



**United Nations Country Team in  
Mozambique Report for the  
Universal Periodic Review**

**10th Session January 2011, submitted July 2010**

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**I. Introduction**

1. This report was drafted by the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in Mozambique. Due to space constraints, this report will not be exhaustive but rather highlight the main issues, which are addressed by the UNCT in the country. For a more detailed presentation of the work performed by the UNCT, one may refer to the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF).

**II. Background and framework**

Constitutional and legislative background

2. Mozambique has signed a number of human rights Conventions, both at the international and regional level, having ratified most of them. Among those yet to be ratified are, the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (signed in 2000) and the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
3. Mozambique has neither signed nor ratified the following human rights instruments, *inter alia*: First Optional Protocol to ICCPR, (ICCPR-Opt. 1), International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), Optional Protocol to CEDAW (CEDAW-OP), Optional Protocol to CAT (OPCAT), Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (MWC), the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, the 1954 Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on Reduction of Statelessness.

Institutional and human rights structure

4. The justice system in Mozambique has inherited a complex and superseded colonial legal framework which requires an urgent and constant update, in line with the national Constitution and the international and regional human rights instruments to which Mozambique is signatory.
5. The Department for the Promotion and Development of Human Rights was established within the Ministry of Justice in November 2004. It is responsible for establishing mechanisms of liaison with different actors engaged in the observance and respect for human integrity and dignity in Mozambique, thus promoting the respect for human rights.
6. The law establishing a National Human Rights Commission was adopted by parliament in December 2009 and promulgated by the president in May 2010. The mandate of the Commission includes both protection and promotion work and specifically allows the Commission to conduct monitoring and investigation of human rights, issuing of public reports, as well as submitting its annual reports to the president and parliament.
7. There is no parliamentary commission solely on human rights. The responsibility for human rights falls within the jurisdiction of the Constitutional Human Rights and Legal Affairs Commission and the Petitions Commission.

8. The revision of the Constitution in 2004 strengthened the formal status of internationally recognized human rights principles and introduced the post of an Ombudsman reporting to the Parliament. A law on the Ombudsman was adopted in 2006 but an Ombudsman has not yet been appointed and the mandate and status of the post are still unclear.

#### Policy measures

9. In 2008, the Ministry of Justice initiated the process for the development of the National Action Plan for Human Rights. The aim of the instrument is to provide the Government of Mozambique with a short- and medium-term strategic tool for planning, monitoring and evaluation of human rights matters enshrined in the Constitution, with the objective of managing the processes of promotion, defense and development of a culture of human rights within the Mozambican society. This tool is to serve both state and non state actors, taking into account its cross cutting character. The National Action Plan is still being drafted and shall be finalized by the end of 2010. The consultation process involved civil society and state bodies representative from three provinces located in the Southern, Central and Northern regions of the country

### **III. Promotion and protection of human rights on the ground**

#### Cooperation with human rights mechanisms

10. In 2003, the Special Rapporteur on the Rights to Health visited Mozambique (E/CN.4/2005/51/Add.2), followed in 2005 by the Independent Expert on Economic Reform Policies (E/CN.4/2006/46/Add.1). The Special Rapporteur on the Independence of Judges and Lawyers will be visiting the country from 23 August to 1 September 2010. Recently, Mozambique was reviewed by the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC/C/MOZ/CO/2), the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD/C/MOZ/CO/12) as well as the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW/C/MOZ/CO/2).

#### Implementation of international human rights obligations, taking into account applicable international humanitarian law

11. Since gaining independence and overcoming internal war, Mozambique has undergone a remarkable development with impressive economic growth rates and encouraging development progress in recent years. Mozambique is one of the most successful stories in peace-building, particularly in terms of conflict resolution through winning efforts towards reconciliation and reintegration of ex-combatants, leading to a **well-consolidated peace**. However, the 2009 Human Development Report still ranks Mozambique 172<sup>th</sup> of 182 countries in the world. Despite an overall strong commitment to the improvement of human rights in Mozambique, the situation is still far from being ideal due to a low starting level and considerable capacity constraints. Nevertheless, given the enormous challenges and progress so far, the country is gradually getting on track to fulfill its obligations, although much stronger efforts are needed in certain key areas, as follows:

##### A. Equality and non-discrimination

12. The Constitution of 2004 enshrines, *inter alia*, the principle of **equality of all citizens**, irrespective of their color, race, sex, ethnic origin, birthplace and religion. Also, it is well noted that Mozambique has adopted a language policy, which includes the use of local languages, together with the official language, in the curricula of primary schools as well as the promotion of national languages and cultures, as prescribed in the Constitution. However, full implementation nationwide of such provisions and policy still remain a challenge.

