**Important information for all Seed Transporters and Seed Sellers in Malawi**

The Malawi Seed Regulations 2018 requires all Seed Transporters and Seed Sellers to be registered, trained, monitored and licensed to transport and sell certified seed of improved crop varieties to farmers for increased crop productivity and production. The majority of seed sellers in Malawi are not seed producers but sell seed on either contract with seed companies or purchase seed and re-sell to farmers in their zones of influence, thereby bringing certified seed close to farmers and reducing farmer seed search cost. In other cases, seed companies use hub agro dealers who operate as whole sellers, stocking large volumes of seed and re-distributing it to retail seed sellers. Further, seed companies use chain stores, ADMARC depots, SFFRFM shops and other retail shops to sell seed to farmers. ALL SEED SELLING OUTLETS ARE REQUIRED, BY SEED LAW, TO BE LICENSED TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH SEED CERTIFICATION PROCEDURES AND STANDARDS.

Seed Trade Association of Malawi (STAM), an umbrella body of seed companies in Malawi, has received a grant from Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa to implement a project ` Strengthening Malawi`s Seed Sector’ in partnership with Department of Agricultural Research Services – Seed Services Unit (DARS-SSU) and Civil Society Agriculture Network (CISANET). The project aims to increase small holder farmers’ incomes and improve food and nutrition security in Malawi. This aim will be achieved through capacity building of SSU staff and seed industry stakeholders to improve seed certification and quality assurance systems, and awareness creation on seed policy and legislation to all seed industry stakeholders in Malawi. Among the activities under capacity building is development of appropriate Seed Seller and Seed Transporter registration and licensing procedure, which will enable STAM in collaboration with SSU register, monitor seed selling points, train and license qualified seed transporters and seed sellers. Through this procedure, all licenses will have the same issuance and expiry dates.

Therefore, STAM wishes to invite all seed transporters, seed sellers, and all interested agro dealers planning to sell certified seed (including certified vegetables) in Malawi to register with the **STAM office located at the Priceworth Building Off Chilambula Road, Opposite Government Stores, P. O Box 2505, Lilongwe.**

Considering that STAM offices are located only in Lilongwe, STAM has made special arrangements with SSU regional offices to carry out registration processes to cater for clients in the regions as follows;

Northern Region: Seed Services Unit

 Lunyangwa Research Station

 P.O. Box 59

 Mzuzu

Phone: +265 995 678 511/ 999 261 812

Central Region: Seed Services Unit

 Lifuwu Research Station

 P.O. Box 102

 Salima

Phone: +265 999 581 548/ 999 334 887

Southern Region: Seed Services Unit

Bvumbwe Research Station

P.O. Box 5748

Limbe

Blantyre

Phone: +265 999 109 326/ 994 420 105

**Requirements for registration and licensing**

1. Interested seed transporters should have reliable transport and water proof cover (in case of open trucks) in transit
2. Interested seed sellers or hub agro-dealers should have adequate and recommended facilities, with cement floor, free of rodents and leakage, well ventilated, cool and dry
3. Seed to be transported and sold should be from a reliable seed source especially from a seed company
4. Seed sellers should have adequate pallets to stack seed
5. Must be willing to have their selling points monitored and repaired if required by official seed inspectors before training and licensing
6. Must attend a free training course to be conducted in all the three regions of Malawi.
7. Those whose licenses are still valid are still required to register as a new procedure will be followed and all certificates will have the same expiry date
8. Register at the stated offices by filling form SR9
9. Seed selling or transportation without the new license will not be entertained.

For more information, please email STAM at staminformation@gmail.com or call on 0881 517 670