



MR BELLO when he called on the President yesterday.

Nigerian high commissioner hails Machel

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Herald Reporter

THE outgoing Nigerian High Commissioner to Zimbabwe, Mr Sani Bello, yesterday paid tribute to the late President Samora Machel who was killed in a plane crash in South Africa on Sunday night.

Bidding farewell to President Banana at State House in Harare Mr Bello pledged his country's continued support for the Frontline States and the liberation movements in the region, the African National Congress, the Pan Africanist Congress and Swapo.

Nigeria, he said, would continue giving support "especially now that the struggle in South Africa has taken a new dimension. We in Nigeria have always considered ourselves as part and parcel of that struggle".

The death of Cde Machel was a blow to the people of Mozambique, the Frontline States and the struggling masses of South Africa and Namibia. "But the struggle against the Pretoria regime would continue and apartheid would be destroyed," said Mr Bello.

President Banana thanked Mr Bello for his sympathy over the death of "our dear brother, Cde Machel. We are still astounded by the death and are still awaiting details of the circumstances surrounding the tragedy", he said.

Cde Banana also thanked Nigeria for its contribution in the preparations for the eighth Non-Aligned Movement summit and its active participation during the conference.

Mr Bello has been his country's High Commissioner to Zimbabwe for more than two years.