

# MOZAMBIQUE News reports & clippings

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## Renamo

### **2 road attacks in new places**

Renamo has attacked main roads in two places where there have not been attacks previously.

Sunday morning 3 November five Renamo men tried to stop a lorry near the Pungue River bridge, north of Gorongosa town, Sofala. The driver continued but was shot; he was not seriously injured, but the lorry overturned. Riot police guarding the bridge responded and there was gunfire between the two sides. STV has a camera crew in the area, and part of the incident was filmed and shown on TV last night.

The other attack was on a main road in Nampula-Rapale, on Tuesday 29 October, where a group of Renamo gunmen attacked and burnt a truck, killing its driver. The truck was carrying about 20 passengers, most of whom were taking agricultural produce for sale in Nampula city. Survivors said the truck was ambushed by four armed men who stood in the road and raked the vehicle with gunfire.

The Nampula attack was near the Renamo base of Napome, Nampula-Rapale where Renamo demobilised soldier regrouped last week, and which was attacked by government. Nampula police on 31 October presented to the public 8 Renamo demobilised soldiers who they said were arrested at the Renamo base; 10 others fled.

### **do Rosário:**

**No country can have an armed party,  
but Guebuza must make concessions**

No country can have "an armed party. And Renamo is armed," said Lourenço do Rosário, rector of Universidade Politécnica in Maputo, and an intermediary in Renamo-government discussions. "A state cannot fail to react to outbreaks of violence."

But he goes on to argue that the government must make concessions. "Any solution would lead

naturally to the accommodation of some aspects of Renamo demands," as well as the "integration of the armed Renamo within state structures."

The occupation of Satungira "was an escalation of violence", he continued. It was not really a military base, but a camp where the Renamo leader lived, which was occupied by the army. And now "Mozambique is living a situation of undeclared war."

do Rosário was in Portugal and he was interviewed by *Público* (29 October). Although a Frelimo member and selected as intermediary by President Armando Guebuza, along with Anglican Bishop Dinis Sengulane, he has won the trust of Dhlakama, who has asked that do Rosário be made a formal facilitator or mediator. President Armando Guebuza has refused this.

do Rosário adds that "all Mozambican society believes that the problem can only be resolved by a meeting between head of state Armando Guebuza and Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama. This is fundamental." <http://www.publico.pt/mundo/noticia/mocambique-vive-uma-situacao-de-guerra-nao-declarada-1610722>

### ***Personal comment:***

## **Dealing with disruptive pupils may offer a model**

I have a good friend who is a secondary school teacher who often deals with discipline problems in the classroom, and there may be lessons for Renamo and government. A teacher has the authority, but how to respond to a disruptive pupil? Initially, the teacher demands compliance, but the pupil refuses, and the confrontation escalates. As each becomes louder, it is the teacher who loses face. Other students in the classroom begin to side with the disruptive pupil, who continues to push until there is total confrontation and higher authority must be called in. Of course, the disruptive pupil can be expelled from the school and authority is maintained.

My friend is often called into the classroom to try to resolve the problem. Her first step is to talk quietly to the disruptive student, listening to what the student has to say (importantly not, at this point, trying to assert authority), and this is best out of hearing of the other students in the classroom. The next step is to make some sort of concession to the student, while also gaining agreement that the disruptive behaviour cannot continue. The teachers, being older, wiser, and more powerful, can afford to give more ground to a disruptive child. And an outsider coming in and actually listening to the child helps to defuse the confrontation simply by listening. *jh*

### ***Other war reports:***

- Thousands of people marched through the streets of Maputo on Thursday, 31 November, demonstrating against government inability to stop the wave of kidnappings and calling for an end to violence and a return to peace. Frelimo Central Committee Secretary for Mobilisation and Propaganda, Damiao Jose on Mozambique Television (TVM) urged people not to take part in demonstrations. But his appeal failed. There was also a demonstration in Beira.

- Police occupied the the Renamo headquarters and house in Beira Sunday morning.

- Rio Tinto is temporarily withdrawing the families of expat employees from Mozambique amid security concerns linked to kidnappings and fighting between the government and Renamo.

## **Kidnaps**

- In the second kidnapping trial, four kidnapers were sentenced to prison terms ranging from 7 to 15 years. The case was tried in the Maputo Provincial Court, sitting in Matola. This kidnap gang was found guilty of kidnapping Ibrahim Gani, owner of the food processing factory Incopal, on 19 May 2012. Gani was held in captivity for a week, and was ransomed for an undisclosed sum.

