

their stolen property, including livestock, machinery and furniture that is now in Malawi.

Everyone in Milange discusses the question of property stolen from the town and taken into Malawi. According to ex-regulo Manganira, "those people inside Malawi who have our property ought to be aware that they only got hold of it because of the MNR's slaughter of their brothers. Now that the situation is better they should return those goods".

After the recapture of Milange, the Mozambicans expressed an interest in contacting the Malawians to discuss the stolen property and other matters.

According to a local official, one meeting took place on the bridge over the river separating the two countries. Each delegation remained standing, each on their own territory, during the meeting.

The Malawian authorities have been supporting hundreds of thousands of Mozambican refugees in their country, with all the cost and effort that that implies. Malawian soldiers have died in defending the Nacala railway line from the MNR, and the Malawian state has been forced to spend astronomical sums on rerouting its trade through South Africa, since the bandits have cut Malawi's natural outlets to the Mozambican coast.

, Given all this, it is a tragic paradox that the bandits are still able to use Malawian territory on a large scale. It is the hope of the local people and of the Milange authorities that the two governments will gradually succeed in altering the conditions that make this use of Malawian soil possible.

Capt. Kantumbianga insists that Mozambique "will continue to observe internationally established norms" in its relationship with Malawi.

"We are always going to contact our Malawian neighbours to resolve any problems that may affect our collaboration", he says.