



President F.W. de Klerk and Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano toast the reopening of Maputo's Polana Hotel on Saturday.  
Picture: BRIAN HENDLER

## Talks strengthen ties with Mozambique

MAPUTO — SA and Mozambique moved closer to establishing stronger diplomatic ties following talks between President F.W. de Klerk and President Joaquim Chissano on Saturday.

Following the discussions, both presidents emphasised the need to bring about regional economic integration and peace.

Chissano said the reopening of Maputo's Polana Hotel, which was a joint SA-Mozambique enterprise, was a significant beginning to economic co-operation between the two countries.

He and De Klerk officiated at the reopening on Saturday following the completion of a R44m refurbishment of the hotel.

De Klerk said southern Africa had to redouble efforts to bring about regional economic integration but emphasised that peace was an essential prerequisite for growth.

De Klerk said he and Chissano had agreed that progress was being made to bring peace to the region and a positive environment was being created in which problems could be addressed.

"This part of Africa should be seen as a safe haven for investment where the natural treasures of our sub-continent can be unlocked and used to improve the quality of life of all our people," De Klerk said. — Sapa.

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