

SOUTH AFRICA - MOZAMBIQUE - NKOMATI ACCORD*

JOINT PRESS STATEMENT BY BOTH THE DELEGATIONS OF SA AND THE PEOPLES
REPUBLIC OF MAZAMBIQUE

THE GOVERNMENT DELEGATIONS OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA AND THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF MAZAMBIQUE MET IN MAPUTO ON MARCH 14, 1985 FOR THE SEVENTH SESSION OF THE JOINT SECURITY COMMISSION ESTABLISHED BY THE NKOMATI ACCORD.

BOTH DELEGATIONS AGREED THAT IT WAS ESSENTIAL FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE WHOLE SOUTHERN AFRICAN REGION THAT THE NKOMATI ACCORD SHOULD BE FULLY IMPLEMENTED

BOTH GOVERNMENTS ARE CONCERNED AT THE INCREASE IN VIOLENCE IN MOZAMBIQUE AND PROPOSALS WERE DISCUSSED AS TO WAYS AND MEANS OF BRINGING AN END TO IT.

THE OPPORTUNITY WAS USED TO REVIEW PROGRESS MADE IN AREAS OF CO-OPERATION AND CERTAIN PROPOSALS WERE MADE WHICH WILL HAVE TO BE CONSIDERED BY BOTH GOVERNMENTS.

BOTH DELEGATIONS RE-ITERATED THEIR GOVERNMENTS CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO AND FULL SUPPORT OF THE NKOMATI ACCORD.

THE DELEGATIONS COMPRISED OF : 1. RSA :
RF BOTHA, MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, GENERAL M MALAN, MINISTER OF DEFENSE, MR D J LOUIS NEL, DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, MR ADRIAAN VLOK, DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENSE AND LAW AND ORDER, DR NEIL BARNARD, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE, VICE ADMIRAL W N DU PLESSIS, SADF, BRIGADIER J A KLOPPER, SADF, BRIGADIER J VAN DER MERWE, SAP, MR C F PATERSON, SA TRADE REPRESENTATIVE IN MOZAMBIQUE AND SENIOR OFFICIALS OF THE DEPARTMENTS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENSE, POLICE AND NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.

2. MOCAMBIQUE

COL S. VIEIRA, MINISTER OF SECURITY AFFAIRS, DR. T. HUNGVANA, DEPUTY MINISTER INTERIOR, LT. COL. F. HONWANA, SPECIAL ASSISTANT OF THE PRESIDENT, LT. COL. I. MANGVEIRA, MOZ. DEFENCE FORCE, MR. A.J.N CHISSANO, DIRECTOR OF THE PRESIDENCY, MR. P. COMMISSARIO, DIRECTOR OF MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, MR. J.B. VEDOR, NATIONAL DIRECTOR INTERIOR, MAJ. G. CHONGO, CHIEF OF STAFF, BORDER GUARDS AND MAJ M.G. CHITUPILA, NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE AS WELL AS SENIOR OFFICERS OF THE MOCAMBIQUEN GOVERNMENT.

* (The Joint Statement, and the South African document, "Nkomati: The First Year - A Diary of Developments", were provided by Mr W. Bosnan, South African Embassy, Canberra).

NKOMATI : THE FIRST YEARA DIARY OF DEVELOPMENTS

The Nkomati Accord between South Africa and Mocambique was signed on March 16, 1984. A Diary of Developments for the year since then discloses the efforts that have been made in South Africa towards its implementation. It is not only the government that has been involved but also corporations, companies, a variety of other organisations and private individuals. Co-operation has ranged from major projects like harbour and airport improvement, through tourist and labour arrangements, to gifts of food. Goodwill is widespread, and there is general frustration among South Africans at the blocking of progress in many areas by the on-going conflict between the Mocambique resistance movement, Renamo, and the Maputo government.

This is the diary:

March, 1984: Nkomati Accord provides for non-aggression, good neighbourliness, economic collaboration. It establishes joint security commission to supervise and monitor the agreement. Regular contact between the countries is maintained through this commission, and through three other joint bodies - on economic matters, tourism and Cahora Bassa hydro-electric project.

April, 1984: South Africa is invited by Mocambique, Zimbabwe and Botswana to join them on a technical committee for development of the Limpopo Basin. For 534 km the Limpopo river forms the boundary between South Africa and Botswana; for 230 km between South Africa and Zimbabwe, for 510 km it flows through Mocambique. Joint research and development of the waterway is of prime economic importance to all three countries.

April, 1984: First consignment of 5-million apples arrives in Maputo. A gift from Cape fruit farmers to children of Mocambique, delivered free of charge by the South African Transport Services; Conference Lines also ship free while 25 000 cartons are donated by Nampak Corrugated Containers.

May, 1984: Representatives of Portugal, Mocambique and South Africa sign agreement on Cahora Bassa in Cape Town. Among the advantages it promises are:

- (i) delivery to ESCOM at a competitive price of some 8 per cent of its total requirement;
- (ii) direct financial benefit from operation for Maputo governments;
- (iii) regular return to Portugal on its investment of R1 200-million in project;
- (iv) a model of how natural resources of Africa can be used for common benefit across political, ideological frontiers.

May, 1984: First organised mission of South African businessmen flies into Maputo for three-day visit. Representing fishing, banking, steel and electrical, equipment interests, it explores trade opportunities with Mocambique Chamber of Commerce. Visit is sponsored by South African Foreign Trade Association.

May, 1984: Defence Minister Magnus Malan declares South Africa's readiness to supply Mocambique with logistical support to help guard Cahora Bassa powerline on its side of border, against sabotage by resistance movement.

