

# MOZAMBIQUE 158

## News reports & clippings

12 March 2010

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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

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# Flood and drought

As floods in central Mozambique worsen, the government declared a red alert on Tuesday in the basins of the Zambezi, Pungue, Buzi, and Licungo rivers. Five ministers and vice-ministers have flown to the area. Four districts are now cut off, and can no longer be reached by road: Mutarara in Tete Province, Tambara in Manica, and Chemba in Sofala - all on the Zambezi - and Buzi in Sofala, cut off by the Pungue. The main road linking Beira to Chimoio and Zimbabwe is now closed to all but the largest vehicles, which can pass only under police escort.

A very detailed report from 10 March by the National Disasters Management Institute (INGC, Instituto Nacional de Gestão de Calamidades) is posted on my website:  
<http://www.tinyurl.com/mozamb>

So far the flooding is not extreme or abnormal; there were floods in this region in 2007 and 2008. Peasants farm the fertile and well watered soils near the rivers, so people must evacuate low-lying areas. Levels on the Pungue are slowly falling. But releases from the Kariba dam in Zambia and the Cahora Bassa dam in Tete have been sharply increased, so water levels in the Zambezi River will rise considerably in coming days.

Meanwhile, there is a problem of drought in central and southern Mozambique, affecting 61 districts in Maputo, Gaza, Inhambane, Sofala, Manica, Tete and Zambezia provinces, putting 785,000 households at risk of food shortages. At least one-third of the projected crops have been lost in this area.

AIM and Noticias articles on drought and flood are attached.

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***Do bicycles equal development***

***in Mozambique?***

by Joseph Hanlon & Teresa Smart

**is only available direct from the publisher.**

[www.jamescurrey.co.uk](http://www.jamescurrey.co.uk)

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**Also on the web:** Previous newsletters and other Mozambique material are posted on  
<http://www.tinyurl.com/mozamb>

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**Mozambique media websites:**

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

O Pais: [www.opais.co.mz](http://www.opais.co.mz)

Savana: [www.savana.co.mz](http://www.savana.co.mz)

Canal de Moçambique: [www.canalmoz.com](http://www.canalmoz.com)

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

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