

# Maputo sees 'some problems' with SA accord

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MAPUTO. — Mozambique said yesterday its non-aggression pact with South Africa was developing positively but "some problems" remained.

However, a reliable source closely informed about security talks between the two countries said Maputo was "concerned" that South Africa was still supporting anti-government rebels in Mozambique and was unhappy about Pretoria's "evasive" replies to the charge.

The source, who asked not to be identified, said South Africa replied to Maputo's charge by blaming "individual officials within its security establishment" over whom it had no control.

In Cape Town a spokesman for the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Pik Botha, dismissed the claim as "absurd".

"The Prime Minister and the Foreign Minister have repeatedly pledged to stick to the letter and spirit of the Nkomati accord," the spokesman said.

The accord prohibited either country from supporting insurgent groups opposed to the other and specifically was aimed at South Africa's black underground African National Congress (ANC) and the anti-government Mozambique National Resistance (MNR) in Mozambique.

The MNR, which aims to topple Mozambique's Fre-

limo government, has intensified its campaign since the signing of the accord on March 16, striking closer to the capital Maputo than ever before in its seven-year civil war.

However, MNR secretary-general, Mr Evo Fernandes, contacted in Lisbon, denied his movement was being helped by South Africa.

The government-run Mozambican news agency Aim reported yesterday that Mr Jacinto Veloso, the Minister for Economic Affairs in the office of the President, said there was "positive development" in the accord "although some problems still exist".

Mr Veloso was speaking on Wednesday night on his return from Cape Town following a meeting with Mr P W Botha and Mr Pik Botha to review the progress of the Nkomati accord.

The talks came less than a week after a two-day meeting in Maputo of the Joint Security Commission set up under the Nkomati accord to monitor compliance with the pact.

Recent agreements between Maputo and Pretoria have covered economic cooperation, the development of tourism in Mozambique and the supply of power from the Cahora Bassa hydro-electric scheme in central Mozambique. — UPI.