

2014 National Elections



Mozambique political process bulletin



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Editor: Joseph Hanlon (j.hanlon@open.ac.uk)
Deputy editor: Adriano Nuvunga News editor: Teles Ribeiro Reporter: Idalêncio Sitoê

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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.

Divided CNE declares Frelimo victory

The National Elections Commission (CNE) approved the results of the 15 October election giving victory to Filipe Nyusi as president with 57% of the vote and Frelimo with 144 of 250 seats in parliament. The results are close to those predicted by the parallel sample count.

But in a meeting which ran from 11.30 am yesterday to 4 am this morning, the CNE split and only approved the results by a vote 10-7, with opposition nominees and some civil society voting against. Renamo today filed a formal protest.

The CNE was required by law to report today, but it admits that it is continuing its investigations into a wide range of complaints including late opening of polling stations, conflicting numbers in different copies of some results sheets (editas), suspected ballot box stuffing, reports of pre-marked ballots in circulation, and opposition ballots improperly made invalid by polling station staff (MMVs) They also say that some editais were missing, but do not identify how many.

Renamo in a statement Tuesday in Beira said it won the election and had won more than 139 seats in parliament. MDM in a statement this afternoon rejected the results. Both said they rejected the election because misconduct was too widespread.

In a meeting with civil society, Renamo candidates Afonso Dhlakama said he had a large file of evidence of misconduct which he would submit to the Constitutional Council but refused to show it civil society or the media. In his meeting with civil society, Dhlakama called on his members to oppose the result, but not to resort to violence.

And Dhlakama continues to call for a neutral government of technocrats or a government of national unity for at least two years.

Turnout in the election was 48.64%.

Results for president are:

Filipe Nyusi	2,761,025	57.03% of valid votes
Afonso Dhlakama	1,762,260	36.61%
Daviz Simango	306,884	6.36%

Presidente da República					
Candidatos	Apuramento Geral	Nulos Validados	Reclamados Validados	Total	%
Dhlakama	1,762,260	21,042	80	1,783,382	33.04
Nyusi	2,761,025	17,350	122	2,778,497	51.77
Simango	306,884	3,034	7	309,925	5.75
Votos Nulos	213,310	41,426	209	254,945	4.00
Votos em Brancos	290,186	-	-	290,186	5.44
Eleitores Inscritos	10,964,978	-	-	10,964,978	100
Total de Votantes	5,333,665	-	-	5,333,665	48.64
Absteções	5,631,313	-	-	5,631,313	51.36

Parliament seats

Frelimo	144
Renamo	89
MDM	17

	Niassa	Cabo Delgado	Nampula	Zambézia	Tete	Manica	Sofala	Inhambane	Gaza	Mauto Prov	Maputo Cidade	Africa	Rest. Mundo	Total
MDM	1	-	3	5	1	0	3	0	0	2	2	0	0	17
RENAMO	6	3	22	22	10	8	10	2	0	3	3	0	0	89
FRELIMO	7	19	22	18	11	8	8	12	14	12	11	1	1	144
Total														250

Total seats in the 10 provincial parliaments:

Frelimo	485
Renamo	295
MDM	31

Partidos	Assentos Assembleias Provinciais										
	Niassa	Cabo Delgado	Nampula	Zambézia	Tete	Manica	Sofala	Inhambane	Gaza	Map. Provincia	Total
MDM	4	1	1	4	3	1	7	0	1	9	31
RENAMO	34	13	45	51	44	39	46	11	0	12	295
FRELIMO	42	68	47	37	35	40	29	59	69	59	485
Total	80	82	93	92	82	80	82	70	70	80	811

A total of 754,113 ballot papers considered invalid at polling stations were sent to Maputo and reconsidered by the CNE, and 174,614 were accepted as valid. This means 23% were accepted, which is higher than in previous elections. In addition, of 466 protested votes, 323 were accepted as valid.

By comparison, the 2009 results were:

Turnout 44.63%

President:

Armando Guebuza 75.01%

Afonso Dhlakama 16.41%

Daviz Simango 8.59%

Parliament

Frelimo 191

Renamo 51

MDM 8

All Renamo and MDM complaints rejected by district courts

Only 24 complaints were made by political parties to district counts about the elections. Only one, by Frelimo relating to Tsanago, Tete, was accepted. All others were rejected for lack of evidence or for being more than 48 hours after the relevant result was announced, explained Supreme Court judge Pedro Nuatitima at a press conference Thursday morning. "The courts can only work with proof and not with allegations," he explained. Most of the rejected complaints came from Renamo and MDM.

Relating to Tsangano, Tete, where Renamo militants destroyed some polling stations and stopped and prevented voting, the district court ordered the National Elections Commission (CNE) to hold elections in those polling stations later. But the CNE says it only needs to do so if the missing polling stations could make a difference to the result.

Under law changes agreed earlier this year in negotiations with Renamo, any complaints about electoral misconduct are made first to the district court. And complaints were made demanding recounts, challenging numbers, claiming there were false results sheets (editais), and that polling stations had not opened. But according to Nuatitima, Renamo was not able to meet the rules it put into the law. It often failed to provide any evidence of its claims, and many were submitted after the 48 hour deadline. At least four of the rejections have been appealed to the Constitutional Council.

Judge Nuatitima also told the press conference that so far the supreme court knows of 374 people being judged for electoral crimes by district tribunals during the campaign and voting. Of those, 129 have been acquitted, 133 convicted and sentenced to punishments ranging from fines to one year in jail, and 112 processes are still under way.

The largest number of people charged were in Nampula (98), Tete (82), Manica (58) and Zambézia (53). About 70% of those charged were accused of damaging campaign material of other parties. On polling day 15 people were charged with disrupting polling stations and 6 people were charged with multiple voting.

Nuatitima noted that violence in several cities after voting ended, even if it was during the counting process, has been treated as common crimes, and not as electoral crimes.

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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CIP, Centro de Integridade Pública, Rua B (1335) Nr. 79, Bairro da Coop. Maputo. Moçambique.

(CP 3266) Maputo www.cip.org.mz cip@cip.org.mz Tel: +258 21 492 335, 823 016 391, 843 890 584

AWEPA, the European Parliamentarians with Africa, Rua Licenciado Coutinho 77 (CP 2648) Maputo

awepa@awepa.org.mz Tel: +258 21 418 603, 21 418 608, 21 418 626

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