



REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA  
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

ANGOLA'S REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE  
RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED DURING THE 53RD PLENARY  
ASSEMBLY OF SADC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM (SADC-PF)

LUANDA, 10th OF NOVEMBER 2023

## **I. Introduction.**

The purpose of this report is to present the framework of actions taken by the Republic of Angola to implement the resolutions approved at the 53rd Plenary Assembly of the SADC Parliamentary Forum, held in Arusha, Kingdom of Tanzania, from the 5th to the 10th of July 2023, on issues of gender, democracy, governance, economic and social growth.

Since the establishment of the Southern African Development Community (SADC), regional governments have been aligned with its main objectives, which are to achieve peace and security, economic growth and development and thus reduce poverty and raise the standard of living and quality of life of their populations in particular and of the regional population in general.

The Republic of Angola, along with all the Member States, has been working hard to develop sectoral measures, bringing its legal framework into line with the current economic and social context, both within the scope of national domestic policy and in the progressive harmonisation of the political, economic and social order of the SADC countries, within the framework of regional cooperation and integration.

To this end, this report presents the policy measures adopted in the Republic of Angola, which will make it possible to gauge the degree of fulfilment of some of the aforementioned decisions and recommendations of the 53rd Plenary Assembly of the SADC Parliamentary Forum<sup>1</sup>.

This report deals with the various reforms implemented based on the Strategic Development Policy defined by the Angolan state, which, despite some adverse factors resulting from economic and financial instability, continues to focus its efforts on consolidating a set of economic reforms, always bearing in mind guaranteeing economic growth and providing for the well-being of its citizens.

With this in mind, the State continues to focus on the implementation of the 26 programmes under the Human Development and Welfare Axis, namely the Integrated Local Development and Combating Poverty Programme, the Protection and Promotion of Children's Rights Programme, the Programme for Valuing Families and Strengthening Family Skills, the Comprehensive Youth Development Programme, and the Training and Management of Teaching Staff Programme, Pre-School Education Development Programme, Primary Education Quality Improvement and Development Programme, General Secondary Education Development

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<sup>1</sup> Please note that this is not a comprehensive Report and that many other measures and policies have not been listed here.

Programme, Technical-Vocational Education Improvement and Development Programme, Literacy and Youth and Adult Education Intensification Programme, Higher Education Quality Improvement and Scientific Research Development Programme, Social Action, Health and School Sports Programme, National Staff Training Programme, Programme to Strengthen the National Vocational Training System, Programme to Establish the National Qualifications System, Programme to Improve Medical Care and Medication, Programme to Improve Maternal and Child Health and Nutrition, Programme to Combat Major Endemic Diseases by Addressing Health Determinants, Programme to Strengthen the Health Information System and Develop Health Research, Programme to Modernise the Compulsory Social Protection System, Programme to Enhance and Boost Historical and Cultural Heritage, Programme to Promote Art and Cultural and Creative Industries, Programme to Generalise Sports Practice and Improve Performance Sports, Programme to Improve the Welfare of Former Combatants and Veterans of the Homeland, Programme to Promote Gender and Empower Women and Programme to Support Victims of Violence.

Including the introduction, the report has been structured in 10 chapters, based on the five resolutions approved at the 53rd Plenary Assembly of the SADC Parliamentary Forum, namely:

*Chapter II* - on the adoption of a draft resolution on the debt ceiling in SADC Member States;

*Chapter III* - on the situation of hunger and food insecurity in the SADC region, challenges that generate food insecurity, main international objectives and the African agenda, investments and performance of the Malabo commitments, an environment that can attract young people to invest in agriculture;

*Chapter IV* - on what Parliamentarians can do to achieve a rights-based approach to conducting operations in the natural resources sector in the SADC region;

*Chapter V* - on the role of Parliamentarians in promoting the gender justice and climate agenda in the SADC region and resolutions on strengthening sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) in the context of climate change and emergencies;

*Chapter VI* - on harnessing social media to promote women's political participation in the SADC region;

*Chapter VII* - on the role of Parliament in legislating on strategic and sensitive assets, taking into account the country's security, while encouraging direct investment;

*Chapter VIII* - on progress towards the framework of the SADC Model Law on Elections in domestic legal systems: using the configuration of electoral systems to achieve inclusive governance, specifically the participation and representation of women, youth and minority groups, as well as the regulation of political funding;

*Chapter IX* - on accelerating the incorporation and implementation of the SADC Model Laws on Child Marriage and Gender-Based Violence: good practices.

