

BRIEF REPORT ON THE FIRE INCIDENT AT BALAKA DHO 31st July, 2020

The fire started around early hours of 2 and 3am of 31 July 2020. By the time it got noticed it was rife and raging and spreading to other connected blocks. Surrounding people and staff intervened to stop the fire from spreading further till the fire brigade came to extinguish. The kitchen and laundry building has been completely consumed. The laundry building also houses part of stores and data office which have been destroyed in the fire. The rest of the hospital buildings were not directly affected by the fire. Patients were quickly evacuated soon as the fire was noticed and have since been referred to neighboring district hospitals (Ntcheu and Machinga). There were around 147 patients admitted. Some equipment and other materials have been shifted within the hospital premises for safety.

PROBABLE CAUSE OF THE FIRE

The probable cause of the fire is suspected to be an electrical fault that originated from one of the oil pots in the kitchen.

PRELIMINARY LIST BURNT EQUIPMENTS AND SUPPLIES

The list of items and property believed to have been destroyed by the fire is attached here with. However, it is also important to note that some items have been lost during the movements, the extent of which is yet to be established. Most notable items lost during evacuation include, heavy duty aprons, heavy duty gloves, extinguishers, portable oxygen cylinders, extension phones, trolleys, Preventing Protective Equipment (PPE).

Kitchen

All furniture, equipment and food stuff have been completely destroyed as indicated on the list. To resume providing catering services the following items will be required for the first month:

Food Stuff for a Month:

Eggs	210 units
Kitchen Salt	60 Kgs
Tomato	73 Kgs
Sugar	5 Bales
Rice	200 Kgs
Cabbage	600 Kgs

Beef	100 Kgs
Cooking oil	120 lts
Maize flour	1500 Kgs
Beans	500 Kgs
Onions	60 Kgs
Soya	15 Bales
Nsinjiro	150 Kgs

Equipment

Big cooking pots	3
Cooking sticks	4
Plastic Buckets	4 (60ltrs) 10 (20ltrs)
Cutting knives	10
Plates	250
Small pots	4
Electric kettle	1
Microwave	1
Basins	Several sizes
Gumboots	11 pairs
Axe	2
Serving spoons	4

Laundry

All furniture and equipment have been destroyed in the fire as indicated on the attached list as well. To resume with laundry services, the following items are required:

Gumboots	6 pairs
Plastic buckets	4 (20ltrs) 5(60ltrs)
Big basins	2
Iron Box	2
Laundry machine	
Drying machine	
Auto bin	5

HMIS

All equipment and furniture also destroyed in the fire as indicated on the attached list. For the data officers to resume work the following items are required:

Computers	8
Printers	5
Cabinets	6
Office chairs	8
Internet connection	1
Power Extension cables	4
Photocopy Machine	1
Arc lever files	40
Reams of paper	6
Office tables	5
Laptops	5
Puncher and stapling Machine(Heavy duty)	1
UPS	5

MAKESHIFT MAINTAINANCE BUDGET

To restore electricity and water at Balaka District Hospital for services to resume running, the following items will be required;

DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY
Armoured Cables 32mm	200
Armoured Cables 16 mm	250
Insulation Tape	60
Isolator	2
Main Switch 150Amps	1
Cable Tags	30
D-Iron	1
Neutral Link	10
MCB 32 Amps Legrand	6
Elbow 1/1/2	10
Nipple 1/1/2	10
Tee 1/1/2	10
Socket 1/1/2	10

Union 1/1/2	10
Plus 1/1/2	10
HDPE Pipe (50mm)	100
HDPE Adapters (50mm)	20
HDPE Male Adapters (50mm)	20
HDPE Female Adapters (50mm)	20
HDPE Reducing Bush (50-40)	4
Valve 1/1/2	10
Stop Cork 1/1/2	10
Saddle Clip	2

After the fire incident, there were a number of activities and measures taken;

We had the deputy Minister of Health and some health management officials from headquarters who came to see the extent of the damage the fire had caused, there were a few recommendations from the ministry team;

- We should come up with a make shift plan to resume hospital services.
- We should renovate the unfinished buildings which were meant for kitchen and laundry.
- We should first assess the electrical wiring and water connections first before rushing into resuming services at the main district hospital.

For the mean time no admissions are going to be done at the District Hospital as all those needing admissions are to be referred to Machinga and Ntcheu Hospital thereby stretching our already small budget for the Hospital further. Our health workers are to be helping in carrying out other operations in nearby districts there by increasing our off duty station allowances budget.

