

# MOZAMBIQUE News reports & clippings

295 27 July 2015 corrected

Editor: Joseph Hanlon ( [j.hanlon@open.ac.uk](mailto:j.hanlon@open.ac.uk) )

To subscribe: [tinyurl.com/sub-moz](http://tinyurl.com/sub-moz)

To unsubscribe: [tinyurl.com/unsub-moz](http://tinyurl.com/unsub-moz)

Previous newsletters, more detailed press reports in English and Portuguese, and other

Mozambique material are posted on [bit.ly/mozamb](http://bit.ly/mozamb)

This newsletter can be cited as "Mozambique News Reports & Clippings"

---

**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>

---

## **Also in this issue:**

**Pacheco says ProSavana  
guarantees land security**

**Foreign investment in  
agri-business but not farming?**

**Illegal log exports \$100 mn per year**

**Frelimo hard line & new Renamo battle**

---

## **Castel-Branco trial for non-crime delayed to 31 Aug**

The trial of Carlos Nuno Castel-Branco and Fernando Mbanze has been postponed from 3 August to 31 August, at the request of Castel-Branco. The charges relate to an open letter that Castel-Branco published on his Facebook page in November 2013 and which was widely reprinted, including by Mbanze in *MediaFax*. The open letter attacked the then President, Armando Guebuza.

Castel-Branco is accused of defaming the president, which was a state security offense, and he is charged under article 22 of the State Security Law (lei 19/91). Mbanze is charged with abusing the freedom of the press by publishing the letter.

The amnesty law passed by parliament in August 2014 as part of the agreement with Renamo applies to all state security offences committed between March 2012 and August 2014, and thus covers Castel-Branco's alleged offence. Article 22 of the State Security Law has now been incorporated unchanged as article 387 of the new penal code, which took effect at the beginning of July. Defamation of the President, Ministers, and members of parliament is punishable by 1-2 years in jail or a fine; defamation of magistrates and secretary-generals of parties is punishable by 3-24 months in prison or a fine. [This paragraph has been corrected.]

Amnesty International has launched an "urgent action" calling for the charges to be dropped and for "the authorities to end the practice of harassment and intimidation of people peacefully expressing their views, and to uphold the right to freedom of expression"

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/get-involved/take-action-now/mozambique-drop-all-charges-against-carlos-nuno-castel-branco-and-fernando-mbanze-ua-16215>

Castel-Branco has stressed that he will go to Maputo for the trial. In a statement he writes: "The issues at stake are much bigger than me. I refuse to be seen as being in political exile from my country. I have not committed any crime or undertaken any action that I am ashamed of. If the

PGR [attorney general] wants to go on to trial, I will use it, to the best of my ability, as a platform to fight for freedom of expression, of press, of political debate and thinking, and for an open debate on the social and economic issues that I raised on Facebook. ... The issue is also the accountability of holders of high public office for their actions, and their exposure to criticism when citizens think they have not fulfilled their responsibilities as elected officials."

Castel-Branco is co-founder of IESE (Instituto de Estudos Sociais e Económicos; Social and Economic Studies Institute) and one of Mozambique's most important academics; Mbanze is editor of *MediaFax*, one of the oldest and most respected independent newsletters.

Castle-Branco's statement in English is on <http://bit.ly/110smha> and in Portuguese is on <http://bit.ly/1lusWsT>

Lei nº 18/91 - Lei de Imprensa - is available on

[http://www.portaldogoverno.gov.mz/Legisla/legisSectores/imprensa/lei\\_de\\_imprensa.pdf](http://www.portaldogoverno.gov.mz/Legisla/legisSectores/imprensa/lei_de_imprensa.pdf)

Lei nº 19/91 - Lei contra a segurança do Estado (now largely repealed) - is available on

<http://www2.irex.org.mz/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/Lei-contra-a-Seguranca-do-Estado.pdf>

Lei nº 25/2014 - Código Penal - is available on [http://www.wlsa.org.mz/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Lei-35\\_2014Codigo\\_Penal.pdf](http://www.wlsa.org.mz/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Lei-35_2014Codigo_Penal.pdf)

Lei nº 17/2014 - Lei de Amnistia - is available in SAL & Caldeira newsletter 75, May 2014, on [http://www.salcaldeira.com/index.php/pt/publicacoes/artigos/cat\\_view/13-newsletters/87-arquivo-edicoes-2014](http://www.salcaldeira.com/index.php/pt/publicacoes/artigos/cat_view/13-newsletters/87-arquivo-edicoes-2014)

## **Pacheco says ProSavana guarantees land security**

"The implementation of the Nacala Corridor and ProSavana will increase the capacity of producers for the defence and security of land tenure by peasants and local communities. The Nacala Corridor and ProSavana never did, do not and never will change control, directly or indirectly, of any parcel of land for agricultural production or for other purposes," said José Pacheco, Agriculture and Food Security Minister, speaking to parliament on 22 July.