## Chapter II

### Adoption of the Draft Resolution on the debt ceiling in SADC Member States

- With regard to the management of government debt, there was a reduction in the public debt stock in foreign currency, from USD 80.84 billion in 2017 to USD 70.43 billion in 2021. There was a stock

increase of Kz 25,741.91 billion, from Kz 13,346.23 billion in 2017 to Kz 39,088.14 billion in 2021. This trend is justified by the strong exchange rate adjustment that took place during the period under review, with the average exchange rate going from Kz 163.66/USD in 2017 to Kz 554.98/USD in 2021.

- The domestic debt stock in foreign currency also fell, from USD 36.09 billion in 2017 to USD 19.79 billion in 2021. However, when denominated in national currency, the stock increased by Kz 5.02 billion, from Kz 5,958.98 billion to Kz 10,984.97 billion. This trend is justified by the strong exchange rate adjustment that took place during the period under review.
- There was a reversal in the trend of short-term debt instruments investment. The stock of treasury bills, which represented 19% of the domestic debt stock in 2017, represented 4% in 2021. This reduction in short-term instruments has allowed the treasury, on the one hand, to reduce liquidity constraints and, on the other, to encourage investment in longer-term instruments, boosting the capital market in Angola.
- The same trend was seen with treasury bonds indexed to the exchange rate. The stock of these instruments totalled USD 14.74 billion in 2017 and fell to USD 3.51 billion in 2021. The reduction of these instruments was strategic in nature, as they created distortions in the market, reduced the effectiveness of exchange rate policy, increased costs for the national treasury and limited the modernisation of the national financial system.
- As for foreign debt, its stock increased from USD 44.74 billion in 2017 to USD 50.64 billion in 2021. However, this increase improved transparency levels and allowed for a more pragmatic engagement with multilateral entities and the capital market, whose combined stock rose from USD 3.63 billion in 2017 to USD 15.43 billion in 2021, with a change in the external financing structure, and a reduction in bilateral and supplier credits (these loans tend to have shorter maturities and be more costly).
- On the other hand, the stock of oil-guaranteed public debt fell by USD 3.98 billion, from USD 22.28 billion in 2017 to USD 18.30 billion in 2021, with the early repayment of the debt towards Brazil standing out.
- With regard to domestic arrears, a strategy was adopted to regularise arrears incurred between 2013 and 2017, and it was projected that arrears worth Kz 1,240 billion would be regularised in 2019, of which Kz 482.30 billion corresponded to arrears registered with SIGFE

- (Integrated System for State Financial Management) and Kz 757.77 billion to arrears not registered with SIGFE. Meanwhile, from 2018 to 2020, internal arrears totalling Kz 1,687.3 billion were settled, corresponding to 136.1% of what was projected, of which Kz 650 billion in 2018, Kz 558.3 billion in 2019 and Kz 479 billion in 2020.
- With regard to external arrears. at the start of the IMF programme, Angola had a total of USD 3.7 billion in external arrears: USD 2.1 billion to a foreign commercial creditor that was restructured; USD 1.3 billion to a foreign public supplier - with resources having been secured to settle it; USD 0.3 billion to foreign private suppliers - most of which date back to the civil conflict, with the authorities contacting the respective embassies to help identify them in order to conclude settlement agreements.
  - In order to remove these imbalances, the government began implementing the macroeconomic stabilisation programme, which had the technical and financial support of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), using an expanded financing programme that ended in December 2021.
  - From 2018 onwards, personnel costs were paid for entirely from non-oil tax revenues, unlike in the period from 2014 to 2017, when non-oil tax revenues were insufficient to cover civil service pay expenditure.
  - These reforms have also made it possible to reverse the upward trend in public debt, with the debt stock in relation to GDP falling from 121% in 2020 to 84% in 2021. This trend is continuing downwards and the aim is to achieve a public debt to GDP ratio of less than 60% in the coming years.
  - When measured in US dollars, Angola's debt stock went from USD 80.84 billion in 2017 to USD 70.43 billion in 2021, a significant decrease in just four years.
  - Similarly, the oil-guaranteed public debt stock was reduced by USD 3.98 billion, from USD 22.28 billion in 2017 to USD 18.3 billion in 2021, with the early repayment of the debt towards Brazil standing out.
  - In order to strengthen public finance management instruments, the Public Finance Sustainability Act was approved, providing greater transparency in the implementation of fiscal policy, as well as greater predictability and fiscal discipline through the establishment of the medium-term fiscal framework, medium-term expenditure framework and fiscal rules, as well as ensuring greater coordination between planning instruments.

