



First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Serbia Ivica Dacic, who is visiting Mozambique, met today in Maputo with José Pachecko, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Mozambique, with whom he had a meaningful dialogue.

In the long and friendly meeting, memories of the SFRY support to the decolonization struggle of the people of Mozambique were evoked and views exchanged on the current foreign policy developments in the world, particularly in Africa and Europe.

Both Ministers noted a vast potential to restore economic, political, defence and educational cooperation between the two states, especially taking into account their stagnation over the past years.

It has been agreed to exchange visits at high and the highest level and to identify areas of common interest where it would be possible to promote cooperation in order to sign appropriate bilateral agreements.

The Serbian Foreign Minister especially thanked his counterpart for Mozambique's full support to the territorial integrity of the Republic of Serbia and respect for international law.

"I would like to publicly fully support the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Serbia and distance myself from any separatist moves that may undermine Serbia's integrity", the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Mozambique said after the meeting.

Minister Dacic handed over to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Mozambique the Cordon Order of the Republic of Serbia awarded to the President of Mozambique by the President of Serbia for outstanding contribution to the development of bilateral cooperation between our states.

**GREAT INTEREST IN PROMOTING TRADE COOPERATION BETWEEN SERBIA AND MOZAMBIQUE**

First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Serbia Ivica Dacic met today in Maputo with a group of prominent business people of Mozambique headed by the President of the Confederation of Business Associations of Mozambique Agostinho Vuma.

In his introductory statement, Minister Dacic informed the audience of the economic potentials of the Republic of Serbia and opportunities for the country's economic cooperation with Mozambique, undergoing a process of structural economic reforms implemented by the Government of Serbia, as well as of the process of Serbia's European integration.

The business people expressed a great interest in the promotion of trade cooperation and proposed that negotiations and umbrella inter-state bilateral agreements in the field of economic cooperation and development of agriculture be accelerated.

Agostinho Vuma was particularly keen on establishing contacts with the Serbian Chamber of Commerce and Industry aimed at advancing business cooperation and economic exchanges, and proposed establishment of cooperation among the relevant fair associations.

Joint presence on third markets was also discussed with special emphasis on cooperation and transfer of technology in the field of agriculture and food processing industry.

The visit of the Serbian Foreign Minister to the Confederation of Business Associations of Mozambique received a lot of media attention and following the meeting with businesspeople Minister Dacic was available to answer their questions.

*M.M*