## **2014 National Elections**



# Mozambique political process 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.

19 MDM arrested in Manica

Three MDM members have been convicted and 16 others are under arrest in Manica province, charged with electoral offenses, according to MDM provincial delegate Inácio Maicolo. Last weekend nine MDM members were arrested in Nhamadjessa neighbourhood in Chimoio and they are still being held. Maicolo accuses the police of working with Frelimo to try to intimidate MDM.

Arrests have taken place in Chimoio, Gondola, Tambara, Machaze, Mossurize and Sussundenga since the start of the electoral campaign, MDM says. Three members have now been convicted and sentenced to three months in prison, without the possibility of converting the sentence into a fine.

MDM also says that four of its local offices have been vandalised, in Sussundenga, and the localities of Rutanda, Mussapa and Munhinga. It says local government officials have destroyed some its banners. In response to MDM complaints, police have opened investigations against a community leader in Rutanda and a local official in Munhinga.

Provincial police spokesman Vasco Matusse confirmed that there had been electoral violence, and that most of those detained are from MDM and Renamo. "We are not to here watch the behaviour of citizens who engage in political skirmishes, but to keep order in the campaign process," he added.

Maicolo also complained that the MDM delegate in Piloto neighbourhood in Chimoio was beaten up by Frelimo thugs, but when he went to complain to the police, he was arrested, convicted and sentenced to 30 days in jail. MDM says two members in Mossurize were beaten by Frelimo, and police have taken no action.

MDM in a statement issued yesterday said that MDM member Eduardo Manecas de Brito went to the police in Chimoio on 31 August to complain about Frelimo members pulling down MDM posters. Manecas was then arrested. When he went on trial on 5 September, Manecas was acquitted, as the judge did not accept the evidence presented - namely that he had broken the arms of two Frelimo members in two different locations at exactly the same time. Both had doctor's certificates.

In Muecate, Nampula, MDM has complained that police are only accompanying Frelimo marches and providing security only for Frelimo.

## Frelimo already mobilising for 2019

Frelimo is organising children, perhaps looking forward to elections in five or ten years. Sunday in Sanjala neighbourhood, Lichinga, groups of children marched with posters for Frelimo and its presidential candidate Filipe Nyusi.



## Using state cars

Our journalists report continued illegal use of state cars for the Frelimo campaign. In Macomia, Cabo Delgado, a Toyota Land Cruiser AAB 194 MP belonging to the district economic activities service is being used by the director of the service, Abel Atanásio, to distribute campaign material. On Monday morning at 8 am it was seen in front of the Macomia health centre with Frelimo posters, and it has also gone to Quiterajo, Mucojo and Chai.

On Ilha de Moçambique, Nampula, Mazda ACE 160 MC of the planning and infrastructure department has been seen in the Frelimo campaign.

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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