

## **SA farms press** *SouthScan* **Maputo for land** 8(2) 15/1/93

Obstacles to the Gaza scheme are substantial - but if it goes ahead there will undoubtedly be a flood of SA farmers from the Transvaal establishing themselves there.

Afrikaner farmers have since the privatisation been buying up the equivalent of 50-year freeholds on farms over the border in Mozambique. The land is cheap.

Land tenure may be changed with full privatisation, though this would need a constitutional revision.

South African hunger for arable land in Mozambique has been increasing with the slow advent of peace, and increasing political uncertainty in SA.

Towards the end of last year the Maputo press reported that 18,000 ha of land was made available to South Africans in the south of the country around Moamba, with another 5,000 ha around Sabie.

Over 2,500 applications for land have been made to the Mozambican agriculture ministry by SA farmers or their associations in the Lowveld for land south of the Limpopo and along the Ressano Garcia-Moamba road

Renamo is at present holding fast to the territory it controlled at the time of the ceasefire, and is not allowing the extension of government control.

However it cannot grant title to land in these areas and, indeed, there are likely to be numerous disputes when refugees from Renamo return to their land to find it occupied by those who remained behind.

- South Africa and Mozambique began talks last year on plans to extend South Africa's Kruger National Park, which runs along the border with Mozambique, as far as the Indian Ocean coast north of Maputo.