2014 National Elections



Mozambique political process bulletin



Number NE-63 18 October 2014

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Published by CIP, Centro de Integridade Pública e AWEPA, European Parliamentarians for Africa **Material may be freely reprinted. Please cite the** *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.

Dhlakama calls for negotiations and declines to reject elections

Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama said he wants to negotiate with the government over the elections. Speaking at a press conference in Maputo this afternoon (Saturday), in response to questions, he repeatedly refused to confirm the statement Thursday by his press spokesman António Muchanga that Renamo did not accept the elections. Instead he said "this cannot be treated technically. We must negotiate an outcome."

He continued that "this election was not free and fair" and he went on to say that "I cannot accept anything that kills democracy.". He was harshly critical of what he called the "total disorganisation that threatens the credibility of the elections." Therefore he wants to "enter into dialogue with government to create democracy."

Speaking in English, he said "my goal is not to be president but to bring democracy to my country."

Comment: His words were carefully chosen, to back off from Muchanga's Thursday rejection of the elections. He instead said that the National Elections Commission (CNE) had not yet announced results so it is too early to accept or reject. But his main call was for new negotiations about the elections. He clearly feels that support of at least one-third of the voters raises his status in negotiations. And he maintains an armed force.

Renamo-government negotiations took a long time in 1990-92 and in 2013-14, so extended negotiations can be expected now. Dhlakama would need changes that he can claim as bringing democracy to Mozambique, and also would need something that would give him a high status. He might expect a post of vice president to be created for him. *jh*

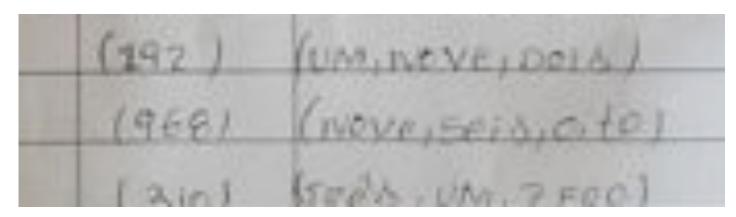
Simango cites gains

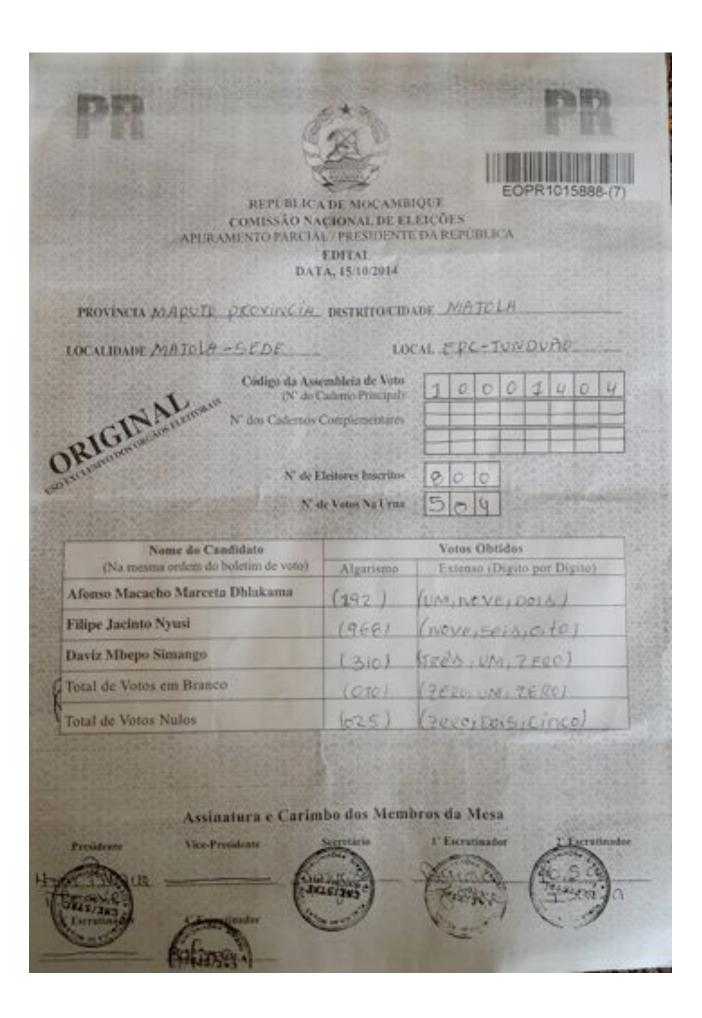
Daviz Simango, presidential candidate of the Movimento Democrático de Moçambique (MDM), also declined to reject the results. He said what he called fraud, irregularities and violence must have affected the results and hurt MDM. But he continued: "Even with the clear proof of fraud in

the process, the projections show that MDM will increase its number of parliamentary seats." Simango was speaking to the press on Friday but declined to take questions that might have clarified his position.

Election numbers

The official results sheet for a polling statin at Tunduro primary school in Matola (see photo) shows that in a polling station with 800 voters, 968 of them voted for the Frelimo candidate Filipe Nyusi. This is not a simple slip of the pen, because on the edital the number must be spelled out in words, and it clearly says nine-six-eight.





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/ Portuguese Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/CIP.Eleicoes Some English bulletins cover two Portuguese bulletins and have a double number.

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Academic citations: Cite as "2014 National Elections, Mozambique Political Process Bulletin, Maputo"