

# Zimbabwe invited to monitor peace process

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THE Mozambican government has invited Zimbabwe to be one of the commissions to monitor the implementation of the peace agreement in Mozambique and the former rebel Renamo has already agreed to the participation in the exercise under United Nations auspices.

Mozambican Foreign Affairs Minister Pascoal Mocumbi, who is in Ha-

rare for consultations with his Zimbabwean counterpart. Nathan Shamuyarira, told newsmen yesterday morning that his country was indebted to Zimbabwe for the role she had played in bringing about an end to one of the most brutal conflicts in Africa.

"We thank Zimbabwe for the role that you have played in bringing about peace in my country. Zim-

babwe has been invited to be one of the commissions to monitor the ceasefire to ensure that the agreement is fully implemented, and we hope you accept," Mr Mocumbi said.

Asked whether Renamo had not raised any objections, Mr Mocumbi said the former rebel movement had been agreeable to the proposal.

"Renamo has agreed to this, we do not do anything without consulting others," he said.

Mr Mocumbi said there had been a delay in merging Frelimo government forces and the former rebels into one national army as called for by the Rome accord signed last year, but myriad details about where the forces would be trained, who would do the training and other issues were still being discussed between the two sides.

He said although there had been ceasefire violations in the first few months after the peace ac-

cord came into effect, the situation was generally stable and hostilities had ceased.

Responding to questions before the start of the meeting, Mr Shamuyarira said Zimbabwe was not satisfied with the pace at which the United Nations was moving to implement the accord as it was way behind schedule.

"I am not satisfied with the pace at which they are moving, they are way behind, we want to keep to the schedule," he said.

He also repeated the pledge that as soon as United Nations forces moved in to guard trade routes vital to Zimbabwe and other countries in the region, this country's troops would be withdrawn.

"As far as our troops are concerned, there is an agreement between us and the Mozambican government that as soon as UN troops arrive, we leave," Mr Shamuyarira said.

— Ziana