DECISION DOCUMENT

1.0. Summary of the Application

In 2021, the Ministry of Forestry and Natural Resources received an application to import soymeal derived from genetically modified soybean (MON-Ø4Ø32-6) from South Africa by Central Poultry Feed Limited in response to a national shortage of soybean, a key ingredient in poultry feed production. Following a review of the information provided, the Ministry issued a permit to Central Poultry Feed Limited to import the product, subject to specific conditions. The permit was valid from 20 February to 31 May 2022.

2.0 Description of the Procedure (followed, including the solicitation of advice and Comments)

The National Biosafety Regulatory Committee (NBRC) identified an expert from Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (LUANAR) to support the review of risk assessment report for genetically modified soybeans. Reference documents including those available on the Biosafety Clearing House were reviewed to determine the safety of the event in the application and determine history of safe use. Upon receipt of the reviewer's submission NBRC convened to consider the recommendations from the external reviewer's report.

3.0 **A presentation of risk assessment carried out**;

Based on the history of genetically modified (GM) soybean use in South Africa, it is assumed that the soybean event utilized in the production of the soybean meal is GTS 40-3-2 (event 40-3-2), also identified as MON-Ø4Ø32-6. A comprehensive review of the application submitted by Monsanto, together with risk assessment reports from European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), South Africa, the United States, and Food Standards Australia New Zealand, indicates that this GM soybean event is safe. On this basis, it is considered suitable for importation and use in poultry feed production.

2.0 **The final decision.** (The decision on the application can be to allow, with or without conditions, or to deny permit or approval for the requested activity).

Upon review of the information provided by the external reviewer and the applicant, together with the committee's internal expertise, it was resolved that CP Feed Limited be granted the permit, subject to the following conditions;

- The applicant shall use the imported GM Soya meal for the intended purposed imported for, which is for production of chicken feed.
- The applicant should ensure that the crude imported soya meal is not sold to any company or individual.
- The applicant must ensure that the feed produced using GM soya meals should be labelled appropriately.
- The applicant should inform the Biosafety Registrar the date and time the soya meal consignment is to arrive in Malawi 5 days before arrival as the biosafety inspector is required to verify the consignment and accompany

the consignment to its final destination as required by the Biosafety Act (2002).