

## 'New offensive against MNR'

Joint Mozambican and Zimbabwean forces have launched a "major offensive" against the MNR/ Renamo rebel base area in Gorongosa, according to Lisbon radio reports.

Quoting "official sources" they said that Zimbabwe was deploying fighters, helicopters and paratroopers in the operation on February 22.

However, by mid-week there had been no official comment from Maputo.

Last month Mozambican minister of state for government affairs, Jose Oscar Monteiro invited supporters of the MNR to participate in discussions Mozambique's draft constitution, according to US reports.

Monteiro said "problems or organisation of the state - of the economic policy - are open to debate".

He did however caution against the peace process becoming "talks (which) can serve only ... to enhance the political status of Renamo", or in the continuation of the civil war.