

SA, Mozambique to cooperate for peace

JOHANNESBURG: The governments of South Africa and Mozambique expressed the hope at a Republic Day celebration at the South African Trade Mission in Maputo, that the two countries could cooperate to bring about peace in Southern Africa.

The South African Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Kobus Meiring, said SA was an integral part of Southern Africa and that it had an important role to play in the development of the region.

Mr Meiring added that SA tried to encourage better relations with its neighbours and that independence for SWA and peace in Angola were seen as the key to peace in the region.

The Mozambican Minister of Labour, Mr Aguir Mazula, who represented his government at the celebrations, welcomed the talks between the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Pik Botha, and his American counterpart, Mr James Baker, in Rome last week.

He said the talks could promote the peace initiatives in Southern Africa.

Mr Mazula said his presence at the Republic Day celebrations was an indication of his country's striving for peace.

Representatives of several countries, including the US, Britain, Brazil, Italy and France, attended the celebrations.

Mr Meiring is to hold talks with several Mozambican ministers on matters of mutual interest to SA and Mozambique today.

The talks will include the Cahora Bassa Hydro-electric project and the development of Maputo harbour. — Sapa.