

**Mozambique: Frelimo organisation secretary addresses youth conference** (Text) The Frelimo Party Central Committee Secretary for Organisation, Eduardo Arao, today accused the MNR bandits of carrying out systematic terrorism to wreck Mozambique's social fabric. Mr Arao was speaking at the opening session of an international conference in solidarity with the young victims of apartheid in southern Africa. The conference is sponsored by the Organisation of Mozambique's Youth - OJM, the World Federation of Democratic Youth - WFDY and the International Union of Students. Mr Arao noted that the MNR bandits had originally been created by the illegal Smith regime of Rhodesia to dissuade Mozambique from supporting the Zimbabwean liberation struggle. He said now the bandits were trying to create permanent instability and disrupt the region's key transport routes that run through Mozambique. As a result of the MNR activities, 1.7m Mozambicans were displaced from their homes, either inside the country or across the border, and 5.9m Mozambicans depended on food aid for survival. Mr Arao pointed to the tragedy of Mozambican children [words indistinct] into the bandit ranks and forced to commit atrocities. He told the conference of delegates that the Mozambican authorities have offered amnesty to bandits who surrendered so that they would have an opportunity to rejoin society.

He described apartheid as the cause of the conflict in southern Africa, warning that only with the independence and the establishment of a just social order in South Africa could peace in the region be guaranteed. He said that throughout southern Africa, millions of people, most of them children and youth, were living in the most miserable conditions which will affect them for the rest of their lives. The gravity of the situation thus calls for intense international solidarity. Mr Arao said he hoped the youth organisations represented at the conference would play their part. (Maputo in English for abroad 1800 gmt 17 Nov 88)