

Claim may set back talks

The Star's Africa News Service

MAPUTO — The delicately poised negotiations for an end to the conflict in Mozambique may have been set back by a claim that guerillas of the rebel Renamo movement have been trained in Kenya.

Kenya was until recently deeply involved in efforts to arrange peace talks between the rebels and the Frelimo government.

The venue for the negotiations has recently been shifted from Nairobi to Rome, and Kenya is now playing a central role.

But it may still be more difficult to reach a settlement if Renamo are receiving help from Kenya, because this

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would put them into a stronger bargaining position.

The claim that Renamo guerillas were trained in Kenya was made by the official Mozambican news agency, AIM.

This information is said to have been disclosed during a visit to Tete by the Mozambican defence minister, General Alberto Chipande.

AIM said that although President Daniel Arap Moi of Kenya had been one of the mediators in the Mozambican conflict, "it is widely believed that Kenya created difficulties for the first projected direct talks between the Mozambican government and Renamo on June 12 in Malawi".