

## **Government Devalues Metical for Fifth Time**

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[Text] The Mozambican authorities devalued the national currency—the metical—by 6.9 percent at the weekend. There are now 620 meticals per U.S. dollar. The previous rate was 580 to the dollar. The only announcement of the devaluation was in the Bank of Mozambique daily exchange rate bulletin.

This is the fifth devaluation of the currency since the start of Mozambique's economic recovery program in January 1987. Before the program began, the official exchange rate was about 40 meticals to the dollar. At the end of January 1987, the currency was devalued for 200 meticals to the dollar. In June 1987, the rate moved to 400 to the dollar. The first two devaluations, in January in June, got the rate, first to 450, and then to 580 meticals to the dollar.