

Number 238-241 – 9 April 2024

Published by Centro de Integridade Pública, Maputo, Mozambique

Articles may be freely reprinted but please cite the source

To subscribe to the English edition <https://cipeleicoes.org/eng/> or <https://bit.ly/MozBul-sub/>  
and the Portuguese version <https://www.cipeleicoes.org/>  
Previous issues are available on <https://bit.ly/Moz-Elections>

Special report: 25 years electoral fraud is on <https://bit.ly/Moz-EI-Fraud>  
Full Municipal Elections results with all changes and PVTs is on <https://bit.ly/Moz-EI-2023-results>

## 4.4 mn voters registered in 24 days, but money, rain & war cause problems

More than half of eligible voters were registered in the first 24 days, the National Elections Commission (CNE) announced Tuesday (9 April). Registration closes Sunday 28 April. But the CNE confirmed it is facing financial restrictions. Its budgeted money has not been released by central government, and the CNE still has debts incurred in the 2023 elections. This is creating major constraints in the supply of goods and services. The CNE admits it cannot buy sufficient fuel and is not paying allowances to members of the electoral bodies, civic education agents and registration brigades.

The CNE projects that there are 16,217,816 voting age adults, of whom 8,723,805 registered last year and 4,379,750 registered in the first 24 days (58%). Thus 3,114,261 adults remain who could be registered.

In nine countries 71,614 Mozambicans in the diaspora have been registered so far. This is 26% of the estimated 279,685 Mozambicans adults living in those countries.

The full CNE statement is on <https://bit.ly/Moz-EI-reg-9Apr>

---

## Rain, insurgency and protests

The CNE reports that in Cabo Delgado almost all the posts are fully operational, with the 19 brigades still to be deployed in Quissanga District, which is still partly occupied by insurgents. The only two main roads north are both closed, which is also causing problems. The Montepuez-Mueda road is mud and largely impassable, and the Mocomia-Awasse is still closed by insurgents.

**Heavy rains** in the south of the country are causing difficulties in energy supply and communication and access.

In **Maputo City** the CNE reports four posts are closed. In KaLhamankulo, Serração and neighbourhood 22 registration posts were flooded. In Ka Maxaquene the post at Escola Primária Noroeste-1 and the access road are still flooded. In KaMavota parts of neighbourhood 20 are still flooded, making registration impossible.

In **Maputo province** eight registration posts are not open in Matola - two at Machava Administrative Post, three at Machava-Sede, and three at Infulene Administrative Post.

In **Inhambane** province access to some voter registration posts in the districts of Mabote, Panda, Funhalouro, Inhassoro and Govuro is precarious and only done with great care.

---

## Protests stop registration in 3 districts

Popular protests against the government have prevented registration in three places. In Gaza in Massingir the protests is about government failure to control elephants, and in Chibuto because of other community demands. In Maputo province the protests result from a conflict over the boundaries between communities in the municipal area and the town of Machiana, at the 3 de Fevereiro Administrative Post, and voter registration at Chibucutso EPC is still suspended.

---

## CNE data shows accreditation blocked

The CNE does not recognise that some organisations such as the CIP have been blocked from gaining accreditation for correspondents and observers. But its table of 926 accredited observers published Tuesday shows that no credentials have been issued to CIP in Zambezia and Manica. Indeed, in Zambézia 58 credentials have been issued to NAFEZA (Núcleo das Associações Femininas) but none to any other civil society organisation.

The CNE says that "there is a lack of knowledge of the legal requirements to be met by many applicants for accreditation, including organisations with visibility and a presence in electoral observation for several years". But CIP sent the same letter to all the provinces. In some provinces accreditation was very quick, but in others it took a month without any irregularities. In 11 provinces and with the CNE precisely the same letter and procedure was used, and it was accepted by 9 provinces and the CNE. Did 9 provinces and the CNE accept CIP applications that did not meet legal requirements, or are two CPEs not following the law?

---

## CNE does not notice districts ignoring law to block observation

The CNE criticises civil society for not knowing the law, but it does not respond to complaints about district elections commissions (CDEs) and STAEs violating the law.

Across the country CIP correspondents and observers are being stopped from observing registration because they do not have a credential from the CDE. But the law says that observer credentials are only issued by the CNE and provincial elections commissions (CPEs), and not by CDEs. (Lei n.º 2/2019 de 31 de Maio, Artigo 252) Districts must accept credentials issued by CNE and CPEs. But the CNE is not telling the CDEs they do not know the law.

Our correspondents in the KaMavota municipal district, in Maputo City, were told by registration post supervisors that they have been given instructions that no information can be given to observers without a credential issued by the KaMavota district STAE. This occurred at Polana Caniço B EPC, Ferroviario Community School (SOS), 10 November EPC, Nelson Mandela Secondary School and 9 August EPC.

The obstruction is not unexpected, because in the municipal elections last year KaMavota municipal district court found that the CDE and district STAE had falsified results sheets and minutes.

District credentials have also been demanded by registration and STAE officials and even police in Nampula and Cabo Delgado.