- *Domingo* (3 November) reports that 50 Asian origin Mozambican families have left the country because of the kidnappings.

## Despite Zuma's son, South Africa does not need Mozambique power

Saddy Zuma, the son of the South African president, has been lobbying, unsuccessfully, to get South Africa to agree to buy electricity from the proposed Mphanda Nkuwa dam, according to the Johannesburg *Mail and Guardian* (25 October 2013). Saddy Zuma even arranged a 2010 meeting between his father, Jacob Zuma, and Celso Correia, head of Insitec, a leading shareholder in the project. Zuma and Mozambican president Armando Guebuza have also discussed the project says the *M&G*.

Correia denied the link: "We didn't use any Zuma". But the *M&G* says Saddy's lobbying has actually increased.

Correia did confirm that "the project has been stuck for the last five years because we didn't manage to sell the energy."

South Africa's Eskom has consistently refused to buy electricity from Mozambique, either Mphanda Nkuwa or the planned coal-fired power stations linked to the Tete coal mines. Instead Eskom is building two giant coal-fired power stations of its own, Medupi and Kusile, which when complete in 2018 will produce 9,600MW and give South Africa surplus capacity. Eskom says Mendupi is the world's largest dry-cooled power station and the largest power station in Africa. It will cost R126 billion (\$12 bn).

## Air force buys luxury plane

Mozambique's air force, which has few functioning military planes except some second hand MIG21s, has bought a second hand Beechcraft Hawker 850XP, according to @Verdade. It probably cost between \$2 million and \$4 million. It can carry 8-13 passengers up to 4,900 km.

## Eurobond causing waves

The totally unexpected government guaranteed \$850 million bond issue for patrol and tuna fishing boats for the security service, SISE, continues to cause waves. Within Mozambique, very few people knew about the bond issue or the new fishing company Ematum.

Outside, the bond was oversubscribed and increased, because it was government backed and at above average interest rates. But some investors are having exactly the opposite reaction. If Mozambique can sell such a large government-guaranteed bond issue with no internal discussion and no parliamentary approval, there is a real danger of issuing too many bonds and the government not being able to repay.

An IMF mission last week was very angry with the bond issue and the final IMF statement was quite strong, saying: "The team recommended the inclusion of government guarantees and other sources of fiscal risk in the budget document, the investment planning instruments and the debt management framework, in line with international best practices. It advised that possible non-commercial activities associated with a recently established public sector company for tuna fishing (EMATUM), which issued an \$850 million Eurobond in September, be included in the 2014 budget and transparently reflected in the fiscal accounts."

<http://www.imf.org/external/np/sec/pr/2013/pr13418.htm>

## **Agriculture:**

### **FAO: markets don't support smallholders, so state intervention needed**

Markets do not naturally support smallholder farmers, and the withdrawal of the state under structural adjustment has failed. Instead, there must be public sector involvement in promoting markets, credit, risk sharing and the delivery of inputs such as fertilizer, seeds, and extension, concludes the FAO in a new report *Smallholder integration in changing food markets* ([www.fao.org/docrep/018/i3292e/i3292e.pdf](http://www.fao.org/docrep/018/i3292e/i3292e.pdf))

The report praises Brazil's Food Acquisition Programme, which involves government procurement of food from smallholders. The food is used partly for building up strategic reserves and partly in food security programmes, such as school feeding, soup kitchens and food baskets distributed by the Government amongst the most vulnerable populations. and distributes food to 15 million people each year. Approximately 200,000 farmers sell up to \$ 2,500 of food per year to the government.

The report continues: "Public food purchasing brings about important benefits to smallholders since they gain access to a guaranteed market with a predictable price. Having a stable market and hence less variable income encourages increases in on-farm investment."

Large scale investment in actual farming is not the best way forward. The reports says: "So-called 'land grabbing' is just one form of investment and one which arguably is least likely to deliver significant developmental benefits to the host country. Other forms of investment such as joint ventures, contract farming, out-grower schemes and infrastructure investments may be preferable. Such arrangements can give small producers access to markets and enable them to share value "

The report was published in July and revised in October, and says: "Following an extended period during which many donors and international organizations were promoting a reduced role for the public sector in supporting agricultural development, there has been a growing appreciation of the need for a more proactive role for the public sector that goes beyond creation of supportive legal and policy framework and the provision of improved infrastructure, the so-called enabling environment. This is particularly so in contexts where, following the withdrawal of the state under programmes of structural adjustment, from agricultural marketing activities that had previously targeted smallholder farmers, market development has been limited. Evidence from these episodes suggests that markets don't 'naturally' improve their functionality with the passing of time and in the absence of public sector support."

