

**Concludes Working Visit 8 Oct**

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[Text] Joaquim Chissano, Frelimo Party chairman and president of the People's Republic of Mozambique, ended his working visit to Nampula Province today. More details from our correspondent Edmundo Galiza Matos:

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[Matos] In reply to fears raised by a Nampula resident at a mass rally at the northern railroad central (?square) today, Joaquim Chissano, Frelimo Party chairman and president of the People's Republic of Mozambique said:

[Begin Chissano recording] We would like to clarify that if a militiaman, policeman, soldier, director, administrator, or governor begins to harass anyone who voiced his or her views at this rally, he is going to lose his post. [applause] What is more, he will be punished. [end recording]

The rally, which began at about 1030 and ended at 1530, was attended by about 40,000 Nampula residents and was characterized by a lively dialogue between the people and the Mozambican head of state. A number of participants were given the chance to air their concerns, including those over the behavior of the people's militia and the exclusion of Mozambicans of all races from compulsory military service.

The president of the republic said armed banditry had no other objective than the one for which they were created by the enemies of the Mozambican people, namely, to destroy our people's gains, to destabilize the country, and hinder the development of an economy that would benefit all.

On intentions expressed by some forces that the Mozambican Government should negotiate with the armed bandits, President Joaquim Chissano asked about 40,000 people at the Nampula rally: Do you believe I should accept negotiations with the armed bandits to end the war? The people at the rally replied firmly no, almost in unison. Chissano said that was the reply he received in all the provinces that he has visited.

The Mozambican head of state said that some Mozambicans and foreigners asked him to create a small place for the armed bandits in the Mozambican Government. President Chissano's answer to them was that that was impossible because 14 million Mozambicans do not want that. President Chissano added that the Mozambican Government was ready to forgive them, but to accept their demands would be the same as our government asking for forgiveness from the armed bandits.

Joaquim Chissano also said the second revision of the country's constitution was currently under way with the active participation of the Mozambican people. This is democracy, he said, and asked: What kind of democracy do the armed bandits want?