

Not peace at any price — Chissano

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MAPUTO — President Joaquim Chissano of Mozambique said yesterday his government wanted peace with the Renamo rebels, but not peace at any price.

Speaking at a mass rally in Maputo, Mr Chissano rejected a multi-party system, saying Mozambicans could express their opinions in the one-party system.

His government wanted peace, "but only the peace that brings dignity ... that strengthens and consolidates our independence ... that eliminates discrimination".

Willingness to negotiate with Renamo did not mean his government had been defeated, said Mr Chissano.

If the rebels did not agree to negotiate, then his government would step up the war against them.