No corona patients are to be admitted at District Hospital.

ITEMS LOST AND APPROXIMATE VALUE

Kitchen Items Lost in The Fire

	ITEM	QTY	RATE	APPROX PRICE
1	530 LITRES FRIGDE	2	750000	1,500,000.00
2	310 LITRES FRIGDE	1	350,000	350,000.00
	COOKERS	2	420,000	640,000.00
	COOKING POTS WORKING	4	4,700,000	6,400,000.00

COOKING POTS NOT USED SMALL	1	3,200,000	3,200,000.00
FRIDGE NOT WORKING 530 LITRES	2	530,000	1,060,000.00
TRANSCAR OIL 210 LITRES	1	550,000	550,000.00
SCALE	2	75,000	150,000.00
FAN	2	35,000	70,000.00
OTTO BINS	3	120,000	360,000.00
HAND RECEIVER	1	35,000	35,000.00
HORSE PIPE 50 M	1	55,000	55,000.00
TABLES DESK	1	45,000	45,000.00
CHAIRS	6	35,000	210,000.00
FOOD TROLLEYS	3	210,000	630,000.00
BENCH	2	20,000	40,000.00
COOKING POTS MANUAL 60 LITRES	3	80,000	240,000.00
SMALL POT FOR HEATING	1	80,000	80,000.00
PLATES STEEL	230	2,300	529,000.00
MEAT CUTTER	1	750,000	750,000.00
TOTAL			16,894,000.00

HMIS Office Items

DESKTOP SET	8	450,000.00	3,600,000.00
LAPTOPS (3 PERSONAL)	5	550,000.00	2,750,000.00
PRINTERS HEAVY DUTY	2	1,400,000.00	2,800,000.00
PHOTOCOPY MACHINE	1	2,600,000.00	2,600,000.00
PRINTERS	5	250,000.00	1,250,000.00
TNM EWIMIX	1	120,000.00	120,000.00
AIRTEL ROUTER	1	120,000.00	120,000.00
EXTENSIONS	4	6,500.00	26,000.00
FAN	1	35,000.00	35,000.00

	UPS	5	140,000.00	700,000.00
	CHAIRS	8	35,000.00	280,000.00
	TABLES	5	45,000.00	225,000.00
	AIRTIME	1	10,000.00	10,000.00
	ACCESS DONGLES	2	12,500.00	25,000.00
	FILLING CABINET	6	250,000.00	1,500,000.00
	TNM AIRTIME	1	20,000.00	20,000.00
	J2 COMPUTERS AND PRINTERS	2	310,000.00	620,000.00
	WALL CLOCK	1	25,000.00	25,000.00
	TOTAL			16,061,000.00

Laundry Items

	DRIER	1	13,000,000.00	13,000,000.00
	LAUNDRY MACHINE EQUIPMENT	2	30,000,000.00	60,000,000.00
	IRON OLD TYPE	1	3,855,000.00	3,855,000.00
	IRON NEW SMALL	1	1,567,000.00	1,567,000.00
	TOTAL			78,422,000.00

Stores Laundry Side

	UPS	16	180,000.00	2,880,000.00
	DESKTOP	15	550,000.00	8,250,000.00
	MONITOR	16	160,000.00	2,560,000.00
	SERVER	1	350,000.00	350,000.00

	COMPUTER TABLE	1	55,000.00	55,000.00
	Wheel chair	1	280,000.00	280,000.00
	Oxygen concentrator	2	2,500,000.00	5,000,000.00
	Pulse OX	4	120,000.00	480,000.00
	Microscope	3	15,000,000.00	45,000,000.00
	Swival Chair	1	245,000.00	245,000.00
	Blanket Cartoon	1	460,000.00	460,000.00
	Pillows Bale	1	157,000.00	157,000.00
	Weighing scale(Baby)	5	140,000.00	700,000.00
	Heater (Small)	6	65,000.00	390,000.00
	Heater (Big)	1	85,000.00	85,000.00
	Christmas Materials cartoon	1	250,000.00	250,000.00
	Flash door	1	35,000.00	35,000.00
	Used carpets	2	220,000.00	440,000.00
	Metal Cups unit	1	85,000.00	85,000.00
	Dolls assortd	1	60,000.00	60,000.00
	Different files	1	40,000.00	40,000.00
	Drill Cloth	42	4,500.00	189,000.00
	Kidney disher	10	25,000.00	250,000.00
	MVA Syringes	20	16,000.00	320,000.00
	TV Screens	3	60,000.00	180,000.00
	New tents	2	450,000.00	900,000.00
	Walking Sticks	5	38,000.00	190,000.00
	Sterilizer	15	220,000.00	3,300,000.00
	Thermometers cartoons	2	130,000.00	260,000.00
	Ambu bags	1	212,000.00	212,000.00

