



CMST UPDATES

Trusted Partner in Healthcare

Inside
this
issue:

- From the Editor's Desk 2
- Media challenged to practice Solutions journalism 3
- ICT Policies must promote secure & trusted operations 4

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CMST DONATES TO MAP



Full story on page 2

CMST Asset Policy gets regulator's kudos

By Staff Writer

The Department of Statutory Corporations has commended the Central Medical Stores Trust (CMST) for being receptive to advice on good operational practices.

The Deputy Director of Administration in the Department of Statutory Corporations, Mrs Joyce Tambala made the commendation at Sunbird Livingstonia Beach Hotel in Salima on Monday at the opening of a three-day review session of the CMST Asset Acquisition, Management and Disposal Policy.



Tambala: CMST want to get things right

To page 2

CMST eager to align policy to Government directions

➔ From Page 1

Tambala said one major role of her Department was to help institutions frame policies in line with Government of Malawi

procedure, adding CMST's call for support indicated the Trust's willingness to get things right.

The Chief Executive of the Central Medical Stores Trust, Mr Feston Kaupa said it is always CMST's desire to work within Government of Malawi's direction on policy formulation and implementation.

Mr Kaupa said the Policy under review would also be harmonised with international and local regulations as well other CMST policy and strategy documents such as the Corporate Strategy and Business Plan.

Alongside Mrs Tambala from the Department of Statutory Corporations were the Deputy Director responsible for Human Resources, Mr Dumisani Banda and Economist Mr Headwick Banda.

CMST's draft Asset Acquisition, Management and Disposal Policy was positively considered by the CMST Board of Trustees



Welcome all to the inaugural issue of the CMST Updates, a newsletter designed in line with one of CMST Corporate Strategy goals; to enhance engagement with

FROM THE CEO'S DESK

stakeholders, both internal and external.

This is a leap forward as regards CMST's need to share with the stakeholders updates on both the successes and challenges on reforms undertaken since becoming a Public Trust. With unwavering support from various stakeholders, CMST is on a

steady path to progress. It is only fair and progressive to have our audiences updated. It is from such information we want to share that stakeholders can help evaluate our efforts and identify areas for change.

Kindly enjoy the reading and share your feedback.

Together we win!



Paying a listening ear: MAP staff (in white coat) briefing CMST staff on operations

CMST MEETS MAP AT POINT OF NEED

By Staff Writer

The Chief Executive Officer of the Central Medical Stores Trust, Mr Feston Kaupa, said his institution is committed to improving the population's health gain by facilitating availability of medicines and medical supplies to public health facilities and those in working agreements with the Government of Malawi.

Mr Kaupa was speaking in Blantyre [on Wednesday 19 October 2016] as CMST donated K2 million worth of medicines and medical supplies to the Malawi Against Physical

disabilities (MAP).

Noting that MAP mostly attends to clients referred by public health facilities, Kaupa stressed CMST's responsibility of care and policy of inclusion to cover the medicine and medical supply needs of all beneficiaries of public healthcare.

The items donated included galenicals such as Diclofenac cream and gel, surgical dressings such as Plaster of Paris bandages and gauze swabs and surgical equipment such as syringes, gloves, and

catheters.

The Principal of the Malawi Against Physical Disabilities Rehabilitation Technicians College, Mr. Cedric Pahuwa said the institution provides a holistic approach to care where, apart from the seemingly usual physiotherapy the institution administers, there were also medical requirements in treating other conditions.

Pahuwa therefore said the donation would go a long way on facilitating all-inclusive care of clients at the institution. He asked for continued support.
—END/CMST/PRO/191016



Starting out together: Stakeholder that attended the workshop

'SOLUTIONS JOURNALISM KEY TO MEDIA'S REPORTING OF MEDICINES'

By Staff Writer

The Secretary for Health, Dr Macphail Magwira has challenged reporters in the country to embrace Solutions Journalism as a key to finding answers to challenges to the nation's health sector.

Dr Magwira was officially opening a one day Media Workshop on Reporting Medicines in Mangochi on October 19, 2016.

The workshop, coordinated by Central Medical Stores Trust, brought together participants from the media, civil society, Ministry of Health and the Pharmacy Medicines and Poisons Board with an aim of drawing a mutually beneficial platform in the reporting of medicines by the media.

Dr Magwira said it has always been Government of Malawi's interest to build a strong and mutually beneficial relationship between the media on one side and the Ministry of



Magwira: Government has interest in building strong relations with the media

Health and Central Medical Stores Trust on the other.

