

Chissano Salutes Security Services

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[Text] The 10th [date as heard] anniversary of the People's National Security Service, SNASP, and the 10th anniversary of the Vigilance Groups were marked in Mozambique yesterday. On the occasion, Joaquim Chissano, president of the Republic, said that SNASP cannot exist without the people, a people who work without expecting material compensation. However, they contribute to the security of the state only because it is their state and power belongs to the people. President Chissano added:

[Begin Chissano recording] SNASP was created 13 years ago when we had just emerged from oppression in the People's Republic of Mozambique; when wounds inflicted by the International Police for Defense of the State in the flesh of our people had not yet healed. So, when SNASP was created many quickly drew parallels despite the fact that SNASP was the People's National Security Service. It was instead an instrument created to defend power, many doubted the manner in which SNASP would carry out its duties.

We have gone through a number of years during which we, ourselves, sought methods which could indeed deserve the name: People's National Security Service, particularly the designation, popular. It was a struggle.

Nowadays, we see that in fact our people is the main body of this service of ours. SNASP cannot exist without the people, and the people work without expecting material compensation, and much less incentives. However, they contribute to the security of the state only because it is their state. [end recording]