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## **Security Cases to Provincial Courts**

Security cases that were pending when the Military Revolutionary Tribunal was abolished in March will soon be remitted to the provincial people's tribunals, Deputy Attorney-General Sinai Nhatitima, told journalists on 12 June.

Until this year, the military tribunal was the only court empowered to hear security case.

The provincial tribunals will now hear security cases and the Supreme Tribunal will act as a court of appeal.

The cases pending have been reviewed one by one, and Mr Nhatitima said they fell into two categories: economic sabotage and acts of terrorism.

Most of the accusations of economic sabotage involved banking fraud, mainly the theft of the country's scarce foreign currency. Among those charged are employees at the Bank of Mozambique's foreign currency department.

The second group consists of Mozambicans and foreigners involved in violent crimes against the state. The charges in these cases are linked to the war waged by the South African backed MNR bandits.

The deputy attorney-general said that in all cases the accused had the right to defence and to choose their own lawyers. He stressed that the attorney-general's office was determined to ensure legality, in accordance with the principles of the Mozambican constitution.