

Maputo to avoid Angola's mistakes

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MOZAMBIQUE will avoid the mistakes made in implementing peace accords in Angola, the US Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs said on Tuesday.

"I think that the mistakes that were made in Angola in the implementation of the accords will not be repeated in Mozambique," Mr Herman

Cohen told a news conference after talks between the observers of Angola's peace accords.

Diplomats say a failure to completely disarm the two sides in Angola before the elections contributed to the renewal of conflict in the country.

Mozambique, like Angola, a former Portuguese overseas province, is

struggling to recover from 16 years of war which officially ended when the MNR and the government signed a peace agreement in October 1992.

Mr Cohen said Mozambique would benefit from its later start along the road to peace.

Under the Mozambique peace accord, elec-

tions should be held in October this year but the UN has suggested they should be postponed until the middle of next year.

All sides in Mozambique also agree they do not want elections until a single, united army has been created and all other forces have been disbanded. — Ziana-Reuter.