

Mozambique: UN slowly builds its monitoring force

MOZAMBIQUE'S GOVERNMENT IS ANGERED AT WHAT IT SEES AS AN INCREASING REMOVAL OF ITS POWERS BY THE UNITED NATIONS, NOW IN THE PROCESS OF BRINGING IN A MUCH DELAYED PEACE MONITORING FORCE INTO THE COUNTRY.

Foreign Minister Pascal Mocumbi visited Britain this month to discuss the peace agreement - Britain is involved in training the new Mozambican army at Nyanga in Zimbabwe.

But officials let it be known that the government is also concerned at Renamo's increasing acceptability in the international arena, after an earlier visit to Britain when its leader, Afonso Dhlakama, met Minister of Overseas Development Lynda Chalker.

Part of their concern relates to a bid by the international body to see the success-

ful transformation of Renamo from a guerrilla army into a political party.

According to UN representative in Maputo Aldo Ajello, funds for Renamo are now being sought from some member states. - he described the exercise as "quite new for the international community".

Britain is known to have donated around £18,000 to Renamo for office equipment and Italy has offered \$65,000.

Meanwhile Renamo appears to be deliberately holding back on implementation of the peace accord. This month it boycotted for the second time a meeting called to discuss government allegations of its ceasefire violations.

Conscious that he is behind schedule, Ajello is keen to begin garrisoning troops on both sides as soon as possible, but still needs agreement by the two parties.

About 84,000 troops (63,000 from the government side

and 21,000 from Renamo) are to gather in 49 assembly points prior to demobilisation and the formation of a new and much smaller unified army.

The main task of the military observers will be to supervise the assembly points. There are now two technical teams surveying possible sites. All weapons will then be deposited in warehouses under UN supervision.

This was also the case in Angola, but even before the election it was suspected large quantities of weapons were being kept cached.

The lesson of having a strong UN force present has been learned from Angola. The arrival, two months late, of the first 200-strong contingent of an expected 1,300 Italian troops in the city of Beira restored some momentum to the stalled peace process, but eventually the full Unomoz force will be about 7,500 strong. In addition to the Italians, there will be infantry battalions from Uruguay, Zambia, Bangladesh and Botswana, logistical support from India, a medical unit from Argentina, and military communications personnel from Portugal.

The UN budgetary commission in New York has approved an Unomoz budget of just under \$260m up to June. The formation of some of the commissions envisaged in the peace accord is also delayed.

The bodies charged with supervising the police force and the intelligence service do not yet exist, nor do the national elections commission and the special body that will liaise between the central state apparatus and Renamo-controlled parts of the country. Renamo has refused to appoint its members to these commissions, and threatens not to do so until the government provides more houses, cars and even food for Renamo officials in Maputo. Meanwhile Dhlakama is maintaining his headquarters in Sofala province, refusing to move house to Maputo. The ostensible reason continues to be that the government is failing to provide proper accommodation, but underneath lies a desire to delay the process while consolidating in the territory Renamo holds, and developing its credibility as a political alternative.

There is also a fear that the experience of Unita in Luanda may be repeated. There Jonas Savimbi's top lieutenants were killed after an alleged coup attempt.

Likely schedule revision 1993-4

Military

Due Date	Likely	Event
12 Oct	Jan	List assembly points
15 Oct	Feb	UN present in all assembly points
15 Oct	Jan	UN to begin verification
15 Oct	Jan	Inventories of troops, arms, etc
16 Oct	Feb	Creation of joint military command
21 Oct	Jan	Complete separation of forces
14 Nov	Jan-Mar	Foreign forces withdrawn
14 Nov	Apr	All forces to assembly points
14 Nov	May	Define troops to demob and to join FADM
15 Nov	Feb*	Begin demobilisation
15 Nov	May	All weapons under UN control
12 Apr	Oct	Complete demobilisation
By election	Nov**	Complete formation of FADM

Political

30 Oct	Feb	Govt to create commissions on police (Compol) and state security (Cominfo)
30 Oct	Feb	Create joint commission on local administration
14 Dec	Mar	Create national election commission
14 Dec	Oct	Approve foreign election observers
14 Dec	Jan	Publish draft electoral law
13 Jan	Mar	Assembly to approve electoral law
By 21 Aug	Feb 94	Election campaign begins
By 5 Oct	Apr 94	Election

* Demobilisation of soldiers who want to leave will surely begin even before concentration of forces is completed.

** Although the accord says that the new armed forces must be created before the election, all parties seem to agree that this must occur before the campaign begins.

Source: *Awepaa Peace Process Bulletin*