

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.

Increased reports of violence & arrests

After an initial calm start, there are increasing reports from outside Maputo of violence and arrests, particularly away from urban centres. Most of the victims have been members of opposition parties.

In **Metarica, Niassa**, an MDM member named Branco Eduardo was beaten up and then arrested on 2 September when he tried to rent a house to be used as party headquarters in the administrative post of Namicunte. MDM Niassa delegate Raimundo Lauma said Eduardo was beaten by local Frelimo sympathisers, then detained by police without charge. He was finally released after 72 hours when the Metarica district prosecutor, Cândido Wilson, issued a release order. When contacted by one of our journalists, Niassa police spokesman Alfredo Fumo said that despite the formal release order, he knew nothing about the case.

In **Nhocuene communal village, Xai-Xai** district, Gaza, on Tuesday 9 September a group of 20 MDM campaigners were attacked by a larger group of Frelimo supporters; six people were injured, two seriously - Abílio Fabião Simango needed six stitches under high right eye and Herculano Fialho Chauque had his foot damaged sufficiently that he must walk with a cane. MDM claims that police refused to act, and that a Frelimo member of the provincial assembly, Cardino Manuel Zitha, in his car (Toyota Hiace ACH 176 MP) was one of the leaders of the attack. Police spokesperson Germano Ribeiro confirmed the incident and said that by this morning (Wednesday), MDM had made no formal complaint.

In **Nhangau, Sofala**, just outside Beira, on Monday afternoon Renamo campaigners beat three Frelimo members badly enough that they required treatment at Beira Central Hospital. They are Pascoal Feliz (42 years old), Timóteo Renato (27) and Rosita Albino (26). The victims said that a Renamo campaign team arrived in three cars at Djanlane market and began to pull down posters for Frelimo and its candidate Filipe Nyusi. "When we asked why they were destroying our campaign material, they began butting and kicking us," one said. They also forced people to take off Frelimo t-shirts, Rositita Albino said. Renamo Youth League president in Sofala, Luís Chitato, said it was just the opposite - that Frelimo stoned the Renamo campaign cars and that the Renamo youth simply defended themselves.

Armed robbery in Frelimo car

Armed men driving a Frelimo campaign car with posters and the registration number covered in Frelimo leaflets robbed a shop in Nhamaonha, Chimoio, Manica on Saturday 6 September. They fired three shots and stole 50,000 MT (\$1,700). The incident was confirmed by the police and Frelimo Manica spokesman José Saise.

Meanwhile, in Manica, Renamo is following the Frelimo lead and covering the registration numbers of cars it is using.

Strangled by a Frelimo scarf

A young man on a motorcycle in Gondola, Manica, died when his Frelimo scarf was caught in a wheel and strangled him. Manica police spokesman Belmiro Mutadiua said both the young man and the driver were drunk, and that the driver fled the scene.

Frelimo posters on Renamo HQ

Renamo complained to the police that on Sunday night Frelimo invaded Renamo headquarters in Moamba, Maputo province, and plastered it with Frelimo posters. In Xinavane, Manhiça district, Maputo province, Renamo claimed that Frelimo leaflets dumped were dumped in the house of the Renamo representative. Maputo provincial police spokesman Emídio Mabunda, said neither was an electoral crime, because posters were only put on posts on the street in front of the Renamo buildings, which is legal.

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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