

Mozambique:

Comments: Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Organized and Transnational Crime, which runs from 8 and 9 September 2020, Vienna: **Smuggling of Migrants**

(1) Good morning! My name is Henriques MANUEL. I'm a Deputy Inspector of Criminal Investigation. I am responsible for the Specialized Area for Combating Trafficking in Persons, Smuggling of Migrants and Child Protection, in the National Criminal Investigation Service in Mozambique.

(2) Please accept our special greeting. We are grateful to be part of the conference. The experience of best practices on smuggling of immigrants dictates that respect for the dignity of the human person is essential in every process.

(3) We are aware that the dignity of any human person is an intrinsic, inalienable, inalienable quality, with an intangible character that results from interpersonal relationships.

(4) Mozambique is a country located in the Southern Africa region. It borders six countries: Tanzania; Zambia, Malawi and Zimbabwe; South Africa and Kingdom of ESwatini.

(5) Mozambique is also said to be the country of transit for illegal immigrants to South Africa. We recognize the need for cooperation as the first step towards success.

(6) In March 2020, Mozambique registered a case of illegal immigrants, during inspection actions by the Mozambican Police. A container lorry carrying 78 illegal Ethiopian immigrants was intercepted in the province of Tete. Of these, 64 were found dead and 14 survivors. A horrible and worrying situation.

(8) In this type of situation, cooperation between the various actors is essential. The investigation of this crime depends on cooperation. We have to believe that no country will be successful in combating the smuggling of migrants without cooperating between the countries of origin, transit and destination.

(9) However, for such cooperation to be fruitful, it must start from concerted action between various actors and be carried out at all levels, national, regional and international. Cooperation between states, police forces, criminal investigation, judicial authorities, non-governmental organizations, among others.

Thank you for your attention!

Mozambique, Henriques MANUEL