13. Strong political will and commitment towards the promotion of **gender equality** and women's empowerment produced comprehensive legal and policy frameworks but yielded uneven results. Although the representation of women in politics increased and is among the highest in Africa as well as in the world, female participation in other state institutions, such as the police, and particularly at higher rank positions remains underrepresented, with consequences for the desired gender-balance and sensitivity. Enrolment at primary schools reached parity, but completion rates still show disparity. Only 65.1% of the girls finish school, against 80% of male students. The sexual harassment and abuse of girls in schools is among the key hindrances to girls' progress and completion. Disparity is also significant in terms of illiteracy rate, especially among the adult and older population, reaching 65% of the women in general, the double of the male population rate. Despite child marriage before the age of 16 years being illegal, under-age marriage is still found to be a common practice, especially in rural areas. Among girls between the ages of 20 and 24 years, 17% were married before the age of 15, while 52 % of them married before the age of 18 years. Cultural and traditional factors, as well as poverty, often interfere with women's ability to access information and education. These cultural challenges prevent women from becoming gainfully employed. Cultural and traditional factors were found also to interfere in the security situation of women. Available data reveal a widespread acceptance of the use of violence against women; a fact highlighted by a 2008 survey in which 36% of the female respondents stated that men had the right to beat them under certain circumstances, such as leaving the house without informing the husband or refusing sex. Further, the persistent feminization of HIV&AIDS, with prevalence rates among girls in the age group of 14-29 years being four times higher than in boys, is linked to the weak consideration of women's sexual and reproductive rights.
14. While reaffirming the importance of all conclusions and observations made by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) in its 2007 Report, it is noteworthy that the lack of specific civil and penal legislation on **racial discrimination** remains a concern for the country. While acknowledging certain developments in national law, such as the anti-discrimination provisions of the Tourism Law of 2004 and the Labor Law of 2007, cases of discriminatory treatment, racism and xenophobic acts and attitudes, in particular in the field of employment and public services, continue to be reported and it is well noted that the lack of information on court cases or complaints may be explained by the lack of information by victims about their rights.
15. The current Mozambican penal code still prohibits **homosexuality** as "depraved behaviour", while the revised labour law (2007) prohibits discrimination against employees on the basis of their sexual orientation. The fact that the application of the organization of gay/lesbian people to register as an association was not approved by the Council of Ministers is noted with concern.

#### B. Right to life, liberty and security of the person

16. The **death penalty** was abolished in the constitution of 1990. Cases of **extra-judicial executions** by the police and the military have been reported by international human rights groups. Up to 1.4 million **weapons** are in circulation illegally within Mozambique and capacities for collection, management and destruction of firearms are inadequate and present an increasing safety and security threat to local communities. In Mozambique, the phenomenon of **lynching** continues to be a problem, with 62 people reported to be lynched during the year of 2008.
17. More than 3,500 cases of **child violence** were reported to the police in 2009. Sexual abuse in schools is an area of particular concern, as noted by the CRC Committee 2009 Report. Cases of child trafficking and sexual abuse are continuously reported in the local media.

18. Today, 4 of Mozambique's Northern provinces are on their way to becoming **mine** free. The remaining areas are expected to be cleared before Mozambique's 2014 deadline under the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Treaty (APMBT).

