

SA farmers planning to move into Mozambique

Weekend Argus 3-4/6/95

MAPUTO. — A group of South African farmers plans to invest in agricultural and tourist operations in the northern Mozambican province of Niassa, state radio reported this week.

The province contains some of the most spectacular countryside in Mozambique, notably along the shores of Lake Niassa, which are largely undeveloped.

Radio Mozambique said the farmers wanted to turn the lake-side beaches of Meponda and Chiwanga into tourist resorts.

They also hoped to develop fruit orchards near Lichinga, the provincial capital, and at Chiconono in Mueembe district.

The farmers told the provincial administration that they could also cultivate cotton in Marrupa

in the same province.

Mozambique's Minister of Agriculture Carlos Agostinho do Rosario said steps had already been taken to set up mechanisms of understanding and the guidelines under which co-operation with South Africa would take place.

"Everything is under discussion — the location, the kind of activity, the size of the areas to be conceded, and fiscal and commercial matters," said Mr Do Rosario.

Last year the conservative white farmers said they were investigating moves to countries including Mozambique, Angola, Gabon, and Congo. Some have already moved to Zambia, where they have been welcomed with open arms. — Reuter.