



REPÚBLICA DE MOÇAMBIQUE
MINISTÉRIO DA INDÚSTRIA E COMÉRCIO

**KEY NOTES BY HONORABLE KENNETH MARIZANE, VICE-
MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND TRADE OF THE REPUBLIC OF
MOZAMBIQUE ON THE IORC ARC ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS
CONFERENCE**

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Por
Kenneth Marizane
Vice-Ministro da Indústria e Comércio

Mr. Chairperson,
Honorable Ministers,
Representative of the Business Associations,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Good afternoon!

First of all, I would like on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Mozambique to most warmly express our sincere gratitude for the invitation to participate in this important event. I extend my thanks to the Government of Mauritius and to the Government of India for co-organizing this first Economic and Business Conference for IOR-ARC member States.

Allow me also, to thank the Government of Mauritius for hosting this conference and for the hospitality accorded to my delegation since our arrival in these beautiful islands.

Honorable Ministers

Ladies and Gentlemen,

This conference constitute an opportunity for deepening our economic and business relations and it paves the way for regular interaction among our governments and the private sector to identify potential economic and business areas where we can mutually engage on and benefit from.

This kind of conference opens opportunity to share our expertise among us in different areas of economic activities such as the development of small and medium enterprises in sectors such as agro-processing, textiles, tourism, just to mention few examples.

Some countries in our organization have already started to implement steps toward such direction.

Now that I am speaking, a second business to business forum, organized jointly with Mauritian Enterprises, is taking place in Mozambique. This is a positive sign that shows that we are able to look for alternatives to market access, investment and business opportunities within our region and we should encourage and support this kind of initiatives.

The Mozambican economy is predominantly characterized by small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) in particular those that are orientated to processing agricultural products.

Mozambican government has taken various measures through the identification of synergies within the private sector in view of creating a favorable business environment developing it and making it more and more competitive in such a way that it can meet the challenge for our national products penetrating foreign markets;

It is in this regard, that the Mozambican Government approved important instruments for different sectors,

namely: (i) Strategy on the business environment in Mozambique; (ii) Industrial policy (iii) Strategy for the development of SMEs; (iv) Competition policy; (v) and Strategy for regional integration among others.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

For the last twenty years our country has been enjoying peace and political stability which paved the way to turn Mozambique to what it is today: a country of business opportunities which is endowed with such a strategic geographic location enabling access to SADC markets and also performing the role of a gateway to markets in Asia Europe and America.

Mozambique is in a process of putting in place a legal and institutional framework aiming at facilitating and making the business environment more effective.

Mozambique will continue with reforms in consultation with the private sector, our partner in this process. The private sector plays a vital role in improving the country's competitiveness. We have a very good

working relationship with the private sector and each year, we have an Annual Private Sector Conference which is chaired by His Excellency the President of the Republic and attended by the Economic Ministers and the Private Sector.

Finally, I would like to reiterate our commitment to continue working with all the Member States to strengthen our economic and business relations for the benefit of all of our people and their prosperity.

I thank you for your attention!