

**MOZAMBICAN PRESIDENT'S NEW YEAR
ADDRESS: 1988 A YEAR OF "MAJOR BATTLES"**

Maputo, home service in Portuguese 1800 gmt 31 Dec 87

Excerpts from recording of New Year message to the nation by Joaquim Chissano, Chairman of the Frelimo Party and President of the People's Republic of Mozambique

Mozambican men, Mozambican women, compatriots: we are about to end 1987. As we celebrate the family day and the New Year during this festive period, we warmly salute the entire Mozambican people from the Rovuma river to the Maputo river. We wish all Mozambicans happy celebrations and a new year full of hope, health and happiness. . .

Compatriots, in 1987, we began implementing the economic rehabilitation programme. The changes that took place in our economic and social life are already evident. In search of solutions for the serious economic problems that we are facing, we introduced new methods in our economy's planning and management. We have already begun to observe positive results in actions that we all undertook to implement the economic rehabilitation programme. We revitalised various branches of our economy, achieved growth in production and productivity in many economic units and undertook efforts to achieve greater efficiency in the national economy and to readjust our currency to its true value.

Within the framework of production, there was an increasing involvement of the family sector, increasing industrial production, as well as increasing agrarian commercialisation. However, there still persist factors that jeopardise the success of the economic rehabilitation, such as the organisational shortcomings at both the state and private enterprise levels. We still face the effects of natural disasters such as the current drought and irregular rains which affect agricultural production.

The main problem affecting the full implementation of the economic rehabilitation programme is the intensification of destabilisation organised by apartheid. The terrorist actions by the armed bandits make difficult the normal movement of people and goods and destroy the infrastructures, transport and production equipment. These actions also have caused the displacement of a significant percentage of the rural population and have deprived them of basic resources.

With regard to emergency action, the joint efforts by the party and state organs, as well as by the mass democratic organisations and thousands of our citizens have saved thousands of victims of apartheid and natural disasters in our country. This gesture of patriotism, which we found in every family and every village, to come to the rescue of their Mozambican brothers, strengthens the spirit of national co-operation and solidarity. Our emergency programme is aimed at creating conditions so that the displaced and affected people may resume their normal life and production quickly to achieve food self-sufficiency.

The international community continues to play a positive role in assisting and rescuing the victims of war and drought. We express our deep gratitude to the international community for this gesture of solidarity. . .

Compatriots, the war of destabilisation mounted against our country by the apartheid regime is aimed at making every Mozambican an indiscriminate target of murder, massacre and mutilation. It is aimed at turning thousands of Mozambicans into instruments to commit these repugnant and barbaric actions. What we are facing today is the most perfidious policy of terrorism and trauma in an attempt to divide and rule us. It is aimed once again at dividing the Mozambicans in order to dominate them. When our national unity is threatened and so brutally attacked, it becomes imperative to reaffirm it, to defend it and to strengthen it, because it is our principal weapon. It enables us, now and forever, to resist the enemy and emerge victorious.

It is with great determination that we reiterate that Mozambique is the fatherland of Mozambicans, the fatherland of all Mozambicans. That is why we have created conditions so that all Mozambicans may become involved and take pride in identifying themselves as Mozambicans. Every Mozambican must find in Mozambique correct prospects for full involvement within the framework of his or her family and within the framework of the big family which is the Mozambican fatherland. In this context, even those Mozambicans who have become murderers, who maim their people and commit genocide against them should be given an alternative to their condition of being instruments of apartheid and of being nostalgic for colonialism.

Only the fatherland can give them this alternative, that is, of ceasing to be armed bandits and of reintegrating themselves into society. This is the true meaning and scope of the amnesty and pardon laws recently approved by the People's Assembly. They are aimed at strengthening national unity against the most serious factor for division which throughout our history has always been engineered and carried out by the enemies of our country.

However, the success of the amnesty not only depends on the generosity of the one who gives it, it depends above all on repentance, co-operation and reform of the one who benefits from it. Our experience teaches us that we must give a chance for rehabilitation to all those who show willingness to be reintegrated into society, as well as to fight tirelessly all those who are unwilling to reform.

The changes introduced recently in the Nationality Law also are an important contribution to strengthening national unity, the heritage of all Mozambicans regardless of race, sex and place of birth. In 1988, we will continue to pursue it with greater vigour, develop it and carry it out in all fields - in agriculture, industry, trade and transport. We will carry out the principle that in order to strengthen national unity and build peace, progress and well-being, each Mozambican is called upon to play an active role in economic, political and social life.

Compatriots, the nature of war mounted against us by apartheid demands that every Mozambican play an active role in the defence of the fatherland, because the enemy makes every Mozambican a target of his murderous bullets. We must all prepare ourselves better to defend our lives and property. In all residential areas and workplaces we must speed up self-defence organisation. This action coupled with the reorganisation of the Mozambique armed forces will create

better conditions for the elimination of armed banditry and will create greater stability and tranquility in our country, as well as increasing production.

Compatriots, this year, our diplomatic action has exposed clearly the nature of the existing conflict in southern Africa. It has become clearer to the world that Mozambique's destabilisation and the aggression against it are part of the apartheid regime's strategy against the countries of the southern region of the African continent.

In 1987, we made progress toward consolidating relations of friendship and co-operation with all the countries with which we maintain diplomatic relations. Following our international offensive, we gained understanding of our cause among many governments and many personalities and won more friends. The international community made a concrete contribution to our economic rehabilitation programme and the emergency programme. Viable undertakings are being carried out by foreign enterprises in conjunction with Mozambican enterprises, particularly with regard to the Beira, Nacala and Limpopo corridors. These actions will lead to greater growth in the SADCC countries.

In 1987, we strengthened Mozambique's involvement within the context of the organisation of the countries of the region, thus becoming an active member of the frontline states and the SADCC.

The participation of Zimbabwe and Tanzania in the defence effort of our country against South African aggression is of utmost strategic importance at the political, economic and military levels for the entire region. On this occasion, we particularly salute the soldiers and officers who in our country contribute towards the defence of the principles of liberty, independence and sovereignty of Africa. . .

In 1988 we will prepare for the fifth congress of the Frelimo Party. It is a year when we will have to engage in major battles. Our victory essentially depends on all of us and each one of us, on our will and determination. In the struggle against the armed bandits in the implementation of the economic rehabilitation programme, in the organisation of production, in assistance to victims of famine and foreign aggression, as well as in the popular debate that we are going to carry out on the revision of the constitution, we must strengthen our national unity and broaden our democracy. That is why it is the right and duty of every Mozambican citizen to take part in the implementation of the defined tasks. In every workplace, defence and security force unit, mass democratic organisation, trade union health centre, we must all redouble our efforts in fulfilling our assigned tasks. . .
