DEATH SHOCKS MUZENDA

THE acting Prime Minister Cde Simon Muzenda, has sent the following message to the Mozambican government on the death of President Samora Machel.

"It is with a profound sense of shock and a heavy heart that I learned of the tragedy that resulted in the cruel and untimely death of President Samora Machel of the People's Republic of Mozambique last night while he was flying back home from a visit to Zambia.

"On behalf of the Government and People of Zimbabwe, I wish to convey to the late President's family, the Government and People of Mozambique, our deepest condolences on the tragic loss of this gallant fighter for the emancipation of the people of Mozambique and, indeed, of the entire African continent. Our grief is made all the heavier to bear by the fact that many other high level Mozambican officials also died together with the President in this tragedy.

"Samora Machel was a man imbued with the most admirable and exemplary qualities of leadership — an indefatigable fighter for his people; a champion of the oppressed; an ardent advocate of justice and freedom for all peoples and a visionary who was also a man of action. He was a true man of the people for it is for the people that he laboured tirelessly both before and after the achievement of Mozambique's independence. He lived for the people and has died, in tragic circumstances, for them.

"Zimbabwe pays' homage to this illustrious son of Africa and at the same time calls upon the fraternal people of Mozambique to continue the wideranging struggle that he had so ably led."