



Republic of Mozambique

Office of the President

*“The Sustainable Development Goals: a universal push
to transform our world”*

Statement by His Excellency Filipe Jacinto Nyusi
President of the Republic of Mozambique at the General
Discussion of 71st Session of the United Nations
Assembly General

New York 21st September 2016.

**Mr Chairperson of the 71st Session of the United Nations Assembly
General,**

The Secretary General of the United Nations,

Your Excellencies Heads of State and Government,

Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with a great honour that on behalf of the People of Mozambique and indeed on my own behalf I address this 71st Session of United Nations General Assembly, the highest forum for global political and diplomatic consultations.

Let me first commend His Excellency Peter Thompson, for his election to chair this session of the General Assembly and extend my congratulations to the outgoing Chairperson Honourable Mogens Lykketoft, for the dedicated manner in which he has fulfilled his mandate, in the context of fundamental commitments that were assumed, namely:

- The Addis Ababa Action Agenda on development financing;
- The Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development;
- The Sendai Framework for Disasters Risk Reduction; and
- The Paris Agreement on Climate Change.

As we celebrate the first anniversary of the adoption of these important instruments, we are pleased to note the advancements the world and the United Nations System have been achieving in their implementation.

Notwithstanding these developments, we are aware of the challenges that are still prevailing.

Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The theme for this session “The Sustainable Development Goals: *a universal push to transform our world*”, could not more right, as 2016 ushers in a new era within the framework for implementation of the global development agenda.

The Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development reflects the collective ambition and the global consensus on the need to accelerate the creation of conditions so that our efforts for poverty eradication and building sustainable development are centred on people.

Therefore, Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) is a tool with an enormous potential to trigger profound changes in our development vision and ensure that no country or individual is left out.

The major challenge to Sustainable Development Goals lies in their implementation, particularly on the following aspects:

- *Alignment* with global, regional and national instruments and resources;
- Financing;
- *Monitoring and evaluation*;
- *Inclusiveness*.

In including the dimension of peace and stability, Sustainable Development Goals recognise the indivisibility between peace and development and the need for its consolidation.

Only acting this way we can build peaceful, just and inclusive societies, for which a genuine political will is required.

In this process, repositioning the United Nations system to respond to current realities is an urgent assumption.

Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am confident that transformation of the world that is intended with the SDGs presupposes structural changes in the way we design and implement our major national development agendas in the short, medium and long terms.

To this end, the 2015 - 2019 Government Five Year Programme, our governance blueprint, already reflects part of the principles and the three dimensions of sustainable development.

In order to mainstream, monitor and report on the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals we have recently established a National Reference Group involving representatives from the Government, Parliament, Civil Society, Private Sector and Cooperating Partners.

The task of this Reference Group is to follow up progress on the indicators selected to assess targets until 2030, as well as deal with policy measures, funding possibilities and all factors impacting on the success in the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals.

With this broad base intervention through the Reference Group we intend to make implementation of Sustainable Development Goals more inclusive, consistent and transparent which all different stakeholders can feel party to.

Mr President,

The Third International Conference on Development Financing held in Addis Ababa, in July 2015 recommended countries to use their own frameworks and means to respond to the new development frameworks. The Conference advised Member States to develop comprehensive and integrated funding strategies beyond traditional procedures for public budgeting.

In this context and as part of her commitment to continue mobilising more resources, Mozambique has established a National Fund for Sustainable Development.

In addition, evaluation of the flow of development financing is under way. This exercise is aimed at facilitating visualisation of the achievements of development results of each available financial flows in the country, on one hand, and explore options for a coherent integration between Government priorities and the international agenda, on the other hand.

To complement the above efforts, we continue to defend:

- The opportunity to revitalise the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development;
- The relevance of the principle of common but differentiated responsibility;
- The importance for partners to honour commitments assumed within the framework of the internationally agreed development goals; and
- Predictability of development aid, in terms of the Paris Declaration on the Effectiveness of Development Aid.

With these tools we will be setting sound institutional foundations for the efficient and effective implementation of Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development, contributing to turn into reality the desired driver to transform our world.

Materialisation of our global agenda requires a collective commitment to strengthening multilateral institutions from all of us. For this purpose we continue to defend the important need for:

- Reforming the United Nations, in general, and the Security Council, in particular;
- Adjusting the architecture of international financial institutions within the Addis Ababa Action Agenda; and
- Furthering cooperation between the United Nations and Regional Economic Organisations, particularly for the prevention and resolution of conflicts.

Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As we meet in this august Assembly, we reaffirm our commitment to the principles and objectives of the Charter of the United Nations, a universal organisation with a mandate to uphold international peace and security, as well as defending human rights.

We recognise the United Nations as an unavoidable platform for political and diplomatic consultations and international cooperation for peace and development.

In this connection, we would like to express our appreciation for the job well done by Mr Ban Ki-moon, Secretary General of the United Nations after successfully fulfilling his assignment to lead the Organisation for two mandates.

From the incoming Secretary General to be elected soon we hope to strengthen the existing relations with Mozambique, particularly to leverage implementation of Sustainable Development Goals.

We are also looking forward to materialising the desired reforms of the United Nations in order to make this organisation more democratic and more representative and at the service of all Nations and Peoples of the world.

To conclude, I would like to reiterate our commitment to continue exemplarily cooperating with the United Nations and all Member States to actualise the noble objectives and, in particular, Sustainable Development Goals and build a prosperous, peaceful world of welfare for all.

I thank you very much for your attention!