



**TERRE SOLIDAIRE**



**World Council of Churches**



**61st session of the Human Rights Council  
Item 4: General Debate  
Human rights situation in Mozambique**

**17 March 2026**

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Mr. President,

We wish to reiterate our concerns over the dire human rights and humanitarian situation of internally displaced persons in Northern Mozambique.

Since our last statement in September 2025, non-state armed groups have continued to carry out attacks in Cabo Delgado, particularly around Balama and Montepuez, and spilled over to Nampula province, in Erati and Memba districts.

Consequently, half a million persons were displaced in Cabo Delgado and Nampula provinces, and face serious protection risks, including child abuse, mental health, and psychosocial needs due to retraumatization and forced displacement, in a context where less than half of the funding required in 2025 for humanitarian assistance has been received due to aid cuts<sup>1</sup>.

The decision to resume the Mozambique LNG project in January 2026<sup>2</sup> has the potential to worsen attacks by non-state armed groups in the region if local communities' grievances are not adequately addressed. Civil society organizations have documented allegations of human rights abuses related to the project. Regrettably, the National Human Rights Commission of Mozambique did not find any evidence supporting these allegations<sup>3</sup>. We, alongside civil society and local communities, stress the need, once again, for an independent investigation.

As Mozambique engages in the Universal Periodic Review this year, we call on all Member States to provide constructive recommendations such as adopting measures to address the root causes of the conflict, including socio-economic and political measures addressing structural inequalities. We also

<sup>1</sup> ReliefWeb, Mozambique: 2025 Humanitarian Response (Conflict), as 30 November 2025, 13 January 2026

<https://reliefweb.int/report/mozambique/mozambique-2025-humanitarian-response-conflict-30-november-2025-enpt>

<sup>2</sup> Press release of TotalEnergies on 29 January 2026. <https://totalenergies.com/news/press-releases/mozambique-lng-announces-full-restart-all-its-activities-onshore-and-offshore>

<sup>3</sup> Business and Human Rights Centre, Mozambique: Human Rights Commission clears TotalEnergies of human rights violations in the gas project in Cabo Delgado, 26 January 2026, <https://www.business-humanrights.org/en/latest-news/mozambique-human-rights-commission-clears-totalenergies-of-human-rights-violations-in-the-gas-project-in-cabo-delgado/>

stress the importance of ensuring accountability to address grave human rights violations committed by state armed forces, private military contractors, and NSAGs in Cabo Delgado - including transnational corporations exploring natural resources in the area.

We welcome the opening of the new OHCHR office in Mozambique<sup>4</sup>, and call on the Office to closely monitor and report on the human rights situation in Mozambique, particularly in the Northern Provinces, and reflect it consistently in the High Commissioner's oral updates during the Human Rights Council sessions.

We thank you.

**Co-sponsors:**

- CCFD-Terre Solidaire
- CEMIRDE - Comissão Episcopal para Migrantes Refugiados e Deslocados
- Denis Hurley Peace Institute
- Franciscans International
- Justiça Ambiental
- World Council of Churches

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<sup>4</sup> Club of Mozambique, Mozambique signs Host Country Agreement with UN Human Rights Office, 26 February 2026  
[https://clubofmozambique.com/news/mozambique-signs-host-country-agreement-with-un-human-rights-office/?fbclid=IwY2xjawQfVTNleHRuA2FlbQlxMABzcnRjBmFwcF9pZBAyMjIwMzIxMzgzMjAwODkyAAEealKzQes16F4HBKvR3jarh5-k1TqpiTX7GvbcxR8WjRe6YznYWAmWY09Q134\\_aem\\_3oVL8fyDqB2aARVhzhM3fA](https://clubofmozambique.com/news/mozambique-signs-host-country-agreement-with-un-human-rights-office/?fbclid=IwY2xjawQfVTNleHRuA2FlbQlxMABzcnRjBmFwcF9pZBAyMjIwMzIxMzgzMjAwODkyAAEealKzQes16F4HBKvR3jarh5-k1TqpiTX7GvbcxR8WjRe6YznYWAmWY09Q134_aem_3oVL8fyDqB2aARVhzhM3fA)