

# Maputo aid theft 'at 75 percent'

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News Service**

MAPUTO. — A European Community consultant has alleged that 75 percent of the foreign food aid intended for starving Mozambicans is stolen and ends up being sold on the black market.

But the allegation has been denied by Mozambican officials in charge of the distribution system.

The consultant, Mr Herman Gebauer, said in a report that 10 percent of the food aid was stolen between its arrival at Maputo harbour and delivery to the warehouses.

A further 50 percent was diverted from the warehouses run by the food supply company EACM and the state wholesale organisation Cogropa.

Another 15 percent was diverted to the black market and to street vendors.

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