

2014 National Elections



Mozambique political process bulletin



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CDE confirms 'higher orders' to stop Gorongosa registration

The president of the Gorongosa District Elections Commission (CDE), Zambo Alfixa, in an interview with this newsletter, confirmed claims by Renamo that he had orders from central level that no election brigades should go to rural parts of Gorongosa, despite this having been agreed in negotiations between government and Renamo on 23 April.

Alfixa blamed the on-going insecurity and instability in the area. But the Renamo-nominated vice president of the Gorongosa CDE, Luís Moiambo, claimed there was no insecurity in Vunduzi which would prevent registration.

The eight registration brigades remain stuck in Gorongosa town. Alfixa said that there were no plans to send out the brigades. "This does not depend on me, but on my superiors in the hierarchy at central level."

Since Renamo made its announcement Friday that it would reactivate its military bases across the country, there has been a sizeable movement of soldiers and equipment into the Gorongosa area. And at the weekend, Renamo resumed its attacks on the main north-south N1 road near Muxungué, Sofala.

On 24 April, National Elections Commission (CNE) spokesman Paulo Cuinica, said that following an agreement between Renamo and the government the day before, the CNE would send eight registration brigades out into Gorongosa without police, and with Renamo guaranteeing security. But this never happened.

Moiambo says government wants the military to accompany the brigades, but the 23 April agreement was precisely that this would not happen. "The agreement between the two parties must be carried out in total," he said.

The eight brigades are supposed to go to Casa Banana, EPC de Vunduzi, Nhataca, Chionde, Tsikiri, Mussikazi, Piro and Mukodza.

Friday is the last day of the registration period, which has been extended precisely to allow Renamo people, including President Afonso Dhlakama, to register. Dhlakama confirmed in a TV interview that he would register in Gorongosa. But this has not happened. And if he does not register, he cannot stand for President of Mozambique.

38 convicted of electoral crimes; 81 charges pending

38 people have already been convicted of electoral crimes during local elections last year and actions are proceeding against 81 others, Attorney General Augusto Paulino told parliament on 16 April.

In all there have been 97 cases involving 150 people. The largest number of cases, 19, was for damage to party posters. There were 12 cases of people accused of campaigning on the two days before the election and on polling day. There were no prosecutions for ballot box stuffing, but his report does not cover the Gurué elections earlier this year.

The Attorney General told parliament (Assembleia da República) "38 defendants have been convicted and fined or sentenced to prison for terms ranging from three days to 1 year, while 31 defendants were acquitted for lack of proof".

This is the table presented to parliament by Paulino in his report.

TYPE OF CRIME	ELECTORAL CRIMES - number of cases					TOTAL
	Being investigated	Charged but not yet tried	TRIED			
			Convicted	Acquitted	Sub-Total - cases tried	
Damage to posters and propaganda	0	1	14	4	18	19
Promoting fraudulent registration	1	4	0	0	0	5
Violation of freedom to vote	0	0	1	0	1	1
Violation of neutrality or impartiality	1	0	0	0	0	1
Voting more than once	0	2	0	0	0	2
Electoral propaganda after the closing of the official campaign	0	5	3	4	7	12
Using a false name	1	1	1	0	1	3
Physical violence	2	1	2	1	3	6
Damage	2	0	1	0	1	3
Falsifying documents	3	2	1	0	1	6
Double registration	2	1	3	0	3	6
Introduction of a fraudulent ballot	0	0	0	0	0	0
Disturbing the polling station	0	0	0	1	1	1
Arson	3	0	0	0	0	3
Homicide	0	1	0	0	0	1
Other	22	0	3	3	6	28
Total cases	37	18	29	13	42	97
Total individuals charged	56	25	38	31	69	150

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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