## Minister Mocumbi Begins Trip to Portugal MB280821 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 28 Apr 88

[Text] Mozambican Foreign Affairs Minister Pascoal Mocumbi begins an essentially political visit to Portugal today. This visit will serve to complement the favorable climate in bilateral relations. A Mozambican source in Lisbon told AIM [Mozambique Information Agency] that the two countries are going through a particularly important phase that could help increase economic, financial, and trade relations. The same source also said this visit had been expected for some time, thus refuting claims by Portuguese newspapers that it had been organized without any prior warning and in connection with the death of armed bandit ringleader Evo Fernandes.

Portugal and Mozambique have exchanged views on a number of issues ranging from the rehabilitation of Cahora Bassa Dam to military cooperation.