"Our main allies and partners in the Nacala Corridor, through ProSavana, are the small and medium producers, poultry farmers and cattle ranchers, who in a gradual transformation process, short, medium and long term, will evolve from a predominantly subsistence agriculture to intensive market oriented agriculture."

On ProSavana he cited soya and chicken production and commercial cassava production for beer (These are exactly the areas we cited in our book and led to its title: *Chickens and beer: A recipe for agricultural growth in Mozambique, Galinhas e cerveja: uma receita para o crescimento. jh.*) He said the programme is looking at five joint agrarian models, including community, association, cooperative and for processing.

Nationally, "we have embarked on a gradual transformation from subsistence agriculture to one oriented toward the market, with increased yields per hectare". The speech put a stress on named small and medium award-winning producers with 6 to 20 hectares. A set of 36 agriculture service centres have been created. He also said 513 tractors had been imported and 39 machinery parks have been established in Zambézia alone.

Pacheco also announced the launch of a "Secure Land" programme to ensure occupancy rights based on good faith and customary practice by formalising titles (DUATs, direitos de uso e aproveitamento da terra, rights to use and benefit from land) for individual, community and association land. He stressed that the National Land Policy is designed to prevent land conflicts between investors and local communities, and also to identify "areas available for investment".

Pacheco's speech is on <http://bit.ly/1em4DiH>

## Analysis

# Foreign investment in agri-business but not farming?

“We know that France is a world power in agro-processing, so we are encouraging the businesses represented here to take note of the need to transfer technology to Mozambique in this area”, President Filipe Nyusi told French businesspeople in Paris Sunday 20 July. “In agriculture, we are banking on increasing production and productivity, so as to create greater competitiveness and more jobs”, Nyusi said. “We think there are opportunities upstream, in terms of equipment, improved seeds and fertilizer, and downstream there is potential for agro-processing units, storage and transport to the national and regional markets”. He also called for investment in infrastructure and irrigation, and pointed to the way foreign investors could promote exports to the United States and Europe. (AIM Eng & Pt, 20 July)

This could represent an important and subtle change in government policy. Since independence, government has seen foreign investment in large-scale farming as the way forward. Yet no new plantation has succeeded since independence. No new plantation investment has yet been profitable. Even in sugar, where rehabilitation and expansion of colonial sugar estates has been successful, all the new projects have failed. Instead, growth has come from crops such as tobacco, where small holders grow the crop, and the foreign investor provides inputs and markets.

Does this finally reflect a shift in government thinking, that farming should be left to Mozambicans and that the need for foreign investment is elsewhere in the value chain?

Divisions within government and inside major projects such as ProSavana mean there will probably never be clear, official policy changes, and a change in mood will have to be read from language and what is not said. Thus is it significant that Nyusi did not mention foreign investment in actual farming?

So far, nearly all the failed plantation investments have been on former state farm land, now largely allocated. Agriculture Minister José Pacheco has been promoting foreign investment in farming for some years, but he always stresses that investors must satisfy the land law. And it has proved very difficult to assemble thousands of hectares of vacant land, because even if land is not used intensively, it is occupied and thus has an occupier with rights.

Nyusi stressed that Mozambique has 40 million hectares of arable land, but to ensure that agriculture develops in Mozambique, measures must be taken to end the situation in which vast fertile areas are "idle" (ociosas). Nyusi said this has frustrated those who really want to farm and to produce food.

How to interpret that? Does that mean cancelling the existing land concessions to foreign investors and local elites who are not using some large tracts of prime land, as set out in the land law? Or does it mean reinterpreting the land law in ways that restrict small holder access to land that is actually used for crops, and excluding land being kept fallow or for forest products, as some have advocated as a way to release land for foreign investors? Until now government has constantly stressed the amount of land which is "underused" and should be offered to investors.

