Mozambican and other reaction to South African measures A Maputo radio commentary on 8th October* described the South African decision as "the continuation of destabilising actions which Pretoria carries out against our young republic". However, Mozambique would know how to resist this "latest South African blackmail". The South African agency on 8th October reported a statement from the Chamber of Mines of South Africa expressing regret at the decision and hope that negotiations between Pretoria and Maputo would lead to an early return to normality. The agency also reported a spokesman for the National Union of Mineworkers as describing the decision as "outrageous and unwarranted retaliation". 86