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o The nine Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC) member countries were due to hold their sixth annual meeting with donors in Mbabane on 31 January/1 February (AED 18:1:85, page 11). During the meeting, Scandinavian countries were expected to propose a new initiative to boost trade and co-operation in the industrial sector. The aim would be to open Nordic markets to SADCC products, including manufactured goods, and to co-ordinate use of Nordic funds for industrial projects in SADCC countries, conference sources say.

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o US deputy assistant secretary of state for African affairs Frank Wisner is visiting the region for talks on the efforts to establish a ceasefire in Mozambique and further negotiations between Angola and South Africa over Namibia. After visiting Mozambique from 21-25 January for discussions on the economic and security situation, Wisner visited South Africa from 25-26 January, Zambia from 26-28 January and arrived in Angola on 29 January (AED 25:1:85). At the end of his Mozambique visit, Wisner said he would take up the government's allegations that rebel Mozambique National Resistance (MNR) guerrillas were still receiving support from South Africa, in violation of the March 1984 Nkomati non-aggression pact. In Cape Town Wisner met with Foreign Affairs Minister Roelof 'Pik' Botha and conveyed the US' concern over "the deteriorating security situation" in Mozambique, the South African

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Press Association reports. At a news conference on 25 January he pledged continued US backing for South African attempts to arrange a ceasefire between the MNR and the Mozambique government.

Banda, Machel 24/10 sign agreements

PRO-WESTERN Malawi and Marxist Mozambique yesterday signed an historic general cooperation agreement setting up a joint commission to regulate their relations.

President Banda of Malawi and President Samora Machel, in a communique after the Mozambican leader's first official Malawi visit, denounced "banditry" in the region. Mozambique, whose main trade routes run through Malawi, has claimed that Mozambique rebels have used Malawi as a base for attacks.

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