

MOZAMBIQUE News reports & clippings

290 14 June 2015 Editor: Joseph Hanlon (j.hanlon@open.ac.uk)

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Election study collaboration: We have detailed election data from 1999 through 2014 and are inviting scholars to use this data collaboratively.

<http://www.lse.ac.uk/internationalDevelopment/research/mozambiqueElections/home.aspx>.

Gas for development or just for money?

Mozambique's gas can be used to promote industrialisation and rural development, but only if key choices are made now, argues a new report by Joseph Hanlon and Adriano Nuvunga published today by CIP (Public Integrity Centre, Centro de Integridade Pública).

Current priorities are for export-based mega-projects promising the highest initial revenues, particularly producing diesel fuel through a gas-to-liquids process. But like past mega-projects, they will do little to create jobs or reduce poverty. Instead, the report argues for giving the priority to production of fertilizer and methanol to produce plastics.

Mega-projects costing tens of billions of dollars are essential, but the Council of Ministers can instruct that negotiations give a higher priority to using the gas to create a domestic industry and jobs, even if it reduces short term income.

The report, "Gas for development or just for money?" is attached in English. It is on <http://bit.ly/MozGasEn> in English and on <http://bit.ly/MocGasPt> in Portuguese.

Anadarko and ENI say they have agreed on how to use the reserves that straddle their two exploitation zones, Areas 1 and 4. The government gave them a deadline of 2 June and said if they could not agree, it would impose a division. Just before the deadline they submitted a joint letter to government saying they had reached partial agreement but needed more time to sort out the details.

Talks over?

Renamo says it will impose its provincial governments by force

Renamo's enlarged National Council meeting Thursday in Beira decided that negotiations with the government are over. Using a pair of popular Portuguese expressions, José Manteigas, spokesman for the meeting, said the negotiations are "em águas de bacalhau" - meaning useless or fishing in waters that have no fish - and that the Monday talks are "fora de barulho" - meaning a playing card which is not in the pack, and thus is invalid or false. (*Diário de Moçambique* 12 June)

President Filipe Nyusi had already said he saw no point in continuing the meetings. But on Friday

he announced a new round of talks with opposition leaders, which could include Dhlakama. (Lusa 12 June, *Noticias* 13 June)

Renamo President Afonso Dhlakama, speaking Friday after the close of the National Council meeting, gave the government three days to open negotiations on "decentralising the state". If that did not happen, Dhlakama said Renamo would carry out the National Council decision that Renamo should impose its own government on the five provinces it says it won in the elections. (Lusa 12 June) "Renamo will govern by force in the provinces where it won the elections," Manteigas said Wednesday. (*O Pais*, 12 June) And on Thursday he added that Renamo would occupy provincial government buildings to install its own administration. Present government officials would be given the choice of remaining in their posts and joining Renamo, or leaving and handing over to Renamo. (Lusa 11 & 12 June)

Lusa reported Friday (12 June) that there were significant numbers of military and riot police vehicles on the streets in Beira and Nampula.

Manteigas also said that the government does not want to implement the cease fire agreed on 5 September 2014, so the national council had decided that Renamo will create its own police and army, and that it already had "men in combat positions" throughout the country. (*Canal de Moçambique* 12 June) Initially they will just be used to defend President Afonso Dhlakama and Renamo members from attacks by the police, riot police, and army.

The Renamo proposal for "autonomous provinces" takes as its model Maputo city, which is both a province with a governor nominated by the President, and a city with an elected mayor, and apply it to all provinces - giving the current provincial assemblies the same power as Maputo city assembly, and creating a new post of an elected head of the provincial assembly. But a key problem is that the Renamo bill says that there would be no elections initially, and Dhlakama would nominate the first assembly presidents in the five provinces he claims he won - and then also nominate district administrators and other local officials.

Comment: Both Frelimo and Renamo seem divided, although on both sides the hard line is dominant. Renamo on Wednesday created a Political Affairs Commission to put more dynamism into the political side of Renamo. *MediaFax* (11 June) says the new body represents the military - the generals and the Presidential Guard, who remain armed, and who say they have gained nothing from two decades of peace and have been putting pressure on Dhlakama. Frelimo hard liners and president Nyusi argue that the "autonomous provinces" proposal is unconstitutional, and in any case would destroy national unity.

O Pais (11 June) reports that some senior Renamo figures accept that the proposal for "autonomous provinces" (autarquias provinciais) was badly written and they want to rewrite it and resubmit it to parliament. And in his statement Friday, Dhlakama said his proposal for autonomous provinces would be extended to all 11 provinces. Perhaps most importantly, in his Friday statement Dhlakama said he wanted talks about "decentralising the state" - less than demanding approval of autonomous provinces. In a press briefing Tuesday before the National Council meeting, Dhlakama admitted that "sharing power would be the first step towards decentralization of state administration." So there is a recognition that any negotiation is not about decentralisation or demobilisation, but about giving some power to Renamo.

