

## Mugabe Comments on Visit

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[Text] President Joaquim Chissano of Mozambique and Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe began their first session of talks in Maputo yesterday. President Mugabe arrived in Maputo yesterday to start a 3-day official visit to Mozambique. Speaking at the opening of the talks, President Chissano highlighted the state of friendly relations between Mozambique and Zimbabwe. In reply, President Mugabe spoke of the need to review these relations with the aim of consolidating them.

[Begin Mugabe recording] And so, when you extended to me the invitation for a visit to Mozambique, I warmly welcomed it with a view to revisit [word indistinct] and to review the years that have gone by in terms of the relationships that we have established, to review the situation in our region insofar as it affects us in the region, but particularly so far as it affects Mozambique and Zimbabwe. And we, on our part, as I said earlier, can never forget (also) that when our own house was on fire, the one single brother who did not [words indistinct] to help us extinguish that fire was Mozambique and, of course, when we talk of Mozambique, the people of Mozambique, we are talking also of their party, Frelimo, and of the leadership of Frelimo. We therefore regard your struggle, your cause, as our own in the same way as you regarded ours as your own.

And it is in that spirit that we (?seek) during this visit to review our relations so we can look at ways of consolidating them. And I share with you that within our visit [words indistinct] everything and indeed even if we had as many days as we would want, we could never, never succeed in discussing all matters. But one very important thing in a visit of this kind is—in addition to making it very obvious to our people and the international community that we have a strong brotherhood and close ties of solidarity—is to lay a basis for further efforts at consolidating our relationship. On the basis of this our ministers, that is in relation to government to government or state or state relations, or party representatives in regard to party to party relations; a basis on which they can work in the future, a basis of agreed principles, agreed protocols. [sentence as heard] And this is perhaps the fundamentals of specific programs which they can use in building up our relations, so that whenever there are problems they will not go back, because they know the leadership is agreed on moving forward. And I know there have been occasions when perhaps there were disappointments on both sides, but because they knew the leadership was determined to move forward, they reviewed these problems in the light of the [words indistinct] of leadership. They took into account the position of the leaders and correctly resolved the problems.

Some problems whenever you have relations will always and always remain, and that is why really we must have solutions. If we did not have problems there would be no solutions, and there wouldn't be any problems. And even in the family—the (?families) one solving problems all the time. At the weekend, (?if I) have some free time I still listen to your problems of relations between brother and sister, and myself and so on, where we don't agree and where we agree. So if we have that in a family, we cannot expect that we may [words indistinct] family of our relationships [words indistinct]. So I want us to be forward looking, and this is the message that I have for you: That we have to be forward looking. We have an immense problem in the area and let us look at that problem with the determination to overcome it together. [end recording]

President Mugabe is accompanied by his wife, Sally, and a high-level delegation which includes the acting foreign minister, Simbarashe Mumbengegwi, Defense Minister Enos Nkala, and Security Minister Sydney Sekeramayi. President Chissano at the talks was accompanied by the prime minister, Mario Machungo, Foreign Minister

Pascoal Mocumbi, Security Minister Mariano Matsinhe, Transport Minister Armando Guebuza, and the armed forces chief of staff, General Antonio Hama Thai. Late in the evening yesterday, President Chissano offered a banquet in honor of his Zimbabwean counterpart, Robert Mugabe. At the banquet, the two leaders described relations between Mozambique and Zimbabwe as a forum to dignify the brotherhood, friendship, and solidarity between their peoples and countries. In a speech, President Mugabe conveyed a message of fraternal greetings and pledges of continued solidarity from his people, party, and government to Mozambique.

[Begin Mugabe recording] Comrade President, the gallant sons and daughters of this, your country, occupy a special place in the hearts and minds of the people of Zimbabwe. My visit today, although I was here only 3 weeks ago, is my first official state visit since I became president of the Republic of Zimbabwe. It is also my first official visit since you, Comrade Chissano, became the president of the People's Republic of Mozambique following the tragic death of that illustrious son of Africa, your beloved leader, the late President Samora Moises Machel. The enemy had, though his death, hoped to plunge Mozambique into chaos and extinguish the people's revolution. Little did they know, as you rightly pointed out during your state visit to Zimbabwe, that they were creating millions of Machel's in both Mozambique and Zimbabwe. [applause]

We in Zimbabwe have naturally followed closely and with keen interest developments taking place in the People's Republic of Mozambique. I take this opportunity to pay tribute to you personally, Comrade President, for taking up this challenge and assuming the demanding responsibility of the office bestowed upon you by the people of Mozambique as a dedicated revolutionary. We hail and salute you for your remarkable qualities of leadership, which have not only enabled the revolutionary transformation of Mozambique to continue unabated, but have also won you an international reputation as an able statesman and a great leader of our time. [Applause]

Under your able leadership, significant successes have been registered in the ongoing struggle against hunger, disease, poverty, banditry, and economic stagnation. It is imperative that every patriotic Mozambican rally behind your leadership for a united, strong, and progressive Mozambique. Your excellency, every visit to Maputo must remind one of the bitter and arduous armed struggle carried out by the heroic people of Mozambique against Portuguese colonialism and imperialism. Your victory against Portuguese colonial oppression and brutal exploitation that had lasted 500 years is a happy chapter in the history of the decolonization of our continent. We cannot tire of saluting you for that victory, and even more for resolving to continue the struggle until the rest of Africa is liberated. [end recording]

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