### **Mozambique one of countries appealing to WTO to be allowed farm subsidies**

Countries with large numbers of smallholder farmers, including Mozambique, will ask the World Trade Organisation at its Ministerial Conference in Bali, Indonesia, in December, to be allowed to buy food at above domestic market prices from low-income producers and create food reserves or sell that food to poor people at subsidized prices.

A 2001 agreement effectively allows rich countries to have agricultural subsidies but poor countries cannot. Rich country agriculture subsidies now exceed \$400 billion per year.

A recent FAO study argues that "since low-income resource-poor farmers can be expected to

comprise a large share of the population below the poverty line, their income levels (and hence food security status) would be likely to improve if they receive higher and more predictable prices for the output that they sell. In such cases, public food purchasing programmes can bring about important benefits to farmers who can gain access to a guaranteed outlet with a higher and more predictable price than achievable on the open market. This can encourage on-farm investment and improvements in productive practices, which could in turn lead to still greater production. Assuming that prices are maintained at this level, higher incomes would be derived from on-farm activities."

<http://www.irinnews.org/report/98972/g33-to-reopen-talks-on-subsidies-at-wto>

[http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/templates/est/PUBLICATIONS/g33-proposal-early-agreement-on-elements-of-the-draft-doha-accord-to-address-food-security\\_1\\_.pdf](http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/templates/est/PUBLICATIONS/g33-proposal-early-agreement-on-elements-of-the-draft-doha-accord-to-address-food-security_1_.pdf)

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### **The new book**

## **Zimbabwe takes back its land**

by Joseph Hanlon, Jeanette Manjengwa & Teresa Smart is now available from the publishers

[https://www.riener.com/title/Zimbabwe\\_Takes\\_Back\\_Its\\_Land](https://www.riener.com/title/Zimbabwe_Takes_Back_Its_Land)

<http://www.jacana.co.za/book-categories/current-affairs-a-history/zimbabwe-takes-back-its-land-detail>

### **Now in paper at a reasonable price**

## **Do bicycles equal development in Mozambique?**

by Joseph Hanlon & Teresa Smart

is now available in **paperback**, for £17.99 (+ p&p)

from the publisher <http://www.boydellandbrewer.com/store/viewItem.asp?idProduct=13503>

and on Amazon.co.uk for £17.09

## **Just Give Money to the Poor:**

## **The Development Revolution from the Global South**

by Joseph Hanlon, Armando Barrientos, and David Hulme

Most of this book can now be **read on the web**

[tinyurl.com/justgivemoney](http://tinyurl.com/justgivemoney)

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**Also on the web:** Previous newsletters and other Mozambique material are posted on

[tinyurl.com/mozamb](http://tinyurl.com/mozamb)

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### **NOTE OF EXPLANATION:**

This mailing list is used to distribute two publications, both edited by Joseph Hanlon. This is my own sporadic "News reports & clippings", which is entirely my own responsibility. This list is also used to distribute the *Mozambique Political Process Bulletin*, published by CIP and AWEPA, but those organisations are not linked to "News reports & clippings"

Joseph Hanlon

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### **Mozambique media websites:**

Noticias: [www.jornalnoticias.co.mz](http://www.jornalnoticias.co.mz)

O Pais: [www.opais.co.mz](http://www.opais.co.mz)

Macauhub English: [www.macauhub.com.mo/en/](http://www.macauhub.com.mo/en/)

Savana: [www.savana.co.mz](http://www.savana.co.mz)

Canal de Moçambique: [www.canalmoz.co.mz](http://www.canalmoz.co.mz)

AIM Reports: [www.poptel.org/mozambique-news](http://www.poptel.org/mozambique-news)

Carlos Serra Diário de um sociólogo: <http://oficinadesociologia.blogspot.com>

Good daily newsletters:

English: Mozambique Investor. Send e-mail to [joaquim.fale@clubofmozambique.com](mailto:joaquim.fale@clubofmozambique.com)

Portuguese: Mozambique Hoje. Send e-mail to [mozambiquehoje@clubofmozambique.com](mailto:mozambiquehoje@clubofmozambique.com)

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