



**OFFICIAL STATEMENT
INAUGURATION CEREMONY
H.E. FILIPE JACINTO NYUSI
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE**

**PRAÇA DA INDEPENDENCIA
15 OF JANUARY 2015
MAPUTO**

Mozambicans, Ladies and Gentlemen!

Dear Compatriots,

Today, as People and Nation, we inaugurate an important stage of our historical journey; one that will take Mozambique to new heights of Development and Harmony.

I am deeply honoured and humbled to take over the High Magistracy of the State and the Nation as the fourth President of the Republic of Mozambique. This is indeed a mandate that has been entrusted to me by millions of Mozambicans in yet another democratic election process, to lead the destinies of this great Nation over the next five years.

At this juncture, I wish to express, from the bottom of my heart, my gratitude to the People of Mozambique for having exercised their right and for once again conceding Frelimo and its Candidate the opportunity to lead the process of development of Mozambique. I would like to extend my appreciation to all stakeholders in the electoral process, and to all those who made it possible for this election to be held in a free and democratic environment.

I congratulate all Mozambicans for their participation in the success of democracy. At present, our individual choices of faith or ideology, and political inclinations are of least significance. I take office as the President of all Mozambicans, and I stand willing and available to listen to all segments of public opinion.

Allow me to express our warmest welcome, to the Republic of Mozambique, and to our Capital, Maputo, to the Heads of State and Governments, representatives of sister countries from Africa and from other Regions of the world and from international organizations.

Your Excellencies' presence in this ceremony is a clear demonstration of fraternity and trust on our People.

We wish to extend our greetings to the representatives of political parties, civil and military authorities, to the religious and traditional leaders and indeed to all invited guests.

Compatriots,

It is with profound emotion that my heart and thoughts go to those who lost their lives in the tragedy in Chitima, I extend my sincere condolences to their families and wish those under medical care a rapid recovery.

My prayers and sentiments also go to the families affected by the recent floods in Mozambique, particularly in Zambézia, Nampula and Manica. I convey to all Mozambicans, directly or indirectly affected by the calamity, a message of great strength and courage in these difficult times.

We will do our utmost to respond swiftly to this disaster. We will do our utmost to shelter and support Mozambicans overcoming this period requiring great effort and human courage. We will do our best to support the rehabilitation of infrastructure. We will do everything to restore the normalcy of life in Mozambique.

Compatriots,

As I expressed during my electoral campaign: the Mozambican people are my master. My commitment is to serve the Mozambican people as my one and only master. My commitment is to defend and to enforce the Constitution and the Laws of Mozambique And I stand ready, and confident that, together we shall build a happy future for our children and prosperity for our people.

I represent a new generation, a generation that inherits a legacy full of enormous successes, but also of daunting challenges. Upon us, across all generations, rests the responsibility to preserve the achievements of our people. This journey has been led by visionary men who were committed to the cause of freedom and well-being of Mozambicans. Our history carries a wealth of achievements that make Mozambique a success story acknowledged and respected all over the world. The wealth of this legacy is founded on three main foundations:

- National Independence, the point of departure for our entire journey as People and as a Nation.

- National Unity, a prerequisite for building a democratic, prosperous and unitary Mozambique.
- Peace, the pillar for political stability, economic development, harmony and social equity.

These achievements are sound because they are embraced and cherished by all Mozambicans. But no achievement is final or definitive. We need to consolidate our National Unity. We need to ascertain that Peace as a value is present in the life of each citizen, household and in all corners of the national territory. The certainty that never again any Mozambican will live under the threat of fear and the spectrum of firearms must be unwavering.

Our national culture must be embedded by values of harmony, social solidarity and peaceful coexistence, in our day-to-day way of living. All social actors, from the household, faith-based organizations to civil society, political parties, academic and research institutions are called upon to actively participate in the education of citizens and in the consolidation of a national culture of dialogue and social cohesion.

I am aware of the need to strengthen the role of the Justice and Law enforcement Institutions, so that our hard working and peace loving people can cease from cyclically living under an environment of fear and insecurity.

As the Head of State I shall prioritize openness and constructive dialogue with all political actors and civil organizations in order to foster consensus. Please rest assured, dear compatriots that I shall spare no effort so that, never again, brothers and sisters turn against each other in Mozambique, for whatever reason or pretext.

