

REPÚBLICA DE MOÇANBIQUE
MINITÉRIO DOS NEGÓCIOS ESTRANGEIROS E
COOPERAÇÃO

Statement by

His Excellency Ambassador

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Adviser to the
Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation for Political
Affairs

At the

X Meeting of the Council of Ministers of IOR-ARC

Sana'a, 5th August 2010

Honourable Dr. Abubakar Abdulla Al-Qirbi,
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Yemen,
Chairman of the IX Meeting of the Council of Ministers
Of the IOR-ARC

Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is an honor for me to address the X Meeting of the Council of Ministers of the Indian Ocean Rim Association for Regional Co-operation (IOR-ARC) on behalf of His Excellency Dr. Oldemiro Baloi, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the Republic of Mozambique, who could not attend this August Assembly.

Allow me to express the gratitude of our delegation to the Government and to the People of the Republic of Yemen for convening this important meeting of the Council of Ministers of IOR-ARC and express our appreciation for the excellent hospitality afforded to us in this beautiful city of Sana'a and for the arrangements made for this meeting.

I would also like to congratulate You Mr. Chairman for the brilliant Chairmanship of our organization during your tenure.

Special recognition goes also to the Working Group of Heads of Missions in Pretoria, for the Senior Officials and to the Secretariat for the extraordinary preparatory work done and for the good quality of documents presented before us.

We would like to reiterate our availability to work closely with the Member States and the Secretariat for the continuing success of our organization.

Excellencies
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The process of reforming the IOR-ARC has come to a crucial stage with the drafting of a new Charter for our Organization. We find the present draft of enormous value. We deeply appreciate the work done by our experts. The new Charter will provide us with the necessary tools to effectively meet the goals and aspirations of our organization, particularly in funding our programmes.

It is our desire and expectation that in this new framework, our Governments, through the National Focal Points will play a significant role in the promotion of the IOR-ARC among our civil society. We also foresee a greater visibility in the international arena.

The *new* IOR-ARC should be directed to provide good services to our peoples and interact with the business communities in the promotion of economic growth and social progress in the Member States.

With this approach, we could save our scarce resources and invest them in priority areas with direct impact in the daily life of our population. Coordination and rationalization are the key factors for our success and credibility.

Excellencies

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Allow me to take this opportunity to briefly share with you some of the recent developments in the Republic of Mozambique.

As we informed at the 9th Council in October 2009, Mozambique held its 4th multiparty general elections, which were considered peaceful, fair and transparent by the international community.

Indeed, as a result of these elections, the National Assembly, the Cabinet and Provincial Assemblies are functioning in a stable environment.

The National Assembly has approved a Five Year Government Program and the Social and Economic Plan for the Year 2010 and its budget allowing therefore the Government to implement its program focused on the fight against poverty.

The Government of Mozambique has been focusing its initiatives in attracting foreign investment and the response has been so far positive. The main areas for foreign investment in the country are in the sectors of infra-structures, agriculture, energy, forestry, mining and tourism.

We therefore invite the Member States to either bilaterally or in the framework of our organization to invest in Mozambique taking advantage of the good business environment created by the Government.

Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to express the support of the Government of Mozambique to the incoming Chair and Vice Chair and reiterate our commitment to work closely with India and Australia for the success of our Organization.

Let me conclude my remarks by reiterating the commitment of the Government of the Republic of Mozambique to continue to work closely with all member states and the dialogue partners for the successful materialization of our objectives.

I thank you.