Mozambique has made progress in delivery of the Sustainable Development Goals. However, promoting political and social inclusion requires equal partnership between government and civil society in observance of the principle of living no one behind in planning and data collection.

We note that Mozambique does not have accurate and reliable statistical information to inform coherent national and local human rights based policies. Will Mozambique work with civil society to secure high quality statistical resources, both from internal as well as from external sources?

For instance, the use of 2017 census sugar-coated the real challenges facing the country. Recognizing this problem, our statement specifically identifies public participation and statistical capacity as important issues facing the nation.

Assuming that delivering the SDGs is about promoting human rights in rural and urban regions, the concerns we hold dear – economic development, eliminating terrorism, recovery from crises of cyclone IDAI and from COVID 19, armed attacks, provision of services to people with disabilities; how agricultural set asides improved community welfare; how government will eliminate resistance to civil society efforts – all require a collaborative methodology and accurate data.

We urge your cooperation because we believe that Mozambicans can together do better to build a local agenda addressing the SDGs. We would be happy to start this partnership immediately and collaborate with the Instituto Nacional de Estatística. Is the Government available?