

Chissano in a hurry^{2/5} to end 13-year war⁹⁰

MAPUTO. — President Joaquim Chissano told a May Day rally yesterday that his government “does not want to waste a minute” in establishing negotiations to end the country’s 13-year guerrilla war.

Mr Chissano said a choice of venue was the main obstacle to starting a dialogue with the Mozambique National Resist-

ance, also known by its Portuguese acronym, Renamo.

“We want a direct dialogue, without intermediaries, with representatives of Renamo,” Mr Chissano said. The government wants the meeting held under conditions “in which both parties can have full trust,” he said.

Mr Chissano said he was due to receive reports

today from government envoys sent on diplomatic missions to deal with the peace initiative, and it was possible further missions would be sent out.

Mr Chissano said the government had chosen neighbouring Malawi as the sight for the first direct talks “because we thought it was convenient both for ourselves and for Renamo”. — Sapa-AP.