

# Mozambique peace talks re-open X (X)

H. 24/2/92 MAPUTO.

THE tenth round of peace negotiations between the Mozambican government and the MNR re-opened in Rome on Friday after a week of virtual paralysis.

The talks appeared to be speeding up now, largely as a result of the decision to shelve for the time being the most controversial issue in the MNR proposals. This was a demand that the Mozambican parliament, to emerge from Mozambique's first multi-party elections, should, as its top priority, amend the existing constitution. But the Mozambican government had rejected this.

After weeks of deadlock, this proposal has, at the mediators' suggestion, been put further down the agenda. It will re-emerge with a new formulation some time later in the negotiations.

Italian Prime Minister Mr Giulio Andreotti received on Friday, in two separate audiences, the delegations from the Mozambican government and MNR to the peace talks in Rome. He pointed out that Italy was willing to step up its co-oper-

ation with Mozambique in helping the post-war reconstruction of the country. These audiences followed working sessions earlier on Friday between the delegations and the mediators.

The two sides are now discussing the matters that should figure in a formal protocol on the principles for the new electoral system. According to Mozambican media, the MNR has presented new proposals which the Mozambican government is considering. — Ziana-Xinhua.