

Zimbabwean President in Mozambique; MNR claim to have closed Beira corridor denied President Mugabe on 9th July paid a one-day visit to the port town of Beira (central Mozambique) where he held private talks with President Chissano, Radio Mozambique (Maputo) reported. The talks were followed by a meeting attended by Zimbabwean Foreign Minister Nathan Shamuyarira and acting Defence Minister Sidney Sekeramayi and Mozambican Transport Minister Armando Guebuza, Foreign Minister Pascoal Mocumbi and Security Minister Mariano Matsinhe. 11
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87

The radio said the two presidents were briefed by Rui Fonseca, Executive Director of the Beira Corridor Authority, on the development of the corridor's projects. The Zimbabwean agency (cited by the South African agency) reported Fonseca as denying recent claims by the MNR that they had closed the corridor. "This is a lie. We are running traffic every day", Fonseca said, adding that an average of four trains a day used the line. He also said that development programmes at Beira port were being implemented ahead of schedule, mentioning dredging work which from October would allow the port to handle vessels of up to 60,000 t.