

RESOLUTION

The Humanitarian Crisis in Northern Mozambique

Adopted at the YEPP Council Meeting via Zoom, 24.04.2021

2017 marked the genesis of an insurgency in Cabo Delgado, the northern region of Mozambique. This in turn led to numerous events, resulting in the collapse of fragile institutions, which bled into the neighbouring provinces of Niassa and Nampula. The United Nations has estimated that 1.3 million people need urgent humanitarian assistance in the region. The violence has not only destroyed livelihoods, disrupted markets, caused inflation of essential goods but demolished 36 % of the area's health facilities.

In 2020, the violence escalated with fighters capturing Mocimboa da Praia, which remains out of the government's jurisprudence. The town's port is of strategic importance for liquefied natural gas projects that are being developed on a fortified peninsula a short way up the coast.

These acts of terrorism have remained constant in 2021 and it is of utmost importance that further light is shone on this dire situation and its continued developments.

Recognizing that:

1. The armed groups active in the Cabo Delgado Province, known as Ansar al-Sunna, have been recognized as an Islamic terrorist group with connections to the Al-Shabaab Somali terrorists, ISIS and Islamic fundamentalist groups in Tanzania.
2. On March 24th 2021, a terrorist attack was launched on the village of Palma, Northern Mozambique, aggravating the existing humanitarian crisis and shocking the world with the cruelty, where barbaric methods such as beheading, burnings and the use of civilians as human shields were used.



HEAD OFFICE
10 Rue du Commerce
1000 Brussels, Belgium
+32 2 285 41 63
yepp@epp.eu

3. According to various sources, these terrorist groups have caused more than 2500 deaths and more than 700 thousand people have been displaced, with estimates of 300 thousand being children, a third of the region's total population.
4. The Mozambican army is poorly equipped to deal with the surge of terrorism in the region. The latter is further highlighted with the militaries and Mozambican authorities' inability to halt the attacks.
5. Cabo Delgado has the highest rates of inequality, illiteracy and child nutrition. These coupled with the lack of political authority in the region are contributing factors to the increase of violence and terrorist activities.

Acknowledging that:

1. The Mozambican Government has issued international aid requests, for humanitarian support, but has refused international military support.
2. Mozambique has received support from South Africa, Tanzania, Russia, Uganda, the United States, Portugal, the United Kingdom and Malawi, but despite international help and actions taken by Governmental forces, the crisis remains unchanged.
3. The UN, through a communication issued by the UN Secretary-General office, António Guterres, has condemned the terrorist attacks in Mozambique and showed its readiness to protect civilians, restore stability and bring the instigators of the attacks to justice.
4. Solidarity within Mozambique has been growing, with special attention to the people in Cabo Delgado, which has led young people in the country to launch a National Solidarity Campaign for Cabo Delgado under the hashtag #CaboDelgadoTambiénÉMocambique ("Cabo Delgado is also Mozambique") in order to raise awareness of the tragic situation in the region.



HEAD OFFICE
10 Rue du Commerce
1000 Brussels, Belgium
+32 2 285 41 63
yepp@epp.eu

YEPP severely condemns:

The acts of terrorism being carried out by the terrorist group Ansar al-Sunna in Cabo Delgado, which are putting millions of people at risk, particularly children, hence creating a humanitarian crisis.

YEPP calls on:

1. The EU to coordinate its action with the Government of Mozambique, ensuring alignment of the response to the needs of the country and region affected.
2. Mozambican authorities/government to use all the necessary means to solve the situation. This encompasses the need for improved and better equipment, without exclusively integrating FRELIMO fighters.
3. The Mozambican Government to work towards effective local governance, ensuring the promotion of education and creation of basic infrastructure including sanitation particularly in Cabo Delgado.
4. The Mozambican government to open the dialogue - at national level - to other political parties / groups / and civil society to coordinate a unified response to the present crimes.