

Frelimo reaffirms policy of 'talk but fight'

MAPUTO. MOZAMBIQUE'S ruling Frelimo party has concluded a week-long meeting of its central committee, reaffirming its position of "talk, but fight" in resolving the country's long-time banditry.

In a communique issued on Friday, the party said that peace will result not only from negotiations with the MNR, now under way in Rome, but also from military, social and economic actions taken by the state.

The document said that if peace is to be lasting and dignified, it can only be the result won by the party, the government and the people in defence of the country and in the re-establishment of social tranquillity.

The meeting stressed that it is imperative "to

improve management, discipline and control inside the army", and, in particular, to ensure that soldiers be paid their wages so that the morale and combat readiness of the troops could be kept up.

The central committee meeting recommended that the government step in to discipline the military so as to make the chain of command efficient and to guarantee effective action.

The ruling party also approved general lines for its activity in the coming year and urged the party members to defend the peasants against the expropriation of their land and other injustices in land distribution.

The party members should provide farmers with necessary information and persuade them to follow the legal channels to acquire the titles to their land, the communique said. In the cities, the party should defend the tenants of state-owned housing against the destabilising actions practised by former landlords, it added.

The ruling party also approved its new internal rules designed to give Frelimo bodies greater flexibility while ensuring that the party "functions internally in a democratic way, and is always identified with the people's longings and aspirations". — Ziana-Xinhua.