I shall vigorously stand for human rights, and in particular, for the right to life and for the fundamental liberties of humankind.

Compatriots,

The challenges lying ahead will, no doubt, require new collective and individual behaviors. These challenges will require our audacity to

effect changes. Those necessary changes should be done democratically, within institutional boundaries, and with highest responsibility.

I take over the helm as the Head of State and Government of a Country experiencing real socio-economic growth as a result of the efforts of previous Administrations and Governments.

As I take office as the High Magistrate of the State I will draw lessons and inspiration from the ideals and works of my predecessors.

In Mondlane, I will seek the vision of National Unity and the certainty that differences do not divide us in our common quest to build a more united and cohesive Mozambique.

I shall draw inspiration from Samora in my determination to build a stronger State with institutions that persistently strive to entrench democracy and deliver ethically services to the Mozambican People.

In President Chissano, I shall seek the Spirit of Tolerance and Reconciliation of the Mozambican Family to consolidate lasting peace, a fundamental condition for development.

I shall carry forth the Dynamism of President Guebuza in building basic infrastructures and projecting the Mozambican economy towards progress and prosperity for all Mozambicans.

Mozambique is a country endowed with natural resources, especially arable lands, forests, mineral and maritime resources. Recent discovery of important reserves of coal, natural gas and heavy mineral sands place Mozambique in the international route and unavoidable investments' destiny.

During my administration, I will ensure that exploration, production, distribution and industrialization activities are conducted in a responsible and transparent manner, contributing for the expansion, transformation and modernization of the Mozambican economy.

I shall strive so that Mozambicans are indeed the owners and the target of the economy by ensuring an increasing integration of local content and effective participation of Mozambicans in investment projects, particularly in the exploitation of natural resources. My Government will act as a strategic partner in building a broad base and robust Mozambican business community. I want our State and Mozambicans, at large, to be the true owners of wealth and of the many opportunities of our mother Land.

We know and value the solidarity bestowed onto by the people of the world. We shall welcome the contribution of all those willing to invest, work and live together according to the Mozambican legislation.

My Government will promote a balanced and sustainable macro-economic environment in order to guarantee trust, an environment of safe investment and fair return of benefits.

We want to build a country that focuses on the training and development of human capital, our main national asset. We shall invest on the training of Mozambicans from all regions of the country. We shall promote new jobs creation for higher, intermediate and basic level qualifications. Medium to long term, we intend to increase State revenues and GDP per capita.

In the meantime, we will remain focused on the traditional sectors that have a greater potential for employment generation, such as agriculture, fisheries, agri-business, transport, tourism and services.

My Government and I will work with determination to improve the living standards of the Mozambican people, by increasing job opportunities, productivity and competitiveness, and by creating wealth, in order to ascertain an inclusive development. For these objectives to materialize it is critical that we all commit ourselves in consolidating the Rule of Law, Good Governance and Decentralization.

We wish to ensure that Mozambique remains a world reference for its high growth rates. This is beneficial and positive in the long term. And for this reason, this growth rate needs to be maintained and improved. We are, however, aware that the standard of living of ordinary citizens

cannot only be measured by macro-economic indicators. For this reason, despite the results achieved so far, a large segment of our people in rural, peri-urban and urban areas are still living in poverty.

This persisting poverty is more serious if we take into account that Mozambique is a Nation where the youth is the majority of the population with a high demographic growth rate. The projections clearly indicate that in 2025 we will be 33 million Mozambicans. We need action and not words. We need a platform of effective unity and not ideological and political rhetoric. Because this future which is so close, will require more decent housing, more food, more potable water, more improved health and education services, more jobs, more transport and better social and economic facilities.

Consequently, I pledge my commitment before the entire Nation to lead a Government that is premised on the values of efficacy, competence and humility, a Government that takes Mozambican women and men as the main focus of its intervention. A government committed in gender equity, respect and value for our children.

The Government I will establish and steer will be hands-on and pragmatic. It will be a Government with a simple as possible structure, practical and focused in solving the day-to-day problems of the citizens, based on justice and social equality. A government that aims to reduce expenditures and root out wasteful spending. We are from a hard working background. That is why we know how valuable it is to cut on expenditures and exercise constraint and responsibility in managing our public accounts.

Compatriots,

We need development plans that are oriented towards reducing regional and local asymmetries as a mean to reenforce national unity.

