

REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE PRESIDENCY OF THE REPUBLIC

Leading by Experience: Mozambique and the Transformation of Early Warning Systems

Speech by His Excellency Daniel Francisco Chapo, President of the Republic of Mozambique, on the occasion of the High-Level Meeting on Early Warning for All

Genebra, 20 de Outubro de 2025

- Professor Celeste Saulo, Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO);
- Your Excellencies, Heads of State and Government;
- Distinguished Representatives of the United Nations,
 International Financial Institutions and Development
 Partners;
- Distinguished Guests;
- Dear Friends from the Media;
- Ladies and Gentlemen,

- 1. The connection between humans, the earth, and the climate is one of deep interdependence. Therefore, protecting the environment is ultimately protecting ourselves.
- 2. It is therefore with a strong sense of duty that, on behalf of the people and Government of the Republic of Mozambique, I participate in this High-Level Meeting on Early Warning for All, an initiative that symbolises the convergence of science, solidarity and political commitment to protect human lives in the face of the climate crisis.
- 3. I thank the **World Meteorological Organisation** for its leadership and inspiring vision to ensure that, by 2027, every woman, every man and every child, anywhere in the world, will be covered by integrated early warning systems, in response to the appeal launched in 2022 by **the Secretary-General of the United Nations, António Guterres, during COP27** in Egypt.
- 4. We live in an era where climate change is no longer a future threat, but a devastating present reality.

- 5. The increasing frequency and intensity of extreme weather events is compromising the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and putting millions of lives at risk.
- 6. Extreme heat waves, tropical cyclones, prolonged droughts and flash floods are altering ecosystems, economies and ways of life, especially in developing countries which, ironically, have contributed least to this global crisis.
- 7. Our region, Southern Africa, has been particularly hard hit and, according to the World Bank, Mozambique, given its geographical location, is among the **three**African countries most vulnerable to the effects of climate change.
- 8. In recent years, our country has faced devastating cyclones such as **Idai**, **Kenneth**, **Gombe**, **and Freddy**, which destroyed infrastructures.

- 9. However, we have learnt a key lesson, which is: **an early warning saves lives.** When the warning arrives in time, the response is quicker, the action is more effective, and the impact is less severe.
- 10. This is why the Early Warnings for All initiative is a national priority and an ethical cause for Mozambique. It reflects our commitment to protecting our people and strengthening collective resilience in the face of an uncertain future. When we put at the service of people, science and technology are instruments of climate justice.

Ladies and gentlemen,

11.Mozambique has taken a regional leadership position in integrating early warning systems into climate adaptation policies. Our Government has placed hydrometeorology and climate resilience at the top of the political agenda, recognising that climate knowledge is essential for economic, agricultural and urban planning.

- 12.Today, through close cooperation with the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) and the United Nations System, the country is strengthening the role of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services and integrating them across the board into national planning instruments.
- 13.An important milestone in this effort is the 'One District, One Weather Station' programme, launched by the Government with the aim of expanding and modernising the meteorological observation network, ensuring that each district has its own means of monitoring weather and climate.
- 14. This programme is a concrete expression of our commitment to science and to the decentralisation of technical capabilities.
- 15. The Mozambican warning system is not limited to issuing technical bulletins; it reaches communities through local radio stations, mobile messages and traditional leaders. It is a system that speaks the language of the people, understands the rhythms of nature and mobilises society.

- 16.In 2024, Mozambique also launched its National Roadmap for the Implementation of the "Early Warning for All Initiative, a document that defines institutional responsibilities and partnerships in the four pillars of the warning system, namely observation, forecasting, response, reinforcing communication and the of our National coordinating role Institute of Meteorology (INAM).
- 17.Our experience shows that the effectiveness of warning systems depends on innovation and sustainable investment. Mozambique currently benefits from the support of the **Systematic Observations Financing Facility (SOFF) initiative**, which represents an important achievement in the modernisation of the national hydrometeorological network.
- 18. With this support, we are installing weather radars that will be integrated into the World Meteorological Organisation's Global Basic Observing Network (GBON), strengthening our capacity to predict and monitor extreme events in real time.
- 19. Mozambique is also stepping up its efforts to incorporate digitalisation and artificial intelligence into the modernisation of early warning systems and processes.

- 20. We are working on the progressive digitisation of meteorological and hydrological services, the interconnection of national and regional platforms, and the creation of automatic mechanisms for collecting and sharing climate data.
- 21. These investments aim to build an increasingly integrated, predictable, and accessible system, where scientific information is transformed into useful, understandable, and timely alerts for all citizens.
- 22. However, climate finance in Mozambique is still limited. Our State Budget, with the constraints typical of a developing country, is not sufficient to finance a climate-resilient growth model.
- 23. We therefore advocate the mobilisation of new publicprivate partnerships, innovative and accessible financing mechanisms, and the reaffirmation of shared responsibility between nations and multilateral institutions.
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- 24. Every dollar invested in early warning represents a saving of seven dollars in reconstruction and, more importantly, represents lives protected and communities empowered.
- 25.Universal coverage of alerts will only be real if it is inclusive. Mozambique has been working to make alerts **people-centred**, so that they are simple, accessible, and useful.
- 26.We have invested in climate education for communities and in the participation of young people as multipliers of knowledge and agents of awareness.

Your Excellencies,

- 27. Climate phenomena do not recognise borders. The Maputo Declaration on Early Warning for All, signed by the governments of the region, reaffirms our collective commitment to bridging the gap between warning and early action.
- 27. Mozambique is proud to have led this process, which prioritises strengthening the human, financial and technological capacities of national institutions responsible for warning and response, such as **the National Institute of Meteorology and the National**

Institute for Disaster Risk Management and Reduction (INGD).

- 28. This is the way to ensure that early action translates into security, dignity and sustainable development.
- 29. The future we envision depends on the choices we make today. Climate projections point to an increase in the intensity and frequency of extreme events if decisive action is not taken. **That is why the time to act is now**.
- 30.We call on the United Nations, Climate Funds, Financial Institutions and Development Partners to strengthen technical and financial support to the most vulnerable countries.
- 31. Mozambique reiterates its full alignment with the leadership of the World Meteorological Organisation and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, recognising them as examples of effective global governance around the "Early Warnings for All" agenda.

Your Excellencies,

32. The climate crisis is the greatest test of our collective conscience. We cannot allow a lack of warning to continue to cause preventable tragedies.

- 33. Science has already given us the tools; technology has already shown us the way. What is missing is the **moral** and political commitment to leave no one behind.
- 34.Our message is simple and urgent: 'Early Warning for All' is not an aspiration, it is a moral and political obligation to our peoples and to future generations. Investing in warning systems is an investment in hope, dignity and human sovereignty
- 35.On behalf of the people of Mozambique, I reaffirm our firm commitment to the Early Warnings for All Initiative and to the spirit of the Paris Agreement.
 - 36. We will continue to invest in climate science, innovation and cooperation, because we believe that prevention is protection, and that protection is an act of love for humanity.
- 37. In closing, we hope that this meeting in Geneva will mark a turning point: that it will be a global commitment to ensure that every warning issued is an opportunity to save lives and build hope.
- **38.** May each warning issued be a renewed commitment to life, solidarity and the future of humanity.

Thank you very much for your kind attention!