



DECIDE BRIEFING

W E E K L Y E D I T I O N

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“ NATIONAL DIALOGUE:

Decide And Bloco 4
Foundation Host
Members Of Youth
Organizations From
Political Parties

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On May 26th, the DECIDE Platform and Bloco 4 Foundation hosted members of the youth wings of political parties—MDM, FRELIMO, and PODEMOS—at their offices in Maputo City.

The aim was to assess the actions to be undertaken by young people in addressing youth-related concerns from various parts of the country within the framework of the National Dialogue. During the meeting, the youth organizations were questioned about the initiatives they are implementing to rebuild young people's trust in participating in the country's political life, especially in the context of the National Dialogue process.

Participants Perspectives and Contributions

- Aderito Mapera, representative of the MDM Youth League, stated that the National Dialogue is a welcome initiative to safeguard peace and stability in the country. However, he expressed concern over the existence of two parallel dialogues: one between the President of the Republic and political parties, and another between the President and former presidential candidate Venâncio Mondlane.

Mapera noted that "this situation may raise questions regarding the transparency of the process." He also highlighted the incident in Gorongosa involving the police and MDM members as a potential threat to one of the key objectives of the National Dialogue—depoliticizing the state and safeguarding equal rights. He emphasized the importance of society at large recognizing the value of dialogue.

- Sale Mussa, from the Mozambican Youth Organization (OJM), affiliated with FRELIMO, underscored that the organization prioritizes shared principles over political differences. He stressed that integrating young people throughout the process is a top priority, and noted the potential for a significant number of youth to participate in the Working Groups on legal reforms resulting from the National Dialogue.

Mussa also highlighted the need for broader support beyond the Working Groups and the Technical Commission.

- Saldina Simango, Provincial Secretary of the PODEMOS Youth Organization, accompanied by Helder Macie, stated that they are currently preparing young people to take part in the Working Groups. She emphasized that the National Dialogue is of great importance for the country’s stability.

Key Questions and Reflections

During the meeting, Roda Mondlane, leader of the civil society organization PARTICIPE, raised a critical question: “Is the current priority reconciliation or reform?” She pointed out a crisis of identity among youth with regard to political parties and questioned how these parties are working to regain the trust of young people who demand social justice, many of whom lack a deep understanding of political and reform processes.

The youth organizations responded that they are undertaking grassroots work within their parties with the aim of eventually expanding their influence into broader sectors of society.

Recommendations and Next Steps

- Mussa (OJM) recommended that political dialogue among young people be jointly promoted, youth inclusion policies in decision-making processes be strengthened, youth policies be widely disseminated, coordination between civil society and political parties be improved, and employment centers be created.
- PODEMOS and MDM highlighted the urgent need to establish an effective reconciliation mechanism.

This initiative is part of the National Reforms and Reconciliation Project, which beyond political party involvement includes public consultation events to gather society’s views on the National Dialogue. The key locations for these discussions have been the cities of Beira, followed by Maputo and Quelimane.

Finally, it was agreed that DECIDE and Bloco 4 Foundation would be responsible for developing a reconciliation platform to engage youth organizations from political parties and civil society.