### C. Administration of justice and the rule of law

19. While welcoming the plan to decentralize jurisdiction of certain Institutions, such as the Administrative Tribunal, the issue of access to **justice** remains a major challenge in Mozambique, particularly for members of groups disadvantaged on account of their location, ethnic or national origin, language or poverty, as the CERD pointed out. The Judiciary demonstrates willingness to improve performance although faced with several challenges. The system is slow in dealing with legal cases; the ratio of magistrates and population is of 1/96,000; and both the Ministries of Justice and of the Interior have insufficient financial and human resources to fully comply with all their obligations. The state's department of Free Legal Aid (IPAJ) only covers 45% of the country's districts, which prevents a large portion of vulnerable population from the enjoyment their human and constitutional right to legal assistance. In addition, it has weak capacity to defend citizens for complex cases, does not fulfill its duty of promoting rights awareness amongst citizens and in some cases requests payments for its work, thus violating their condition of free legal aid department.
20. While welcoming the provision of article 118 of the Constitution on traditional authorities and considering the importance of customary law, the lack of information on the status of those institutions *vis à vis* national law and judicial institutions is noteworthy. The role of **traditional courts** in dealing with extra-judicial conflict resolution often does not lead to human rights based decisions. For example, issues like inheritance for widows, or division of goods upon separation of couples put women in very vulnerable situations. Decisions on land ownership often discriminate against disadvantaged groups, on account of their ethnic association, nationality, language, age or poverty.
21. **Prisons** hardly comply with the minimum requirements for the treatment of prisoners. With few exceptions, juveniles and adult prison population share the same cells, prisons are overcrowded and 34% of prisoners are in preventive detention. There are cases reported of mistreatments and torture in the prisons. As a result of the lack of adequate institutional capacity and resources available, prisoners do not have access to proper food, health care and sanitation. Few measures for the social reintegration of prisoners exist, although a large number of prisoners being still under 25 years of age. It is highly commendable that Mozambican authorities allow human rights groups and civil society organizations to visit prisons, normally in a non-restrictive manner.
22. The low ratio of police officers (approximate ratio of 1 officer per 1,000 inhabitants while international standard is of 1 to 350/450) and the lack of adequate infrastructures and equipment restrict citizens' access to efficient police services. The Police is still a male-dominated force, even more visible in the upper echelons, despite the rhetoric of gender equality. Relevant contemporary issues, such as community policing are not yet adequately addressed. The lack of a system of discipline and oversight bodies does not allow proper investigations of serious allegations made against the police.

### D. Freedom of association and right to participate in public and political life

23. The country held its fourth Presidential and legislative elections in 2009. Nevertheless, Members of Parliament recognize that they still need to adjust to a post-conflict, **multi-party parliamentary culture** and the institution's capacity to initiate legislation remains embryonic. Moreover, the capacity of civil servants to effectively support parliamentary activity and implement legislation remains limited.

24. The electoral law and its interpretation of the Electoral management body (CNE) had substantial implications on the **electoral process** of 2009. Due to the interpretation of the law by the CNE, upheld by the Constitutional council in appeal, a number of parties and their candidates were not allowed to run in their constituencies, based on the assertion that the parties did not comply with the rules of registration of candidates. The decision meant that in many constituencies there were only candidates from one or two parties standing for elections.
25. **Corruption** continues to be a widespread problem at all levels of society, negatively affecting the enjoyment of all human rights. The international UN-convention on anti-corruption has yet to be translated into national legislation. It is commendable that an anti-corruption authority has been in place since 2004 (*Gabinete Central de Combate à Corrupção*). It has dealt with over 400 cases; of which over 60 have resulted in charges (31 were sentenced in the first seven months of 2008). Transparency International ranks Mozambique 126<sup>th</sup> out of 180 countries in 2008 with a Corruption Perception Index of 2.6 (10=highly clean, 0=highly corrupt). This is a fall from 111<sup>th</sup> place in 2007, when the score was 2.8.
26. Freedom of **association** is enshrined in the Constitution and there are hundreds of civil society organisations in the country, including many working on promotion and defence of human rights. However, due to capacity and resource constraints, civil society is yet to develop to its full potential. In general the right to demonstrate is respected, with only one incident reported where police stopped a civil society march in support of the people of Zimbabwe in June 2008.

