

THE "HIDDEN DEBTS" SCANDAL TRIAL

The Private Secretary of Armando Guebuza explains to the court today about the €877,500 she received from the Privinvest group

- Maria Inês Moiane Dove, then private secretary of the President of the Republic Armando Guebuza, is indicted of the crime of association to commit crimes, money laundering, passive corruption for unlawful act, forgery of documents and crime of abuse of trust. She was detained for two years and was released in March this year after paying a bail of three (3) million meticaís.
- Her brother, Elias Moiane, will also be heard in court today. The Public Prosecutor says that Maria Inês Moiane Dove used her brother to hide her connection to the properties she acquired. Instead of entering into appropriate deeds herself, she was always represented by her brother Elias Moiane, in whose powers of attorney were granted by the sellers of the properties. He is indicted of money laundering, association to commit crimes and forgery of documents



Maria Inês Moiane Dove

In the course of her duties, the defendant Maria Moiane Dove prepared at least six (6) meetings between the President of the Republic and senior executives of the Privinvest group, setting up telephone and e-mail contacts with Jean Boustani. In addition, she had contacts with Jean Boustani in the United Arab Emirates and France in the context of Presidential visits to those countries. To facilitate Jean Boustani's access to the meetings he wished to arrange and have with the President of the Republic, the defendant Maria Moiane Dove accepted an offer in cash from the Privinvest group, amounting to €877,500. To hide the real motivation of the payment, she asked her friend Sérgio Namburete to receive the referred amount and then pass it on to her.

Thus, on 18 November 2014, Sérgio Namburete created an individual name company called SEN Consultoria e Investimento, EI, at the Balcão de Atendimento Único (One-stop Office) of Maputo City. On the same day, he opened a bank account at BCI in euros, held by the company. In consultation with Maria Moiane Dove, seven (7) days after the company was established, Sérgio Namburete and the Logistic International, Abu Dhabi, of the Privinvest group, concluded an alleged contract, dated 25 November 2014, under which SEN Consultoria e Investimentos was to provide consultancy services in the context of a civil construction project for a period of one year.

The Privinvest group transferred a total of €877,500 in two equal instalments of €438,750, from the companies Logistics International, SAL, on 2 December 2014, and

Privinvest Shipbuilding, on 18 December 2014, to the account opened by SEN Consultoria e Investimentos. The Public Prosecutor says that the civil construction project indicated in the contract never existed, that is, company SEN never provided any consulting services to the Privinvest group. Moreover, SEN never provided services to any entities and never received in its account in euros any other amount, other than that coming from the Privinvest group.

Indictment states that Sérgio Namburete transferred € 750,000 to Maria Moiane Dove's account, domiciled at Standard Bank, in two instalments of €375,000 each, on 17 and 23 December 2014. With the amount received, she made a fixed-term deposit with the same bank on 21 January 2015. Upon maturity of the term deposit, on 19 May 2016, the defendant transferred €250 thousand, converted into meticaís, in the amount of 15.125.000,00 meticaís, to her meticaís account domiciled at the same bank. She kept € 500 thousand on a fixed-term deposit.

With the 15,125,000.00 meticaís, the defendant bought a three room house, located at José Mateus Street nº 138, 5th floor left, at Bairro Polana Cimento "A" in Maputo City, at the price of 14 million meticaís, paid in two instalments, one of six (6) million and the other of eight (8) million, on 19 and 30 May 2016. Maria Moiane Dove made fixed-term deposits of €500 thousand euros by transferring the respective amounts to her meticaís account, at Standard Bank. She then bought a property located at Mukumbura Street, corner with Armando Tivane Avenue, 1st floor, at Bairro Polana Cimento, Maputo City, at the

price of 12 million meticaís.

To hide her connection to the properties she bought, instead of signing the relevant notarial deeds, the defendant Maria Moiane Dove was always represented by her brother, the co-defendant Elias Moiane, for whom the powers of attorney were granted by the sellers of the properties.

These powers of attorney empowered Elias Moiane to fully manage and administer the properties, represent them in any public, private and other institutions, perform any registration acts; mortgage, sell to himself or to third parties for the price and conditions he wishes. Run business with himself or with third parties, sign the respective deed of sale; perform works, provide verbal or written statements to whom may interest and, for these purposes, promote, practice, request and sign anything that becomes necessary for the full performance of the powers conferred to him.

Subsequently, the defendant Elias Moiane produced a document purporting to sell the property (acquired for 14 million meticaís) to the daughters of the defendant Maria Moiane Dove, identified as Carmem da Glória Dove and Gisela Filomena Roberta Dove, at a price of 6.650.000,00 meticaís. The Public Prosecutor understands that the defendant Elias Moiane did not sell the property to the defendant Maria Moiane Dove daughters, but that he transferred it on for them. By declaring the amount of 6.650.000,00 of meticaís, he aimed to pay lower SISA tax (Tax paid on real estate property transactions) than actually it is due, taking into account that the real amount of the sale was 14 million meticaís.



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