



Joint Oral Statement

Human Rights Council 63rd Session

Agenda Item 6: Universal Periodic Review

Adoption of the UPR outcome of Mozambique

25 September 2026

Delivered by Janet Epp Buckingham

Mr. President,

The World Evangelical Alliance, the World Council of Churches, and other partners, including our national alliance, the Evangelical Association of Mozambique, commend Mozambique for its constructive engagement with the Universal Periodic Review process and its continued willingness to cooperate with the Human Rights Council.

We welcome Mozambique's support for measures aimed at preventing and responding to violent extremism and radicalization. Developing a comprehensive national strategy, in line with the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and the Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism, is important to protect civilians and strengthen accountability.

We also appreciate the Government's commitment to strengthening humanitarian assistance for internally displaced persons, including through cooperation with faith-based and civil society organizations able to provide impartial support.

We welcome the steps proposed to protect freedom of religion or belief, including the withdrawal of the draft Law on Religious Freedom and the alignment of legislation regulating religious communities with Article 18 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and Article 54 of the Constitution.

Finally, we recognize Mozambique's commitment to improving the prevention of, and response to, conflict-related sexual violence, including access to medical, psychosocial, and legal services for survivors.

We respectfully encourage the Government to implement these commitments in close consultation with affected communities, religious organizations, and civil society, ensuring that measures are transparent, inclusive, and consistent with international human rights standards.

Our local partners remain ready to engage constructively and support Mozambique in advancing these shared objectives. Thank you.