



ASSEMBLEIA DA REPÚBLICA
Grupo Nacional junto do FP-SADC

**NATIONAL REPORT ON THE PROGRESS ACHIEVED IN THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED DURING THE 55TH
PLENARY ASSEMBLY OF THE SADC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM, WHICH
TOOK PLACE IN LUANDA, FROM 01 TO 07 JULY 2024**

**His Excellency President of the Parliamentary Forum
Distinguished Members, my peers
Dear Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Excellencies**

It is with great pleasure that the Assembly of the Republic of Mozambique participates in this 56th Plenary Assembly of the SADC Parliamentary Forum taking place in this beautiful city of Livingstone,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Parliament and the Government of Zambia for the warm welcome and the conditions created since our arrival in this sister country.

With regard to the presentation of our country report to the 56th Plenary Assembly, it will highlight the degree of compliance with the resolutions adopted during the 55th Plenary Assembly that took place in Luanda last July, as well as the questions posed by the Secretariat of the SADC Parliamentary Forum to deserve the appreciation of the member countries.

Excellencies

Regarding the Resolution on the "**Role of Parliaments in Promoting Renewable Energy Policies in the SADC Region and Creating a Single Regional Energy Market**", it should be noted that Mozambique has considerable potential in renewable energy resources, which provides the country with favorable conditions not only to meet domestic demand, but also to export to Southern African countries.

The Cahora Bassa Hydroelectric Power Plant, with its 2,075 MW, is one of the largest hydroelectric plants on the African continent and the main source of

electricity generation in the country and for the SADC region, exporting 30% of its production.

The availability of energy resources (hydro, natural gas, coal and biofuels) associated with the country's geographical location, gateway to the African *interland*, served by port infrastructures and link between SADC and the East African community, places the country in a privileged position.

The use of renewable sources in energy systems is guided by the following legal documents:

The **Energy Strategy**, approved by Resolution 10/2009 of 4 June, reaffirms the determination to provide access to modern energy to disadvantaged populations and to diversify the national energy matrix, with particular emphasis on renewable sources.

The **New and Renewable Energy Development Strategy (EDENR)** guides the development and implementation plans for projects for the use and conversion of renewable energy sources, drawn up with the aim of feeding national energy needs, sustaining economic and social development and supporting poverty alleviation programmes. The strategic objective of off-grid renewable energy (EDENR-FR) is to facilitate the implementation of various activities in support of rural development and poverty alleviation in Mozambique, as well as to ensure access by communities in non-electrified areas to energy sources of better quality and safety.

The role of the Assembly of the Republic in the promotion of Policies Relating to Renewable Energy is fundamentally limited to the approval of Laws that regulate the sector. It was in this context that, in 2022, Law No. 12/2022 was approved, whose objective is to define the general organization of the electricity sector and the legal regime for electricity supply activities. Most importantly, the new Law focuses on the energy transition consistent with the country's reality and universal access to quality, efficient and reliable energy, taking advantage of all energy sources, with an emphasis on renewable energy sources and reducing the use of fossil sources.

Regarding the "**Resolution on a Collaborative Approach in Combating Violence against Women in Elections and Politics and the SADC Region – the Role of Parliament**", it should be noted that Mozambique has created an enabling environment for women's participation in politics and decision-making. The Constitution of the Republic enshrines the principle of equal rights between men and women.

Women in the country work to raise awareness about women's equal representation and participation in political and decision-making positions. Gender equality in politics and decision-making is an integral part of democracy.

In Mozambique there is no system of legislated quotas, but the ruling party has adopted voluntary party quotas for women in leadership and, through the use of this system, there has been a significant increase in the number of women's participation in politics and in the Assembly of the Republic. The Mozambican Parliament has 250 MPs, of which 107 are women, representing 42.4%, which places Mozambique in 3rd place in SADC and 5th in Africa. At the government level, the representation of women is 50%.

Mozambique argues that SADC member states should "ensure the equal and effective representation of women in decision-making positions – in the political, public and private sectors. States Parties shall ensure that all legislative and other measures are accompanied by public awareness campaigns that demonstrate the vital link between the equal representation and participation of women and men in decision-making positions, democracy, good governance and citizenship, including in the administration of elections and voting."

Without the active participation of women and the incorporation of women's perspectives at all levels of decision-making, the goals of equality, development and peace cannot be achieved."

While favorable electoral systems are the main focus for increasing women's participation in politics and decision-making positions, there are other factors that influence or hinder women's participation. These conditions should be addressed by government structures, national gender mechanisms and political parties, and by the candidates themselves, as well as by citizens interested in the outcomes of these processes and the impacts on their societies.

These factors include: the creation of legislation that allows for an electoral system that facilitates women's participation, such as legislated quotas, as political parties are not obliged to promote gender equality; the effective implementation of favorable legislation that is already in place and domestication of regional protocols; the implementation of support systems for women candidates that include training in this regard and access to socio-economic resources to prepare for and contest elections.

Regarding the "**Resolution on Promoting Climate Action in Parliaments with a view to Strengthening Food Security and Sustainable Agriculture, Improving SRHR Outcomes and Effective Management of Natural Resources**" Mozambique is one of the African countries most vulnerable to

climate change and in recent years it has been buffeted by cyclones, tropical storms and floods, and these phenomena are expected to increase in number and intensity.

