

MISSÃO PERMANENTE DA  
REPÚBLICA DE MOÇAMBIQUE  
JUNTO DAS NAÇÕES UNIDAS  
  
GENEBRA



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE  
  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
  
GENEVA

**Statement by H.E. Pedro Comissário, Permanent  
Representative of the Republic of Mozambique to the  
United Nations Office in Geneva and other  
International Organizations, at the 23<sup>rd</sup> Session of the  
UPR Working Group on São Tomé and Príncipe  
Geneva, 11<sup>th</sup> November 2015**

Mr. President!

At the outset, Mozambique wish to welcome HE Mr. ..., Minister of ... of São Tomé and Príncipe and his distinguished delegation, on the occasion of their country's submission to the Second Cycle of Universal Periodic Review (UPR).

Mozambique and São Tomé and Príncipe are linked by historical and cultural ties, since 15<sup>th</sup> Century. Today, they are both parties to the Organization of African Portuguese Speaking Countries (PALOP) and the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries (CPLP), apart from other international organizations.

A developing and young Nation, São Tomé and Príncipe went through political difficulties, which may explain, in part, the challenges the country is faced with, in the realm of human rights.

Nonetheless, São Tomé and Príncipe has been displaying a strong political will in the endeavors aiming at improving the enjoyment of human rights by her people.

Indeed, São Tomé and Príncipe has made significant strides in the implementation of the recommendations of the 1<sup>st</sup> Cycle of UPR, in 2011, for which the country should be commended.

On the right to life, liberty and security of persons, Mozambique welcomes the establishment of the Counselling Center against Domestic Violence and the revision of Penal Code which now includes provision on sexual abuse, exploitation of minors and child trafficking.

On administration of Justice, including impunity, and the rule of law; right to social security and to an adequate standard of living and health, Mozambique praises São Tomé and Príncipe for the (i) adoption of the Law on Judiciary System, No.7/2010, which provides for the creation of a juvenile court; (ii) the adoption of Poverty Reduction Strategy Plan 2012-2016, as well as the recent increase in the State's budgetary allocation for health and education and (iii) the decrease in the mother-to-child transmission of HIV.

Mozambique recommends that São Tomé and Príncipe sets up a National Human Rights Institution, in the light of Paris Principles, with the support of the Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights and International Community at large.

To conclude, Mr. President, Mozambique wishes São Tomé and Príncipe every success in the present UPR exercise.

Thank you

Geneva, 11<sup>th</sup> November 2015