

**MISSÃO PERMANENTE
DA REPÚBLICA DE MOÇAMBIQUE
JUNTO ÀS NAÇÕES UNIDAS**



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

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STATEMENT

BY

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ORGANIZATIONS AND CONFERENCES AT THE MINISTRY OF
FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND COOPERATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF
MOZAMBIQUE**

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**THE HIGH-LEVEL BRIEFING ON THE STATE OF FOOD SECURITY
AND NUTRITION IN THE WORLD AND THE STATE OF FOOD AND
AGRICULTURE**

NEW YORK, 6TH NOVEMBER 2018

H.E Maria Fernanda Espinosa Garcés, President of the General Assembly

H.E. Lorena Aguilar Revelo, Vice-Minister of External Affairs and Worship of Costa Rica

Mr. José Graziano da Silva, Director General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

Mr. Gilbert Hounoubo, President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

Mr. David Beasley, Executive Director of the World Food Programme (WFP)

H.E Maria Angela Zappia, Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations and Chair of the Group of Friends of Food Security

H. E. Dian Triansyah Djani, Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations

Excellences

Distinguished participants

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Mozambique, I would like to commend the FAO Director-General, the IFAD President and the WFP Executive Director for providing such insightful and timely briefings.

Mozambique is deeply honored to co-sponsor this event, as it represents an important opportunity through which we associate ourselves to the global efforts to promote food security, improve nutrition and develop agriculture as some of key assumptions for the well-being of people.

According to the 2018 State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World, we note with concern that world hunger has been increasing over the past three years affecting 821 million people in 2017.

This sad reality and in light of the briefing, reminds us of the urgent need to mobilize coordinated efforts at the global, regional and national levels to eradicate hunger through the effective implementation of the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2 - *End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture* - which is the top priority of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

In this regard, I would like to express my appreciation to the work that the Principals of the Rome-based UN Agencies have been carrying out to improve the well-being of humankind in the world.

I would also like to commend Her Excellency Maria Angela Zappia the Permanent Representative of Italy in her capacity as Chair of the Group of Friends of Food Security for her endeavors in

mobilizing efforts to strengthen partnership to this common purpose.

Excellences,

Agriculture, food security and nutrition are strategic and mutually reinforcing areas in Mozambique's development agenda, as enshrined in the 2015- 2019 Government's Five-Year Program.

Agriculture employs more than 70% of the Mozambican working age population, making this sector one of the major contributors to food production and income generator to rural households.

Bearing in mind this reality, the Government of Mozambique, has aligned the Strategic Plan for the Development of the Agricultural Sector 2011-2020 with the Food Security and Nutrition Action Plan and, defined increasing production and productivity in all sectors, in particular in the agriculture, as one of its strategic objectives to be achieved by 2019. It is our conviction that sustainable and inclusive economic growth should be largely anchored in agriculture.

The operationalization of the strategy, aligned to the SDG 2, translates into the coordinated implementation framework driven by national sectors namely: (Government institutions, civil society

and private sector), and supported by bilateral and multilateral partners, including UN agencies such as FAO, IFAD and WFP.

The aim of this exercise is to:

- Increase agricultural and fishery production through improved access to inputs and advisory services;
- Promote family farms and reduce post-harvest losses;
- Improve access to food through developed infrastructure and links with buyers by investing in building social capital and supporting producer organizations and market information systems;
- Improve nutrition through fortification, access to essential nutrients, and nutritional education for adults and children;
- Ensure greater availability in the market of high quality seed of adapted varieties and their use by farmers.

The Program is moving towards its end. At this stage, the evaluation of the final line of the Program is taking place to assess its contribution to the improvement of food and nutritional security.

However, the preliminary assessment suggests that acute food insecurity reduced from 1.5 million people in 2016 to 52,000 in 2017. People with acute food insecurity have been decreasing every year, with the exception of 2016 due to the drought that affected some areas of the country in 2015, and most likely to happen at the

present harvest due to the “El niño” phenomenon in some provinces of the country.

In this sense, we are encouraged by the results achieved so far in the implementation of our agriculture, food security and nutrition development framework, notwithstanding some financial challenges to address the needs arising from the impact of climate change, with severe consequences for the populations.

It’s against this background that, concluding my remarks, I would like to call upon bilateral and multilateral partners and relevant stakeholders to continue supporting the realization of our common objective of promoting agriculture development, food security and nutrition toward poverty eradication.

I thank you very much for your kind attention.