I shall promote that participatory governance is increasingly founded on the spirit of trust and effective inclusion. This spirit of inclusion can only be achieved through a permanent and true dialogue. We need to build consensus, we need to share without fear information on major decisions to be made by my Government.

This way, civil society organizations, peasants, the private sector, academic institutions and intellectuals, socio-professional organizations, trade unions, faith-based organizations, traditional and community leaders, the media , sports people, and all men, women and youth will have an opportunity to actively participate in the decision making processes.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I believe that together we can revive a collective dream of many centuries. A dream of a sovereign and prosperous Nation, to which all are proud to belong, regardless of our ethnic, regional, racial, religious, gender, social status and political affiliations. No Mozambican shall be excluded from this dialogue under any pretext of discrimination.

Building an inclusive society requires not only speeches and statement of intentions. I shall work to ensure that the inclusion we dream and aspire is real and visible. I will be open to welcome proposals and ideas from other political parties with a view of promoting peace and development in Mozambique. Good ideas do not wear political colours. Good ideas are only measured by love for our motherland and for our shared destiny.

Dear Compatriots,

Within days, I shall announce my Government. I intend to set up a Government that responds to the country's expenditure contention and efficiency requirements. This Government will have to be robust and firm in protecting public interest. This Government will have to be intolerant to corruption. This Government shall not tolerate any kind of discrimination in State institutions at all levels.

Two basic criteria will guide public administration and justice bodies:
Merit and professionalism.

We shall demand more efficiency and better quality from public institutions and from public officials so that they abide by principles of impartiality, legality, and transparency in order to deliver more and better services to the citizens.

We will make sure that State and Public institutions are synonymous of integrity and transparency when managing public assets so as to inspire more confidence on the citizens. We want to entrench a culture of accountability and responsibility on the leaders so that they deserve profound respect from their people. We want leaders who listen to people even when they have different opinions. I shall demand from my Government values of humanism, humility, honesty, integrity, transparency and tolerance.

We shall demand a more proactive behavior and responsibility from leaders, officials and public servants from different levels of Local authorities of the State.

We shall without fear or favour, take action against acts of misconduct, corruption, favoritism, nepotism and patronage committed by Leaders, public servants and officials at all echelons.

We will not accept the breach of this social contract made with our people. No one is above the Law and all are equal before the Law.

We shall intensify continuous training activities of our Defence and Security Forces, so as to redeem within their ranks, the highest patriotic and ethical values, and professional excellence. We will spare no effort in fighting crime, in particular, organized crime so that all citizens, both nationals and expatriates, can feel safe and protected.

We shall treasure the historic role played by national liberation struggle veterans and those combatants for defence of sovereignty and territorial integrity of Mozambique.

Compatriots,

Jobs creation, construction of roads, bridges and dams, and rural development will be the epicenter of my Government's interventions. I will work relentlessly to ensure that our country has better roads, useable under all climatic conditions throughout the year, and which secure the movement of persons and goods across all national territory.

We will promote the necessary investments directed to improve air, maritime, rail, river and road transportation systems, ensuring that every citizen travels in decent and safe conditions in cities, in inter-provincial and inter-district connections.

We will devise and implement strategies so that each household both in rural and urban areas can improve their housing facilities.

We will provide more support to small and medium enterprises as a way to broaden the basis for job generation and self-employment for Mozambicans. In this regard I will capitalize on massive and active participation of the youth and women in social and economic development programmes.

I will embark on decentralization and de-concentration of powers and resources to leverage fast development of territorial units, both urban and rural.

We will be focused on district and locality-based development programmes and strategies, where most of our people live, and are faced with real problems, by capitalizing on opportunities and potential of each area.

I want Mozambicans to live in a country with access to electricity far beyond District Headquarters, with diversified sources of energy, with more access to potable water supply and sanitation infrastructures, with universal access to information and communication technologies.

Compatriots,

Because agriculture is a fundamental basis for our development, as defined in the Constitution of the Republic of Mozambique, we shall focus our attention to this sector during our administration.

I will foster enhanced public and private investment in agriculture, fisheries and livestock. Particular attention will be paid to small farmers, the main food providers of the majority of the Mozambican population.

I will pursue incentive policies to small farmers to enable them to increase agricultural production and productivity.

We will focus on industrializing our agriculture. Mozambique possesses all conditions to become an agricultural power- in the region.

