

# Mozambican pact on assembly points

MAPUTO — The Mozambican government and Renamo agreed last night on the immediate opening of assembly points where both sides' troops will hand in their weapons.

"Now it's done. I am absolutely happy," UN secretary-general's special representative Aldo Ajello said as the agreement was signed just hours before the expiry of a UN deadline.

Hopes of meeting the deadline had faded on Monday when Renamo officials failed to turn up. They had been accompanying Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama on a visit to Inhambane province, 500 km north of Maputo, and said they had been delayed by bad weather.

Parliament met yesterday at the start of a session which is expected to approve legislation governing the country's first multiparty election, scheduled for next October.

Meanwhile, Angola's civil war enemies, negotiating in Lusaka, have agreed on all but two key ceasefire points, forcing them yesterday to return to using UN special envoy Alioune Blondin Beye as intermediary.

The Angolan government and Unita had failed to agree on how Unita troops would retreat from the bush to the national barracks.

The government had proposed that Unita be disarmed before being taken to national barracks, while Unita had proposed its fighters be disarmed once in the barracks.

However, the government and Unita have agreed on three main ceasefire principles: that the UN be the major force controlling and enforcing the ceasefire; that civilians be disarmed before the ceasefire is implemented; and that both sides release their prisoners before the truce. — Sapa-Reuter-AFP.