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Mozambique: Amnesty International delegates visit

Amnesty International representatives will be visiting Mozambique in April 2004 to participate in a program of workshops.

The workshops, organized in collaboration with Mozambican non-governmental organizations, aim at promoting human rights awareness and providing training in monitoring human rights violations.

The Portuguese Section of Amnesty International together with CIVITAS, a Portuguese non-governmental human rights organization, will hold a series of workshops in Maputo and Nampula. These will be aimed at specific interest groups including students at all levels, teachers, journalists and lawyers. The programs will be tailored to the special role each group plays in promoting and upholding human rights.

A separate workshop will provide training for representatives of non-governmental human rights organizations from northern Mozambique on techniques for monitoring human rights and producing accurate and impartial reports on human rights violations. This workshop, which will be held at the Mozambique Catholic University's Law Faculty in Nampula, is promoted by Amnesty International's Netherlands Section. The facilitators will include staff members of Amnesty International's International Secretariat in London who will also take the opportunity to make inquiries about the current human rights situation in Mozambique.

This program of workshops is part of a new departure in Amnesty International's work. In recent years, the organization has broadened its vision to encompass work on economic, social and cultural rights. Previously, while upholding the universality of all rights, the organization focused mainly on certain civil and political rights. The current more holistic approach includes broadening the network of contacts and exchanging ideas among international and national entities, including state and civil society institutions, which have a particular role in the protection and promotion of human rights.

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For more information please call Amnesty International's press office in London, UK, on +44 20 7413 5566
Amnesty International, 1 Easton St., London WC1X 0DW. web: <http://www.amnesty.org>

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