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## **VOICES ON THE GROUND: THE SITUATION AND NEEDS OF HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS IN MOZAMBIQUE**

### **Terms of Reference**

#### **I. BACKGROUND**

The Mozambique Human Rights Defenders Network (RMDDH) conducted a study on the situation and needs of Human Rights Defenders and Journalists in Mozambique. The study ascertained, on the one hand, the main features of the Mozambican civic space and security for the Human Rights Defenders and Journalists in 2021, and on the other hand, their needs within their activities to protect human dignity and prevent the closing of the civic space.

It is within this context that RMDDH and Southern Africa Human Rights Defenders Network (Southern Defenders), in partnership with African Defenders, organizes an event to disseminate and discuss the results of the study to be held in Pemba City on Friday, April 1st, 2022.

RMDDH is a Mozambican civil society initiative that aims to strengthen the capacity and resilience of Human Rights Defenders, as well as improve protection and security within their mission to promote and defend Human Rights.

RMDDH is part of the Southern Defenders, which is the highest level body of civil society organizations across the Southern African region advocating for the protection of Human Rights and their defenders.

## **II. OBJECTIVE**

The objective of the event is to create a space for information and debate on the situation and needs of Human Rights Defenders and Journalists in Mozambique, as entities that promote the opening of the civic space and the defense of Human Rights.

## **III. FORMAT**

The event will be in person and broadcasted in the digital platforms of RMDDH.

## **IV. PARTICIPANTS**

The event will be attended by representatives of the Civil Society Organizations, Human Rights Defenders, Journalists, Government representatives and cooperation partners.

## **V. METHODOLOGY**

The presentation of the study findings will be made by the Director of the Southern Africa Human Rights Defenders Network (Southern Defenders), Washington Katema, and the Human Rights lawyer, João Nhampossa, followed by a discussion with Human Rights Defenders in Mozambique.

## **VI. VENUE, DATE, AND TIME OF THE EVENT**

The event will be held at Pemba Express Hotel, Pemba City, on Friday, April 1st, 2022, at 09h00.

## VII. PROGRAMME

<b>Pemba, April 1st, 2022 (09h00 – 13h40)</b>	
<b>09h00 – 09h30</b>	Coffee and Registration
<b>09h30 – 10h00</b>	<b>Moderator:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Prof. Adriano Nuvunga – Chairman of RMDDH</li></ul>
	<b>Opening Remarks:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights – Dr. Manuela Cruz;</li><li>• President of Provincial Council of the Bar Association – Dr. Momade Bacar;</li><li>• President of National Human Rights Commission – Dr. Luís Bitone;</li><li>• Provincial Office of Justice, Constitutional and Religious Affairs;</li><li>• Executive Director of MISA Mozambique – Prof. Ernesto Nhanale.</li></ul>
<b>10h00 – 10h10</b>	Cultural moment
<b>10h10 – 10h50</b>	<b>An assessment of Human Rights Defenders' assets and needs and protection mechanisms</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Executive Director of Southern Defenders - Washington Katema</li></ul>
	<b>Situation of Human Rights Defenders in Mozambique in the year 2021</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Human Rights Lawyer - João Nhampossa</li></ul>

<b>10h50 – 11h50</b>	<b>Discussion/Debate</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Human Rights Defender - Júlia Wachave;</li> <li>• Human Rights Defender - Ferosa Zacarias;</li> <li>• Journalist - Jonas Wazir.</li> </ul>
<b>11h50 – 12h00</b>	Family Photo
<b>12h00 – 12h45</b>	Lunch
<b>12h45 – 13h30</b>	Presentation of RMDDH offices in Cabo Delgado.
<b>13h30 – 13h40</b>	<b>Closing Remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prof. Adriano Nuvunga.</li> </ul>
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