

FRELIMO Reorganises



President Samora Machel on his way to the III FRELIMO Congress accompanied by a member of the Youth Organisation

The following is a brief report on Frelimo's Third Congress at which President Samora Machel called for "iron organisation and discipline".

Frelimo, the guerrilla organisation that led Mozambique's liberation struggle, held its Third Congress and its first since independence was declared on June 25 1975 early this year.

This momentous Congress took several

major decisions, the most important announcing the reorganisation of Frelimo as a vanguard Marxist-Leninist Party.

In addition to outlining the major tasks facing Mozambique, the five-day Congress also stressed the international responsibilities of this country of almost 10 million. In this regard, President Samora Machel pledged that Mozambique would become a revolutionary base in the fight to overthrow the white racist regimes in Southern Africa.

Although the Liberation Front was transformed into a revolutionary vanguard party of the workers and peasants alliance, it retained the name Frelimo — a name that had become a worldwide symbol of the 10-year armed struggle to overthrow fascist Portuguese colonial rule in Mozambique.

Comrade Machel, who was elected Chairman of the Party, in a nine-hour report to the Congress detailing the history of the liberation struggle and outlining the strategy and tactics of the Party in the present situation, said: "There must be iron organisation and discipline in order to carry out the party's principal aims of sweeping aside forever the consequences of colonialism and ending exploitation of man by man."

The new party will "direct, organise, guide and educate the masses towards building socialism," Machel said. "For five days we have gathered here to discuss our new party — workers, peasants, people's armed forces, revolutionary intellectuals, Mozambicans of all colors and races, men, women and young and old — we came to decide our future, to trace the broad lines guiding the life of our people."

Combat Tribalism

Stating that the prime task of the new Party will be to combat internal reaction and tribalism, Comrade Machel said that Frelimo's highest body will be the Party

Congress, responsible for the political line of the party and orientation of the state apparatus. It will also have power to modify or approve the party statutes and fundamental documents and to elect the members of the Central Committee. It will meet every five years, though it can be convened in extraordinary sessions. Between meetings the Central Committee is the supreme organ and meets every six months. Sixty eight comrades were elected to the Central Committee, among them five women.

At the provincial level, the party structures will run from cell level up to local, district and finally provincial secretaries, committees and conferences. Party symbols are the five-color Frelimo flag with the triangular party emblem — the red star symbolising proletarian internationalism, a hammer and a hoe crossed to symbolise the workers and peasants alliance and the Frelimo inscription.

Other points in President Machel's report included the following:

- * In the present phase of imperialist intransigence, the national liberation movement can only succeed in its historic task when practising and developing creatively the scientific ideology of the working class — Marxism-Leninism — and when it integrates the struggles for liberation with the general struggle against the system of exploitation.

- * The seizure of power by the Mozambican working masses, intensified class struggle on a national level and simultaneously combating increased imperialist aggressiveness against Mozambique. Faced with an enemy whose nature is criminal and aggressive, Mozambique must combat reaction and organise the people to crush the enemy.

- * People's Democracy is the historic phase during which the country will consolidate the ideological base and build the material

base for the transition to socialism. To carry out this task it is necessary to organise and create the vanguard party of the workers and peasants alliance directed by Marxism-Leninism.

* Taking agriculture as the base and industry as the dynamising factor, making heavy industry the decisive factor in the fight to break with misery and imperialist domination, the country shall build the material base for People's Democracy.

* The Mozambican revolution is an integral part of the world proletarian revolution. Internationalism is a constant, major and fundamental feature of our revolution.

* As the directing force in society and the state, the party must guide, mobilise and organise the broad masses in the task of the building of People's Democracy. It must construct a state apparatus that will build the power of the workers and peasants alliance and construct the ideological, political, economic, cultural and social base of socialist society.

Throughout the Congress, delegates emphasised that the liberated zones — areas liberated by Frelimo before total independence was won — would serve as the embryo of the new socialist society.

Proletarian Internationalism

Comrade Machel emphasised on several occasions that the Party's foreign policy will be based on non-alignment and that proletarian internationalism will continue to be Frelimo's committed policy. He laid great emphasis on Mozambique's continued support for the African National Congress of South Africa and the national liberation movement of Namibia — SWAPO.

Comrades Joshua Nkomo and Robert Mugabe of the Patriotic Front of Zimbabwe embraced each other as Frelimo pledged special support to Zimbabwe's armed struggle.

Speaking on behalf of the ANC (South Africa) delegation Comrade Oliver Tambo, its President, said that Mozambique under the leadership and guidance of Frelimo was a dynamising force for political, social and economic change in Southern Africa.

Frelimo's own example will provide a basis for the establishment of a new society in South Africa, he said, amidst prolonged ovation from the assembled delegates and observers.

In a speech punctuated with applause, Comrade Jorge Valdez, a member of the Central Committee of the Cuban Communist Party, outlining the struggle of the peoples of Latin America against US imperialism, said: "In the name of the 300 million people struggling and suffering against imperialism in Latin America and as a representative of the Cuban Communist Party, I say to my Mozambican and African brothers: Your struggle is our struggle. We have a common enemy — imperialism; a common aim: full independence and a better future for the people; and a common destiny — victory!"

Soviet-Mozambique Treaty

In less than three months after the Congress — on March 31 — Presidents Machel of Mozambique and Podgorny of the Soviet Union initialled a Treaty of Friendship and Co-operation between their countries during the official visit of the Soviet leader to Mozambique. The Treaty, expressing the resolve of Mozambique and the USSR to develop all-round cooperation and friendship for twenty years, stressed that the two countries will be building their relations on the principles of respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity, non-



"Long live Socialism" states this slogan in a street of Maputo in honour of the III FRELIMO Congress

interference in each other's internal affairs and equality.

Continuing, the Treaty states:

The sides proclaim their intention to develop all-round cooperation in the economic, technical and scientific spheres, in training national cadres and also to widen trade and shipping on the principles of equality, mutual advantage and the most-favoured nation treatment.

In the interests of reinforcing defence potentials, the sides will continue developing cooperation in the military sphere. The USSR expresses respect for the policy of non-alignment conducted by the People's Republic of Mozambique, the policy that is an important factor in maintaining world peace and security. The People's Republic of Mozambique expresses respect for the Soviet Union's policy of peace aimed at strengthening friendship and cooperation with all peoples.

The sides will exert every effort to deepen the process of the relaxation of inter-

national tensions, for achieving general and complete disarmament, including nuclear disarmament under effective international control, for settling disputable international questions by peaceful means, for concluding a world treaty on non-use of force in international relations.

The sides will continue consistent struggle against the forces of imperialism, for the final liquidation of colonialism, neo-colonialism, racialism and apartheid, and will be cooperating with each other and with other peaceful states in supporting the just struggle of peoples for freedom, independence and social progress.

If situations arise that threaten peace or break peace, the sides will immediately get into contact with each other to coordinate their positions in the interests of eliminating the arising threat or restoring peace.

Each of the parties declares that it will not, repeat not, enter military or other alliances nor take part in any groupings of states, in actions or measures directed against the other party.