

ZIMBABWE, KENYA ENDORSE GUIDE-LINES

A communique was issued in Nairobi at the end of a meeting on 7 August between the Kenyan and Zimbabwean Presidents stating that "the two Presidents reviewed and endorsed the guide-lines for the meeting between Renamo and the church delegation" due to take place in Nairobi on 8 August. The statement went on to say that the outcome of this meeting "will determine the level and nature of subsequent meetings". It added that Presidents Moi and Mugabe are greatly encouraged by the spirit and willingness of the two sides to the conflict to undertake serious discussion to find a peaceful solution.

The two Presidents called on all those interested in assisting the peace process to lend their support to this initiative. The communique stressed that the meeting between the bandits and the churchmen would be based on the 12 point set of principles outlined by the Mozambican government. These principles were first made public by President Joaquim Chissano at his press conference on 17 July, and later read out again to delegates at the Frelimo Party Fifth Congress.

The first point in this document declares that "we are facing a destabilisation operation which should not be confused with a struggle between two political parties". It says that the "inhuman situation" caused by the war should be brought to an end, and that the first step in this must be "the stopping of all acts of terrorism and banditry". Conditions could then be established "to normalise the lives of all Mozambican citizens so that all may participate in political, economic, social and cultural life". Such participation would also be open to those who "up to now have been involved in violent acts of destabilisation", but "it is unacceptable for a group to use intimidation or violence to impose its' will on society as a whole".

If such principles are accepted, they can lead "to a dialogue on the modalities for bringing an end to violence, establishing peace and normalising life for everyone in the country".

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