- As specialised debt management bodies, the Public Debt Management Unit (UGD) operates within the Ministry of Finance.

## Chapter III

### **Main International Objectives and the African Agenda, Investments and Performance of the Malabo Commitments**

- The government has collaborated with universities in the field of renewable energies, with emphasis on the exchange of technical and scientific information, as well as obtaining opinions within the framework of designing and drafting corresponding policies. In this regard, the recent participation of national universities and researchers in the drafting of the national hydrogen strategy, promoted by this Ministerial Department in conjunction with the Ministry of Mineral Resources, Oil and Gas, should be emphasised.
- Law no. 8/22, of 14th of April - the Law approving the tax benefits code - was approved, providing for the following tax reductions under its article 22:
  - i. A 75% and 50% reduction in urban property tax, respectively, for the acquisition or ownership of buildings that are exclusively used to produce energy from renewable sources;
  - ii. A 35% reduction in the final settlement rate of industrial tax, in favour of companies dedicated to the production and commercialisation of energy from renewable sources, as well as a 60% reduction in the rate of tax on capital investment.
- Since March 2023, the Republic of Angola has set up the CEREEAC (Central African Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency) in Luanda, through which national initiatives shall be supported and coordinated in the areas of setting up technical-vocational training centres for renewable energy, qualification, knowledge and facilitating youth investment and entrepreneurship, as well as identifying and formulating thematic content to be introduced at secondary school level.
- As a member of SACREEE (Southern African Commission for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency), Angola, through the Ministry of Energy, has contributed to boosting SACREEE, the regional institution dedicated to dealing with issues related to renewable energy and energy efficiency.

- As part of the country's overall electrification policy, Law no. 14-A/96, of 31st of May, the General Electrification Law, amended by Law no. 27/15, of 14th of December, provides for the creation of a National Fund for Rural Electrification. The establishment of this Fund, as part of the future legal framework for restructuring public funds, could be the basis for facilitating support for the development of renewable energy projects by women and young people within their respective communities.
- Through the Ministry of Energy and Water, the Republic of Angola is preparing draft regulations on the production of renewable energy, which include, among other things, forms of community participation in the development and management of renewable energy projects.
- The construction and operation of photovoltaic power stations has been a factor in generating jobs for young people, with the construction and commissioning of the Baía Farta and Biópio photovoltaic power stations in Benguela province, with a capacity of 96.70 mwp and 188.8 mwp respectively; and the privately invested Caraculo photovoltaic power station in Namibe province, with 25 mwp of the 50 mwp of total planned capacity in operation.
- Construction is underway of a further 12 (twelve) photovoltaic plants, namely: Saurimo's 26.90 mwp in Lunda Sul province; Lucapa's 7.20 mwp in Lunda Norte province; Luena's 26.90 mwp in Moxico province; Cuíto's 14.65 mwp in Bié province; Bailundo's 7.99 mwp in Huambo province; the Quilemba solar photovoltaic plant, a private investment, in the municipality of Quilengues, 80 mwp in Huíla province; Cuando Cubango with 32.12 mwp; Cunene with 8.60 mwp; Namibe with 13.57 mwp, Huíla with 166.03 mwp; Cacusó with 400 mwp in Malange province; Catete with 100 mwp in the municipality of Icolo e Bengo, Luanda province.
- Together, these photovoltaic plants will benefit more than four and a half million inhabitants, and it is expected that the level of green employment will increase with the creation of technical and vocational training centres for renewable energies.
- As part of the installation in Angola of CERERAC (Central African Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency), its main objective, among others, will be to promote cooperation; self-sustainable development; improving the quality of life of the populations of the 16 member countries, with the implementation of decarbonisation policies for the continent; the diversification of clean



and endogenous energies; and the drafting of the regional strategy of CEAC (Economic Community of Central African States).

- Based on community consultation councils (Presidential Decree no. 225/18 of 27th of September), as well as environmental legislation, local communities, including respective traditional authorities, shall be consulted as part of the coordination between central and local government bodies, with a view to implementing renewable energy projects and highlighting their importance and economic and social benefits, including the employability of the local workforce.

### **Promoting youth investment in agriculture**

For the agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting sector, the proposed General State Budget for 2024 shows a 60.5% variation compared to the 2023 State Budget, amounting to Kz 412.1 billion. This sector represents around 1.6% of fiscal expenditure. Although the figure is still low, but taking into account the value that agriculture plays in our countries, it is expected that the budget figure will increase during this mandate.

