- MOZAMBIOUE

Mugabe and Moi weigh peace conditions

Presidents Moi of Kenya and Mugabe of Zimbabwe met in Nairobi on 8 December to explore ways of bringing the government and the rebel Mozambique National Resistance (MNR) together for direct peace talks.

Diplomatic sources in Nairobi said the two leaders, holding their fourth meeting as joint mediators in the civil war, reviewed reports of the talks begun in Nairobi in August by Mozambican Church leaders and the MNR (AED 7:8:89).

The Church leaders have been representing their government in the talks with the MNR, which wants power-sharing and fresh elections in Mozambique.

Maputo has said it will talk to the MNR only if the rebels end all "acts of banditry and terrorism" and recognise the legitimacy of the government and the constitution allowing only the ruling party.

In talks with church leaders, the MNR laid down another condition for direct negotiations — that the 12,000 Zimbabwean troops guarding trade routes in Mozambique and fighting the rebels should leave.