

2013 Local Elections

Mozambique political process bulletin

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High turnout in Gurue voting

Voting opened this morning at 7 am in all 49 polling stations in Gurue, with full staff and party observers. A round of polling stations at 9 am found queues of 100 to 200 people, indicating a high turnout.

Our correspondent reports that the returning officers (*presidentes*) of some polling stations are civil servants and known Frelimo members. For example the *presidente* of polling station 04009501 at Gurue Secondary School is Farias Noé, District Director of Youth, Education and Technology.

There was one incident this morning. Electoral observers from the Youth Parliament attempted to do a survey in one neighbourhood and were confused with Frelimo campaigners and were threatened by local people. They were rescued by the police.

The Gurue municipal election is being rerun today, after the 20 November election was annulled by the Constitutional Council, based on indications that electoral officials had changed the results to give Frelimo the victory. For that reason, there is particular concern that senior polling station officials are again prominent members of Frelimo.

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