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After Guruè and Chiure, now it's Ribáuè

STAE brigade caught red-handed registering people at night in lapala

Two mobile computers were found being used to register voters at 9pm Saturday (last night), at the residence of the Frelimo party first secretary, in lapala, 40 km from Ribáuè and far outside the municipality. When they were caught, about 20 voters and the brigade members ran away - [as shown in this video](#).

The two computers that were being used had been taken from Ribauè Sede EPC and Quithale registration posts. In these two posts no one has been registered for a week, allegedly because the equipment is broken, when in fact the computers were moved to other areas for clandestine registration at night.

They were being used to register people outside the municipality but on computers from inside the municipality, allowing these people to vote illegally in municipal elections.

According to the Renamo district delegate and the speaker of the Ribáuè Municipal Assembly, the district director of STAE was present during the clandestine registration. Our Bulletin tried to contact the district director of STAE, but was unsuccessful, as he did not answer our calls.

The brigades withdrew their mobiles at 6pm Saturday (yesterday, 6 May) for another night of registration. But on the way, they bumped into the Renamo team in the Ribáuè market, while they were buying biscuits. Renamo already had information about the night registration. When the brigades realised the Renamo presence, they got into their vehicle and left in the direction of lapala. But a Renamo team, consisting of the deputy STAE director, a STAE technician, their district delegate and others, jumped on their motorbikes and headed towards lapala, following the brigade with the two computers.

Renamo had information that the brigade was at the residence of the Frelimo first secretary in lapala, which is also a guesthouse. The brigade members installed the computers and started to register people, supposedly Frelimo members.



The people fled but the equipment, shown in the photo, was confiscated by Renamo. The district director of STAE eventually claimed the equipment, and the issue was only resolved at midnight when the head of police operations arrived and took the machines back to the district command.

Last Wednesday, our correspondents in Ribáuè reported that the registration post at Ribáuè EPC (primary school) had already been paralysed since Sunday 30 April. Thus for a week there was no registration at Ribáuè EPC. The photo shows the closed post, paralysed by alleged hardware breakdown.




Officially, Frelimo has not yet reacted or responded to requests for information. But the Nampula-based Ikweli newspaper quotes a Frelimo source as threatening to sue those who associate the STAE action with the party.

Unaware that they were members of the electoral body

OJM members went to ask the CNE member for his voter card number

A team of 10 members of the Frelimo youth league OJM in Maputo City went knocking on doors. They reached house of Abilio Baessa, Renamo member of the CNE, to ask for his voter card, supposedly to be added to the list they are producing. They did not know that he was a member of CNE. They asked him whether he had registered to vote. After a positive reply, the OJM members asked to take a photo with him, with his respective voter card, to add him to their list. When they realised he was a member of the CNE, they apologised and justified that they were mobilising people to register. They were unable to explain the purpose of collecting voters cards.

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