

2013 Local Elections



Mozambique political process bulletin

Number LE-39 11 November 2013



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Published by CIP, Centro de Integridade Pública and AWEPA, the European Parliamentarians for Africa
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Violating the law

Parties campaign in churches

Candidates of both Frelimo and MGM (Mozambique Democratic Movement, Movimento Democrático de Moçambique) campaigned in churches on Sunday, even though the electoral law explicitly prohibits campaigning in "normal places of worship". This was not simply attending church services, but open appeals to the congregation for votes.

Frelimo's candidate for re-election as mayor of Maputo, David Simango, celebrated Eucharist in the Igreja do Nazareno and appealed for votes.

Frelimo's candidate in Matola, Calisto Cossa, went to the Igreja Apostólica Velha in bairro Fomento to campaign. The MDM candidate in Matola, Silvério Ronguane, went to igreja São Baptista in bairro Fomento, and after the service asked churchgoers for their votes.

Jaime Neto, Frelimo candidate in Beira, and Ricardo Tomás, MDM candidate in Tete, also campaigned in churches.

ASSEMONA interrupts campaign in Monapo

Citizens' list ASSEMONA had to stop campaigning in Monapo because of the illness of its mayoral candidate António Marques. He is suffering from high blood pressure but promised to return to campaign after a brief rest. ASSEMONA started its campaign two days late because of organisational problems and the health of its candidate.

Poster destruction worsens

There has been an increase in accusations of destruction of posters and other campaign materials over recent days. Some cases are going to court.

Nyamáyabue (Tete): Several people accused of destroying MDM banners go on trial in the district court Wednesday.

Chiúre (Cabo Delgado): Frelimo posters in Meriha and Namissir neighbourhoods have been destroyed, complained Frelimo first secretary Xavier Trigo shortly after a Showmico. Police operations commander Uhitimo Magido says that community police are trying to track down the

perpetrators, but that he does not have the people to patrol the neighbourhoods. There have been no arrests during the campaign so far.

Chibuto (Gaza): 12 young men with Frelimo posters incepted an MDM march in Mudada and Canhada neighbourhoods and stopped it from continuing.

Ribáue (Nampula): Frelimo distanced themselves from claims that party members were destroying MDM posters. Frelimo election head Silvério Canate said his party campaigned in an orderly manner.

Ulóngue (Tete): MDM accuses Frelimo of using children and teenagers to tear its posters during the night, and to intimidate MDM members.

Frelimo continues to use state cars

Chiúre (Cabo Delgado): Ministry of Agriculture Toyota Land Cruiser AAB186 MP seen in the campaign Monday, in use by the Organização da Mulher Moçambicana (Mozambique Women's Organisation, OMM), in bairro Miconi. Frelimo also using the car of the permanent secretary to transport loud speakers to election meetings.

Ilha de Moçambique (Nampula): Monday a Ministry of Health car from Meconta district was seen in the campaign, with the registration number covered with posters.

Nampula: The Governor of Nampula is using a state car, a wine coloured Toyota Prado Land Cruiser ACR 572 MP, to support mayoral candidate Absalão Sueia.

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Academic citations: Cite as "2013 Local Elections, Mozambique Political Process Bulletin, Maputo"
