

# Moz govt, Renamo 'agree'

GABERONE. — The president of Mozambique and the leader of the rebel movement Renamo have overcome deep disagreements over the country's future army and security services at a meeting in Botswana, Renamo said.

Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano and rebel leader Mr Afonso Dhlakama have re-affirmed they intend to sign a ceasefire on October

1, ending a 16-year civil war.

Mr Chissano met Mr Dhlakama here at the weekend to discuss key issues which have been holding up peace talks in Rome, Renamo said in a statement issued by its office in Portugal.

The statement said Mr Chissano and Mr Dhlakama agreed that a new national army should consist of 30 000 men, the figure originally proposed

by the government.

They also agreed on a series of principles to ensure that a planned new security and intelligence service would respect the law and remain politically neutral, it added.

● Meanwhile Britain has offered to train a unified Mozambican army after the government and Renamo sign a peace agreement. British overseas development minis-

ter Baroness Lynda Chalker said the offer had been made both to Mr Chissano and to Mr Dhlakama.

● Mozambican Prime Minister Mr Mario Machungo has called on Renamo to accept proposals for special corridors to rush food aid to starving drought victims in war zones. The British charity Oxfam said Mozambique was close to a disaster on the scale of Somalia. — Sapa-Reuter