



DECIDE BRIEFING

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**8 YOUNG PEOPLE
SENTENCED IN
MANICA IN THE
CONTEXT OF
POST-ELECTION
PROTESTS IN
MOZAMBIQUE**

N:12

In a period still marked by post-election tensions in Mozambique, several provinces continue to face the profound consequences of the protests that shook the country. In Manica, a group of young people remain incarcerated in the Cabeça do Velho Prison in the city of Chimoio after being convicted for involvement in the protests. On charges of rioting and more, the young people were sentenced to terms ranging from 6 to 11 years in prison. Many face severe penalties that have dramatically changed the course of their lives and plunged their families into a cycle of pain and uncertainty.

Behind the numbers are real stories: mothers who travel long distances to Chimoio for a brief visit; fathers who silence their own pain to maintain hope; and families who struggle every day to survive without their children and siblings. These are lives on hold, dreams shattered, and youth cut short.

At the same time, in Sofala, one of the areas with the highest number of detainees nationwide, there has been a sign of hope. Nine young people were released in Beira after more than a year of unjust detention linked to the demonstrations. The reunion brought tears, dignity, and the feeling that it is still possible to rebuild lives shattered by unjust decisions.

This contrast between suffering and hope shows that Mozambique is at a decisive moment where justice, reconciliation, and humanity must go hand in hand.

DECIDE continues to closely monitor each case, recognizing that these families face emotional trauma, economic disruption, and deep social wounds. And that is precisely why this is a call for solidarity: a call to citizens, organizations, and partners to support these families with legal, psychosocial, and humanitarian assistance.

It should be remembered that of the 7,200 detainees, 2,742 are still detained throughout the country in connection with the post-election demonstrations in Mozambique.