



VPSHR

VOLUNTARY PRINCIPLES
SECURITY
AND HUMAN RIGHTS

IN MOZAMBIQUE *BULLETIN*

PLATFORM FOR DIALOGUE ON BUSINESS, SECURITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN CABO DELGADO

GUARDIÃO DA DEMOCRACIA | www.cddmoz.org

Friday, April 21, 2023 | Year II, NO. 25 | Director: Prof. Adriano Nuvunga | English

The government is committed to ensuring that extractive industry activities are conducted in a responsible manner, respecting the rights of communities

- The Ministry of Justice, Constitutional and Religious Affairs guarantees that the Government is committed to ensuring that extractive industry activities in Mozambique are conducted responsibly, respecting the rights of communities and workers. And the accession of the Republic of Mozambique to the Voluntary Principles Initiative is a significant step towards achieving this objective, according to Firminio Mujovo, representing the Ministry of Justice, Constitutional and Religious Affairs (MJACR), at the national authorities training workshop on the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights.





Sébastien Caldana, from DCAF

The workshop took place on March 28 and was organized by the Center for Democracy and Development (CDD), in partnership with the Geneva Security Sector Governance Center (DCAF), with the support of the consultant who will accompany Mozambique in the process of joining the Voluntary Principles Initiative. The purpose of the event was to provide representatives of relevant public institutions with in-depth knowledge of the Voluntary Principles, with a particular focus on the national and international instruments that support this initiative. The workshop is part of Mozambique's accession process to the Voluntary Principles Initiative, whose report will be presented in May by the Ministry of Justice, Constitutional and Religious Affairs, during the plenary session of the Voluntary Principles Initiative, in London, the capital of the United Kingdom.

The Voluntary Principles Initiative aims to ensure that extractive companies respect human rights and fundamental freedoms, operate in a safe environment and engage meaningfully with local communities. Mozambique's participation in this initiative can help promote a more responsible extractive industry, where the rights

of communities and workers are respected and protected.

Sebastian Caldana, a DCAF consultant, led the training on the Voluntary Principles during the first part of the workshop, where he explained the principles and tools for implementation and the Voluntary Principles Initiative. Caldana emphasized the importance of partnerships to achieve the initiative's objectives. "It is essential to strengthen partnerships between the Government, civil society, extractive companies and communities to ensure the responsible management of natural resources". The second part of the workshop was dedicated to group work, where representatives of the Ministry of Justice, Constitutional and Religious Affairs shared their perspectives on the Voluntary Principles.

Engagement with the Ministry of Justice, Constitutional and Religious Affairs helped identify key areas for action, such as developing an inventory of government policies related to the Voluntary Principles and identifying current business, security and human rights challenges in Mozambique. Additionally, engagement with the Ministry of Justice also highlighted the importance of effective communication and



engagement between security forces, businesses and local communities. This is essential to build trust and ensure that the principles are effectively implemented at natural resource extraction sites.

The workshop was an important step for Mozambique toward responsible extractive practices and the protection of human rights. Through

its participation in the Voluntary Principles Initiative, Mozambique can strengthen partnerships with stakeholders, promote a safe environment and develop policies that prioritize the rights of communities and workers. The participation of the Ministry of Justice, Constitutional and Religious Affairs highlights the Government's commitment to these objectives.



EDITORIAL INFORMATION

Property: CDD – Centro para Democracia e Desenvolvimento
Director: Prof. Adriano Nuvunga
Editor: Emídio Beula
Author: Hélio Siteo
Layout: CDD

Address:
Rua Dar-Es-Salaam Nº 279, Bairro da Sommerschild, Cidade de Maputo.
Telephone: +258 21 085 797

 CDD_moz
E-mail: info@cddmoz.org
Website: <http://www.cddmoz.org>

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