### **Situation of hunger and food insecurity in the SADC region, challenges that generate food insecurity**

- In order to reduce poverty levels, the Executive adopted measures aimed at strengthening the social protection system, implementing the programme of direct cash transfers to vulnerable families (Kwenda Programme), which has proved to be an effective way of reducing poverty levels and supporting the most vulnerable segments of society.
- The Kwenda Programme provides support to a total of 1,608,000 poor households across the country, with 631,034 families already registered.
- Also to improve the standard of living of the most vulnerable groups of the population living in conditions of extreme poverty, with a particular focus on local development, the Integrated Programme for Local Development and Combating Poverty (PIDLCP) is underway. The implementation of this Programme has enabled around 75,000 people to be integrated into income-generating activities, with an emphasis on 12,000 ex-military personnel.

- In addition, all Local Administrations have been strengthened with the sum of 26 million Kwanzas, to deal with social vulnerability situations.

## Chapter IV

### **What Parliamentarians can do to achieve a rights-based approach to the conducting of operations in the natural resources sector in the SADC region**

Definition of the new mineral resources sector governance model, which has contributed to attract more direct investment in the sector and to better management and debureaucratisation in the allocation of mining rights.

- Approval of the new diamond trading policy and respective technical regulations, with the aim of guaranteeing greater transparency in the rough diamonds buying and selling process and ensuring greater competitiveness and attractiveness in terms of securing investment in the diamond industry;
- Approval of the regulation for semi-industrial diamond mining, which established a set of rules and procedures for the exploration and trading of rough diamonds from semi-industrial mining;
- Implementation of legislative reforms to relaunch production activities, namely: simplifying the contracting process; carrying out exploration within development areas; granting more attractive tax incentives for the development of marginal fields; promoting the exploration and monetisation of non-associated natural gas, which in the past, after discovery, was not accessible to investors; establishing rules and procedures for abandoning wells and dismantling oil and gas installations.
- Approval and implementation of the General Strategy for Awarding Oil Concessions for the period 2019 - 2025, which provides for the bidding of more than 50 blocks by 2025. 6 offshore blocks were awarded in 2019 and the process of awarding 9 onshore blocks in the Congo and Kwanza Basins is underway.
- Approval of Presidential Decree for the permanent offer of blocks which allows for the promotion and permanent negotiation of blocks that have been put up for bidding, non-awarded blocks, free areas in blocks under concession and concessions awarded to the National Concessionaire.
- Approval and implementation of the Hydrocarbons Exploration Strategy for the period 2020 to 2025, which aims to boost and

intensify the replenishment of reserves and thus mitigate the decline in production.

- Approval and implementation of a refining strategy aimed at building three refineries, namely in Cabinda, Soyo and Lobito, and expanding and modernising the Luanda Refinery, with the aim of quadrupling daily petrol production from 300 MT to 1,200 MT, through the construction of a platforming unit.
- Approval of the Local Content Law, which aims to create jobs and qualify the national workforce, as well as foster and boost the supply chain for goods and services, with the purpose of increasing the participation of national companies in the sector, promoting the competitiveness of the national industry, the results of which are:
  - i. Creation of the Saurimo Diamond Development Hub in the Lunda Sul province, with the aim of bringing together the promotion and revitalization of companies linked to the development of the cutting and polishing segment in Angola;
  - ii. Increased prospecting capacity arising from the results of PLANAGEO;
  - iii. Increase in average daily production of liquefied natural gas from 22,000 BOE/day to 104.97 thousand BOE/day;
  - iv. Increase in onshore fuel and lubricant storage capacity from 358.51 thousand m<sup>3</sup> to 675.97 thousand m<sup>3</sup>;
  - v. Liberalisation of the oil subproduct sector, opening up space for other operators to carry out logistics, distribution and marketing of refined products;
  - vi. Implementation of projects with a structuring effect for the promotion, development and production of gas, with particular emphasis on the creation of the New Gas Consortium, aimed at ensuring the continuous supply of gas to Angola LNG and to gas-fired thermal power stations, and to support the implementation of other industrial projects (fertiliser plants, steel mills, etc);
  - vii. Regulation of strategic reserves and security of oil subproducts;
  - viii. National mapping of petrol stations, with a view to implementing these infrastructures in areas that lack such social facilities;
  - ix. Optimisation of liquid fuel storage, having eliminated floating storage and implemented the construction of the first phase of the Barra do Dande Ocean Terminal project, as part of the expansion of fuel storage capacity on land.

