MOZAMBIQUE Renamo wants 20,000 ceiling on troops

Renamo has proposed that the number of troops in the future Mozambique Defence Armed Forces, FADM should be reduced to 20,000 so that better salaries can be paid to them. Labour Minister Teodato Hunguana said solutions must be found that were in line with the country's realities.

The Supervision and Control Commission, CSC, has not yet reached agreement on the wage levels to be paid to the soldiers.

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By last week a total of 1,602 Mozambican government and Renamo soldiers have already left their assembly areas to join the FADM. The process for the formation of a single army should gain new impetus with the start of the first infantry course at Boane and Manhica military training centres in Maputo Province, and Dondo in Sofala Province. A total of 44,000 government and Renamo soldiers had been confined to their assembly areas by March 13. The government has confined 51% of its troops.