May, 1984: Director of national tourist organisation in Maputo, George Welch, says Mocambique has begun rebuilding its holiday infrastructure to attract large numbers of mainly South African visitors. He says he has received inquiries from number of South African fishing clubs.

May/June, 1984: President (then Prime Minister) P W Botha visits seven European countries at invitation of their governments. Invitations reflect European recognition, following Nkomati, of South Africa's key role in region. During tour President repeatedly stresses necessity of European assistance for economic redemption of subcontinent.

June, 1984: Members of South African government refer to security advantages for South Africa resulting from Nkomati. Transport Minister Schoeman says Maputo government has already eliminated 36 ANC cells in Mocambique. Defence Minister Malan notes: "We have reached point where ANC activities are considerably limited as consequence of government's initiative in normalising relations with neighbours".

July, 1984: Destination MAPUTO appears on South African road signboards. Johannesburg Star publishes photograph of

board in Lowveld town of Barberton: MAPUTO ... KRUGER NATIONAL PARK ... SWAZILAND. Picture tells historic story. Decade ago, sign LOURENCO MARQUES was taken down following collapse of Portugal's empire. Nothing was put in its place: there was then no communication between two countries.

August, 1984: South African-based Rennie's Shipping is to provide R1,5-million to help upgrade cargo handling at Maputo port. It is now estimated that 6-million tons of cargo will be sent through Maputo during coming two years, compared with 1,2-million tons in 1983.

August, 1984: Mocambique delegation visits Transvaal Lowveld for talks with Repmosa, private organisation established to co-ordinate Lowveld trade with Mocambique. Lowveld businessmen are mooting projects involving heavy investment in Mocambique. There are discussions about making land in Mocambique available for farming by South Africans. Repmosa itself makes firm proposals for joint multi-million rand tourist programme.

August, 1984: Transport Minister Schoeman announces during visit to Maputo R10-million loan to Mocambique government as part of 10-point plan to rebuild Mocambique's railway infrastructure and Maputo port. South Africa and Mocambique transport departments will in future meet every two months to evaluate progress.

August, 1984: It is disclosed in Pretoria that South Africa will provide funds towards establishment of multi-million rand canned-meat factory in Maputo.

September, 1984: Mayor of Randfontein, Fanie van Zyl, organises goodwill trip for 200 tourists by train from his town to Maputo. It is first South African passenger train to cross border since May 11, 1977.

October, 1984: Foreign Minister Pik Botha arranges meeting in Pretoria between Frelimo government and Renamo resistance movement.

Renamo/Frelimo conflict is crux of whole situation; and never before have representatives of two sides sat together at conference table. Meeting ends in agreement - Pretoria Declaration - to work towards ceasefire. Joint commission - representing Pretoria, Frelimo and Renamo - is set up towards that end. However, immediately after meeting, Renamo secretary general states fighting will continue until ceasefire is signed; Frelimo representative states war will go on "until bandits finally end their violence".

Security-wise South Africa has profited from Nkomati, Mocambique has not: ANC has been curbed, Renamo has not. This has led to criticism of Pretoria. But fact is that while ANC bases were situated in Mocambique, Renamo bases have never been situated in South Africa. Renamo, with variety of foreign supporters, operates from within Mocambique itself. Accordingly, Pretoria's task of controlling Renamo has been incomparably more difficult than Maputo's task - namely, of closing down ANC bases inside its own territory.

November, 1984: Manpower Minister Pietie du Plessis leads 15-man mission, including representatives of Chamber of Mines and South African Agricultural Union, to labour talks in Maputo. Result: agreement

- (i) to regularise position of thousands of illegal immigrants from Mocambique working on farms in Eastern Transvaal;
- (ii) to streamline procedures for recruiting Mocambique workers for South African Mines.

November, 1984: Pretoria and Maputo agree to joint programme to investigate marine resources and exchange scientific information. Also:

- (i) document is signed by South African Industrial Development Corporation and Bank of Mocambique for providing financial assistance to rehabilitate Mocambique fishing fleet; and
- (ii) South African fishing companies operating in Mocambique waters will pay Maputo government levies on their catches.

November, 1984: South African wing of international Missionary Aviation Fellowship steps up efforts to bring relief by air to those in dire need in Mocambique. Until Nkomati, Mocambique was closed to MAF. Organisation flies in food, medical aid, skilled personnel.

January, 1985: President Botha says there are indications that assistance continues to be given to Renamo by certain individuals from number of countries including South Africa. He reaffirms that his government will not allow South African territory to be used for perpetrating or planning of acts of violence against neighbour states by any organisation or person.

March, 1985: After meeting in Maputo, South African Foreign Minister and Frelimo governments restate their commitment to Nkomati Accord. Foreign Minister Botha says that "guardsmen or security people" may be sent to protect powerlines, roads and railways in Mocambique. South Africa, he says, is also prepared to consider sending in troops if Frelimo requests this, though no request has so far been received. He also discloses that low-level radar has been installed on border to monitor flights that may be Renamo-related.

Such is the Diary of Developments (by no means comprehensive) for Year 1 of the Nkomati Accord. It demonstrates the good faith of the South African government, the eagerness to co-operate and do business of a variety of South African organisations, and a fund of goodwill towards Mocambique among South African citizens. However the promise of Nkomati - whether as to power-supply, trade or tourism - cannot be realised while strife in Mocambique continues. And the problem is that Renamo is backed by powerful bodies and individuals in countries around the world.

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