## Chapter V

### The Role of Parliamentarians in Promoting the Gender and Climate Justice Agenda in the SADC Region

The reform of Justice and the Law enabled the implementation of the country's new Judicial Map, as well as the approval of new legislation on the organisation and operation of the Courts, both those of common jurisdiction and those of specialised jurisdiction (Constitutional Court and Court of Auditors), the Attorney General's Office and the Public Prosecutor's Office.

- 44% of the implementation of the new Judicial Map was achieved;
- Proposals were also made for the new Criminal Code, Criminal Procedure Code, Civil Procedure Code, Notary Services Code, Commercial Code, Civil Registry Code, Law creating the Judge of Appeal and the Motor Vehicle Registration Code. These legal instruments will make it easier for citizens and legal entities to access State services.

The aim is to extend State services to all Angolan citizens, both in the country and in the diaspora, in relation to the difficult registration issues arising from the country's historical past and the displacement of populations.

- The services of the Land Registry Office and the Civil and Criminal Identification Issuing Offices throughout the country were reformed.
- The following Identification Offices were opened in the diaspora: Kinshasa and Matadi (DRC), Ponta Negra (R. of Congo), Harare (Zimbabwe), Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo (Brazil), Lyon (France), Brussels (Belgium), Bern (Switzerland), Rotterdam (Netherlands), Berlin (Germany), Russia - (Moscow), England - (London), Spain - (Madrid), Italy - (Rome), Houston and New York (USA).
- The Centre for Out-of-Court Dispute Resolution was set up, which on average resolves more than 360 cases a year.
- Four (4) Integrated Child and Adolescent Care Centres (CIACA) were set up in the provinces of Malanje, Huíla, Moxico and Luanda.
- 94 Human Rights Committees were set up in the country's 18 provinces, 75 municipal committees and 1 communal committee, as part of the Human Rights Action Plan.

These advances have had direct implications for improving justice, with the fight against corruption standing out, as well as the defence of citizens' fundamental rights, freedoms and guarantees, in accordance with the Constitution of the Republic of Angola.

## **Resolutions in the context of climate change and emergencies**

- Increase in containment interventions in gullied areas from 2 hectares in 2017 to 231.6 hectares;
- The 2nd phase of the charcoal project was completed in the Kwanza Sul and Huambo provinces, with the aim of minimising the damage caused by the exploitation of forest resources;
- Susceptibility and vulnerability maps for the national coastline were drawn up ([www.projectoorla.com](http://www.projectoorla.com)), and an intersectoral commission for the implementation of the national action programme to combat desertification (PANCOD) was created;
- 84,576 trees were planted in the Kwanza Sul, Kwanza Norte, Huambo, Luanda, Lunda Norte, Namibe and Cabinda provinces;
- More than 314,000 citizens benefited from training in agriculture resilient to the effects of climate change;
- 314 extension workers were trained in the Cuanhama, Namacunde and Cuvelai (Cunene) municipalities, with the implementation of 11 climate change workshops, in partnership with ADPP (a civil society organisation);
- More than 292,000 citizens benefited from alternative practices to improve community resilience to floods, droughts and other effects of climate change;
- Two associations were trained for the selective waste collection pilot programme, namely: (i) Associação Nação Verde, with the "my waste, my responsibility" project; and (ii) Associação Eco Angola, with the "Angola without plastic" project.
- The 24th Session of the National Family Council aimed at reflecting on the problems faced by families, in order to recognise public programmes and policies for family valorisation and skills development.

## **Resolutions on strengthening sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR)**

Regarding sexual and reproductive health in rural areas, there has been an increase in women empowerment, in order to improve their intervention in communities, as well as counselling families and returning to moral values, particularly with regard to parental responsibility, birth registration and the prevention of teenage pregnancies.

- An increase of 7,899 new beds in the public hospital network, totalling 30,180 beds by the first quarter of 2023, compared to 22,281 in 2017.
- Reduction of the institutional maternal mortality rate to 204 per 100,000 registered live births.
- Increase in the percentage of the population with access to health services from 50% to 60%.
- Increase in the percentage of Municipal Health Units with an integrated package of health care and services from 30% to 100%.
- Increase in the national vaccination rate for under one-year old children with the "Penta 3" vaccine from 40% to 59%.
- Commissioning of 51 health facilities (37 under PIP and 14 under PIIM).
- Reduction in the malaria mortality rate from 43.3% to 19%.
- An increase in the success rate for treating TB cases from 64% to 73%.
- Hiring a total of 33,093 health professionals, of which 2,379 are doctors.
- Increasing primary health care in municipalities and equipping health facilities with complementary means of diagnosis and essential medicines for the main endemic diseases, with a focus on malaria, HIV/AIDS and TB.

