

Mozambique peace talks collapse

Peace

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A THIRD round of direct peace talks between the Mozambique government and the MNR bandits has been suspended over the issue of African mediators and a recent flare-up of fighting involving Zimbabwe troops, sources close to the negotiations said yesterday.

The banditry has killed an estimated 600 000 Mozambicans since the country gained independence from Portugal in 1975.

High-level representatives of President Joaquim Chissano's government met here twice in July and August with the bandits.

A third session had been scheduled for this month.

President Chissano accused the MNR of deliberately trying to torpedo peace talks by using delaying tactics while continuing with its destabilisation activities. — Ziana-Reuter-Herald Reporter.