The rural population, in particular peasants, where a large part of the population has agriculture as their main source of income and livelihood, are the most vulnerable to climate change and food insecurity and will be most disproportionately affected by the impacts of climate change.

The country defends access to financing within the scope of the carbon market. Priority should be given to developing countries because they are the most vulnerable, thus enabling the creation of infrastructure that is resilient to the impact of climate change.

As for the approval and adoption of instruments that facilitate countries to implement initiatives to combat climate change, Mozambique has approved the National Energy Transition Strategy (ENTE) that will allow the application of resources in a sustainable way to prevent and combat the effects of climate change.

At the level of the Government, the Ministry of the Earth and Environment was created, whose function is to direct, plan, coordinate the design of policies for the management of the environment and climate change."

As for disaster risk management and the early warning for all initiative, Mozambique approved in 2022, the regulation for the operationalization of the integrated platform for the dissemination and communication of early warning information for floods and cyclones.

With regard to Mozambique's commitments to integrate climate change into socio-economic development policies, strategies and plans, we have invested in promoting education, awareness and dissemination of matters related to climate change, adherence to the African carbon market initiative. The country ratified the Paris Agreement on climate change; adherence to the Kyoto Protocol; and the Kigali amendment to the Montreal Protocol on chemicals due to the high global warming potential for climate change, as well as the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.

Excellencies

Regarding the issues referred to us by the SADC Parliamentary Forum to be included in the report, we must inform you of the following:

With regard to the transformation of the SADC Parliamentary Forum into a Regional Parliament, Mozambique is part of the 12 countries that have already signed the Agreement Amending the SADC Treaty with a view to creating a Regional Parliament.

The Assembly of the Republic received through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Mozambique the Draft Protocol that was prepared by the SADC Secretariat in collaboration with our Parliamentary Forum, requesting at the national level, the submission of consolidated comments to the SADC Secretariat, before February 18, 2025, and our parliament has already sent its contributions to the SADC Secretariat.

Mozambique hopes that in 2025, the Heads of State and Government of SADC will formalize the creation of our Regional Parliament.

Regarding the **Impact of Inflation on the Forum's Budget and the prospect of increasing members' mandatory contributions**, Mozambique recognizes the need to make the Secretariat of the SADC Parliamentary Forum a sustainable institution to better serve our desideratum, at a time when we intend to make a qualitative leap to Regional Parliament.

In this context, Mozambique supports the position adopted by the Executive Committee of our Forum at its last meeting held in Johannesburg last November, to increase members' contributions as of April 1, 2026, to allow Parliaments to incorporate this expenditure into the 2026 annual budget.

Regarding the secondment to the Secretariat of the Parliamentary Forum of senior parliamentary staff for the Service "**of Programmes and Parliamentary Affairs and Languages**", Mozambique considers these areas relevant, but is of the opinion that they should be supported by the Forum's funds through increased quotas or the contributions of our development partners.

Regarding the SADC Parliamentary Forum's electoral observation missions to the countries of the region, they are a fundamental tool for strengthening the Democratic Rule of Law in our countries, however the high costs related to these operations make it difficult for countries like Mozambique to participate in these processes.

The contribution of USD 6000 (US\$6,000) plus the support of the expenses of two deputies to participate in the electoral processes in the region was not foreseen in the state budget for this year, so Mozambique considers it important to map in advance the countries that will go to the elections to allow the budgeting of the activity.

As for the appointment of a Focal Point to monitor the Transposition of the SADC Model Laws into the national legal system, Mozambique will appoint a deputy in 2025 to take care of this matter.

On the implementation of the Health, Sexual and Reproductive Rights (SRHR), HIV and AIDS and Governance Project, the Mozambican Parliament signed the Project Agreement in February 2024 and has already recruited the respective researchers in collaboration with the SADC Parliamentary Forum.

Regarding the resources allocated to each country under the project, the Mozambican Parliament sent to the SADC Parliamentary Forum the range of activities it intends to carry out, and is currently awaiting the respective response.

Regarding the transposition of SADC Model Laws into the national legal system, it should be noted that with regard to the SADC Model Law on the Eradication of Child Marriages and Protection of Children in Marriage", the Mozambican Parliament approved the Law on Preventing and Combating Child Unions, increasing the country's commitment to combat these harmful practices.

The Law to Prevent and Combat Child Unions is a specific and robust legal document that Mozambique has, which promises to unleash decisive blows against premature marriages. The country has taken steps to improve the legal environment and adopted strategies to wage a war against child marriages.

With regard to the adoption of legal measures for the punishment of those involved in premature marriages, Mozambican legislation provides for the recovery of minors involved in marriage as well as the punishment of adults involved in such acts or who have been aware of such unions and have not reported them to the competent authorities.

Based on another SADC Model Law, the Law on Gender-Based Violence, Mozambique passed the Law Against Domestic Violence. The Act gives the Government the opportunity to ensure the protection of women from violence at home and in the communities and requires sanctions for offenders and gives the State the obligation to provide assistance to victims.

**Mr. President,
Distinguished Members,
Dear Guests,**

Thank you very much for your attention.