



PRESS RELEASE

Joint Statement of the Personal Envoy of the United Nations Secretary-General for Mozambique, Mirko Manzoni, and the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Mozambique, Myrta Kaulard, on the occasion of the 75th UN Day.

Maputo, 24 October 2020 –Today, we mark the 75th Anniversary of the UN Charter; the foundational treaty of the United Nations and the guiding document that underpins international peace and security. In the last 75 years, the UN has recorded some impressive accomplishments, including gaining unanimous global support for the Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Agreement on climate change. These achievements would not have been possible without the multilateral system to support negotiations and dialogue between member states.

Mozambique has a rich history with the UN having joined 45 years ago, shortly after independence. One of the standout moments of this relationship was the ONUMOZ peacekeeping mission deployed following the signing of the Rome General Peace Accord in 1992 which put an end to civil war in Mozambique. For many young Mozambicans, this was their first experience of peace.

Since then the UN has remained a valuable partner. Through its support to the consolidation of peace and acceleration of sustainable development, the United Nations has helped the people of Mozambique to prosper through equitable access to resources and quality services in a peaceful and sustainable environment.

Recently, the UN has played a key role in supporting the implementation of the Maputo Accord for Peace and National Reconciliation which was signed in August 2019. This agreement, which was the result of three years of negotiations, seeks to finally put an end to conflict in central Mozambique. The leader's commitment to inclusive dialogue means that Mozambique is now on the path to lasting peace and reconciliation.

Today's realities are as forbidding as ever. COVID-19 has touched everyone, everywhere, precisely the kind of global challenge for which the United Nations was founded. The Charter's vision stands the test of time and its values will continue to carry us forward.



Despite the challenges of COVID-19, development programmes, humanitarian assistance and the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR) process that began earlier this year are progressing commendably with compassion, dedication and sensitivity guiding the work.

The continued dialogue between the Government and Renamo has resulted in commendable progress and to date this year over 1,000 ex-combatants have been demobilized and returned home. This is a significant achievement for the country and on behalf of the UN Secretary General we reiterate our commitment to supporting the full implementation of the peace agreement to accompany all Mozambicans through the path to sustainable development until a definitive peace is secure.

The work of the United Nations has only been possible thanks to the generous support of a large number of partners, the vast majority UN member States, to the dedication of women and men of the UN and to the tireless efforts of all Mozambican institutional partners working together to advance the lives of all people living in Mozambique.

This year, on UN Day, we encourage everyone to reflect on the need for dialogue in overcoming challenges and on the importance of multilateralism in building the “future we want”.

For Mozambique this means a future free of violence.

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MEDIA ENQUIRES

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