



*A drawing of one of the mission townhouses.*

# SA goes ahead with plans to build Mozambique mission

THE South African government is going ahead with building a R10 million diplomatic mission complex at Maputo to house its proposed diplomatic staff in Mozambique — once final approval is given by the Mozambique government.

Publishing detailed plans of the two-storey embassy and linked 16 townhouses designed for the mission staff to be erected on a prime site in central Maputo, The Star newspaper of March 25 said they were the first of their kind in black Africa.

South Africa already owns a home for its head of mission in Maputo, but the proposed new complex is to be built on a large site owned by the South African government sur-

rounding its old consul-general's residence. This is now used as offices by the South African mission to Maputo.

Sections of the planned new embassy and the two, three and four-bedroomed townhouses are being prefabricated in Durban. These will be shipped to Maputo when the final go-ahead is received from the Mozambique authorities, said The Star report.

It added that when the South African Foreign Affairs minister, Mr Pik Botha, visited Maputo for top-level discussions in February, he was believed to have asked Mozambique to speed up final approval for the building "which is intended to confirm

South Africa's commitment to its Nkomati Accord-based relationship with Mozambique".

The report continued: "Final approval has not yet been given but the South Africans are clearly confident enough to have started the prefabrication in the hope that staff will be able to move into the embassy by the end of this year, and into the townhouses early next year."

The new embassy complex is designed with its main entrance on Avenida Eduardo Mondlane and will provide accommodation for the head of mission and between 50 to 70 staff.

It will also have a self-contained area for entertainment, said the report.