

Mozambique

Mozambique's chief negotiator at the Pretoria talks aimed at ending rebel violence in his country said in an interview published in Maputo yesterday that he saw no immediate prospect for a solution. The Economic Affairs Minister, Mr Jacinto Veloso, said a joint commission, including representatives of the Mozambique government and the ... MNR had made 'positive steps' since it was set up on October 3 ... However, he added: 'We cannot say that there will be an early solution' ...

The joint commission held a second round of talks in Pretoria last week, but details of its discussions were not disclosed. Mr Veloso said the Mozambican government would continue military action against the rebels while the talks continued ... Mozambique's Minister of Information, Mr Jose Luis Cabaco, claimed in Harare at the weekend that SA had shown no interest in keeping its part of the Nkomati Accord. 'We think Nkomati was an exercise in the interest of both governments, but we now think if there is no result then there is no reason for us to keep up this agreement, and that is the view we have expressed to SA. They showed no interest in implementing their part of the Nkomati agreement,' he said.

Mr Cabaco claimed 'some forces' in SA continued to give support to MNR 'bandits' and the agreement signed in Pretoria on October 3 spelt out to the South Africans Mozambique's attitude to this. 'We will never, under any circumstances, accept the principles of a ceasefire, because no country in the world can accept a ceasefire to stop fighting banditry,' he said.

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