

PRESS RELEASE

A SECOND MISSION IN MOZAMBIQUE FOR LAWYERS WITHOUT BORDERS CANADA

Maputo, Mozambique – Wednesday January 25th, 2017 – Lawyers Without Borders Canada (LWBC) is pleased to be undertaking its second mission to Mozambique this week, its delegation being formed by its Executive Director Pascal Paradis and an international volunteer legal expert, Mrs. Sylvia Diaz.

Lawyers Without Borders Canada is a non-governmental international development organisation, whose mission is to support the implementation of human rights through the reinforcement of access to justice and legal representation for persons in a situation of vulnerability. The organisation has carried out projects and actions in more than 20 countries, most often in contexts of transition from violence and conflict to peace.

The mission takes place in the context of a project carried out in partnership with the Liga de direitos humanos (LDH) and the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) and supported by the Canadian High Commission in Mozambique through its Canadian Fund for Local Initiatives.

The project's objective is to work hand in hand with a coalition of Mozambican organizations to provide civil society with a plan to foster the implementation by the Mozambican State of the recommendations made by the United Nations further to the last examination of the country's human rights situation in 2016. The UN made, through the Universal Periodic Review mechanism, 169 recommendations to Mozambique, out of which the State accepted 159.

The plan that is being developed focuses on the UN recommendations aiming at fostering access to justice. It is presently being finalized by the partners in the hope to contribute to establish a constructive dialogue with the Mozambican government to the benefit of the Mozambicans.

The implementation plan for the UN recommendations is also considered by LWBC in the context of the ongoing peace discussions and negotiations in Mozambique with a view to contribute to consolidating a stable and sustainable peace. This, in LWBC's opinion, will require Mozambique to contemplate putting in place transitional justice mechanisms, which have proved crucial to successful reconciliation and peace processes elsewhere in the world. In that sense, Me Pascal Paradis will address this very question in a conference he will give today in Maputo, an initiative organized in collaboration with the High Commission of Canada in Mozambique.

LWBC looks forward to further working on these issues in the future and would like to thank its partners LDH, LWF and the High Commission of Canada in Mozambique.

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