

2013 Local Elections



Mozambique political process bulletin

Number LE-30 13 August 2013



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

Deputy editor: Adriano Nuvunga News editor: Fatima Mimbire Reporter: Anchieta Maquitela

Published by CIP, Centro de Integridade Pública and AWEPA, the European Parliamentarians for Africa
Material may be freely reprinted. Please cite the *Bulletin*.

web: bit.ly/MozEI13

To subscribe in English: <http://tinyurl.com/mz-en-sub> Para assinar em Português: <http://tinyurl.com/mz-pt-sub>

19 political parties, coalitions & citizens groups approved

12 political parties, one coalition, and five citizens' groups have been approved by the National Elections Commission (CNE) to put forward candidates for the 20 November municipal elections. They are:

| |
|--|
| National Political Parties |
| Mozambique Democratic Movement, Movimento Democrático de Moçambique (MDM) |
| Mozambique Humanist Party, Partidos Humanitário de Moçambique (PAHUMO) |
| Frelimo |
| Party for Peace, Democracy and Development, Partido para a Paz, Democracia e Desenvolvimento (PDD) |
| Labour Party, Partilho Trabalhista (PT) |
| Mozambique Independent Party, Partido Independente de Moçambique (PIMO) |
| Mozambique National Party, Partido Nacional de Moçambique (PANAMO) |
| National Renewal Party, Partido de Renovação Nacional (PARENA) |
| Mozambique Liberal Progress Party, Partido do Progresso Liberal de Moçambique (PPLM) |
| Mozambique Independent Alliance, Aliança Independente de Moçambique (ALIMO) |
| Greens, Os Verdes |
| Ecologist Party – Land Movement, Partido Ecologista Movimento da Terra (PEC MT) |
| National coalition |
| Patriotic Movement for Democracy and the Ecologist Party, Movimento Patriótico para a Democracia (MPD) e o Partido Ecologista |
| Local citizens' lists |
| Together for the city, Juntos pela Cidade (JPC), Maputo city. |
| Mozambican Association of Young People with Disabilities, Associação Jovens Técnicos Portadores de Deficiência de Moçambique (SINFORTECNICA), Maputo city |
| Gaza Road Transport Association, Associação dos Transportadores Rodoviários de Gaza (ASTROGAZA), Xai Xai |
| Manhiça Natives Association, Associação dos Naturais da Manhiça (ANATURMA), Manhiça |
| Association for Moral and Civic Education on the Exploitation of Natural Resources, Associação para a Educação Moral e Cívica de Exploração dos Recursos Minerais (ASSEMONA), Nampula city |

Of these, only Frelimo, PDD, PIMO, PT, ANATURMA and JPC stood in previous local elections in 2008. FRELIMO won 42 of the old 43 municipalities. PDD and PIMO have one seat each in the Beira municipal assembly, ANATURMA one seat in Manhiça, and JPC has two seats in the Maputo municipal assembly. Parties and lists not standing this year have seats in the outgoing municipal assemblies of Beira, Cuamba and Milange.

This year as part of increased transparency, the CNE is checking that all the required documents are present and not accepting submissions where documents are missing. The validity of documents is checked later. The Sun Party (Partido Sol) was the only one where submission was not accepted because documents were missing. And all parties and groups which submitted full sets of documents were approved by the CNE.

The Group for Democracy in Beira, o Grupo para a Democracia da Beira (GDB), which won seven seats in the Beira municipal assembly and has a vice president there, will not stand this year. Group President Filipe Alfredo blames "internal questions" for the failure to register.

There is no way that Renamo could stand in the 20 November municipal elections unless the law is changed, the CNE has confirmed. Because of its boycott, Renamo did not register with the CNE in the time specified in the electoral law, and the CNE stresses there is no other opportunity to register.

There are three different environmental parties, greens and two parties with different versions of the word ecologist.

Parties recognise new transparency

Party leaders have commented that the registration of parties and citizens' lists this year was more transparent than in the past.

"The CNE made a significant step to promote transparency by verifying jointly with the parties that all the correct documents were being submitted," commented Raul Domingos, President of PDD.

Even Joao Namua, party agent for the Sun (Sol) Party, whose documents were not accepted, agreed that the process was transparent. "There was a mistake on our part. And the CNE showed us in the law why it could not accept our papers."

Registered 85% this year compared to 88% in 2008

Registration this year was similar to 2008, in only one-third of the time. This year registration was only in municipalities and only for two months, 25 May to 23 July. STAE registered 85% of potential voters, 3,059,794 of 3,598,033 predicted as possible.

In 2007/08 the Electoral Technical Secretariat (Secretariado Técnico de Administração Eleitoral, STAE) registered 9 million of 10.2 million possible, 88%. But there were three registration periods, 25 September to 15 December 2007, 15 January to 15 March 2008, and 6 July to 4 August 2008.

Election commission says no to Manual de Araújo photo

The Quelimane city election commission on 6 August ordered the city to take down posters welcoming the head of state, Armando Guebuza, on a recent visit, because they also have photos

of MDM Mayor Manuel de Araújo, who is standing for re-election. The commission argues that this is campaign material being posted before the state of the official campaign in November.

Araújo has issued a formal challenge saying the election commission has no right to make its demand.

The decision is controversial because no election commission has ordered Frelimo to remove its many posters and billboards, some of which date back to the 2009 election. The decision has been widely publicised in the independent press, first in *Canal de Moçambique* (7 August) and then in *Savana* and *O País*.

One poster shows a photo of the mayor and the municipal logo and says "Moyone baba Guebuza" – "Welcome father Guebuza". The other says "in the name of the residents, welcome to President Guebuza."

The commission decision of 6 August cites articles 35 and 36 of the local elections law (law 7/2013). Those articles define the official campaign period and say it takes place two weeks before elections on 20 November.

But the commission appears to be making a quite common mistake. The law says that during the official campaign, candidates have extra rights for meetings and posters. But the law does not restrict what can be done before the official campaign.

Mozambique Political Process Bulletin

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

Deputy editor: Adriano Nuvunga News editor: Fatima Mimbire Reporter: Anchieta Maquitela

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

Published by CIP and AWEPA

web: bit.ly/MozE113

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:

In English: <http://tinyurl.com/mz-en-sub>

Para assinar:

Em Português: <http://tinyurl.com/mz-pt-sub>

To unsubscribe: <http://tinyurl.com/mz-en-unsub>

To opt-out from the municipal 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.

Academic citations: Cite as "2013 Local Elections, Mozambique Political Process Bulletin, Maputo"
