

# Maputo, Luanda in peace moves

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**BANDITS** in Mozambique have accepted the government's proposal for direct peace talks to be held in neighbouring Malawi, the office of President Chissano said on Wednesday.

Earlier this year the MNR bandits had rejected Malawi as a venue for the talks, citing security problems.

But Wednesday's statement said the bandits had agreed that the talks would take place in Malawi at a date still to be decided.

In recent months, Cde Chissano has said he wanted peace talks to take place as soon as possible to end the 14-year war.

In Luanda, the Angolan government has ordered its troops to withdraw from their forward positions in south-eastern Mucundi region to create an atmosphere conducive to the restoration of peace in Angola.

In a statement yesterday, the office of the commander-in-chief of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola said that Luanda's chief representative at the United Nations, Cde Manuel Pedro Pacavira, on Tuesday informed the United States, Portugal and Zaire of the decision to pull government troops out of the war-torn region.

The troops are withdrawing to Calundo in the western part of Kuando-Kubango province and ready to withdraw further to the areas near the Angola-Namibia border.

The Unita bandits were urged to stop immediately their sabotage activities of cutting electricity and water supplies to Luanda and other cities.

Unita bandits announced on April 30 that they would stop rhetorical attacks on the government and its leaders. Government troops have started pulling out of Mavinga, a major Unita stronghold which had been recaptured from the bandits. — Zianra-Reuter-Xinhua.