
Maputo peace snags emerge

Argus Africa News Service

MAPUTO. — A possible snag in the Mozambican peace process has emerged and at the same time dissension has developed over where the expected pact should be signed.

A statement by Renamo's National Council, reported by the Portuguese news agency Lusa, said the areas now held by the rebels should remain in their hands "until a democratically elected government is sworn into office".

The official Mozambican news agency, Aim, has interpreted this as a violation of the protocol on political principles that was signed by Renamo and the Frelimo government on October 18 1991 and which will form part of the General Peace Agreement to be signed on October 1.

Different venues for the signing have been suggested. President Joaquim Chissano told parliament it would be in either Gaborone or Harare.

Renamo has proposed Maputo, after previously proposing Nairobi. Before that Rome had been suggested. It now seems to be a toss-up between Gaborone and Maputo.