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Only 47% of voters registered in 26 days

19 days from the end of the voter registration period, the majority of the potential voters have not yet registered. So far, only 47% of voters registered in 26 days. In response, the National Elections Commission (CNE) instructed the Electoral Administration Technical Secretariat (STAE) to increase the number of computers (known as “Mobile IDs”) in the most critical provinces, and to extend the working hours of the registration brigades from eight to ten hours a day.

In response to the CNE instruction, STAE has decided to allocate a further 42 computers and their respective printers to the provinces of Sofala, Zambézia, Nampula, Niassa and Tete.

The STAE data show a worrying scenario for the electoral administration and management bodies which do not have the resources to pay for a possible extension in the number of days for registration. Hence, STAE is doing all that it can so that, in the few remaining days, it can register the number of voters envisaged.

Indeed, the CNE spokesperson, Paulo Cuinica, made a point of stressing that any increase in the hours of work represents additional costs for the electoral administration bodies.

Court acquits and releases guard arrested for stopping illegal registration

The guard at a Gurué registration post was released by court order on Friday (19 May) after having been detained, supposedly on the orders of the Gurué STAE district director, since 22 April.

The guard on the gate of the registration post at Production Unit No. 4 (UP4) in Gurué said he had prevented the entry of trucks transporting people from Ile district, supposedly to

register in the Gurué municipality in Zambézia. The Gurué STAE district director ordered him taken to the police cells, accused of preventing potential voters from entering the registration post.

The court acquitted the guard for insufficient evidence. Civil Society is demanding that those who accused the guard should be held accountable.

No registration posts and polling stations in some Renamo zones of Matola

In the last elections, the area of Campo Mataquini, Matola, had positive results for Renamo, but now it seems to have been penalised in that it has not been allocated a nearby registration post and polling station. These residents of Campo Mataquini, in Matola A neighbourhood, in Matola-Sede, are obliged to go to the São Estêvão, 30 January, Matola A and Santos registration posts to try to exercise their civic right. But when they reach those posts, they are not allowed to register, because they do not live there.

When the maps were drawn up, the Renamo delegate, Milene Jusselini, suggested that Campo Matequini should have its own registration post, but STAE ignored this.

Renamo believes these are manoeuvres to make Renamo members and sympathisers unable to take part in the elections. It demands that registration brigades be placed in such a way so that the majority of voters have the chance to vote.

Also Brigade 97, at the T-3 Unit EPC, is short of staff, which leads to huge crowds at the voter registration posts. It is near Ndlavela neighbourhood, which has the highest population density in Matola, but few registration computers were allocated to register the potential voters. Additional computers have now been allocated, but without additional staff to operate them. The residents of Ndlavela, who live near other neighbourhoods, have been going to neighbouring registration posts, but when they arrive there, they are not allowed to register.

Milene Josselini says that what is happening in these neighbourhoods is deliberate, to stop Renamo supporter registering.

OJM list used to collect voter cards in Gurué

This Sunday (21 May) a list was found in Gurué of 56 people who have delivered voter cards to members of the OJM in the Gurue municipality, in Zambezia province. The OJM is the youth wing of the Frelimo Party. Collecting voter cards is a practice reported by our correspondents in all the districts where voter registration is taking place. But the CNE said on Friday (19 May) that it had not yet received any complaint from the opposition parties about this phenomenon.

Five youths tried to register illicitly in Dondo


In the Dondo Secondary School, Sofala, there was a delay in starting registration on Thursday (18 May) because of a disagreement between the monitors of Frelimo and of the MDM. This was because five youths from Mile 26 appeared at the registration post and tried to register.

According to the investigations to which they were submitted, they were taken to the post by a teacher from the Mile 26 School, whose name they did not reveal. But it is known that he is a member of the Frelimo Party working at the school. This man has been recruiting youths in remote areas to go to Dondo to register, with the promise of jobs if the Frelimo Party wins on 11 October. The youths were taken to the Dondo District Police Command, for “a question of courtesy” since nothing would be done against them. In the past, there was an identical situation; the police did nothing when youths came from Mafambisse to register in the Broadcasting Centre EPC in Dondo City. They were released and went home.

New Mobile ID encourages voter registration in the Macurungo EPC

The new “Mobile ID” computer, installed this Thursday (18 May) in the Macurungo EPC, in Beira, is encouraging voter registration. Voters, in conversation with the “CIP Elections” Bulletin praised the initiative, saying that it had previously been like martyrdom to go to that post, because of the slowness deliberately organised by the brigade members.

The director of the Renamo Election Office in Sofala, Francisco António Miranda, is accusing the STAE director in Marromeu, Daniel Cuzaminho, of committing electoral crimes. He is allegedly instructing brigade members from the registration posts of that district to prioritise registration of Frelimo members

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