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## Registration posts will operate until midnight tomorrow, but CNE says no to extra days, blocking many opposition voters from registering

The National Elections Commission (CNE) has rejected an appeal by its MDM and Renamo members to extend the voter registration period for additional days. It only agreed to extend the opening hours for registration posts from 17.00 to 22.00 today and until midnight tomorrow (Saturday 3 June, the last day of registration). (CNE [decision](#) and [press statement](#))

The CNE decision favours Frelimo. In some municipalities where MDM or Renamo are strong, a considerable number of opposition members have been prevented from registering. In Beira, for example, more than 100,000 potential voters are not yet registered.

Early in the registration many Frelimo voters were registered when STAE directors and supervisors directed registration posts to give priority to civil servants such as teachers and members of the Mozambican Youth Organisation (OJM), the youth wing of Frelimo. After registering Frelimo voters, the machinery in some registration posts began to have problems and there were long delays.



Would-be voters wait to register in Beira



## Huge queues in Beira due to absent and late registration brigade members

The instruction by the [Beira district director of STAE "to destroy the enemy"](#) - namely opposition voters - by making it difficult for them to register, appears to be still in force. Huge queues of would-be voters are building up as brigade members are absent, late, or slow, as the pictures above show.

When our correspondents went to Eduardo Mondlane EPC registration post, at about 07.00 yesterday (Thursday 1 June), only potential voters were present. No brigade member was there and they only arrived at 07.40. The voters are protesting and are demanding that the election administration bodies intervene to solve the problem.

A second registration computer ("mobile") has been delivered to Chota EPC post, but when our correspondent visited at 13.00 yesterday they found that the brigade members chosen to operate the second machine had not come to work. And the other operator is said to be ill. The single brigade member working cannot deal with the enormous crowd in the queue.

The other posts visited by our correspondents, namely the IFAFA EPC, and the Marrocanhe Secondary School posts, had large crowds of would-be voters.

Some posts are now working hard, but will not be able to catch up. At the Sao Jose ESG, also in Beira, the post continues to register 149 voters a day, but brigade members deliver cards to the voters the following day, because the printer is not working. At the posts at the Irmaos Macombe, Munhava, and the Beira Industrial and Commercial Institute average attendance varies between 140 and 200 voters a day..

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## Computers continue to break down in municipalities with strong opposition

Some municipalities with a high level of political competition are continuing to report equipment breakdowns. Also, too few registration brigades were assigned to opposition zones.

In **Nampula**, in Malema district, a stronghold of the opposition, crowds continue to fill school yards waiting to enter registration posts. At the Eduardo Nihia Secondary School, the Malema-Sede EPC (primary school), the 19 October EPC, and the 25 June EPC, there were many people still waiting in the late afternoon. The MDM and Renamo monitors have no doubt that many voters will not be able to register in Malema, because of what they regard as “Various manoeuvres of the brigade members, who during the process, are always inventing breakdowns of the mobiles [registration computers]”. They also point to unqualified and unskilled brigade members.

In Nacala-Port, the main registration posts in the city, namely at the Maiaia EPC and the Nacala Secondary School, are characterized by enormous queues, despite an increased number of mobiles. The problem remains of lack of rolls of blank voters cards. At Nacala Secondary School there is now an additional mobile and this post is now managing to register an average of 320 to 350 voters a day. Nonetheless, the voters complain of slow attendance.

In **Niassa**, at the Ngame Chanica EPC, in Mandimba, the mobile broke down after it had registered 37 voters. In the Cuamba General Secondary School, voters were waiting in the hope of registering but both mobiles at that post had broken down and the supervisor was absent. We learned he had been summoned to court to answer for possible electoral crimes.

In Milange, in **Zambezia**, a breakdown of the Mobile ID paralyzed voter registration at the Manganira EPC. The machine has ceased to recharge since Wednesday (31 May). The case has gone to STAE and the brigade is waiting for a solution. Up to the time of the breakdown, there was still a large crowd of citizens waiting. The post is about 5 kms from Milange town.

In Ulongue, **Tete**, the post at the Chideque EPC, 5 kilometres from the town, closed at 15.00 due to a machine breakdown. It was, on average, registering 80 voters per day.

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## Poor attendance continues in the south and in Tete

The entire southern zone of the country, a stronghold of Frelimo, continues to show poor attendance at registration posts, including the most populous districts of Matola and Maputo City, which, taken together, will register more than 1.4 million voters. Many of the posts are deserted.

In the visits made by our correspondents, some posts have few people. For example, Post 226, in the Malhampsene market in Matola had just five potential voters who wanted to register. In the post at the Sikwama primary school, until about 14.00 there were no citizens at all trying to register. The supervisor said that few people had showed up in recent days.

The same was true at the post in the Malhampsene Secondary School. The supervisor noted that recently the post registered an average of 30 to 40 voters a day. When our correspondent left, the chairs for potential voters were empty. This scenario is repeated in almost all the posts in the three provinces in the south of the country.

Tete province is also showing little voter attendance at the various posts. A round undertaken by our correspondents yesterday (1 June) found, for example, that the posts at the Bawe and Maenda EPCs recently were registering between 2 and 6 people a day. The Dona Ana EPC attended to a minimum of 40 people.


## Police found transporting equipment

A policed agent was found transporting the Mobile from the Nhahoco EPC, on the outskirts of Gondola town, in Manica province, supposedly to the police station. Two policemen were allocated to this post, and they swap places during day and night. We learn that one of the policemen, when he is on duty at night, prefers to take the mobile to the police station. The Renamo monitors discovered this and informed their provincial delegate. The delegate, accompanied by the Renamo

election agents, rushed over to the post. The Renamo provincial political agent, Manuel Macocove, said that this is clear evidence that the ultimate goal was to set up a clandestine registration post.

## 90 outsiders caught registering in Alto Molocue

The mobilization of people living outside the municipal area is continuing, with only two days left before the end of the registration period. In Alto Molocue town, 90 citizens were found trying to register at three different posts. They are from Mahuline village in Nivava locality, outside the municipal boundary. One of the people stopped from registering confirmed that he came from Nivava to register on the instructions of the locality chief, and they were promised that after registration they would be paid 5,000 meticaís (\$80), a large amount of money. They were instructed that 30 people each should register at the registration posts of Futuro Melhor EPC, Malutxasse, and the Alto Molocue Sede EPC. Renamo monitors discovered these movements and went to the posts and stopped the registration.

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