Pacheco in his statement to parliament again stressed that any investment, foreign or national, must satisfy the land law. All land "belongs" to some person or groups - there is little "free" or unoccupied land, under the present interpretation of "good faith" and "customary practice". Peasant groups know that there is both foreign and national pressure to reinterpret the land law to allow land use rights to be transferred and to reduce land rights to only land used "productively", so as to release land for foreign investors. Pacheco has chosen his words carefully so as not to

prevent such changes in interpretation. So peasant fears of a "land grab" will continue. *jh*

## **Illegal log exports to China exceed \$100 mn per year**

Timber exports are totally corrupted and unreported exports of hardwood logs to China now exceeds \$100 million per year, according to a study released on 22 July by three researchers for Universidade Eduardo Mondlane. The study, by Mário Falcão, Adolfo Bila and Ivan Remane, is part of Forest Governance in Mozambique, carried out by World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), funded by Sweden. The report presentation, in Portuguese only, is on <http://bit.ly/1JjbQxb>

The report says that 90% of timber exported as logs is sent to China. For 2013, the last year data is available, Mozambique reported 54,000 cubic metres of logs exported to China, while the latter reported imports from Mozambique of 346,000 cubic metres. The difference had a value of \$102 million. The problem was first exposed in 2006 in a report by Catherine Mackenzie "Forest governance in Zambézia, Mozambique: Chinese Takeaway!" (<http://bit.ly/moz-take-away>) and has become much worse since then.

The report calls for the issuance of logging licences to be made transparent, for a moratorium on Simple Licences for cutting, and for involvement of communities in monitoring.

The various forestry laws are not being complied with because of corruption and "political interference" as well as lack of knowledge, staff and training. "The licensing process is complicated and it is difficult to observe the provisions of Law". Laws involve too many agencies, and government has not approved or implemented key regulations needed to make the laws function. Containers of export logs are not inspected and the export of valuable hardwood species are not registered. As well as being too complicated, the law "hardly addresses management aspects of forests".

The use of Simple Licences for logging is a major source of the problem. For example, in Tete the volume licenced in this way went from 3000 cubic metres in 2003 to 47,000 cubic metres in 2013, the last year for which data is available. Much of the logging is illegal and areas are stripped rapidly. Most of those who gain the licenses have no cutting teams and simply sell the licences, for example at 100 Meticias (\$3) per tree. Many individuals including chiefs (régulos), teachers, forestry technicians, and administrators, have licences and simply sell the right to cut.

The shipping process is highly corrupted. Logs are shipped in containers, which often are not seen by inspectors before they are closed - because inspectors do not check, or district administrators or other officials stop them from looking, or because containers are closed and are loaded on ships outside normal working hours. "It is common practice" that containers which can hold 18 cubic metres of timber are recorded as having only 11 to 12 cubic metres.

The study says that a container of unsawed logs is worth \$8250, of which \$520 has been paid in bribes: \$150 to forest inspectors, \$70 to customs officials, \$200 to the provincial agriculture directorate and \$100 to a "facilitator".

## **Frelimo hard line & new Renamo battle**

In a notably harder line, Frelimo's governing Political Commission demanded Wednesday that Renamo "disarm, urgently and unconditionally". Speaking Friday in Chimoio, President Filipe Nyusi said there cannot be two armies in the country. And on Friday morning, government forces using heavy weapons, attacked Renamo's Ndande military base in Zobué, Moatize, Tete, near the

Malawi border, according to Renamo spokesman António Muchanga. (Lusa, Radio Moçambique 24 July) The area was reported as quiet yesterday, Saturday.

There has been on-going fighting in the area, and Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama said he ordered the 14 June Renamo attack on government there. By last week there were 700 Mozambican refugees in Nthache, Mwanza District, Malawi who had fled the fighting. (*Times*, Malawi, 20 July)

Meanwhile the Veterans Ministry is trying to register all ex-combatants, those from Renamo in order to give them a pension, and those already receiving a pension in order to prove they are still alive. Ministry spokesperson Horácio Massangaie said the ministry cannot gain access to Renamo bases, and insists the books will be closed by the end of the year. (AIM Pt 16 July) There are rumours that some Renamo fighters are dissatisfied at not being paid and not having access to their veteran's pensions.

*MediaFax* (21 July) reported that Renamo refused to send a member of parliament to travel with President Filipe Nyusi to Portugal because that would accept that Nyusi was President, and Renamo has refused to recognise his election last year.

### Other news

**Progresso has won a UNESCO 2015 literacy award** for its work on literacy in local language and gender equality. Progresso started in 1991 and is one of the early genuinely Mozambican NGOs, not created as a subsidiary of foreign aid agencies or NGOs.