## Chapter VI

### Utilising social media to promote women's political participation in the SADC region

According to the Commission on the Status of Women, the access of girls and women to the digital space in 2023 was almost 43.2% of the female population. Underlying the current picture are literacy levels, language barriers, infrastructure and access to electricity. Efforts are under way to extend connectivity capacity<sup>2</sup>.

Women's participation in decision-making positions, whether in politics or in public and private institutions, has fallen from 27th place in 2017 to 23rd in the African ranking.

Even so, using information on social problems:

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<sup>2</sup> Angola has around 24 million mobile subscribers, but only 28.72% of people have internet access.

- 45,358 people were made aware of gender issues.
- 2,802 gender mobilisers and activists, 3,032 young women in small businesses, and 4,485 traditional midwives were given training.
- 4,551 cases of domestic violence were resolved.
- 73,170 families were made aware of family skills.

Enabling the following:

- The cumulative financial execution of the gender promotion and women's empowerment programme, up to the 1st quarter of 2022, was Kz 0.088 billion, of which Kz 0.088 billion was in DAD.
- The cumulative financial execution of the programme to support victims of violence, up to the first quarter of 2022, was Kz 0.055 billion, of which Kz 0.0006 billion was in grants and Kz 0.0544 billion in DAD.
- In the context of the national policy for gender equality and the revival of moral, ethical and civic values and the prevention of violence, these actions are part of the programme for valuing the family and strengthening family skills and the national programme for reviving moral, ethical, civic and patriotic values.
- Awareness-raising activities were carried out through the "values jango project", reaching a total of 19,406 people over the 2021-2022 period, including 12,415 women and 6,991 men.
- To curb violence and bullying at school, awareness-raising activities for girls have been carried out on sexual and reproductive health, preparing young people to learn about subjects related to girls that are taboo.
- Capacity building sessions for teachers on gender issues as mobilisers for non-discriminatory behaviour.
- Implementation of lectures as part of the "Reflective Thursdays" project for shelters, schools, police and military units, where they are informed about the importance of reporting cases of gender-based violence and harassment that may arise.

**With regard to issues related to the labour market, women's economic empowerment and family entrepreneurship**

Angola has invested in empowering women and young girls with respect to entrepreneurship, namely:

- i. Transformation of non-reusable products, such as the production of soap from home-made cooking oil, as a source of income and a guarantee of financial autonomy,
  - ii. Training on female leadership in various segments with a greater prevalence for business creation and planning, with kits being distributed for their sustainability;
  - iii. Training on the financial inclusion of families, through a Cooperation Protocol with Banco Nacional de Angola, aimed at strengthening the skills of families and women in the field of financial literacy. A total of 119 financial education initiatives were carried out with the participation of 6,261 people in 16 of the country's provinces, resulting in the opening of 1,767 bankita accounts, 426 simplified accounts, totalling 2,229 accounts opened and 1,474 Multicaixa ATMs;
  - iv. Holding of the National Microfinance Forum aimed at strengthening economic empowerment actions and ensuring access to financial services for women, with a total of 185 participants, including 115 women and 70 men, from all over the country;
  - v. Holding the Rural Women's Day, in which 5,927 participants took part, including 1,155 men and 4,713 women nationwide, serving as a valid interlocutor for evaluating the actions implemented within the family.
- With the approval of the new Organic Statute for the National Training School for Social Workers (ENFOTSS), its scope of intervention was widened to include professional and specialised training in the social action, family and women's advancement sectors, and thus focusing its training activity on the areas of social action, childhood and women's empowerment.
  - The broadening of its training offer from a perspective of social advancement and inclusion strengthens women's autonomy in managing their daily lives through economic empowerment via various courses promoting self-employment and entrepreneurship.

