

# MOZAMBIQUE 270

## News reports & clippings

25 August 2014

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Editor: Joseph Hanlon ( [j.hanlon@open.ac.uk](mailto:j.hanlon@open.ac.uk) )

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NOTE OF EXPLANATION: This mailing list is used to distribute two publications, both edited by Joseph Hanlon. This is my own sporadic "News reports & clippings", which is entirely my own responsibility. This list is also used to distribute the *Mozambique Political Process Bulletin*, published by CIP and AWEPA, but those organisations are not linked to "News reports & clippings"

Joseph Hanlon

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## Cease fire signed

Renamo and the government signed a cease-fire at the end of the 74th round of negotiations Sunday night 24 August in Maputo.

It had been intended that the accord would be signed by President Armando Guebuza and Renamo head Afonso Dhlakama. But Dhlakama said he could not leave his hiding place to sign a cease-fire because, without a formal cease-fire, the government could assassinate him. In debate spread over several days, government argued that the documents already agreed were a cease fire and should be formally signed at the level of presidents and commanders in chief.

It was finally agreed that the two presidents would provide a power of attorney (procuracao) to allow the heads of the negotiating teams to sign in their names, and the two presidents would meet later to give official approval.

The meeting finally occurred Sunday night and was chaired by mediator Lourenço do Rosario. José Pacheco of government and Saimone Macuiana of Renamo signed for their presidents a "declaration of the cessation of military hostilities". This is believed to be sufficient to allow Dhlakama to his camp in the Gorongosa mountain, and to begin his presidential campaign..

But negotiations are far from over. Still to be discussed are the remainder of the military issue - the transfer of the "residual forces of Renamo" into the army and the police - and two other items never reached on the agreed agenda - money for Renamo and reducing the Frelimo party influence in the state.

**Maputo book launch:** *Moçambique marcou-nos para a vida* by Elisa Fuchs, a book telling the story of international women *cooperantes* in Mozambique 1980-84, will be launched Wednesday 3 September at 17.30 at the Centro Cultural Franco-Moçambicana in Maputo.

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