JOINT PRESS RELEASE

LIFT OF BAN ON IMPORTATION AND SUPPLY OF
REVIN ENERGY DRINKS INTO MALAWI

The Malawi Bureau of Standards (MBS) and the Pharmacy and Medicines Regulatory Authority (PMRA) are statutory organisations established by Acts of Parliament (Act No. 14 of 2012 and No 9 of 2019) respectively.

The MBS was established with a mandate to promote metrology, standardization and quality assurance of commodities and of their manufacturing, production, processing or treatment of the foregoing; and further provide for matters incidental to, or connected with standardization.

The PMRA was established to provide regulatory mechanisms that promote the use of safe, efficacious, good quality medicines and allied substances for reliable healthcare service delivery in Malawi.

MBS and PMRA would like to make a joint public statement regarding lifting of the ban on importation, supply or distribution of Revin Energy Drinks in Malawi.

The general public may recall that in January, 2019, Revin Tangawizi and Revin Natural Power SX High Energy drinks were banned from importation and supply into Malawi. This followed analytical tests undertaken by the Malawi Bureau of Standards (MBS) and the National Medicine Quality Control Laboratory of the Pharmacy and Medicines Regulatory Authority (PMRA) which showed that the Revin drinks were adulterated with Sildenafil citrate. This is an active pharmaceutical ingredient that is classified by the PMRA as Prescription Only Medicine (POM). Sildenafil citrate may cause adverse health effects on human beings such as abnormally raised or lowered blood pressure, chronic heart failure, prolonged painful erection, heart attack, respiratory depression, blurred
vision, nose bleeding, intense sweating, and increased heart rate among others.

The general public should note that in reaction to the conditions of the ban, Revin Ltd and Gatbro International Ltd, who were among the major suppliers and distributors of the products in Malawi, complied with the ban by among other things, recalling the nonconforming products from the market and disposing them appropriately. In October, 2019, the supplier sent samples of Revin drinks for pre-shipment conformance assessment to the MBS and PMRA and whose results showed that the product complied with relevant specifications and that they were free from Sildenafil citrate.

The Malawi Bureau of Standards and the Pharmacy and Medicines Regulatory Authority wishes to assure the general public that Revin Energy Drinks will continue to be monitored to ensure continued compliance with relevant specifications.

For more information, please write to:

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