

LXXVII DAY OF THE "HIDDEN DEBTS" SCANDAL TRIAL

Public Prosecutor asks for maximum penalty for Gregório and Ângela Leão, António C. do Rosário, Renato Matusse, Maria Inês Moiane, Ndambi Guebuza and Bruno Langa

- For the Public Prosecution Office, Gregório Leão and António Carlos do Rosário are the guiltiest for the default, because they were the first ones to promote the looting of public funds, opening doors for the other defendants. Instead of acting as public servants concerned with the security of the state, the two defendants acted like front-line malefactors, concluded Ana Sheila Marrengula.



On the second and last day of presentation of final arguments, the Public Prosecutor's Office asked the Court to apply the maximum penalty for defendants Gregório Leão, Ângela Leão, António Carlos do Rosário, Renato Matusse, Maria Inês Moiane, Ndambi Guebuza and Bruno Langa. For the Public Prosecutor, the seven (7) defendants are the main beneficiaries of the money diverted from loans granted to the companies ProIndicus, EMATUM and MAM, in addition to the added responsibility that some had to defend the public good.

To the defendants Cipriano Mutota, Teófilo Nhangumele, Fabião Mabunda, Mbanda Anabela Henning, Sergio Namburete, Khessauje Pulchand, Sidónio Sitoe, Crimildo Jossias, Elias Moiane, Zulficar Ali Ahmad and Naimo Kimbine, the Public Prosecutor's Office asked for the application of a sentence close to the maximum limit. Further, the prosecution has requested compensation of just over two billion dollars, and 895 million dollars in interest accrued up to 2015. The claim for damages is against all the defendants except Simone Jaime Mahumane.

The Public Prosecutor's Office believes that it has not been proven, either subjectively or objectively, the commission of the crime of money laundering of which was pronounced the defendant Simone Jaime Mahumane. Therefore, he requested the acquittal of the defendant Mahumane, a courier of Africâmbios, the exchange house used to launder money transferred by the Privinvest group to M Moçambique Construções, allegedly in the interest of the couple Gregório and Ângela Leão.

Starting Monday, the defense lawyers begin to present their closing arguments. Once this phase is concluded, the judge will give the floor to each defendant to leave the last arguments in favour of his defense. The deferred contradictory debate on the provisional seizure of assets will be scheduled after the High Court of Appeal decides on the request submitted by the defense of the defendant Renato Matusse regarding the removal of Judge Efigénio Baptista from the case.

The Public Prosecutor's Office argued that Gregório Leão, former General Director of the State Intelligence and Security Service (SISE), benefited from bribes paid by the Privinvest group for his role in the contracting of illegal debts for the companies ProIndicus, EMATUM and MAM. According to the prosecutor Ana Sheila Marrengula, the former General Director of SISE received about nine (9) million dollars and 2.7 million euros paid by the Privinvest group.

For the Public Prosecutor's Office, it was



GREGÓRIO LEÃO



ANGELA LEÃO



ANTÓNIO CARLOS DO ROSÁRIO



MANUEL RENATO MATUSSE



MARIA INÊS MOIANE



ARMANDO NDAMBI GUEBUZA

proven that Gregório Leão committed the crimes of embezzlement, association to commit crime, falsification of other documents and money laundering. These are, in fact, the same crimes that the defendant Ângela Leão, Gregório Leão's wife, was charged with. Prosecutor Ana Sheila Marrengula said that Ângela Leão acted on behalf of her husband in receiving bribe funds paid by the Privinvest group, through the company M Moçambique Construções, of the defendant Fabião Mabunda.

In relation to the defendant Manuel Renato Matusse, political advisor of the former President of the Republic Armando Guebuza, the Public Prosecutor said it was proven



BRUNO LANGA

that he benefited from funds paid in the form of bribes by the Privinvest group, in the total amount of 1.7 million dollars. According to prosecutor Ana Sheila Marrengula, there can be no doubt that Manuel Renato Matusse committed the crimes of embezzlement, trafficking of influence and money laundering.

The Public Prosecutor again criticized the behaviour of defendants Antonio Carlos do

Rosario, Bruno Langa and Armando Ndambi for showing lack of respect for state institutions, indicting the Attorney General of the Republic (PGR) of forging documents and acting with political motivations, were not cooperative with the Court and did not show signs of regrets for the crimes of which they were charged.

For the Public Prosecutor's Office, defendan-

ts Gregório Leão and António Carlos do Rosário are the guiltiest for the financial scandal of the "hidden debts", because they were the first to promote the looting of public funds, opening doors for the other defendants. Instead of acting as public servants concerned with the security of the state, they acted like front-line malefactors, indicted Ana Sheila Marrengula.



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