

2013 Local Elections



Mozambique political process bulletin

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Dondo registration brigades rejecting valid identification

Some registration teams in Dondo (Sofala) continue to reject valid identification documents and demand improper testimonials.

Our correspondent found that at Escola Secundária de Dondo registration teams were refusing to accept old voter's cards or receipts showing that an identify card had been applied for, even though last week the election secretariat STAE had issued instructions that these should be accepted.

For would-be voters with no other identification document, people can be identified by two already registers voters, or by community leaders of known integrity, and the STAE instruction notes this includes religious and traditional leaders.

But at Escola Primária 7 de Abril, brigades were demanding a statement from the neighbourhood or street secretaries. These are nowhere mentioned in the law, because they do not have official standing, and are often identified with Frelimo, so demanding their testimonial is in violation of the registration law.

Ongoing problems

Lichinga (Niassa): Some registration posts, including those at primary schools Muchenga, Bairro and Cerâmica. have been closed since mid-day Sunday because the city has **run out of registration forms**. A dozen generators have been distributed to registration posts in areas without electricity. At some posts, registration is very slow, taking up to one hour per voter, compared to the five minutes which should be normal. It is estimated that 20% of potential voters have registered.

Catandica (Sofala): The **poor quality of the pictures** of voters being printed by the new printers is causing concern. The registration process continues slow. But high turnout is noted, with 5,517 (49%) of an expected 11,349 already registered.

Nampula city: Constant computer breakdowns plague registration posts. At several posts, including EPC Parque Popular, the computer must be unplugged regularly to let it cool down. In other places, the new printers are printing very light or the ink is smeared. Very slow processing by registration staff is also noted.

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