

2014 National Elections

Mozambique political process bulletin

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

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Large queues as most polling stations open *- but many problems reported*

Most polling stations across the country opened on time at 7 am this morning. More than half of our correspondents report that at 9 am there were still queues of 100 or more, and many others report queues of more than 50, suggesting a high turnout.

But there have been reports of serious problems in Nampula province and in Beira. There are reports there and elsewhere to failures to issue credentials to observers and party delegates, and some delays in distribution of materials. Register books were not sent to the correct polling station in some places, and in other polling stations were not at the place people registered and voters could not find them.

Our correspondents also report that the voting process is slow in some places, particularly taking more time than expected to identify voters in the register books.

Nampula fails to register observers *making PVT impossible there*

Nampula province STAE failed to issue credentials to the more than 400 observers from the Electoral Observatory. The Observatory says that the final names on the list were submitted by Thursday last week. Some credentials were finally being issued this morning. The observers are expected to carry out the sample count (PVT,

parallel vote tabulation) and the failure to issue credentials means that many will not be able to reach more remote parts of the province by the time of the count tonight.

There are also reports of failure to issue observer credentials in Cabo Delgado and Sofala.

31 register books missing in Nacala-Porto

31 polling stations could not open in Nacala-Porto because of lack of register books. There were at four schools: EP1 de Lacone (5), EPC de Mathapu  (9), EPC Tri ngulo (7) and EPC Cidade Alta (10).

Voters sent home in Angoche

At the Escola Prim ria Completa in Angoche, 10 polling stations did not have register books and did not open. Local STAE staff told voters to go home. The local district administrator was unable to vote.

Delays in Beira

In Beira this morning the local STAE was still signing contracts with polling stations staff and assigning them to polling stations, which means some did not open on time. Also there was a problem with register books going to the wrong polling stations. By mid morning, polling stations had still not opened at primary schools 4 de Outubro, Palmeiras 1, Amilcar Cabral and Antiga Emissora and secondary schools at Manga and Macunte. At Escola Prim ria Completa Manga Loforte 10 polling stations did not open

Other serious problems

- **Nampula:** At Escola Primaria Completa dos Belenenses, 7 of 14 polling stations did not have register books. At Escola Primaria de Muegane, 5 of 11 register books were missing. Escola secund ria 12 de Outubro, lack of register books reported. Elsewhere lack of register books at 9 polling stations and voters sent home.

- **Chimoio, Pemba, and Matola** report polling stations that did not open on time.

- **Niassa:** Two helicopters in Niassa which have to supply 69 polling stations only began work this morning. Helicopters to distribute material only arrived at 10 am in Metangula and materials still have not been distributed to polling stations.

- Elsewhere - EPC Sede Macomia in Cabo Delgado and Escola Secund ria de Massinga in Inhambane report polling stations that have not opened. At Escola Secund ria da Vila de Inhassunge, in Zamb zia, polling stations opened late but are now open.

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

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