

MISSÃO PERMANENTE DA  
REPÚBLICA DE MOÇAMBIQUE  
JUNTO DAS NAÇÕES UNIDAS  
GENEVA



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE  
GENEVA

**Statement by HE Ambass. Pedro Comissario, Permanent Representative of Mozambique to the United Nations Office and Other International Organization in Geneva, at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on the Rights of Peasants and other People Working in Rural Areas**

**19<sup>th</sup> May 2016**

Thank you, Madam Chair, for giving us the floor!

Since we are intervening for the first time, we express our deep appreciation for the manner in which you have been presiding over the proceedings of the third session of the Working Group on the Rights of Peasants and People Living in Rural Areas.

We highly appreciate the work of this Working Group, since its inception, for its mandate is in tandem with the Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

The mandate is also in line with the global frameworks of the UN, inter alia the 2030 Development Agenda, SDGs, Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction, Paris Agreement of UNFCCC and others.

Like in many other developing countries, the majority of our population live in rural areas, party of which are peasants. Around 53% of these persons are women, who dedicate themselves to subsistence agriculture, as a livelihood.

Therefore, the Government has been doing its utmost to meet its obligations under regional and international legal instruments, inter -alia the CEDAW to better cater for the human rights of women, but with focus on women peasants.

Mozambique subscribes to the need of the Working Group to pay more attention to the empowerment of women, especially peasant

and rural women, including the right to own land and inherit land and to have access to bank loans, for them to develop their rural activities, with focus on agriculture. That would contribute to the well-being of rural and peasant women, that of their households as well as to the poverty reduction.

To conclude, Madam Chair, we wish this session successful deliberations.

We thank you!