#### E. Right to work and to just and favorable conditions of work

27. Mozambique has ratified a total of eighteen ILO Conventions. Moreover, the adoption of a new labor code in 2007 has gone a long way in formally establishing workers' rights. A major constraint to granting basic **workers rights** is the insufficient enforceability of laws, regulations and contracts owing to the weak capacity of police and the judiciary and workers' unawareness of their basic legal entitlements in the area of minimum wages, maximum working hours and maternity leave. Additionally, employment in the urban sector is largely informal and temporary.
28. The 2008 Children's Act prohibits **child labour** and any form of work for children less than 15 years of age and also provides for punitive measures to be taken against the employer. However, the act is not effectively enforced, due to a lack of dissemination and capacity of the authorities. Data shows that 22 per cent of children aged between five and fourteen are involved in child labour, with a large disparity between urban and rural areas (15 per cent and 25 per cent respectively). Finally, in rural areas child labour is widespread and in many cases considered necessary for household survival. It is estimated that there are about 800,000 economically active children in Mozambique.

#### F. Right to health, social security and to an adequate standard of living

29. More than half of the population (54%) live below the national **poverty** line; 34% of households are vulnerable to food insecurity and the rate of chronic malnutrition among children under five years of age is still alarmingly high (44%), while only 13.5% of the population has access to electricity. Data reveal the existence of disparities in poverty headcount among provinces. The Mozambican state remains highly centralized, although the majority of the population (69%) lives in the **rural areas** (2007 census), where access to public services is remarkably poor. As over 95% of food production is rain-fed, Mozambique is very vulnerable to food crisis depriving the populations most at risk of their basic needs and **access to food**.
30. Major **public health** challenges and the most common causes of death and illness are malaria, tuberculosis, cholera, HIV/AIDS, acute respiratory tract infections and diarrhea related diseases.

Only 36% of population has access to health facilities within 30 minutes of walking radius and the ratios of health professionals to population are still of concern, namely 3 doctors and 21 nurses for 100.000 habitants. While steady progress was made in some areas such as child health and malaria control, maternal mortality remains high, at 408/100,000 live births. Mozambique has the 22<sup>nd</sup> highest under-five mortality rate in the world. The prevalence of underweight among children under five years of age is at 18% in 2008. The proportion of five-year old children that are stunted is still classified as “very high” at 44%.

31. While treatment is provided for free, coverage is far from comprehensive and Mozambique still suffers with challenges in HIV/AIDS prevention. It has an **HIV/AIDS** prevalence rate amongst the adult population of 11.5%. Among young people (15-24), the rate is 7.9 %, but prevalence rates begin to rise significantly and reach 14.5% for the group of both sexes with 20-24 years-old. Adolescent girls, in urban areas and in the south of the country are the most at risk. There are an estimated 1.8 million orphans in Mozambique, 510,000 of whom have been orphaned due to AIDS. The number of orphans is expected to rise, with AIDS related illnesses increasingly becoming the primary cause of orphan hood.
32. The Mozambican population is highly dependent on environmental services and resources for its well-being. Due to the effects of climate change an increase in people’s vulnerability conditions and ability to preserve their lives will be observed. The likely cost of **environmental degradation** to the national economy is significant (370 million USD or more than 6% of GDP). However, public participation in decision making and public consultation regarding management of local natural resources has been recognized as relatively low by a number of civil society organizations.
33. Given its geographic location, with a coastline of about 2.700 km and more than 60% of its population living in coastal areas, Mozambique is highly vulnerable to **natural disasters**. The occurrence of floods, cyclones, drought and earthquakes has consistently had a significant impact on people’s enjoyment of human rights, particularly those of civil, social and economic nature.
34. The Mozambican Constitution recognizes the right to **housing**, giving the state an obligation to ensure and protect that right. Adequate housing remains an issue, either in quantity and quality, and according to the 2007 census, only 16.3% of all existing houses are built with conventional materials (such as cement blocks or clay bricks) and 26.1% have concrete, tile, metallic or fiber cement roofs. Only 5% had access to improved sanitation facilities and 21% of people had access to unimproved facilities. The number of deaths caused annually due to insufficient **water, sanitation and hygiene** is estimated at 17,000.

