



BOLETIM SOBRE DIREITOS HUMANOS



<https://multimedia.europarl.europa.eu>

www.cddmoz.org

Monday, November 3, 2025 | Year V, NO. 495 | Director: Prof. Adriano Nuvunga | English

Ministry of Justice, Constitutional and Religious Affairs visits CDD to strengthen cooperation in the promotion, defence, and protection of Human Rights

- The Ministry of Justice, Constitutional and Religious Affairs (MJACR) has expressed its intention to strengthen cooperation with the Centre for Democracy and Human Rights (CDD) in the promotion, defence, and protection of human rights in Mozambique.



The statement was made on Tuesday, 29 October, by Professor Mateus Saíze, Minister of Justice, Constitutional and Religious Affairs, during a courtesy visit to CDD in Maputo.

“As the government body responsible for human rights, citizenship, and the protection and promotion of vulnerable populations, we are open to cooperate in all areas necessary for the well-being of our citizens,” said Minister Mateus Saíze, highlighting the Government’s openness to a constructive relationship with civil society focused on the promotion of human rights, citizenship, and access to justice.

The Minister also proposed the creation of a permanent dialogue platform between the Ministry and civil society organisations to institutionalise information sharing and joint problem-solving:

“We can explore how to create a platform for such dialogues, even if it meets once or twice a year. It could be a great help in identifying challenges and finding solutions.”

The ministerial delegation, composed of Dr Ilídio Miguel, Director-General of the National Penitentiary Service (SERNAP); Dr Cláudio Mate, National Director of Human Rights and Citizenship; and advisers Dr Márcia Rungo and Dr Yolanda Goma, was received by Professor Adriano Nuvunga, Executive Director of CDD.

During the meeting, Professor Nuvunga expressed CDD’s honour in receiving the visit and highlighted existing areas of collaboration between CDD and the Ministry, while reiterating the importance of establishing a regular and institutional platform for dialogue between the State and civil society:

“The Ministry is aware of various issues that civil society raises with the judiciary, but a forum like this would allow it to hear directly from civil society and discuss these matters from a human rights perspective.”

Professor Nuvunga also shared civil society’s concerns regarding the human rights and justice situation in the country, including deaths in detention centres in December 2024, incidents of violence during protests, and the absence of accountability in cases such as the Mossuril boat disaster (Nampula Province). He also referred to alleged killings linked to the TotalEnergies project in Afungi, calling for a stronger leadership role by the Ministry in defending human rights.

In response, Minister Saíze was receptive to the concerns raised and reaffirmed the Government’s commitment to maintaining a constructive and continuous dialogue with civil society to promote accountability, access to justice, and respect for human rights in Mozambique.

Human Rights and the Prison System

SERNAP Director-General Ilídio Miguel outlined the Government’s efforts to humanise the prison system, with special focus on children and young people in conflict with the law. He emphasised the Ministry’s goal of transforming prisons into spaces for rehabilitation and social reintegration, citing the establishment of the Juvenile Rehabilitation Penitentiary Facility in Boane as an example. The facility is designed to accommodate minors separately from adul-

ts and to provide vocational training and guidance.

“We want these minors to leave with skills and new life perspectives. Our focus is on rehabilitation and reintegration,” said Ilídio Miguel.

This initiative aligns with CDD’s work on human rights and child protection, developed in partnership with UNICEF, particularly in monitoring cases involving children and adolescents in conflict with the law.

Voluntary Principles and Fiscal Justice

Dr Cláudio Mate, National Director of Human Rights and Citizenship, reaffirmed the importance of collaboration between the MJACR and CDD in promoting the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights. He noted that this agenda aims to strengthen dialogue between the Government, companies, and civil society to ensure that security practices in resource extraction zones fully respect community rights and international standards of responsible corporate conduct.

Dr Mate also emphasised the Ministry's commitment to the review of Mozambique's double taxation agreements, a process in which it has been working technically with CDD and other strategic partners. He noted that this exercise is essential to prevent tax abuse by multinationals and ensure that international agreements serve the national interest and advance fiscal justice:

"The Ministry is coordinating the renegotiation of these agreements and, in some cases, the State may even terminate them. When they were signed, the country needed to attract foreign investment. Today, Mozambique is in a different position—it



must ensure that such agreements serve the national interest."

The visit reaffirmed the mutual commitment between the Government and civil society to promote accessible, transparent, and rights-based justice, consolidating the foundation for continuous institutional cooperation towards a more just and inclusive Mozambique.





MISSÃO:

Inspirar e impulsionar ações para proteger os direitos humanos, fortalecer a democracia e promover a justiça.

MISSION:

Inspiring and driving actions to protect human rights, strengthen democracy, and promote justice.

EDITORIAL INFORMATION

Property: CDD – Centro para Democracia e Direitos Humanos
Director: Prof. Adriano Nuvunga
Editor: André Mulungo
Program Assistants: Artur Malate; Sheila Wilson; Marcia Massosste; Florentina Cassabue.
Author: CDD
Layout: CDD

Address:
Rua de 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>

FINANCING PARTNERS

