

Maputo upholds Nkomati

MAPUTO.

A MOZAMBIKAN government spokesman at the weekend reiterated Mozambique's commitment to the Nkomati non-aggression accord signed with South Africa on March 16 1984.

"The People's Republic of Mozambique has been scrupulously respecting the Nkomati accord despite the constant violations by South Africa," the spokesman said.

This government position follows threats made on Thursday by the South African defence minister, General Magnus Malan, after an explosion outside a military installation in Johannesburg in which at least one member of the South African armed forces was killed and several other people injured.

Gen Malan said Mozambique sheltered "a military and political headquarters of the ANC".

"Malan's accusation is completely unfounded, and is merely designed to make Mozambique the scapegoat for all the violence that takes place in South Africa," the government spokesman declared.

He added that "there are no ANC bases in Mozambique. Nor is there any political or military ANC headquarters here. Mozambique does not allow any ANC military presence on its territory".

The spokesman reaffirmed that "the Nkomati accord remains valid and should be fully respected". — Ziana - Alm-Pana.

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