

MOZAMBIQUE News reports & clippings

272 7 September 2014

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Galinhas e cerveja: uma receita para o crescimento

by Teresa Smart & Joseph Hanlon

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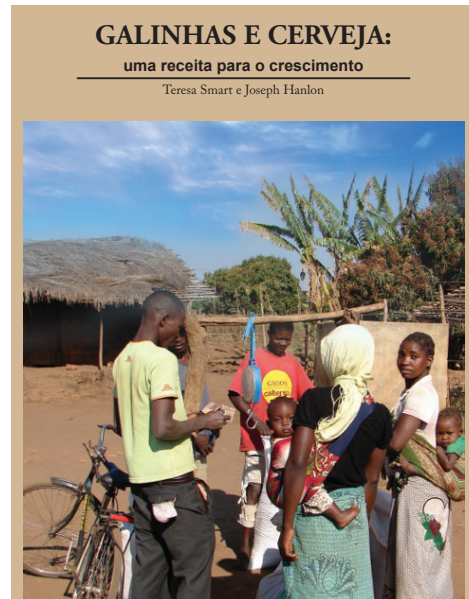
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Dhlakama leaves the bush and meets Guebuza

Afonso Dhlakama was escorted out of the bush at Gorongosa by five ambassadors and flown to Maputo on Thursday, 4 September. He then met Armando Guebuza on Friday morning and they approved the still-secret cease-fire agreement, which will be ratified by parliament on Monday. Dhlakama will probably launch his presidential campaign in Beira or Chimoio during the coming week. But there is still no agreement on demobilising and disarming Renamo forces and integrating them into the army and police, or on money for Renamo, so lengthy negotiations remain.

Renamo head Afonso Dhaklama's departure from his bush headquarters was set up when he met an Italian delegation in Gorongosa on Saturday 30 August, consisting of deputy economic development minister Carlo Calenda, ambassador Roberto Vellano, and Matteo Zuppi of Sant'Edigio who was one of the mediators of the 4 October 1992 Rome peace accord between Renamo and government. They convinced Dhlakama it was safe to leave.

On Thursday Dhlakama was met in the bush by the ambassadors of Italy, Portugal, the United



States and Botswana, and the High Commissioner (ambassador) of the United Kingdom, as well as a government security contingent headed by police general Carlos Rungo, in charge of guaranteeing Dhlakama's safety.

They then drove the 150 km to Chimoio, greeted by cheering crowds along the route. From Chimoio, Dhlakama flew to Maputo Thursday afternoon with the five ambassadors, the Renamo Youth League head Ivone Soares, and about ten Renamo militiamen responsible for Dhlakama's security. He was greeted by cheering crowds at Maputo airport. This was Dhlakama's first time in Maputo in five years.

On Friday morning President Guebuza and Dhlakama met and formally signed the agreement ending the hostilities. Guebuza and Dhlakama left the room hand in hand and went to lunch together; the last time they met, in 2009, Dhlakama turned down a lunch invitation.

Speaking to reporters in Maputo Saturday, Dhlakama said "I don't know where I will begin the campaign. From here I'm going back to the centre of the country. I may start in the centre, either in Beira or in Chimoio. But I can't say when I'm going back there". Dhlakama's official spokesperson, Antonio Muchanga, added: "we are working to ensure that our leader's campaign will begin before next weekend. The place has not yet been decided, but we will announce it".

There will be a special sitting of parliament on Monday to approve the final document, which includes four parts: a ceasefire declaration, a memorandum of understanding, guarantee mechanisms, and the terms of reference of the foreign military observers who will monitor the cessation of hostilities. The agreement remains secret, but presumably will be released when it is presented to parliament. *Savana* obtained a copy of the agreement and published part of it, but has never explained why it withheld and failed to publish the key page on demobilising Renamo's "residual forces".

Frelimo had run an extensive disinformation campaign with reports from pro-Frelimo commentators in the media, particularly the government daily *Notícias*, saying that Dhlakama was so seriously ill that he needed evacuation to South Africa. In fact, journalists report he looks in very good health.

First military observers to arrive Tuesday - but demobilisation not agreed yet

The first military observers to monitor the end of hostilities and reintegration of Renamo forces should arrive Tuesday 9 September, the head of the government negotiating team, Jose Pacheco, said after the Guebuza-Dhlakama meeting Friday. Invitations have been sent to the nine countries which have been asked to participate.

The largest part of the cease-fire accord is taken up with specifying the terms of reference of the Military Team of International Observers of the Cessation of Military Hostilities (EMOCHM - Equipa Militar de Observadores Internacionais da Cessaçao das Hostilidades Militares). There will be 23 foreign military observers from Botswana, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Kenya, Cape Verde, Portugal, Italy, Britain and the United States and 35 each from government and Renamo, commanded by a brigadier from Botswana. They will be based in Maputo with delegations in Inhambane, Sofala, Tete and Nampula provinces. Their task will be "to observe, monitor and guarantee implementation of the cessation of military hostilities and the start of the subsequent phases." It will begin 10 days after it is formed (for which no date is given) and continue for 135 days, which can be extended.

