

POLÍTICA MOÇAMBICANA

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"HIDDEN DEBTS" SCANDAL TRIAL

Today, it is time of the Fabião Mabunda hearing, the man who received and managed nine million dollars that the Privinvest group paid to the former General Director of SISE

- Fabião Mabunda, 42 years old, is the owner of M Moçambique Construções Lda, a company described by the Public Prosecutor's Office as having been the mean used by the former General Director of the State Security and Information Service (SISE), Gregório Leão, and his wife Ângela Leão, to receive the (USD 8,999,916.00) from the Privinvest group, to launder it.
- The Leão couple's "front man" was detained between March 2019 and March 2021, when he was released after paying a bail of 10 million meticais arbitrated by the Supreme Court. He is indicted to practice the crime of association to delinquency; money laundering and of document forgery.



t was through M Moçambique Construções Lda that Fabião Mabunda received about nine (9) million dollars (USD 8,999,916.00) from the Privinvest group and applied the money in the purposes of the Leão couple's, family members and in his own. The approximately nine million dollars were transferred to the M Moçambique Construções Lda account, domiciled at Millennium Bim, in seven (7) instalments between 28 August 2013 and 3 June 2014.

The first transfer to M Moçambique Construções Lda took place two weeks after the Privinvest group has received USD32 million from the Credit Suisse bank as part of the contract amendment between ProIndicus and Privinvest, on 14 August 2013. The second transfer occurred on 5 September 2013, the same date that Credit Suisse transferred USD 500 million to the Privinvest group under the contract concluded with EMATUM. The third payment dated 30 April 2014, occurred a week after the Russian bank VTB has transferred USD 435 million under the contract concluded with MAM.

The Public Prosecutor's Office believes that the approximately USD 9 million received by M Moçambique Construções Lda resulted from the defendant Gregório Leão bribe's payment for his role in designing the ProIndicus, EMATUM and MAM companies projects, as well as making them possible by requesting the issue of State guarantees to obtain financing credits. To conceal his involvement, the former General Director of SISE put his wife Angela Leão in charge of all operations.

Yet, the Public Prosecutor states that in order to conceal the true purpose of the Privinvest group payments made to M Moçambique Construções Lda, the defendants Fabião Mabunda and Angela Leão, in concert with Jean Boustani, forged two subcontracts for the infrastructures construction in the exclusive economic zone. The first subcontract was concluded on 2 August 2013 between the M Moçambique Construções Lda and Privinvest Shipbuilding, and the second one on 2 January 2014 involving the M Moçambique Construções Lda and Logistics International Sal. The subcontract entered into with Privinvest Shipbuilding had a payable amount According to the Prosecutor's indict- 872.500,00 meticals to the defendant Si- of USD 3,510,000.00, but M Moçambique ment, part of the millionaire bribe that the mione Mahumane.

Construções Lda ended up receiving four (4) million dollars, in the light of the same document. The second subcontract did not show any amount.

Of the received amount from the Privinvest group, the defendant Fabião Mabunda applied the equivalent to USD 1,500,000.00 to the payment of three residential properties bought by the defendant Angela Leão. The amounts were transferred from the M Moçambique Construções Lda to Sidónio Sitoe's account and Sitoe passed on the money to the properties seller's. Such the properties are: a three-storey villa , located at 0 4552 Street, Bairro Costa do Sol, Maputo City, bought at a price of USD 900,000.00; and two detached properties of two floors each, located at A Street, on Ponta D'Ouro beach, Matutuine District, Maputo Province, bought at a price of USD 300,000 each. Ângela Leão rented the three properties: the villa on Costa do Sol for a monthly rent of 160 thousand meticais and the houses in Ponta D'Ouro for 10 thousand rands each. The amounts were deposited in her accounts.

Beside the amount of house's purchase, Fabião Mabunda transferred 29.600.000,00 meticais from M Moçambique Construções Lda to Sidónio Sitoe's account and Sidónio, in turn, passed the money in small instalments (through checks and in cash) to the defendant Angela Leão. In Leão couple's purposes, Fabião Mabunda transferred 11,182,522 meticais to Arktek, Lda, a consulting company in the area of civil construction, focused on the preparation of architectural and engineering projects and supervision of works. The amount aimed to pay for services hired by Ângela Leão, namely: project elaboration of four (4) equal residences in the Costa do Sol area; disco in Belo Horizonte area; residential house in Marracuene; São Roque Kamaga commercial space project, residential house in Quelimane City; project revision of a residential property in Jonasse area; and supervision of the projects implementation works. In addition to the transferred amounts by M Moçambique Construções Lda, Arktek received straight from the defendant Angela Leão 3,750,000.00 meticais and USD 78,000.00.

Privinvest group paid to the Leão couple, through the Fabião Mabunda's company, was used for the goods acquisition and improvements, amounting to 36,325,127.98 meticais, in the couple's house located in the Jonasse area, Matola-Rio Administrative Post, Boane District, Maputo Province. For such services, Ângela Leão hired the company ICOMO, Lda, described as supplying several carpentries, at a price of 1.170.000,00 meticais; from the company Mozago Lda, described as finishing works, at a price of 20.365. 000,00 meticais; she bought building material (tiles and sanitary ware) in the company Mercury Comercial Lda, at the price of USD 50 thousand and 2.859.125,00 meticals; from the company Trifásica, Lda for the supply and installation of a power transformation post, air conditioning, at the value of 8.181.001,00 meticais. And for the expansion of the area where Jonasse's residence is located, the Leão couple bought a services house still under construction from the defendant Crimildo Jossias Manjate, at the price of 3,750,000.00 meticais.

Besides the amounts he transferred to several people and companies for contracting services for the Angela and Gregório Leão purposes, Fabião Mabunda benefited from amounts in his capacity as a contractor, building two houses located in the Costa do Sol area for the Leão couple. In building the two properties, Mabunda received 7.528.593,00 meticais, deducted from the amount that M Moçambique Construções Lda received from the Privinvest group. Moreover, he bought a backhoe loader from the company Máquina e Tractores de Moçambique, at a price of 2.750.000,00 meticais.

Yet, from the amount M Moçambique Construções Lda received from the Privinvest group, Mabunda transferred 12.865.000,00 meticais to Mbanda Henning, Ângela Leão's sister. He also transferred three (3) million meticais to Torre Catering's account, a company owned by Angela's sister, Olga Dinis Buque; transferred 13.480.000,00 meticais to the defendant Khessaujee Pulchand; transferred 5.682.907,00 meticals to the defendant Naimo Quimbine; and wrote a cheque for







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