

11/12/00

Motion for a resolution
on the situation in Mozambique
tabled by Mr CUNHA and Mr PACHECO PEREIRA
on behalf of the EPP-ED Group

il duhandt

B5-910/00

The European Parliament,

- recalling its previous resolutions on the situation in Mozambique,

A. Deploping the violent clashes of 9 November which caused at least 41 dead, after the demonstrations organised by the main opposition party, RENAMO, degenerated into battles with the police in a number of towns and cities in northern and central Mozambique;

B. Whereas it is alleged that in many instances the police opened fire on the demonstrators and whereas many of the dead were members of RENAMO;

C. Whereas a further tragedy followed these clashes when at least 80 people, of those arrested during or after the demonstrations, died in custody in Montepuez on the night of 21-22 November, allegedly of asphyxiation, after 96 people had been crammed into a cell which should have held at most nine;

D. Whereas in a separate incident the editor of the Maputo independent paper, Metical, Mr Carlos Cardoso, was shot and killed on 22 November, allegedly as a result of his tenacious investigation of corruption arising out of the country's privatisation programme;

E. Whereas in recent years Mozambique has shown that it is capable of a sustained commitment to national reconciliation and multi-party democracy, with the support of the international community and in particular the EU and its Member States;

1. Strongly condemns the recent violent clashes which accompanied the demonstrations in the centre and north of Mozambique;

2. Calls for an independent and thorough investigation of both the incidents of 9 November and the deaths in custody of at least 80 people in Montepuez, so that those responsible be brought to justice;

3. Welcomes in this regard the recent setting up of a commission of inquiry by the Mozambican parliament and urges all parties to cooperate fully in this inquiry;

4. Also calls for a full and impartial investigation into the murder of Mr Cardoso, which does not bode well for freedom of expression in Mozambique;

5. Calls on all parties to strictly abide by their obligations under the Rome peace agreement of 4 October 1992 and in particular on the Government to recognize the legitimate rights of the RENAMO opposition party;

6. Calls on the leaders of all political parties, as well as the public authorities and civil society, to engage in constructive dialogue and not to undermine the laudable efforts

2 98. 942

which have been made in the recent past towards national reconciliation and multi-party democracy;

7. Instructs its President to forward the present resolution to the Council, the Commission, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Organisation of African Unity and the authorities of Mozambique;

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Pacheco Pereira' in a stylized, cursive script.

(PACHECO PEREIRA)