When Renamo forces are integrated into the military and police they must hand over their weapons, and once all Renamo "residual forces" have been "integrated", "no political party should have residual armed forces". In other words, there can no longer be a Renamo armed presidential guard.

But the cease-fire accord only spells out how the integration is to take place once the details have been agreed by the negotiators. The transfer of what are called the “residual forces of Renamo” into the army and the police has been left to a joint team of Renamo and government military experts, who will eventually give a proposal to the Renamo-government negotiations.

Cardoso killer released despite objection by attorney general

Nini Satar (Momad Assife Abdul Satar) was released from prison after serving 13 of his 24 year sentence for ordering the assassination of investigative journalist Carlos Cardoso in 2000.

Under Mozambican law, prisoners can be released on parole after serving half their sentence, if they have displayed good behaviour in jail. Mediafax (founded by Cardoso) reports that the Public Prosecutors Office had opposed parole, but Maputo city court judge Aderito Malhope issued the order on Monday 1 September.

Mediafax reports that the attorney-general's office issued an order to keep Satar jailed, so prison officials refused to release Satar on Monday.

Judge Malhope rejected a last minute appeal from the Public Prosecutors Office and issued a second release order, demanding that if his order was not carried out within six hours, the director of the prison, Castigo Machaieie, should be charged with the crime of disobedience. Satar was released Thursday afternoon. On his release he was met by a large group of bodyguards - probably a wise precaution since two others involved in the Cardoso killing who were released on parole last year were both gunned down this year.

Far from displaying good conduct, Satar had illegally (surely with the connivance of people within the prison) smuggled in mobile telephones and computer equipment, and even had his own Facebook page. The Public Prosecutor's Office accuses Satar of being involved in other crimes from within his prison cell, including kidnappings in Maputo. AIM notes that when a group of kidnappers was brought to trial in September 2013, Nini Satar was included in the list of those accused, but Judge Malhope removed him from the list of accused.

In an interview with STV after his release, Satar boasted of his wealth. He has not, however, paid that \$600,000 compensation owed to Cardoso's children, nor the \$20,000 owed to Cardoso's driver, seriously injured in the assassination. In releasing Satar, Judge Machaieie did not mention that Satar was also serving a 14 year jail sentence for his part in a \$14 million theft in 1996 from Mozambique's then largest bank, BCM.

Claim Portuguese businesspeople given 30,000 ha in Nampula province

The government has given 30,000 hectares of farmland in Nampula province to two Portuguese businesspeople, @Verdade reported last week, citing one of them, Daniel Lopes. The land would be used for soya and maize, and government might increase the concession to 200,000 ha, according to Lopes. (<http://www.agroportal.pt/agronoticias/2014/09/03d.htm>)

All land concessions (DUATs) of more than 10,000 ha are granted by the Council of Ministers, which has not recently reported a large concession in Nampula.

The article says the land was been given to Indivest, which was registered as a Mozambican company in 2012 and is one-third owned by Lopes and two-thirds by Rosinda Maria Alves Castanhas, both Portuguese. The pair registered several companies in 2012.

A land concession (DUAT) of 23,152 ha in Save, Machaze district, in the south of Manica province was granted to Sicose e Gagtamo, Lda. by the Council of Ministers on 29 July. The company will run ecotourism and hunting safaris. Henrique Banze, Deputy Foreign Minister and Council of Ministers spokesman, stressed that the aim of the concession was to protect biodiversity.

Two new dams approved for Zambeze

Two new dams on the Zambeze river were approved by the Council of Ministers on 24 June and contracts were signed on 22 August. The companies that will build them are part owned by Mauritian companies and part by the Mozambican company Sonipal which, in turn, is part owned by Prakash Ratilal, chair of Moza Banco. Construction could begin next year.

One dam will be at Boroma (200 MW costing \$572 mn) 110 km downstream from the Cahora Bassa dam, 50 km downstream from the proposed Mpanda Nkuwa dam, and 24 km upstream from Tete city. The partners in the Boroma consortium are Rutland Holding of Mauritius, the state electricity company EDM, and Sonipal.

The other is at Lupata Gorge (600 MW, \$1 bn) and more than 100 km downstream from Tete city. The consortium Hydroelectrica de Lupata consists of Hydroparts Holding and Cazembe Holding of Mauritius, EDM, and Sonipal.

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The next book

Galinhas e cerveja: uma receita para o crescimento

by Teresa Smart & Joseph Hanlon was launched 30 July. Copies are in Maputo bookshops or from **KAPICUA**, Rua Fernão Veloso 12, Maputo; Tel.: +258 21 413 201 or +258 21 415 451
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Joseph Hanlon

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