"This, the Government notes, requires both the media and the news sources [who are in this case the Ministry and CMST] to see eye to eye and be able to treat each other as partners," said Dr Magwira.

The CMST Chief Executive Officer, Mr Feston Kaupa said the relationship between the media and

CMST should not be a venomous one, but that of a strong-willed mutual association to make sure the quality of the national healthcare system is among the best the country can afford.

The Chairperson of the Malawi Chapter of the Media Institute of Southern Africa (Misa), Mr Thom Khanje, applauded CMST for creating an environment where the media can report with

better understanding of the medicine and medical supply landscape.

Mr Khanje recommended that CMST, Civil Society, MISA Malawi and the Ministry of Health work together to raise resources to make such workshops annual events, an ideas that all parties embraced.

—END/CMST/PRO/14/10/16

By Staff Writer

Institutions must always be vigilant in formulation and implementation of Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) policies to necessitate a secure and trusted environment for operations.

Chief Systems Analyst and Programmer in the Ministry of Information, Technology and Communication, Mrs Chrissie Mtonga, said this in Mponela, Dowa on Thursday 3 November 2016 at the official opening of a session to review the Central Medical Stores Trust (CMST) ICT Policy and Procedures.

Mrs Mtonga said one of the aims of the National ICT Policy is to guide the Public Sector in the planning for the national development and utilisation of ICT.

She said CMST's involvement of the Ministry of ICT in the review of the Trust's ICT Policy was therefore the way to go.

She observed that CMST's ICT Policy and Procedures document is in line with the aims of the National ICT Policy.

"For CMST, the document will also help the smooth implementation of ITC-based innovations such as the Trust's newly launched online ordering system for ordering quality medicines and medical supplies.

The CMST Chief Executive Officer, Mr Feston Kaupa, said the policy would also shape CMST's management of ICT resources in a technologically advanced world where ICT generated advantages and disadvantages are equally abound.

ICT POLICIES MUST PROMOTE SECURE, TRUSTED OPERATIONS



Poised to plan way forward: The team behind the ICT Policy review



Brushes in hand: the team, joined by Mr Kaupa (Far Right), dusting off the ICT policy

Mr Kaupa also noted the implementation of the CMST ICT policy would be in agreement with other documents such as the CMST Corporate Strategy and Business Plan, Corruption Prevention and Fraud Prevention Policy. The CMST is to soon review its policies for Procurement, Social Corporate Responsibility, Training, and Quality Management Systems.

—END/CMST/PRO/031116



Sharing the game plan: Mr Kaupa stressing on the need to align work plans to the Corporate Strategy and Business Plan

‘Plan Effectively’

- Corporate Strategy and Business Plan launched in all CMST units

The success of the Central Medical Stores Trust (CMST) lies in staff's continued upholding of a culture of planning within instituted strategic frameworks.

The Chief Executive Officer of Central Medical Stores Trust, Mr Feston Kaupa, said this at CMST Headquarters in Lilongwe [on Friday 30 October 2016] at a half day staff briefing on the Corporate Strategy and Business Plan for the period 2015 to 2020.

Mr Kaupa said the Trust is faced with a huge task of ensuring availability of effective medicines and medicine supplies for access of public health facilities and that flawless planning is a virtue CMST cannot do without.

He then reiterated his expectation for CMST staff to always produce effective work plans aligned to the Corporate Strategy, Business Plan and other supporting policies.

He commended staff for doing a recognisable job; a thing he said makes him confident CMST can achieve more.

Mr Kaupa expressed confidence in the team set up within CMST to coordinate the implementation of the

documents, saying the group is ready to offer support and take staff feedback.

Officially launched by the Minister of Health, Dr Peter Kumpalume during CMST's Second Annual General Meeting at the Bingu International Convention Centre in Lilongwe on 19 July 2016, the two documents were crafted from multi-stakeholder input, with technical support from the Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI).

The CEO also took the debriefing sessions to other CMST units in all three Regions of the country where he stressed that the two planning documents are able to make or break CMST success.

He said the documents must be used to make life at CMST easier and enjoyable.

Kaupa said he has a dream that by 30 June 2020 CMST will have achieved the planned strategic changes as directed by the Corporate Strategy and Business Plan. He said CMST is working to cement customer driven systems such as fully revamping procurement, warehousing and distribution functions and . He said CMST is changing and staff have made it possible to change the face of the Trust.

The Corporate Strategy and Business Plan are available on the CMST website, www.cmst.mw
— **END: CMST/PRO/30/09/16**