



**REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE**  
**MINISTRY OF GENDER, CHILDREN AND SOCIAL ACTION**

**Statement of Dr. Nyeleti Brooke Mondlane**  
**Hon. Minister of Gender, Children and Social Action**

Mr. Chairman of the Session;

Distinguished members of the UNICEF Executive Board

Ministers and Heads of Delegations;

Your Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen;

Let me first greet all participants present at this meeting.

I extend a special greeting to the UNICEF Executive Board for its role in promoting children's rights and for having included social protection on the agenda of this meeting.

We feel honored to have the opportunity to share Mozambique's experience in social protection and with children, and we are sure that together we will identify strategies to strengthen the response to meet the specific needs of children.

Ladies and Gentlemen;

The theme of this session is relevant for Mozambique, as it is in line with the Government's actions aimed at improving human development indicators, and social protection is fundamental.

In this context, the Government approved the National Strategy for Basic Social Security 2016-2024, and the Social Assistance programs that strengthen the social protection system.

The implementation of these instruments has resulted in the expansion of access to health, education and social assistance services for vulnerable households.

In the Basic Social Security Program, with the support of partners including UNICEF, the Child Grant component for children 0 to 2 years old started, for those at risk of malnutrition, to meet their specific needs, through cash transfers and sessions with families in childcare and prevention of violence through specific case management.

An evaluation was conducted and showed us that the intervention resulted in:

- improved quantity, quality and diversity of food consumption
- reduction of violence in the families covered, improvement of the mental health of the caregivers.

Our experience indicates that the combination of cash transfers with care has a greater impact on the beneficiaries and that investment in social protection contributes to economic and social development.

Therefore, the Government has taken the decision to continue investing our limited resources in social assistance programs, especially those that contribute to the empowerment and autonomy of vulnerable families.

We will continue to implement the Child Grant, privileging its expansion to areas with high levels of poverty and high rates of chronic malnutrition.

We appreciate the partnership with UNICEF and hope to strengthen it in the new UNICEF Country Program in alignment with the Government's Five-Year Plan, so that our social protection system is strengthened and that our interventions reach more beneficiaries.

Thank you very much.