

Chissano, Dhlakama settle main issues

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MAPUTO — Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano and Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama, agreed yesterday on two contentious issues stalling the war-weary country's fragile peace process.

But Mr Dhlakama said he would not send his ex-guerrillas to assembly points to be merged with government forces in a new national army until the latest agreements were implemented.

"If they really work, let's see if we can begin," he told reporters.

Under yesterday's deal, the government will appoint three Renamo members as advisers to each of Mozambique's 11 provincial governors, Radio Mozambique reported.

The advisers will assist the governors in the reintegration of Renamo-controlled areas into government-held territory, the radio said.

The government will appoint Renamo nominees to carry out administrative duties in areas under the movement's control.

The second issue on which agreement was reached concerned the policing of the country until multi-party elections, due to be held in October next year.



**At last: Mr Chissano
Solved: Mr Dhlakama**

Mr Chissano was quoted by state radio as saying the government would ask the United Nations to send police to monitor the activities of the national police force and to help in training.

This would effectively implement a proposal

made by UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali last December for 128 UN policemen to ensure the neutrality of the Mozambican police.

The question of territorial administration had been one of the main

stumbling blocks at the talks between Mr Chissano and Mr Dhlakama, which began in Maputo 10 days ago.

Before the talks began, Renamo had insisted on being given the governorships of at least three provinces.

The apparent concession by Renamo on the issue is matched by the government's agreement to give the former rebels official public duties for the first time.

Mr Chissano, however, appeared to play this down by saying the advisers would be "functionaries and not members of the provincial governments".

A third issue discussed at the Maputo talks, concerning Renamo complaints that the state-owned media were not sufficiently impartial, remained unresolved. Mr Chissano said talks on this matter would continue yesterday. — Ziana-Reuter