

2014 National Elections



Mozambique political process bulletin



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Renamo-government gunfire prevents registration brigade deployment in Gorongosa

Exchanges of shots between Renamo and government soldiers in the early morning of both Thursday and Friday has prevented the deployment of the nine registration brigades in Gorongosa district. This should have occurred Thursday. There were no reports of confrontations yesterday (Saturday 26) but the brigades were not deployed and remain in Gorongosa town.

Meanwhile, Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama, in a telephone interview with state television TVM Thursday said Renamo pressure led to changes in the electoral legislation which will mean “genuinely democratic” elections. Including people chosen by the political parties in electoral bodies would produce free, fair and transparent elections “for the first time”, he said, adding: “I shall register and I too will be able to vote”.

Registration ends Tuesday (29) but Renamo has requested an extension of the deadline. Dhlakama is expected to register in Gorongosa, with one of the nine brigades waiting to be deployed.

Comment: Implicit in the agreement Wednesday between government and Renamo was at least an informal temporary cease fire and a halt to troop movements - at least until President Afonso Dhlakama and his "presidential guard" registered. The incidents yesterday and today suggest that both Renamo and government troops are continuing to move through the area and there is no informal cease fire. Does this imply that both government and Renamo have lost control of their military forces, and that they are acting against the desires of the political leaders? *jh*

A detailed report on the 2009 elections is available, in two parts, on

<http://bit.ly/MozElec2009-1a> and <http://bit.ly/MozElec2009-2>

The Portuguese edition of the Bulletin is more detailed, and can be read on <http://www.cip.org.mz/election2013/> Some English bulletins cover two Portuguese bulletins and have a double number.

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