#### G. Right to education and to participate in the cultural life of the community

35. In Mozambique primary **education** is free since 2004, but not compulsory. School fees remain for secondary level education. Despite great increases, 20% of children in the age group 6 – 12 are not attending primary school and only 15% complete their primary education. The lack of appropriate teaching facilities, low number of classrooms, lacking sanitary installations, difficult access, particularly in rural areas, creates a situation which aggravated by poverty, sexual abuse of students, early marriage and general cultural aspects, have significant negative impact on children’s ability to enjoy their right to education. In 2009, there was an average of one teacher per 68 pupils in primary school. Mozambique has over 13 recognized languages and many dialects. Despite recognition that a vast majority of the rural population does not master Portuguese, it remains the main language of education, communication and administration. **Adult illiteracy** in Mozambique continues to be alarmingly high at 53%.



## H. Refugees, migrants and mixed migration flows

36. After millions of Mozambicans have migrated to neighboring countries in search of refuge and better opportunities in the years of war, the country now faces the challenge to host thousands of migrants, whose choices of routes, modes of transport and entry points differ as widely as their aspirations. The country is a transit corridor for **mixed migration flows**. Given the constraints in terms of human and material resources, Border Guards, Police and Immigration Service have faced increasing difficulties in managing the steep rise in mixed migration in a protection sensitive manner, in order to ensure respect and adherence to refugee and human rights law and protection principles. It is well noted that among certain mixed groups, cases of smuggling and trafficking in persons have been reported.
37. Despite considerable reservations to the to the 1951 Convention to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol, Mozambique in general maintains a generous **asylum** policy through the adoption of rather practical arrangements in granting, equally to asylum seekers and refugees, rights similar to those of its nationals. However, while the legislation establishes a solid basis for reception in Mozambique, it is incoherent as to the administrative application of various legal provisions and more importantly, as to the rights of refugees and asylum-seekers. As a result, the level of access to individual rights greatly varies depending on the location and the individual effort made by the applicant. This problem affects procedures for naturalization, the issuance of work and business permits, access to land, and ownership of real estate. Lifting of the reservations remains an important priority in order to establish an enabling and durable protection environment for the local integration of refugees. While Mozambique recently has increased efforts into expediting refugee status determination, there is also a need for a revision of legislation on refugee status determination, in order to streamline the number of administrative layers in the decision-making process and make the process time bound.

## I. Right to Nationality, Statelessness

38. Although significant progress has been made in **birth registration**, about 51% of all children in Mozambique are yet to be registered. While acknowledging the sharp increase in the provision of birth certificates among children under the age of five, still the rate only covered 31% in 2008. Lack of registration among the adult population is also a critical concern.
39. Due to a history of low registration rates combined with long-term migration patterns driven by economic considerations and internal conflicts, a significant part of the population may be at **risk of statelessness**. Mozambique is neither party to the 1954 Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons nor party to the 1961 Convention on Reduction of Statelessness, but it has adopted a number of international and regional human rights instruments containing important references to nationality. In practice, the risk of statelessness may affect two groups of the population: (i) individuals who have returned to Mozambique after long stays abroad and failed to establish their Mozambican nationality and (ii) those who are still residing abroad and have not established their nationality, neither the Mozambican nor the one from the host country. These two groups face a risk of being marginalized from many of their civil, political, social and economic rights, such as accessing basic services (in particular education and health) and employment opportunities, legal remedies and property rights. They also constitute an easy target of discriminatory treatment by administrative and law enforcement authorities.

## IV. Achievements and best practices

40. Overall, from a post-conflict situation, Mozambique has shown remarkable progress on all indicators of economic development, which has fueled the country's progress for the improvement of human rights situation. Many new laws have been passed, addressing human rights shortcomings. The

challenge remains to translate the new policies and strategies into effective multi sectoral programs and address institutional capacity to implement interventions at the required scale and with the required quality at all levels to address all underlying causes of poverty, vulnerability and social exclusion. Below is a selection of best practices.

