

Mozambique and SA sign trade accord

Pretoria Correspondent

Full diplomatic relations between South Africa and Mozambique could be established soon following the signing of the first formal trade agreement between the two countries.

Mozambican Foreign Minister Pascoal Mocumbi and his South African counterpart, Pik Botha, signed the agreement, providing for the establishment of representative trade offices, in Pretoria yesterday.

Mr Mocumbi said while further co-operation between the two countries depended on internal stability in Mozambique and the establishment of full democracy in South Africa, there was "a good chance" full diplomatic relations could be established in the near future.

Mr Botha said the signing of the agreement could be the first step towards greater co-operation between the two countries.

It created "tremendous potential" for joint ventures between the two countries and would enable South Africa to assist Mozambique with its economic development projects.