## Chapter VII

### **Parliament's Role in Legislating on Strategic and Sensitive Assets, National Security and Encouraging Direct Investment**



- The country has made significant strides in the energy transition process and the National Geology Plan (Planageo) has led to the discovery of 36 critical minerals, including lithium, cobalt, graphite and rare earth elements in graphite.
- The country has invested in measuring the occurrence of these critical minerals and gauging the potential of the deposits that make up a mine, through studies and prospecting projects for these resources;
- The results of this work shall support the process of transforming these critical minerals into strategic ones, in accordance with the assumptions defined by the Angolan Mining Code, Law no. 10/21 on Private Investment of 22nd<sup>3</sup> of April, as well as promoting the emergence of legislation and policies for their sustainable exploitation.

## Chapter VIII

### **Integration of the SADC Model Law on Elections into the National Legal System. Inclusive Governance, Representation of Women, Youth and Minority Groups. Regulation of Political Financing**

- The Angolan Parliament has passed important legislation aimed at increasingly improving electoral processes, and in recent years has deliberated on the following pieces of legislation:
  - i. ORGANIC LAW ON GENERAL ELECTIONS - LAW NO. 36/11 OF 21ST OF DECEMBER 2021;
  - ii. ORGANIC LAW ON THE ORGANISATION AND OPERATION OF THE NATIONAL ELECTORAL COMMISSION;
  - iii. ELECTORAL OBSERVATION LAW - LAW NO. 11/12 OF 22ND OF MARCH;  
ELECTORAL CODE OF CONDUCT - RESOLUTION NO. 7/12 OF 23RD OF MARCH;
  - iv. NATIONALITY LAW - LAW NO. 2/16 OF 15TH OF APRIL;
  - v. LAW OF POLITICAL PARTIES - LAW NO. 22/10 OF 3RD OF DECEMBER;
  - vi. LAW ON THE FINANCING OF POLITICAL PARTIES - LAW NO. 10/12 OF 22ND OF MARCH;
  - vii. PRESS LAW - LAW NO. 1/17;
  - viii. ORGANIC LAW OF THE ANGOLAN MEDIA REGULATOR - LAW NO. 2/17.
- Law no. 21/21 of 21st of September introduces the Unofficial Electoral Register, which ensures that all citizens of legal age and

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<sup>3</sup> ARTICLE 6 (Principle of political and legal confirmation) Compilation of Economic Legislation on Private Investment). Any private investment in accordance with the provisions of this law, in whatever form, must contribute to the advancement of the Angolan human person, to the sustainable economic and social development of the country, and conform to the principles and objectives of national economic policy, the provisions of this law, its regulations and other applicable legislation.

- eligible to vote can update their electoral registration in order to exercise their right to vote.
- The Electoral Law provides for the Financing of Political Parties for Electoral Campaigns, in which many young people participate as electoral officials, electoral civic education officials, national and provincial trainers.
  - The process of institutionalising local authorities is underway with a view to strengthening the democratic rule of law and boosting economic and social development at local level.
  - In this context, the National Assembly has approved a number of pieces of legislation, including:
    - i. Law on the Acts and Forms of Local Authority Bodies;
    - ii. Law on the Symbols of Local Authorities;
    - iii. Law on the Transfer of Powers and Responsibilities from the State to Local Authorities;
    - iv. Law on the Local Authority Fees Regime;
    - v. Law on the Financial Regime of Local Authorities;
    - vi. Organic Law on the Organisation and Operation of Local Authorities;
    - vii. Law on the Administrative Supervision over Local Authorities;
    - viii. Organic Law on Local Government, which lays down the foundations for the system of organisation, operation and implementation of local authorities, traditional power institutions and other specific forms of citizen participation.
  - The strategic plan for the implementation of local authorities is therefore being executed, based on the following structural lines (i) conducting unofficial electoral registration, (ii) certifying citizens' residency, (iii) deleting and correcting data on deceased, barred from participating and imprisoned citizens in the Database of Citizens of Age, (iv) conducting in-person electoral registration and (v) collecting data for issuing identity cards.
  - The process of building and/or rehabilitating 8 municipal infrastructures and 36 administrative residential complexes in 12 provinces has begun.