	Height board	1	160,000.00	160,000.00
	Wall mounted thermometer	1	43,000.00	43,000.00
	Feed syringe	1	35,000.00	35,000.00
	Digital thermometers	10	25,000.00	250,000.00
	TOTAL			74,091,000.00
	SUMMARY TOTAL			190,152,800.00

Drugs From Jhpiego Destroyed By The Fire

	ITEM	EXPIRATION	QTY
1	Podophyllum Resin	10/1/21	2
2	Diclofenac IM	11/1/20	22
3	Lidocaine 2%	12/1/20	85
4	Face Mask	12/1/22	1050
5	Bupivacaine 0.5%	3/1/21	500
6	Theatre caps		500
7	Iodine	6/1/22	40
8	Paracetamol	10/1/21	300
9	Handwash	7/1/21	65
10	Safety Box		53
11	Promethazine	9/1/20	16
12	Aminophylline 250ml	11/1/20	5
13	Diazepam	11/1/20	30
14	Mc Kits	6/1/21	325
15	Goggles		15
16	Pulse Oximeter		9
17	Chromic Suture (Kids)	1/1/25	228
18	BP Cuff		9
19	Emergency Box		6
20	Biscuits		860
21	Atropine	10/1/20	16
22	Atropine	2/1/21	6
23	Ceftriaxone	4/1/22	5
24	Aciclovir	9/1/20	1800
25	Doxycycline	4/1/21	4000

26	Cloxacilin	1/1/22	1300
27	Sanitizer 100ml	2/1/22	25
28	Black bin liners		180
29	Red bin liners		200
30	Yellow bin liners		400
31	Sutures	1/1/25	228
32	Tissue paper	1/2/25	17

DRUGS FROM MOH BALAKA DESTROYED BY FIRE

	ITEM	EXPIRATION	QTY
1	Disposable gloves	8/1/20	300
2	Plaster	4/1/22	30
3	Normal saline 500ml	3/1/24	42
4	Ceftriaxone IM	5/1/21	17
5	Giving stes	7/1/21	37
6	Pill packs		2700
7	IV Cannula	1/1/23	265
8	Disposable Aprons	2/1/23	900
9	Condoms	12/1/23	576
10	Paracetamol	11/1/24	4000
11	Face mask	8/1/21	500
12	Lidocaine 1%	1/1/22	100
13	Srynge 10cc	3/1/24	61
14	Metronidazole	8/1/24	4000
15	Benzathine	3/1/22	138

Other Equipment Destroyed By The Fire

	ITEM	EXPIRATION	QTY
1	Emergency boxes		5
2	Buckets		65

3	Gamboots		15
4	Mayo Stand		13
5	Stepping stools		6
6	Biscuits		850
7	Screens		10
8	Theater Beds		15
9	Chlorine 20L Bucket		1
10	Makin Tosh		1
11	Tents		2
12	VMMC Flip Charts		10
13	Plain Papers		4 Rims
14	Tissue papers		12
15	Air freshner		1
16	VMMC Record files		
17	Clients appointment cards		1000
18	VMMC Posters		250
19	VMMC leaflets		100
20	Gun Thermometer		1

RECOMMENDATIONS

Immediate Recommendations

- The list of equipment that was damaged needs replacement for us to resume to our normal service delivery.
- Council to support with additional fuel and allowances to support health workers working in Machinga and Ntcheu.

Long Term Recommendations

- The building should be demolished and a new one should be constructed subject to a report by the director of buildings.
- Provision of fire engine to Balaka district council for response to future incidents if they happen

- We need large morgue tents to be supplied to the district hospital for emergencies like these.
- To prevent and mitigate future occurrences of the fire accidents, we have outlined the following
 - Fire extinguishers should be checked and serviced regularly.
 - Smoke detectors to be installed for curbing of future emergencies.
 - The whole electrical system to be assessed and if need be reworked
 - Fire hydrants to be supplied to the district hospital and all other major buildings
 - We should have refresher fire drills

Dr . E. K. Kaunda

DIRECTOR OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES