



## Ex-Soldier Demobilization Starts in Three Months

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**Angola Press Agency (ANGOP)** - The process of demobilisation of the first group of soldiers of the Angolan Armed Forces (FAA) will start in the coming three months. This was announced on Friday here announced by the director of the Institute of Socio-Professional Reintegration of Ex-soldiers (IRSEM), Gen. Francico Antonio Andrade.

Speaking at a press conference promoted by the World Bank, he said that the preparations for the demobilisation process of former FAA soldiers has already ended and the people to be demobilised are already identified.

The general programme, passed on March 2004, foresees the demobilisation and integration of 105,000 ex-soldiers of UNITA and 33,000 of FAA, as well as the integration of vulnerable groups, including women, children, and disabled people.

According to the General, 15,321 ex-soldiers of FAA are ready to be demobilised, 8,000 of whom disable. The process has already comprised 97,114 ex-soldiers from UNITA, for which the programme has supplied about 60,000 primary opportunities of reintegration, while another 15,000 are in the process.

The Angolan Government has spent about Usd 1.0 million, said General Antonio Andrade.