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VOLDOENDE GRONDREGTE BESKERMING IN MOSAMBIEK VIR SA BOERE
ADEQUATE PROTECTION OF SA FAMER'S LAND IN MOZAMBIQUE

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"Mosambiek se wetgewing oor grondregte, asook die toepassing daarvan en bilaterale beskermingsooreenkomste daaroor, is toereikend vir die vestiging van kommersiële boerderye," sê Dirk Hanekom, Hoof Uitvoerende Beampte van AgriSaMoz.

Die afgelope week se mediadekking oor die ontneming van Suid-Afrikaanse eiendomsbeleggings in Bilene in die Gaza Provinsie, het tot groot onrustigheid onder voornemende landboubeleggers gelei. AgriSaMoz, wat die belange van Suid-Afrikaanse boere in Mosambiek organiseer en met Agri-SA geassosieer is, was genoop om ondersoek na die voorval in te stel. "Ons is tevrede dat daar genoeg regsremedies is vir grondgebruikers en veral langtermyn huurders, wie se ooreenkomste behoorlik in plek is om hulle beleggings te beskerm," se Hanekom.

Die reg behoort toegelaat te word om sy loop te neem. Grond in Mosambiek word relatief goedkoop vir 49 of 99 jaar van die staat gehuur. Verbeteringe wat die huurder aanbring is belasbaar en word geregistreer, dan bly dit die eiendom van die huurder. Aan die einde van die huurtermyn, word hy/sy daarvoor vergoed. Meer as 800 Suid-Afrikaners het reeds, of is in die proses om landtermyn huurkontrakte vir grond in Mosambiek te teken.

Volgens Hanekom het die voorval in Bilene die noodsaaklikheid van sterk verteenwoordigende landboustrukture vir landboubeleggers in Mosambiek opnuut beklemtoon, waardeur daar kollektief met owerhede geskakel kan word om soortgelyke probleme aan te spreek of te vermy.

"Verlede week se samesprekings met banke in Maputo het weer die belangrikheid van sterk landbou-organisasies bevestig vir die ontsluiting van finansiering. Die toereikende, onafhanklike regstelsel in die land ondersteun verder die beskerming van SA boere se beleggings," sê Hanekom ten slotte.

Uitgereik deur AgriSaMoz

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ADEQUATE PROTECTION OF SA FAMER'S LAND IN MOZAMBIQUE

"The Mozambican legal environment for the protection of agricultural land, also for South African farmers in the country as well as bi-lateral agreements between South Africa and Mozambique that protect these rights are more than sufficient for the establishment of successful commercial agricultural practices in Mozambique" says Dirk Hanekom, Chief Executive Officer of AgriSaMoz.

The recent media coverage concerning expropriation of South African property investments in the Bilene area of the Gaza province, has led to serious concern amongst potential agricultural investors. AgriSaMoz, who manages interests of South African farmers in Mozambique with links to Agri SA, was forced to do its own investigation into the circumstances that led to the unfortunate sequence of events in Bilene. "We are satisfied that there is enough legal scope for any land user and especially long term land lease users whose agreements with the Mozambican government is in place, to secure their investments," says Hanekom.

The legal system must be allowed to run its cause. Land in Mozambique is leased from the state for a period of 49 or 99 years and is regarded as relatively cheap. Improvements made on the property by the investor is taxable, registered and stays the property of the investor. At the end of the leasing contract the investor is remunerated for these improvements. More than 800 South African have already or are in the process of signing for long term lease contracts for land in Mozambique.

According to Hanekom the events in Bilene has placed renewed emphasis on the necessity for representative agricultural structures for investors in Mozambique. This action will ensure that there is effective collective interaction with the authorities to timeously address problems of this nature or even better to avoid them all together.

"AgriSaMoz has had talks with Maputo based banks in the previous week where mutual agreement was reached on the establishment of a strong formal agricultural sector to unlock agricultural financing potential. The adequate, independent legal system in Mozambique also supports the protection of SA's farmer's investments in Mozambique," Hanekom said.

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