

Mandela makes plea for end to MNR support

ANC leader Nelson Mandela has called on the Pretoria to put a stop to the destabilisation of Mozambique. Speaking in Bloemfontein on 25 February, Mandela said: "The government of South Africa has repeatedly allowed sections of its forces to violate the sovereignty of Mozambique".

"In spite of the Nkomati accord the (South African) security establishment has continued to support Renamo. "Recently, it has been claimed that the continued aid which Renamo receives comes from private sources in South Africa and right-wing elements in the United States.

"I call on (state president) Mr. De Klerk to demonstrate the same integrity which I observed around the circumstances of my release by passing legislation

which makes the rendition of assistance to Renamo a punishable offence."

The government of the United States, he added, "should do the same".

Mandela also demanded the removal of the electrified fence along its border with Mozambique. "

"We must accept refugees from Mozambique in line with the terms of the Geneva Convention and we must recognise that we have a special responsibility in this regard because of the regime's role in creating devastation in Mozambique".

Meanwhile the staff and volunteers of the a number of non-governmental organisations in Mozambique have backed the recent call by Mozambican intellectuals for pressure on Pretoria to stop support for the war in Mozambique (SouthScan v5/2 p9).