

Malawi: MBC appoints senior management



9 Nov 2010

The Malawi Broadcasting Corporation (MBC), previously operating as Radio One and Radio Two before merging with Malawi Television in July this year, has taken a second step in its merger process by appointing its management team.

On 5 July 2010 President Bingu wa Mutharika appointed former acting director general of the defunct Malawi Television (TVM) Bright Malopa director general of the newly created institution now running state-controlled media services. However, a news release indicates that Malopa will now be appointed CEO.

New appointments

MBC's TV department is now being headed by Timpuza Mwansambo while Chimwemwe Banda, who was Malopa's former deputy at TVM, has been appointed director of news. Sphiwe Banda is now head of MBC Radio Two, while Hamilton Chimala is the manager for MBC Radio One. The positions of former managers like Geoffrey Kazembe hang in a balance as they were sent on forced leave.

Director of studios and signal distribution is Joseph Chikagwa while Felix Tambulasi has been appointed director of corporate affairs. Station managers for the television department, Radio One and Radio Two are Timpuza Mwansambo, Hamilton Chimala and Siphiwe Banda respectively.

Dominant TV personnel

Personnel from the television side have dominated positions in senior management which consists of 13 people out of whom only five are from the radio. The new senior Tambulasi told a local daily that the new set-up has incorporated people from both radio and TV while insisting that the restructuring process was ongoing.

Although the former minister of information and civic education Leckford Thoto assured employees early last year that none of them would lose their jobs following the merger, senior managers for the two institutions before they merged have been left in the cold and no communication has been made on their fate.

ABOUT GREGORY GONDWE

Gregory Gondwe is a Malawian journalist who started writing in 1993. He is also a media consultant assisting several international journalists pursuing assignments in Malawi. He holds a Diploma and an Intermediate Certificate in Journalismamong other media-related certificates. He can be contacted on gregorygondwe@gmail.com Follow himon Twitter at @Kalioochi.

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