



MACRA

Communication services for a digitally transformed nation

PUBLIC NOTICE

DIGITAL INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP BILL, 2024: CALL FOR COMMENTS

The Malawi Communications Regulatory Authority (MACRA) is the public body responsible for the implementation of the Communications Act, the Electronic Transactions and Cybersecurity Act and the Data Protection Act. Under section 6 (2) of the Communications Act, MACRA is mandated to promote adoption of new technologies and innovation in ICT sector. In order to promote digital innovation and entrepreneurship, MACRA has developed a draft Bill styled as the Digital Innovation and Entrepreneurship Bill which essentially provides for legal framework to:

- (a) create and develop of an enabling environment for information and communication technology-enabled startups in Malawi;
- (b) encourage growth and sustainable technological development and new entrepreneurship employment;
- (c) to create a more favourable environment for innovation; and
- (d) to attract Malawian talent and capital.

The Bill proposes to promote innovation and entrepreneurship by providing for:

- (a) the whole value chain of promotion of startups from the ideation stage, incubation stage, acceleration stage, up to exiting of the startup to become a small and medium enterprises (SMEs);



Tel: (265) 1 812 912
Fax: (265) 1 883 890



dg@macra.mw
www.macra.mw



MACRA House, 9 Salmin Amour Road,
Ginnery Corner, 312225
P/Bag 261, Blantyre

- (b) the fiscal and non-fiscal incentives that the Fund will offer to innovators at every stage of the value chain; and
- (c) the formation of innovation villages, centres and hubs as well as collaboration with other agencies with interest in promoting digital innovation and entrepreneurship.

MACRA is inviting comments from the stakeholders, including members of the public, to ensure that the proposed law is rich and reflects the will of the people of Malawi. A copy of the draft Bill can be accessed at: <https://bit.ly/3UCBS9h> Please submit your comments through the link: <https://tinyurl.com/yc2ka6y6> by 13th May, 2024.

**THE DIRECTOR GENERAL,
Malawi Communications Regulatory Authority,
1st Floor, Green Heritage House,
2 Khonje Close,
City Centre,
P.O Box 30214,
LILONGWE,
207213.**

E-mail: dg@macra.mw

Dated this 25th April, 2024.



Daud Suleman
DIRECTOR GENERAL