**Five workers were killed** on 13 July when scaffolding collapsed on the new building being constructed for the National Social Security Institute (INSS) in Maputo. The building was being built by the troubled Portuguese contractor **Bitalar**. The building was already behind schedule and Britalar's contract has now been cancelled. Because of Britalar's financial difficulties, it was unable to purchase scaffolding for the job, and building owner Jat Constroi was forced to acquire the scaffolding. According to surviving workers, the scaffolding was not attached properly, and even when this was pointed out, nothing was done to correct the situation. Britalar was also the company which in 2012 failed to properly pave Av Julius Nyerere in Maputo; the road started to break up even before it was completed, and has not been repaired. That contract is now being investigated by the Anti-Corruption Office (O Gabinete Central de Combate à Corrupção, GCCC). Britalar was put into receivership (Processo Especial de Revitalização) in Portugal last year with debts of 64 million Euros and more than 600 unpaid creditors. (AIM & Lusa various dates, Público 26 May 2014)

**Mozambique "is not an El Dorado"** and "partnerships require a relationship deeper than the simple export of Portuguese products to be sold in Mozambique with a local partner," warned Joaquim Tobias Dai, president of the Mozambican Association of Economists, speaking in Portugal as part of the President Filipe Nyusi's delegation on 15 July. He added that investment must promote industrialisation and that Portuguese investors would be expected to facilitate "the entry of Mozambican products in Europe and the focus on the manufacturing sector and productive equipment to enhance Mozambican exports of end products." (Lusa 17 July)

**Le Monde raises Ematum questions.** In an article before President Nyusi's visit to Paris, *Le Monde Afrique* (17 July) raised some new questions. The contract for 24 fishing boats and 6 patrol boats from the Cherbourg-based Normandy Mechanical Engineering (CMN) was announced 5 September 2013 and valued at 200 million euros. But the 24 fishing boats cost \$22.3 million each according to the bills Cristina Matavele, the Executive Director of Ematum, showed the programme "World Africa " - \$535 million. This is far more than double the 200 million euros announced by CMN. Last year the government said \$500 million was for fishing boats. But on 18 June Adriano Maleiane, Minister of Economy and Finance, told parliament that only \$350 million was for the fishing boats, suggesting \$185 million went somewhere else. The whole bond issue was for \$850 million, of

which Maleiane said \$500 million would be taken on as government debt because it included military equipment.

*Le Monde* noted that CMN specialized in military boats and had not built any tuna ships since 1989. Some of the boats were built by CMN, but these were completed and some entire boats were built by the parent company Abu Dhabi Mar in Abu Dhabi. *Le Monde Afrique* claims that Iskandar Safa, CEO of Abu Dhabi Mar, is considered one of the richest Lebanese after the Hariri family, and was convicted in France in 2009 as part of the Angola-gate scandal of unexplained cash payments to Jean-Charles Marchiani, the right hand man of Charles Pasqua. The newspaper says he then developed business in Africa where "he is known as a personal friend of Armando Guebuza".

[http://www.lemonde.fr/afrique/article/2015/07/17/de-cherbourg-a-maputo-les-millions-disparus-de-la-compagnie-mozambicaine-de-thon\\_4687049\\_3212.html](http://www.lemonde.fr/afrique/article/2015/07/17/de-cherbourg-a-maputo-les-millions-disparus-de-la-compagnie-mozambicaine-de-thon_4687049_3212.html) (In French only, but Google translate is adequate)

=====

## **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](mailto:kapicudir@tdm.co.mz) / [kapicuacom@tdm.co.mz](mailto:kapicuacom@tdm.co.mz)

Outside Mozambique, we have a few copies we can send from London.  
Please email [j.hanlon@open.ac.uk](mailto: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.riener.com/title/Zimbabwe\\_Takes\\_Back\\_Its\\_Land](https://www.riener.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](http://tinyurl.com/justgivemoney)

=====

This newsletter can be cited as "Mozambique News Reports & Clippings"

**Also on the web:** Previous newsletters and other Mozambique material are posted on [bit.ly/mozamb](http://bit.ly/mozamb)

=====

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](http://www.jornalnoticias.co.mz)

O Pais: [www.opais.co.mz](http://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/](http://www.macauhub.com.mo/en/)

AIM Reports: [www.poptel.org.uk/mozambique-news](http://www.poptel.org.uk/mozambique-news)

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

=====

This mailing is the personal responsibility of Joseph Hanlon, and does not necessarily represent the views of the Open University.