

2014 National Elections



Mozambique political process bulletin



Number NE-34 18 August 2014

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

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

Material may be freely reprinted. Please cite the *Bulletin*
web: bit.ly/NatElec To subscribe: <http://tinyurl.com/sub-moz>

CNE finds 177,000 extra voters after belated look at register; Zambézia gains 2 AR seats

More than 177,000 extra registered voters have been discovered, the National Elections Commission announced earlier this month. The biggest change is in Zambézia, where nearly 78,000 extra voters have been found. This is enough to give Zambézia 2 extra parliamentary seats, returning it to 45, the same as in the present parliament. In May the CNE had announced that Zambézia would have only 43 seats.

CNE spokesman Paulo Cuinica admitted Monday that the numbers announced in May, which were used to allocate parliamentary seats, were not based on the actual registers, but on the daily reports sent in by SMS and telephone by district and provincial elections commissions during the registration period. Only later did the CNE actually look at the actual registration lists and discovered huge discrepancies with the daily reports, mainly in Nampula, Zambézia, Sofala and Gaza provinces, Cuinica said. In addition, significant multiple registration was found in Nampula, which lost 1% of its voters.

The new ruling creates two problems. First, political parties must have candidates lists equal or greater than the number seats for the province plus three supplementary. Thus parties required 46 candidates for Zambézia. This change means they suddenly require 48, but it is too late to submit new candidates. By luck, Cuinica said that all parties standing in Zambézia had at least two extra supplementary candidates.

Second, if the electoral law is applied as written, Zambézia would have only 44 seats, but the CNE has given it an extra seat. This is explained below.

The tables below set out the changes. The main changes are that Zambézia gains two seats and Nampula loses two, while Sofala loses one and Gaza gains one. The CNE found 4% more voters in Zambézia and more than 3% extra in Gaza and Tete. But one province, Nampula, lost 1% of its voters.

The changes are announced in CNE Deliberação n.º 65/CNE/2014 de 3 de Agosto which is posted on <http://bit.ly/Moz-CNE-del65>.

	Registered voters		Difference		Seats		
	August 2014	May 2014	Number	%	August 2014	May 2014	
Niassa	615,065	602,921	12,144	2.0%	14	14	
Cabo Delgado	964,071	939,622	24,449	2.6%	22	22	
Nampula	2,079,129	2,090,023	-10,894	-0.5%	47	49	-2
Zambézia	1,948,859	1,871,146	77,713	4.2%	45	43	+2
Tete	971,644	940,758	30,886	3.3%	22	22	
Manica	712,938	705,129	7,809	1.1%	16	16	
Sofala	926,746	925,903	843	0.1%	21	22	-1
Inhambane	598,276	597,910	366	0.1%	14	14	
Gaza	591,194	571,832	19,362	3.4%	14	13	+1
Maputo province	757,594	746,458	11,136	1.5%	17	17	
Maputo city	708,812	705,543	3,269	0.5%	16	16	
	10,874,328	10,697,245	177,083	1.7%	248	248	

	Seats		
	2014	2009	
Niassa	14	14	
Cabo Delgado	22	22	
Nampula	47	45	+2
Zambézia	45	45	
Tete	22	20	+2
Manica	16	16	
Sofala	21	20	+1
Inhambane	14	16	-2
Gaza	14	16	-2
Maputo province	17	16	+1
Maputo city	16	18	-2

CNE gives a seat to Gaza instead of Nampula

Since 1994, the electoral law has been mathematically incorrect in the way it assigns parliament (AR) seat to provinces, and it usually gives more or fewer than the required 248 seats in parliament. With the new registration figures, the law only allocates 246 seat for the 248 seat parliament.

The law says that the number of registered voters should simply be divided by 248, then the number of voters in each province should be divided by that number to give the number of provincial seats. Dividing in this way always give a decimal, and you cannot have fractions of seats, so the norm is that if the decimal is 0.5 or larger, you "round up" to the nearest whole number (integer) and if less than 0.5 you "round down" to the lower whole number. But this process rarely works. For that reason, when assigning seats to parties the law uses the d'Hondt system, which was invented in the 19th century precisely to resolve this problem..

And to assign votes to parties to determine the number of parliament seats after the election, the

electoral law has always used the d'Hondt system. But for reasons which have never been explained, in only one place - assigning seats to provinces before the election - parliament has kept in the law the mathematically incorrect system. Because parliament has never understood that this is wrong, the law gives no guidance as to how the errors should be corrected.

Because the law is mathematically wrong, in each election the CNE has been forced to give extra seats or take away seats by some system. The obvious choice is to use d'Hondt, because that is used elsewhere in the law. Instead the CNE appears to have adopted a rule know as "largest remainders".

The table shows how the calculations work. There are 10,874,328 registered voters and 248 seats, which gives 43,848 voters per seat. If the provincial registrations are then divided by 43,848, only 246 seats are assigned. How to allocate the other two? The d'Hondt method gives them to Nampula and Zambézia. Instead CNE apparently uses "largest remainders." Looking closely at the table, Gaza with 0.48 and Zambézia with 0.44 have the largest remainders which are less than 0.5 and thus have not been allocated a seat, so the CNE gives them the seats.

Both systems give a seat to Zambézia, but d'Hondt gives the other seat to Nampula while "largest remainders" gives the seat to Gaza. Since Nampula will have a large vote for the opposition and Gaza will vote largely for Frelimo, the assignment of the seat to Gaza rather than Nampula could change the balance in the AR.

(There are 250 seats in the AR, and two of those are for voters outside Mozambique, so there are 248 to assign to the provinces.)

	Registered	÷ 43,848	law	d'hondt	CNE
Niassa	615,065	14.03	14	14	14
Cabo Delgado	964,071	21.99	22	22	22
Nampula	2,079,129	47.42	47	48	47
Zambézia	1,948,859	44.45	44	45	45
Tete	971,644	22.16	22	22	22
Manica	712,938	16.26	16	16	16
Sofala	926,746	21.14	21	21	21
Inhambane	598,276	13.64	14	14	14
Gaza	591,194	13.48	13	13	14
Maputo province	757,594	17.28	17	17	17
Maputo city	708,812	16.17	16	16	16
	10,874,328	248	246	248	248
÷ 248	43,848				

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

Mozambique Political Process Bulletin

Editor: Joseph Hanlon (j.hanlon@open.ac.uk)

Deputy editor: Adriano Nuvunga News editor: Teles Ribeiro

Material may be freely reprinted and circulated. Please cite the Bulletin.

Published by CIP and AWEPA

web: bit.ly/NatElec

CIP, Centro de Integridade Pública, Rua Frente de Libertação de Moçambique (ex-Pereira do Lago), 354, r/c
(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

To subscribe: <http://tinyurl.com/sub-moz> **To unsubscribe:** <http://tinyurl.com/unsub-moz>
To opt-out from the election bulletin but still receive other Mozambique-related publications, send an email to j.hanlon@open.ac.uk with just "no election" in the subject line.
Para subscrever a este boletim em **Português**, envie uma mensagem para j.hanlon@open.ac.uk apenas com a palavra "subscrever" na linha de assunto.

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