

2014 National Elections



Mozambique political process bulletin



Number NE-69 22 October 2014

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Published by CIP, Centro de Integridade Pública e AWEPA, European Parliamentarians for Africa

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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.

Results and comments

Results are available for two more provinces. And we have been able to do some analysis.

Note in Niassa 18,932 people voted for president but not AR. this is 6.6%.

Cabo Delgado, by contest, the difference is only 0.8%. Niassa has a history in 2009 of ballot box stuffing, and yesterday we published claims of changing results in two Niassa districts.

We now have results for 104 of 150 districts, which are posted on
<http://www.cip.org.mz/election2013/>

Niassa

Presidente

Turnout 46.95%

Total votes 288,831

Blank votes 22,992 7.9%

Invalid/nulos 16,141 5.5%

Valid/validos 249,698

Afonso Dhlakama 111,114 44.50%

Filipe Nyusi 120,818 48.38%

Daviz Simango 17,776 7.12%

Assembleia da República

Total Votes	269,899	
Votos em branco	25,604	9.6%
Votos nulos	19,604	7.2%
Votos validos	224,691	

MDM	18,105	8.06%
Renamo	91,743	40.83%
Frelimo	113,496	50.51%
Others	1,347	0.60%

Assembleia Provincial

Total votes	275,484	
Votos em branco	23,643	8.6%
Votos nulos	12,086	4.4%
Votos validos	239,963	

MDM	22,774	9.49%
Renamo	100,152	41.74%
Frelimo	116,823	48.68%
Others	208	0.09%

Cabo Delgado

Presidente

Turnout 49.53%

Total Votes	477,463	
Em branco	44,211	9.26%
Nulo	17,098	3.58%
Total valid	416,154	

Afonso Dhlakama	75,568	18.16%
Filipe Nyusi	324,857	78.06%
Daviz Simango	15,729	3.78%

Assembleia da República

Total votes 473,567 (49.12% turnout)

em branco	55,117	11.64%
nulo	17,870	3.77%
vaidos	400,580	

MDM	19,175	4.79%
Renamo	69,167	17.27%
Frelimo	310,608	77.54%
2 others	1,680	0.42%

Lost 19,000 voters in Niassa; 44,000 blank votes in Cabo Delgado

One curiosity about the Niassa vote is that 18,932 electors (6.55% of the total) voted for president but did not vote for parliament. This is an unusually high percentage, and could be an indication of ballot box stuffing or of adding extra votes for president but not for Assembleia da República. This many extra votes, if all for Nyusi, would have been enough to give the Frelimo candidate the majority in Niassa.

The Cabo Delgado result shows an unprecedented 44,211 blank votes for President, meaning 9.26% of voters did not mark their ballot paper. Although we still do not have results for all the districts, we note three districts with high percentages: Chiure with a remarkable 20.4% blank ballot papers, Ancuabe 11.5% and Balama 13.8%. Small numbers of blank votes are normal, particularly from people who do not want to make a choice or who are illiterate. It is also possible that one of the parties made a big push to encourage a high turnout but many voters did not know what to do and deposited a blank paper in the box. But large numbers, like this, is often a sign of a protest - perhaps Frelimo people who did not want to vote for Nyusi.

Both the Niassa and Cabo Delgado official editais, signed by the elections commissions, have numerous arithmetic errors. For example, for President in Niassa, the total number of valid votes is 249,708 while the CPE says it is 249,698. For President in Cabo Delgado the CPE says the percentage of blank votes is 4.59% because it was calculated as a percentage of registered voters, not actual voters, which gives a much higher and notable percentage of 9.26%.

US criticises election and count

The United States has issued a strong criticism of the electoral process. In particular it cites "important concerns about unequal access to the media, abuse of state resources, missing materials and registration books in polling stations, and the late opening of some polling stations. There were failures in the electoral administration, particularly with respect to the timely accreditation of national observers and party delegates."

"We note that some irregularities have arisen in the reconciliation of the results of polling stations with district counts," the statement continues.

And in a message aimed at both Frelimo and Renamo, it said "the United States appeals to all stakeholders to address any issues arising through the mechanisms available in the electoral law and for the relevant authorities to investigate and respond to all election complaints, and simultaneously work towards expanding the political space and foster civil rights."

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"