## Chapter IX

### **Incorporation and Implementation of the SADC Model Laws on Early Marriage Involving Children and Gender-Based Violence: Good Practices, Challenges and Perspectives**

With regard to children, Angolan society has mobilised to create laws that protect their rights. As part of the 11 Commitments to Angola's Children<sup>4</sup> (2011), the following laws were created:

- i. The Constitution of the Republic<sup>5</sup>
  - ii. Law (Law no. 25/12) on the Protection and Integral Development of Children<sup>6</sup>
  - iii. Law no. 9/96 on the Court for Minors<sup>7</sup>
  - iv. Basic Law no. 13/01 on the Education System<sup>8</sup>
  - v. Basic Law on the National Health System (Law no. 21-B/92)<sup>9</sup>
- With regard to educating girls to avoid teenage pregnancies, the State, in partnership with the United Nations Population Fund, has carried out various actions in the area of sexual and reproductive health, such as: skills development in menstrual hygiene, training traditional midwives, providing menstrual hygiene kits for girls and carrying out monitoring visits to maternity hospitals, followed by lectures on the treatment and guidance to be given to pregnant girls in rural areas.
  - 365 child rights protection networks have been created and put into operation in communities.
  - Awareness-raising and skill development activities are being carried out at institutions assigned to provincial governments and municipal administrations to comply with the provisions of Article 57(2) of Law no. 25/12 of 22nd of August on the protection and integral development of children.
  - A budget forecast plan was drawn up for all the services for children in provinces and municipalities, as well as to clearly identify and publicise the services budgeted for and spent on children.

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<sup>4</sup> The 11 Commitments were adopted by the Angolan government in 2007 and reviewed in 2011. They are the national framework for the Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989), providing a general framework for promoting children's rights in various areas.

<sup>5</sup> It deals with the rights and obligations of those responsible for the child, placing the child as an absolute priority for the State and families.

<sup>6</sup> It defines legal rules and principles on the protection and integral development of the child, reinforces and harmonises legal and institutional instruments to ensure the rights of the child as defined in the Constitution, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child.

<sup>7</sup> A special law that creates the court having jurisdiction to decide issues related to minors and recognises minors as subjects governed by the law, giving them the necessary judicial guarantees.

<sup>8</sup> It structures the country's Education System and establishes six education subsystems, from pre-school to higher education.

<sup>9</sup> The State ceases to have exclusivity regarding the provision of health services, in addition to promoting and ensuring access to health care for all citizens within the limits of the human, technical and financial resources available.

- In order to curb violence in schools, training has been organised to educate school management and teachers about children's rights and the mechanisms for preventing and combating violence against children, as well as making the 15015 - SOS Child hotline available to them.
- Awareness-raising actions to prevent young girls from dropping out of school when they become pregnant, as well as to prevent them from transferring to night classes and ensure psychological and legal support for young girls and their families on the procedures to be taken into account to prevent them from dropping out of school while pregnant.
- Within the framework of actions to prevent early marriage, protect married children and combat sexual violence against children, actions are being carried out on children's rights and sex education. A campaign to prevent early pregnancy is underway, with a strong focus on schools and communities, and the involvement of civil society organisations.
- As for the use of sanitary pads, in addition to actions on menstrual hygiene in schools, churches, shelters and communities, work has been undertaken with civil society organisations to make reusable sanitary pads to meet the needs of the most deprived populations, particularly in rural areas.
- The Angolan Penal Code entrenches to some extent the crimes of sexual abuse against children. In this regard, work continues with the Public Prosecutor's Office and the relevant courts to ensure that cases of sexual abuse against children are tried swiftly.
- As a result of research carried out regarding "cultural beliefs and practices that encourage sexual violence against children, an analysis from the standpoint of the protection of children's rights", the existence of female genital mutilation practices was not found in any location in the country.
- Joint Executive Decree no. 455/21 of 24th of September - approval of standard operating procedures for the care of children and teenagers in contact with the justice system and victims or witnesses of violence.
- There has been constant work on legislative proposals whose main focus is children, such as the Children's Parliament, the National Early Childhood Policy and its implementation plan, and awareness-raising actions through the National Children's Institute and the National Council for Social Action and municipalisation of the 11 Commitments.

- Four (4) Integrated Centres for Child and Teenager Care (CIACA) were set up in the Malange, Huíla, Moxico and Luanda provinces.

### **Final considerations**

Despite the current economic context, the Republic of Angola remains engaged in the process of implementing the measures reviewed in the decisions and recommendations of the Plenary Assemblies of the SADC Parliamentary Forum, aimed at creating the necessary structural conditions to achieve the goal of economic and social well-being of the Angolan people.

The Angolan State has prioritised the implementation of institutional and economic reforms that guarantee the fundamental rights and freedoms of its citizens and the construction of a dynamic and efficient market economy, with controlled and sustainable public finances associated with economic growth, an increase in jobs and income, and the well-being of the population.

These goals are clearly aligned with SADC's main objectives of peace, stability and economic development in the Southern Region of the continent, as well as its full regional integration.