

Security commission revived

Mozambican and South African delegations meeting in Maputo on 25 May have agreed to revive the joint security commission set up in March 1984 under the Nkomati non-aggression pact.

The Nkomati accord broke down in February 1985, when Mozambican forces captured documents from the Mozambique National Resistance (MNR) which proved that South Africa had continued to aid the rebels (AED 8:2:85). Under the terms of the agreement, South Africa promised to end logistical support to the MNR in return for the closure of African National Congress (ANC) facilities in Mozambique.

The Mozambican delegation to the one-day talks was led by army commander Lieutenant-General Tobias Dai. His counterpart was South Africa's Department of Foreign Affairs director-general Neil van Heerden. It was agreed that the full security commission between the two countries should reconvene "at the earliest possible date."

Political analysts are speculating that the revival of the Nkomati accord could result in the first meeting between Mozambique's President Chissano and South Africa's President Botha.