We will intensify food production and that the citizens have access to it as a mean to guarantee their food and nutritional security. Decent food should not be a privilege of a few. It is a basic human right that should benefit all Mozambicans.

We will have to utilize existing capacities, including those from our universities with a view of promoting the nutritional education of our communities. We cannot allow chronic malnutrition to prevail side by side with food abundance, as is the case in some regions of our country.

Our focus to consolidate our education, social and administrative institutions is aimed at, among other things, producing, managing and promoting knowledge.

We want to continue building the State financial capacity to invest further in the improvement of education quality.

We will continue to build new schools to reduce the distance from home to school and we will make sure that our schools are properly equipped with furniture, with libraries, and laboratories. We aim to also improve the working conditions and living standards of teachers, as they are a key reference in shaping and educating Man.

For new jobs creation to be sustainable my Government will strengthen Technical and Vocational Institutions.

Mozambique is still faced with challenges in combating diseases such as malaria, HIV and AIDS and others that are the main cause of mortality, in particular, infant-maternal mortality.

We will proceed with the construction of more health facilities that are equipped with adequate technical diagnosis and treatment resources.

We will invest on the training of medical personnel and other competent and motivated health practitioners to provide care to our people with humanism.

My Government will be fully committed to Mozambique's environmental protection and vulnerability reduction through national capacity building for prevention and mitigation of natural and man-made disasters.

In this new governing cycle, foreign policy of our State will remain focused on making more friends based on the principle of mutual respect and non-interference in domestic affairs. We will strengthen friendly and cooperative relations with other Nations, particularly those from the SADC (Southern African Development Community) region and in the context of the African Union, CPLP (Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries), the United Nations Organization, the Commonwealth and other international organizations.

We will respect bilateral and multilateral agreements we are party to, and we will enhance the participation of Mozambique in efforts for international Peace and development, and ensure that the highest interests of the Mozambican Nation are defended.

Dear compatriots,

I know that the commitment I have just assumed solemnly here and now before the nation and the world entails huge responsibilities, sacrifice and hard work.

Side by side, walking together, united as brothers and sisters, we can build a better Mozambique. I extend an invitation to the whole Mozambican People and political parties to participate, in a patriotic and responsible way, in the oversight process of the new governing cycle for the good of the country and its development.

I want a better educated and healthier people, a people that actively participate in decision-making processes, including those of public policy. I want all Mozambicans to be able to make their voice heard whether they belong to a political party or not. This is the most profound idea and essence of inclusion; an inclusion that begins in full

citizenship of all Mozambicans, and the respect for diversity and plurality of opinion.

Each of us should feel proud to belong to a unitary and indivisible Nation, without relinquishing our own qualities and cultural values. There is no one who is more, or less Mozambican than others. The multicoloured flag that covers all Mozambicans is, in actual fact, the expression of this unity in diversity.

I wish to reaffirm that my government programme is inspired on Mozambicans to serve Mozambicans! It is a programme for change and a reason for hope.

This is what we want: a Government founded on ethics and one that places human life and dignity above profit. We intend to put up a programme that promotes good quality of education and health, instead of selling illusions.

A government that prioritizes peace, peace and more peace, again beyond any domestic dispute for power; a government that enhances solidarity, above any unlawful competition - A government aware of future generations, and that therefore understands the importance of acting ecologically when exploiting natural resources.

We would like to show the world, a Mozambique in continuous improvement of its performance and image. A Mozambique praised and respected for its political stability, quality of human resources, business environment, respect for human rights and property rights, and indeed for social equity and inclusion. A Mozambique that always promotes and asserts its citizenship and national identity, stemming from the cultural diversity that characterizes us. A Mozambique that respects its heroes, glorifies its history, recognizes and values the sacrifices of those who gave their precious lives for the national liberation and the defence of our national sovereignty.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I, citizen Filipe Jacinto Nyusi, am the President of all of you! Everything I do and will do is for each and every Mozambican who feels party to the national development process. More united, stronger and more

determined, we will build a Nation to be celebrated by all as a common heritage.

As I conclude my remarks at this solemn moment, I wish to reiterate to all of you Mozambicans, both in the Country and in the Diaspora, that my heart has room for all Mozambicans. Let us join hands and build a Country the size of our dreams.

Maputo, 15 January 2015