

## MOZAMBIQUE: No negotiation with RENAMO ION (352) 15/10/88 p.6

On October 9, President **Joaquim Chissano**, on visit in the town of Nampula, once more ruled out any possibility of negotiation with RENAMO. He reiterated that an amnesty to rebels who handed in their guns and ammunition was the only concession his government was prepared to make towards the organisation. Certain "*Mozambicans and foreigners*" -- whom he did not name -- had reportedly asked him once again to negotiate with the rebels and offer them a "*niche*" in the government. "*This is impossible since 14 million Mozambicans are against it,*" he said. According to President Chissano, RENAMO "*has no other aims but the ones for which the enemies of the Mozambican people created it -- to destroy the country, destabilise it and prevent the people from benefitting from its development.*" This opinion, as well as the party's current effort to reinforce democracy, make up the main themes of FRELIMO's current political rhetoric, as was apparent in the recent interview given by Mozambican Foreign minister **Pascoal Mocumbi** to the *Indian Ocean Newsletter* (ION n° 350).