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## Renamo man shot by police after lodging complaint

**A** Renamo activist in Tete who went to the police to file a complaint was instead shot and injured by a policeman serving in the border guard, José Dziwanani, who is also Frelimo first secretary of Bairro Mpádue. The victim, Aly Momad Vanhane, was shot in the left thigh on the third day of the campaign, 27 September. There is no information to indicate that Dziwanani has been arrested

“We found the Frelimo first secretary from Mpádue neighbourhood flyposting Frelimo posters on top of Renamo ones”, Vanhane told reporters. “I and my colleagues went to the police, but when we were leaving the same member of Frelimo tried to attack us with his fists. But when he saw that I was escaping, he fired two shots, and one of them hit me”. It soon became clear that the Frelimo first secretary was a policeman and had fired his

service revolver.

Two weeks ago the police commander in chief, Bernardino Rafael, toured the country meeting heads of lists and told them that the police would guarantee calm and help all candidates. The response to this shooting will be seen as an important test of Rafael's promise of police neutrality.

Renamo party agent André Magibire at a press conference on 28 September in Maputo accused the police of acting "in a partial way" and of being the "armed wing of Frelimo".

Gaza and parts of Tete are two areas where in past elections Frelimo has tried to physically exclude opposition candidates, and this appears to be continuing this year. At the press conference, Magibire reported two other incidents.

The head of the Renamo list and thus candidate for mayor in **Xai-Xai**, Gaza, along with other Renamo members, were attacked by an unidentified group when they tried to stop people pulling down Renamo posters on the early morning of 25 September, the first day of the campaign. No one was injured and a complaint has been registered with the police.

Magibire also reported that "some days ago, at the **Tete** city office, unidentified people attempted to kidnap the guard. Failing to do that, the people threw stones at the facility."

### Wife of Frelimo mayor charged with destroying Renamo posters

The wife of the Frelimo mayor of Marromeu and Frelimo candidate for re-election must appear in court on 2 October, after having been caught by Renamo supporters tearing down Renamo posters. Caught destroying the posters on the first day of the campaign, 25 September, Helena Mário was attacked by Renamo supporters. Emílio Gaspar was arrested and charged with assault. Renamo sent a lawyer from Beira who organised bail of MT 10,000 (\$170) and Gaspar was released on 28 September. The lawyer also intervened to ensure that charges were brought against Mário.

## 3 arrested for destroying Frelimo posters in Sofala

Two people in Dondo and one in Gorongosa have been arrested for destroying Frelimo posters, the Sofala police spokesperson Daniel Macuacua reported. He said they were not wearing party t-shirts so he did not know which party they were.

## Avoiding conflict or restricting movement?

In Nampula city police prevented a Renamo parade from passing near the local Frelimo office in Muhala, an area where there has been electoral violence. There have been confrontations in the area between Frelimo and Renamo processions, so far without physical violence due to the

intervention of the police. Nevertheless, Renamo complained that its free movement was being restricted.

## Family objects to using picture of Amurane

The family Mahamudo Amurane, the assassinated mayor of Nampula city, objects to the use of his photo in its campaign by the Liberal Party for Sustainable Development (Partido Liberal para o Desenvolvimento Sustentável, PLDS). The family says he did not support that party and that action had previously been taken to stop them using his photo. But the PLDS list head Já Aly Alberto says he as a founder of the party and it should honour the murdered mayor.

# Intense campaign in Beira

**F**relimo has not governed Beira for 15 years and it is the domain of Renamo and the MDM. So far the campaign has been intense but non-violent. MDM, Renamo and Frelimo parades have met on Rua Kruss Gomes in Munhava and at Maquinino market without confrontation. The only incidents have been destruction of campaign posters, especially in Munhava, Manga and Massamba.

Frelimo and the MDM continue the strongest parties in terms of transport, material support, and support of its members. Those two have "painted" the city in the colours of their T-shirts and capulanas.

Renamo is at a clear disadvantage, walking rather than driving around the city and without t-shirts. Renamo is also using photos of its late leader Afonso Dhlakama, suggesting to some that he is the candidate for mayor.

Frelimo has again been accused of misusing its position in national government. On 27 September, Frelimo candidate Augusta Maita directed her parade to force Maquinino market stallholders to remove all the leaflets on their tables that they had received from the MDM, which had been there earlier. But Frelimo improper use of state cars is reduced, with the only state car noted in the campaign being AGH 154 MB, assigned to the Beira district permanent secretary, Frederico Meque.

## Maputo candidates in debate

Parties in Maputo city used a joint meeting on 28 September to present their manifestos. For the first time, Frelimo was present in such a meeting. But neither Frelimo nor Renamo candidate for mayor attended.

Fernando Sumbane for Frelimo said the party would create platforms where youth could present their problems, and said he would respond to the concerns of local residents about a wide range of problems. For Renamo, Venâncio Mondlane who was not allowed to stand for mayor but is continuing to lead the campaign, said Renamo would prioritise rubbish collection, city planning, and electronic management of markets.

Augusto Banzo, MDM candidate for mayor, said he would replace the much criticised open trucks used for commuter transport, called "My Loves", with buses. He said MDM would end the suffering of local residents and prioritize basic services.

Citizens lists stressed transport, health and jobs.

*2018 Local Elections is part of the Votar Moçambique programme*





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