Meanwhile, on the Frelimo side, some argue that some further decentralisation to provincial assemblies is both useful and would not divide the country. Now Nyusi has made an implicit offer of renewed direct talks. But Dhlakama wants a share of power, which Frelimo would not give. So can Nyusi offer Dhlakama anything that the Renamo president would accept? *jh*

Mozambique did not sign new trade pact

Three overlapping trade groups agreed to merge on Thursday, but Mozambique did not sign up. At a meeting at Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, SADC (Southern African Development Community), COMESA (Common Market of Eastern and Southern Africa) and the EAC (East African Community) agreed to merge. Mozambique and Tanzania are founder members of SADC and have never joined COMESA, although most SADC states are members of both. Mozambique says it will continue with negotiations and try to resolve its problems with COMESA, but will not join the merged body yet.

Land grabs

Miguel Pais do Amaral, who was behind the failed Hoyo Hoyo soya bean plantation in Gurué, which promised investors a 41% per year rate of return on land it did not control, was last month barred by the Portuguese government from bidding for the privatisation of the airline TAP.

The British company African Century, which bought King Frango in Nampula in 2009-11 backed by Norfund, is accused by @Verdade (2 June) of forcing 328 peasant farmers off their land in the Nampula green zone.

The campaign against Pro Savana continues, with the argument that the current public consultation on Draft Zero of the Strategy Plan is invalid. <http://farmlandgrab.org/25017>

There is an excellent pair of interviews with Joao Mosca on small commercial farmers in Mozambique in @Verdade (in Portuguese)

<http://www.verdade.co.mz/tema-de-fundo/35-themadefundo/53501>

<http://www.verdade.co.mz/tema-de-fundo/35-themadefundo/53481>

Two journalists to be jailed for defaming ex-Frelimo head

Two journalists have been sentenced to five months in jail and a compensation of 10 million Meticias (\$250,000) for defaming Filipe Paúnde, former secretary general of Frelimo, *Domingo* reported today. The two are Anselmo Sengo, editorial director of *Expresso Moz*, and Nelson Mucandze, who wrote the article published in February 2014. They were convicted at the 3rd section of the municipal court in Ka-Mpfumo, Maputo.

Domingo today quotes the defamatory paragraph, which says (my translation to English) "Philip Paúnde is in trouble because of the alleged sale of the right to import vehicles duty-free. The beneficiaries of the exemption are preferably dealers and car salesmen in the city of Maputo and Matola." <http://www.jornaldomingo.co.mz/index.php/sociedade/5647>

CIP (Public Integrity Centre, Centro de Integridade Pública) published reports in May and July 2014 giving evidence of improper imports of cars, freezers, tyres and other goods by Frelimo, but the secretary general of the party was not mentioned by name. Other parties were also accused. <http://www.cip.org.mz/article.asp?sub=iafl&docno=303> and http://www.cip.org.mz/cipdoc/316_CIP-a_transparencia_07.pdf

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Chickens and beer: A recipe for agricultural growth in Mozambique

by Teresa Smart and Joseph Hanlon

E-book for Kindle and iPad, for \$9.32 from US Amazon - <http://www.amazon.com/dp/B00NRZXXKE> - £5.14 from UK Amazon.

In pdf format, 6 Mb file, free on <http://bit.ly/chickens-beer>

Galinhas e cerveja: uma receita para o crescimento

by Teresa Smart & Joseph Hanlon. Copies are in Maputo bookshops or from **KAPICUA**, Rua Fernão Veloso 12, Maputo; Tel.: +258 21 413 201 or +258 21 415 451
Telm.: +258 823 219 950 E-mail: kapicudir@tdm.co.mz / kapicuacom@tdm.co.mz

Outside Mozambique, we have a few copies we can send from London.
Please email j.hanlon@open.ac.uk.

Zimbabwe takes back its land

by Joseph Hanlon, Jeanette Manjengwa & Teresa Smart is now available from the publishers https://www.rienner.com/title/Zimbabwe_Takes_Back_Its_Land also as an e-book and <http://www.jacana.co.za/book-categories/current-affairs-a-history/zimbabwe-takes-back-its-land-detail>

Now in paper at a reasonable price

Do bicycles equal development in Mozambique?

by Joseph Hanlon & Teresa Smart
is now available in **paperback**, for £17.99 (+ p&p)
from the publisher <http://www.boydellandbrewer.com/store/viewItem.asp?idProduct=13503>

Just Give Money to the Poor: The Development Revolution from the Global South

by Joseph Hanlon, Armando Barrientos, and David Hulme

Most of this book can now be **read on the web**

tinyurl.com/justgivemoney

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NOTE OF EXPLANATION:

This mailing list is used to distribute two publications, both edited by Joseph Hanlon. This is my own sporadic "News reports & clippings", which is entirely my own responsibility. This list is also used to distribute the *Mozambique Political Process Bulletin*, published by CIP and AWEPA, but those organisations are not linked to "News reports & clippings"
Joseph Hanlon

Mozambique media websites:

Noticias: www.jornalnoticias.co.mz

O Pais: www.opais.co.mz

@Verdade: <http://www.verdade.co.mz>

Diario de Moçambique (Beira): <http://www.diariodemocambique.co.mz>

CanalMoz on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CanalMoz>

Macauhub English: www.macauhub.com.mo/en/

AIM Reports: www.poptel.org/mozambique-news

Carlos Serra Diario de um sociologo: <http://oficinadesociologia.blogspot.com>

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