

# 2014 National Elections



## Mozambique political process bulletin



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**COLLECTIVE ACTION:** This newsletter is based on reports from 150 journalists in nearly every district, working together to give the most up to date coverage of the election. We are also working with the Community Radios Forum (FORCOM) and the Human Rights League.

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### **National observers:**

## **2500 from Electoral Observatory and 2000 from Parlamento Juvenil**

There will be at least 4,500 national observers and a parallel vote tabulation (PVT) for the 15 October national elections.

The PVT is a statistically correct sample of more than 10% of polling stations which in the past has given a very accurate prediction of the final vote, and serves as an important check on misconduct and fraud. The PVT will be carried out by the Electoral Observatory (EO) which will assign 2109 national observers to the task. In addition the EO will have 400 mobile observers monitoring several polling stations each, typically an entire school where each classroom is a polling station.

The EO is working together with the Youth Parliament (Parlamento Juvenil) which expects to field 2000 observers, according to the Observatory's interim Executive Director, Anastácio Chembeze.

The EO already has 400 observers and 63 conflict monitors in the field to monitor the campaign.

### **Supreme Court training 473 magistrates**

The revised electoral law for the first time gives district magistrates the responsibility for rapid trials of electoral crimes. Because of their lack of experience and training, the Supreme Court (Tribunal Supremo) and Public Prosecutors Office (Procuradoria-Geral) are giving training sessions to 473 magistrates and district prosecutors.

Training took place last Wednesday and Thursday in Maputo and will take place Monday in Xai-Xai, Tuesday in Quelimane, Thursday in Chimoio and Friday in Pemba.

Pedro Nhatitima, Judge and spokesperson for the Supreme Court, said that district courts will work full time, including weekends and holidays, so that they can act quickly with respect to electoral offenses.

## Teachers and civil servants abandon their posts to campaign

Civil servants, especially teachers, are reportedly being reassigned to work on the Frelimo campaign. For example, when Frelimo candidate Filipe Nyusi arrived in Lichinga, schools were closed. When our journalist visited two schools, Paulo Samuel Kankhomba and Namacula, pupils were found sitting in their classrooms, but with no teachers.

In Chemba district, Sofala, and Muecate, Nampula, teachers and nurses have been sent to work on the Frelimo campaign.

## Covered registration numbers

In Xai-Xai sitting in front of the municipal council is the mayor's car, which is being used in the Frelimo campaign, and with the registration number plates covered with the label "Frelimo". (See photo.)

One Frelimo car with the number covered has already been used in an armed robbery. Our journalist in Xai-Xai contacted the police, but spokesman Jeremias Langa said this was an issue for the Transit Police. They, in turn, only said that they had reminded the parties that covering the registration number plate is illegal.



**Inhambane:** In Homoine a Nissan Hardbody AEC 916 MP of the district planning and infrastructure department is being used in the Frelimo campaign.

## Police tell MDM to provide transport

In Mueda, Cabo Delgado, the police have told MDM that they will only accompany MDM processions if the MDM provides transport, which would mean hiring cars, claims Bernardo Gerónimo, a member of the MDM local political commission. He says the police do not demand that Frelimo provides transport.

## 3 months in jail for destroying Frelimo posters

In Mecanhelas, Niassa, António Alberto was convicted of vandalising Frelimo posters and sentenced to three months in jail or a fine of 19,000 Meticaís (\$630). In Ribàué, Nampula, Vasco Damião, 27 years old, is under arrest for pasting Frelimo posters on top of MDM ones. In Chimoio, Manica, João Tome Maloua, the MDM representative in 5 FEPOM neighbourhood, is under arrest for taking posters away from Frelimo members trying to put the posters up near his house.

In Mueda, Cabo Delgado, Bernardo Gerónimo, a member of the MDM local commission, accuses Frelimo members of pulling down MDM posters, and has made a complaint to the police. In Nampula, the Renamo headquarters has been plastered with MDM and Frelimo posters; local Renamo head Antonio Francisco calls it a "provocation" and has made a complaint to the police.

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

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

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The Portuguese edition of the Bulletin is more detailed, and can be read on

<http://www.cip.org.mz/election2013/>

Portuguese Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CIP.Eleicoes>

Some English bulletins cover two Portuguese bulletins and have a double number.

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## **Mozambique Political Process Bulletin**

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