41. In July 2009, Parliament formulated a law on Domestic Violence against Women. This legislation follows up on Mozambique's ratification of CEDAW. It was adopted by consensus. Support to dissemination of the law and monitoring its implementation by Parliament is ongoing.
42. In December 2008, Parliament formulated a law to protect persons living with HIV/AIDS against stigmatization and discrimination, with the financial and technical assistance of the UN. This legislation, although not perfect, is considered so far as one of the best ones in Africa. It was adopted by consensus. CPLP countries in Africa are looking at it for inspiration. The CRC welcomed its adoption.
43. The Justice sector is addressing the issues of access to justice at local level with the introduction of the concept of "Palaces of Justice", where the different players of the administration of penal justice (Criminal Investigation Police, Prosecution, Courts and Free Legal Aid) work under the same premises. The state's stance of Free Legal Aid assures their inter-linkage, and supports to citizens in one stop shop fashion by providing legal and material support.
44. Mozambique is one of the few low-income African countries with a longstanding cash transfer programme targeting the elderly (93 per cent), people living with disabilities and the chronically ill (Food Subsidy Programme, PSA), that is supported by state funds and national legislation. In 2007 the PSA reached 128,000 households with monthly cash transfers, increasing to 166,824 households in 2009.
45. Mozambique ensures that all asylum seekers and refugees are individually documented with identification papers or cards, besides issuing Emergency Travel Documents for Foreigners to facilitate their international travel, when needed. Refugees and asylum seekers have full access to civil status documentation, such as birth, marriage and death certificates. Also, it is commendable that in Mozambique, asylum seekers are free to move outside the camp after the refugee status determination interview; provided that they are not in need of humanitarian assistance and that they prove they can support themselves.

## **V. Recommendations**

46. The UN recommends that Mozambique accede and ratify the International Covenant On Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of Enforced Disappearances and the International Convention On The Protection Of The Rights Of All Migrant Workers And Members Of Their Families.
47. Recalling the 2007 CEDAW report, the UN acknowledges the strong political commitment to gender equality and recommends the government not only to provide the gender machinery with adequate human, financial and technical resources at all levels, but also to adopt a comprehensive strategy to promote cultural change and eliminate stereotypes with respect to the roles of women and men. The UN also encourages Mozambique to take further action in mainstreaming women's rights to land and natural resources in policy formulation, legislation, training and implementation.

48. Recalling the 2007 CERD report, the UN encourages Mozambique to continue and strengthen its efforts to ensure that all persons on its territory enjoy human rights without discrimination on grounds of race, colour, descent, national or ethnic origin, religion or belief, or sexual preference. The UN encourages Mozambique to continue its efforts to prevent and combat xenophobia and racial prejudice, as well as to promote tolerance, in particular in the field of employment and access to services.
49. The UN recommends the recognition of LGBT as a population group in the legislation, while also encouraging Mozambique to endeavour in the review of legislation so as to exclude all provisions which may promote discrimination of such a group and hamper their full enjoyment of rights as citizens.
50. The UN encourages Mozambique to take further steps in the promotion of improved access to Justice, such as through the introduction of Community Courts, as well as to strengthen citizen access to legal assistance, through the support to the Institute for Judicial Support and Assistance (IPAJ) in the implementation of its strategic plan, particularly in terms of training, legal clinics in Universities, and the development of a paralegal manual.
51. The UN encourages Mozambique to take measures for strengthening the capacity of Administrative Posts, as the first point of contact with government for much of the rural population, including through the creation of a One-Stop Shop for core government services and for the dissemination of information.
52. The UN recommends the harmonization of prison legislation and by-laws with international standards, including special care for juvenile and women offenders. It also encourages Mozambique in strengthening Penal Control by training prison agents and providing relevant equipment, while also taking the necessary measures to ease prison overcrowding by looking for alternatives to imprisonment.
53. The UN encourages Mozambique to take further measures to improve the professionalism and operational performance and of the Police, particularly in the areas of democratic oversight, accountability, management and community policing .
54. The UN wishes to recommend Mozambique to reinforce, among members of parliament, adjustment to a multi-party parliamentary system with special emphasis on improved awareness and understanding of their general oversight function and the importance of parliamentary committees with regard to the scrutiny and finalization of the state's annual budget and Social and Economic Plan (PES) and particular emphasis on gender, human rights, and social issues;
55. The UN encourages Mozambique to strengthen the capacity of the legal system, local administrations and civil society organizations to implement the land legislation through: (i) capacity building of legislators, prosecutors, district administrators and police officers; (ii) research on land conflicts; and (iii) legislation formulation and revision. The UN also recommends Mozambique to take further efforts towards strengthening the capacity of local communities and civil society on land legislation through dissemination activities and training of paralegals to support communities negotiations with private investors;
56. The UN encourages Mozambique to pursue further steps in order to achieve real decent work in the country, taking as a priority the enforcement of rights in the vast informal economy, including the extension of social security coverage to informal economy workers. It also recommends Mozambique to ratify the Social Security (Minimum Standards) Convention, 1952 (No. 102).

