
Renamo rejects guarantees

Wkend
Gaz

9/8/91

ROME — Renamo has rejected proposals on political guarantees made by the Italian government and Catholic Church mediators at the peace talks with the Mozambican government in Rome.

At a plenary session on Tuesday night, the Renamo delegation led by the head of the foreign affairs department, Paul Domingos, dismissed the mediators' proposals as "inopportune and without interest".

The mediators had attempted to find a formula whereby Renamo would recognise the legitimacy of the Mozambican government and its institutions, while the Mozambican government would promise a "special sta-

tus" to Renamo, different from that of other opposition parties, after a ceasefire had come into effect.

In its response, Renamo stated at the same time, in apparent contradiction, that it did not reject the mediators' document as such, but considered it inopportune to give a reply to the question of recognising the state, the government and the existing laws, as from the date of a ceasefire.

Renamo described as "not relevant" the mediators' proposal which, in an attempt to speed up negotiations, would have established a timetable, under which the two sides would have reached an overall agreement by December. —Ziana-AIM