

- **Honorable Chair;**
- **Distinguished Heads of Delegations;**
- **Ladies and Gentlemen!**

First of all, I would like to join the other delegates who addressed the audience before me in congratulating, on behalf of the Government of Mozambique, myself and the delegation, the People and Government of Georgia - United States of America, for hosting this Conference of States Parties to jointly discuss the fight against corruption, an issue that is so important for our states.

This event represents a distinct moment of exchange of experiences and achievements in the prevention and fight against corruption, within the framework of the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption.

In the Republic of Mozambique, as in many other countries, corruption is destructive and harmful, as it degrades the moral values of society, undermines the foundations of economic and social development, discourages national and foreign investment and brings our institutions into disrepute.

For this reason, the country continues to approve national legal instruments, such as the National Strategy to Prevent and Fight Corruption in Public Administration; the Law establishing the Legal Regime and Measures to Prevent and Fight Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing; and the Law establishing the special legal regime for the extended loss of assets and asset recovery, among others.

The effective fight against crime, especially economic, financial and organized, requires an adequate legal framework in line with the latest international standards.

At the same time, in 2020, the country established the Central Office for Asset Recovery and Asset Management, as well as the Central Office for Combating Transnational Organized Crime.

With the establishment of these institutions, the Republic of Mozambique has greatly strengthened its capacity to recover assets and fight transnational organized crime.

### **Excellencies;**

The theme: “***20 YEARS OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST CORRUPTION: UNITING THE WORLD AGAINST CORRUPTION***”, leads us to reflect on what we have done to fight corruption in its various

forms, a phenomenon that compromises the functioning of institutions and slows down the country's development.

As a result of the efforts made by the state, Mozambique continues to carry out preventive actions that contribute to raising awareness among citizens.

We have increased training for civil servants in preventing and fighting crimes of corruption and other related crimes, including economic and financial, reinforcing the reporting mechanisms available to citizens, promoting transparency in the process of overseeing and managing public affairs.

### **Excellencies,**

Before concluding, we would like to reaffirm our willingness to share experiences in this international

forum, taking into account the complexity of transnational organized crime, including corruption, which requires our states to coordinate their efforts and constantly exchange information to fight this evil that has negatively been affecting the socio-economic development of our countries.

We reiterate the commitment of the Mozambican state to do everything to fight corruption and all transnational organized crime.

**Thank you very much for your attention!**

**Atlanta, December 2023**