57. The UN encourages Mozambique to consider, in the context of strengthening of the labour inspectorate, to reinforce labour inspection in the agricultural sector and ratify the Labour Inspection (Agriculture) Convention, 1969 (No. 129).
58. The UN encourages Mozambique to take the necessary measures to ensure that all children have access to basic education for at least 7 years. It also recommends the adoption of a comprehensive approach to improve quality of education, through: (i) development of school quality standards (ii) establishing a national framework for assessment of learning achievement; (iii) integrating various teacher training, motivation and supervision efforts, especially for in-service pedagogic supervision and teacher support, including a focus on training of trainers; and (iv) improving management capacity at decentralized level and increased management capacity of school directors.
59. The UN encourages the Government of Mozambique to take further steps to improve civil registry services and secure birth certificates for all the country's population. It is also recommended that Mozambique promote civil registration of persons of Mozambican-origin living abroad, especially those at risk of statelessness, while implementing effective mechanisms to assist returnees in accessing birth certification and civil registration procedures in the country.
60. The UN encourages Mozambique to accede to and ratify both the 1954 Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on Reduction of Statelessness. It also recommends that Mozambique engage its best efforts to review the Nationality Law and to enact a new regulation with a view to ensure harmonization of laws and administrative practices on nationality at all levels of the administration, nationwide.
61. The UN recommends the withdrawal of the reservations made to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol, while it also encourages the Government of Mozambique to enact legislative guarantees of such relevant rights, through the revision of the Refugee Act/Decree, the issuance of policies on self-reliance, as well as the revision of certain legislative provisions restricting local integration of refugees.
62. The UN recommends the Government of Mozambique to revise the legislation on Refugee Status Determination and promote systematic changes in such procedure in order to streamline the number of administrative layers in the decision making process, make the process time bound and fully accessible by asylum-seekers, especially at the second instance.
63. The UN recommends the Government of Mozambique to strengthen its national policies in responding to the challenges of managing mixed migration flows in a protection sensitive manner, ensuring respect and adherence to refugee and human rights law and protection principles;
64. The UN recommends that Mozambique address climate change in a more integrated way and mainstream adaptation to climate change and disaster risk reduction at the national, sector, project and local levels, as well as prioritize Climate Change in the future poverty reduction strategy.
65. The UN encourages Mozambique to take further efforts towards the operationalisation of a national health policy which is based on primary health care (PHC), principles of equity and better quality of care; as well as the operationalisation of Human Resource Development Plan, with the reinforcement of pre-service and in-service training of health personnel at program management level and services provision, prioritizing the training of key health professional cadres such as nurses.

66. The UN recommends Mozambique to promote every effort in order to scale up a comprehensive HIV prevention program which covers the five areas of the National Accelerated Prevention Strategy, such as Communication for Change Behaviour, focusing on Multiple Concurrent Partnership, the promotion of condom use, including reproductive sexual health for adolescents, youth and adult population.
67. The UN wishes to recommend the establishment of a higher level national body that effectively coordinates all sanitation interventions, budget allocations and provides the necessary technical support including fundraising. It also encourages the State Party to accelerate, at national scale, the implementation of the sanitation and hygiene promotion actions, through community based approaches, such as Community Led-Total Sanitation approach (CLTS).
68. The UN encourages Mozambique to address priority areas for affordable housing in an integrated manner, recognizing that the problem lies on the low income of the general population rather than on the excessive costs of housing. In order to ensure this, a programmatic and inclusive approach should be adopted and equally applied to the corresponding implementation strategies.
69. While acknowledging that the state human resources cadres working for nutrition and food security are currently insufficient, the UN wishes to recommend the establishment of a higher level national body that effectively coordinates food security and nutrition strategies and action plans, besides taking charge of advocacy and monitoring and evaluation.