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Chissano, Dhlakama to meet

ROME — Mozambique's President Joaquim Chissano and rebel leader Afonso Dhlakama will meet in Rome on August 4 in their first direct talks to end one of Africa's bloodiest civil wars, an Italian official said yesterday.

Mario Raffaelli, a legislator who has been mediating peace efforts, said it was impossible to predict the outcome meeting.

But in an interview published in the Maputo daily Noticias this week, Chissano said he hoped it would produce "con-

crete results which would lead to a cease-fire and to consequent peace established in the country". Lower-level peace talks have been going on in Rome between the Renamo rebels and the Mozambique government for over two years, so far without success.

Raffaelli said that President Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe would also attend the meeting. Zimbabwe depends on transport corridors through Mozambique to reach the Indian Ocean.
— Sapa-AP.