

Satisfaction at Mugabe-Machel Talks

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Excerpts from commentary by news analyst Aleksandr Belkin

[Talks between Prime Minister Mugabe of Zimbabwe and President Machel of Mozambique held in an atmosphere of mutual understanding and friendship]. The heads of states of Zimbabwe and Mozambique will be meeting from time to time. In talks held so far, co-operation and the strengthening of friendship between these countries to solve problems facing them were discussed...

Political observers state that these two countries will step up their economic co-operation to reduce their economic dependence on South Africa. It is a well-known fact that Zimbabwe and Mozambique are members of the frontline States. In these circumstances, the major concern of these countries is to counter all the manoeuvrings of the Pretoria regime. These States of Africa are operating under a great political charter in their struggle against South Africa and intensification of help to liberation forces in southern Africa. The Salisbury talks have generated decisions to co-operate with the liberation fighters and to fight against capitalists, exploiters and racials in the struggle for liberation and total independence.

Mozambique and Zimbabwe have still many other political and economic matters to solve. In these two countries there is a gross shortage of skilled manpower. There are problems of rebuilding roads and factories which were destroyed during the liberation war and the repatriation of refugees to their motherland. One serious problem facing these States is the threat posed by South Africa. Indeed, Mozambique and Zimbabwe should work as hard as possible to solve these problems urgently in the interests of everyone.

The friendship between these two young states has grown from traditions going back for centuries. Now trains have begun to operate on the Salisbury-Beira railway. Telecommunications between the two countries are operational. Indeed, this is the first step to show that the strengthening of the relationship between these states reflects their desire to build a new life.