

MISSÃO PERMANENTE DE  
MOÇAMBIQUE JUNTO DAS NAÇÕES  
UNIDAS E DE OUTRAS  
ORGANIZAÇÕES INTERNACIONAIS  
EM GENEVRA



PERMANENT MISSION OF  
MOZAMBIQUE TO THE UNITED  
NATIONS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL  
ORGANISATIONS  
IN GENEVA

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**Statement by Mr Jaime Chissano, Minister Counselor of  
the Permanent Mission of Mozambique to the United  
Nations Office in Geneva, to the 19<sup>th</sup> Session of the  
UPR Working Group on the Democratic People's  
Republic of Korea**

Thank you, Mr. President, for giving us the floor.

At the outset, we would like to welcome and thank the delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) for the presentation of their comprehensive report to the country's second Universal Periodic Review.

We would also like to underline the fact that the report at hand reflects the activities undertaken by the DPRK in the implementation of the recommendations from the first cycle of its UPR.

It is worth noting that the DPRK has signed and ratified some human rights instruments which were, afterwards, incorporated into the national legislation, in a bid to improve the enjoyment of human rights by all Korean citizens.

It is a matter of praise that the DPRK Government, in its endeavors to meet the right to health care, has increased the budgetary expenditure in this area by 105% in 2013, compared to the previous fiscal year, which led to the modernization of health centers, production of medicines, as well as medical appliances, across the

country, paving the way for free medical care system and subsequent promotion of Korean people's health.

On the other side, the proportion of the population using improved drinking water sources is currently 99% and that of those using improved sanitation is 83.2%.

On the women's rights, we would like to register the significant improvement recorded, which is substantiated by the decrease of maternal mortality rate from 107 per 1000 live births in 1997, to 68.1 in 2012, in the context of the attainment of the MDG's on reducing, by three quarters, the ratio of women dying while giving birth.

Finally, we would like to recommend the DPRK to increase budgetary allocation to the agricultural sector, so as to improve food security in its endeavors to further the protection and promotion of human rights of the Korean People.

We thank you for your kind attention

Geneva, 1<sup>st</sup> May 2014