

REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE
MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENCE
PRESS RELEASE

1. We call upon the media to inform the Mozambican society and the international community that following joint operations involving the Mozambican Defence and Security Forces and the Rwandan Forces, the terrorists have been losing ground and are withdrawing from the areas where they wielded relative influence.

2. In this regard, we highlight that after the operations that led to the control of the Awasse village, the consolidation of the Awasse - Diaca stretch, in the Mocímboa da Praia district, as well as the reinforcement of situational control of the town of Palma and its vicinities, the offensive underway deactivated the following positions:

- to the North of the town of Mocímboa da Praia, namely, the positions of Quelimane, Njama, Tete, Maputo, Primeiro de Maio and Unidade; and
- to the West - the positions of Ntotwe, Manilha, Magoma, Mumu and Mbuje.

3. The Joint Forces - Mozambique and Rwanda, are in control of the town of Mocímboa da Praia since 11 am today, 08 August 2021, controlling public and private infrastructure with an emphasis on local government buildings, port, airport, hospital, markets, restaurants, among other economic assets.

4. Operations are currently continuing in the town of Mocímboa da Praia, with the aim of consolidating control over the critical areas, namely some peripheral neighbourhoods and the area where the water treatment plant is located.

5. It is important to emphasise that the success of the operations was due to the effective collaboration of the local communities, and therefore calls for the reinforcement of collective vigilance, bearing in mind that due to the momentum of the offensive underway, terrorists will have a tendency to infiltrate, with the aim of disrupting investigations and the registration of the rescued populations.

6. We appeal to the serenity and continued collaboration of the society as a whole and ask them to share with the relevant institutions any relevant information that may help to achieve and defend the Nation's current objectives, namely to fight and prevent violent extremism and terrorism.

Maputo, 08 August 2021