to increase the number of trained officers), and for instituting community policing, particularly in rural areas. Include in the budgets adequate funds for equipment and other materials, and designate the same as Priority Poverty Expenditures. (page 36)
22. Refer Bill No. 2, 2001, the Surtax Bill for extension of the surtax to retail and wholesale trade, to a Committee for public hearings. (page 40)

**Members of Other Committees Who Participated
in Budget and Finance Committee Meetings**

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| 1. Hon. Bernard R. Chisale, MP | Legal Affairs |
| 2. Hon. Wallace F. Chiume, MP | Chairman, Commerce, Industry, and Tourism |
| 3. Hon. Loveness Gondwe, MP | Chairman, Health and Population |
| 4. Hon. Kate Kainja, MP | Chairman, Education, Science, and Technology |
| 5. Hon. Charles E. Kamvere, MP | Legal Affairs |
| 6. Hon. Masten J. Kanje, MP | Vice Chairman, Education, Science, and Technology |
| 7. Hon. James K. Luwe, MP | Vice Chairman, Agriculture and Irrigation |
| 8. Hon. V.G. Dzoole Mwale, MP | Agriculture and Irrigation |
| 9. Hon. Sitsi Nkhoma, MP | Former Chairman, Public Accounts |
| 10. Hon. Henry L. Zembere, MP | Vice Chairman, Health and Population |
| 11. Hon. Bamani A. Zgambo, MP | Legal Affairs |