

THE FOOD SECURITY POLICY LEADER AWARD FOR 2009

GOES TO:

**HIS EXCELLENCY, ARMANDO EMILIO GUEBUZA,
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE**

THE CITATION READS AS FOLLOWS:

In Mozambique, agriculture is essential for economic growth, poverty reduction and food security. This sector employs more than 80 percent of the labour force and generates 25 percent of gross domestic product (GDP).

Under the leadership of His Excellency, the Government of Mozambique has put in practice the “Rome Declaration on World Food Summit” by “reaffirming the right of everyone to have access to safe and nutritious food. This is consistent with the universal right of access to adequate food and the fundamental human right of everyone to be free from hunger.

Mozambique has made huge progress on ensuring the political, social and economical environment to eliminating poverty and hunger. In the last five years the level of poverty decreased by 15%, thanks to the visionary leadership of His Excellency, and his effort to addressing hunger and malnutrition.

In 2007 the Government of Mozambique approved the Food Security and Nutrition Strategy (ESAN II), which includes food security as human right. In addition, His Excellency, spearheaded the **Green Revolution Strategy**, a crucial document which contains the following pillars:

- Access and rational use of natural resources;
- Access to improved technologies;
- Access to markets and information;
- More access to credit;
- Capacity building of Human and Social Capital.

In order to implement the Green Revolution and overcome High Food and Fuel Prices, the Government under the guidance and leadership of His Excellency approved the **Action Plan for Food Production** which is instrumental in reducing the food deficit of main staple foods in Mozambique during the three years (2008-2011).

These steps by Mozambique under the able and dynamic leadership of His Excellency, Mozambique's Plan will serve as model for food security in the region and beyond. It is also a clear response to the provision of the African Union Head of States and Government decision that at least all AU members countries should strive to invest at least 10 percent of their national budgets in agriculture under Maputo Declaration.