---

## 20 days of CIP observation

“CIP Eleições” last week (4 April) presented its findings of the first 20 days of voter registration, held ahead of the general elections scheduled for 9 October 2024. “CIP Eleições” noted:

- + An absence of monitors from the opposition parties in many registration posts, due to logistical problems and to conflicts inside Renamo and the MDM;
- + The complete absence of the extra-parliamentary parties at the registration posts;
- + Many technical problems with registration equipment in Nampula, Zambézia and Sofala provinces (malfunctioning of mobiles and printers, difficulties in taking photographs, and with electricity or solar panels);
- + Few technical problems in the south of the country and the north;
- + Many logistical problems due to the rains, in many districts, particularly Zambézia Cabo Delgado, in the north;
- + The insurgency is affecting the registration in Cabo Delgado, particularly in the most affected districts, such as Quissanga and Ibo, and some villages in Chiure and Balama;
- + The CIP survey concluded that 12% of the registration posts are not working (compared to the CNE claim of 2%).

## More reports from our correspondents

### Massinga far from the target in 20 days

20 days after the start of the registration, the electoral bodies in Massinga district, in Inhambane province, say that, in those 20 days, they have only registered 6,335 voters of the 38,381 expected to register, which is 16% of the target.

It had been supposed that by this time, almost half of the potential voters forecast would have been registered.

### Mobiles do not register voters who bring witnesses

Our correspondents in the city of Beira, in Sofala, say that the Mobile ID at the post in the Macombe EPC, in Munhava, is not recognising voters who bring witnesses to help them register. Citizens can only use witnesses when they do not possess an identity card.

According to our correspondents, for the past week citizens without documents have been unable to register. The monitors of the three parties (namely Frelimo, Renamo and the MDM) confirmed this information.

The monitors said that the matter has been reported to the Beira city STAE, but so far there has been no reply. The head of operations of the local STAE is refusing to comment.

### Brigade members refuse to register voters without documents

The MDM district political delegate in Búzi, Sofala, accuses brigade members at the registration post in the Danga EPC, in the Nova Sofala administrative post, of refusing to register people who bring witnesses.

According to the MDM delegate, the brigade members claim they have “higher orders” not to register people who bring witnesses. The MDM says it has reported the matter to the electoral bodies in the district.

### Nacala-a-Velha records large crowds since the start of the registration

The registration post at Micolene locality, in the Barragem administrative post, in Nacala-à-Velha district, has been recording a large turnout of voters, since the start of the registration.

We were able to ascertain that the large turnout is due to the fact that the groundnut harvest has finished.

### Mponhera post has already closed two registration books

The registration post at Mponhera EPC, in Banga locality, in Tsangano district, is an example of successful voter registration. In 20 days, it has already managed to register 1,688 voters.

Between 120 and 140 voters are registered per day, and each voter takes 3 to 4 minutes to obtain the voter card, which shows the flexibility of the registration brigade.

### 9,000 voters registered in Maganja da Costa

The STAE district director in Maganja da Costa, César Intavez, on Tuesday (2 April) announced that in 15 days, 8,963 potential voters were registered, surpassing the target for the district in this period of 8,332.

César Intavez regards the registration as positive, since there were not many problems with the equipment. But in recent days, the turnout has been poor. For example, on Tuesday our correspondents visited the Maganja da Costa General Secondary School and Namurumo, within the municipality, and the registration posts of Diba, Mulemba and Namaguma, outside the municipality, and found no voters at any of the posts.

### Slow attendance continues at the registration post in the Magude EPC

Fixed brigade no. 511, located in the Magude district capital, in Maputo province, by 14.00 on Tuesday had registered only 15 voters. At stake is the slowness of printing the bulletin. Sometimes the machine fails in digitalising the data.

At brigade no. 520, located in the Ugubana EPC, by 14.00 only seven voters had registered. The work is going ahead without upsets, but there are cases in which the machine takes about 30 minutes to restart. At the Camuala EPC, the brigade members are continuing to work with difficulties. There is no electricity.

### **Breakdowns lead to paralysis of the brigades**

Four machines are malfunctioning at various registration posts, which has forced the paralysis of activities in parts of Nampula province. According to our correspondents, there are constant printer breakdowns. For example, at registration post no. 454, installed in the Serra Mualua EPC, in the 7 April administrative post, the voters have been there waiting for their cards for two days.

In Mutauanha, in Nampula city, there were no voters, because the computer had no charge.

At the post in the 25 September EPC, in Nacala, there were no voters because the printer has been out of order for three days. And in the registration post of Muzuane, also in Nacala-Port, the activities ended two hours early, due to a breakdown of the Mobile-ID.

Registration posts nos. 247 and 245, also in Nacala, were not operating due to malfunctions of the Mobile ID.

At the Mutavarene registration post, in the Barragem administrative post, in Nacala-à-Velha district, activities have been stopped for two days due to an equipment breakdown.

### **Ngorosa EB and Namacurra EPC have registered more than 1,000 voters**

The registration post at the Ngorosa Basic School, in Macate district, in Manica, is an example of success in the turnout of potential voters for the voter registration. In two weeks, it closed its first registration book (a registration book contains the names of 800 voters), and at the start of the third week of registration, it is already half way through the second book,

In Namacurra, in Zambézia province, there is also one outstanding registration post. This is the post at the Katabwa EPC, in Chivano locality, which, in two and a half weeks, registered 1,111 voters, 473 of them men and 638 women. On average, it is registering 110 voters a day.

### **Mágoè has registered 53.6% of its voters**

Our correspondents in Mágoè, in Tete province, report that the electoral bodies in this district have announced that, in the 23 brigades, they have registered 28,300 voters in 17 days. This is 53.6% of the total number of potential voters expected to register.

For its part, Zumbo district says it has registered 21,400 voters, equivalent to 46.2% of the district's target.

### **Typist replaced for slowness in Namacurra**

The district STAE in Namacurra, in Zambézia province, has replaced a typist inputting data at the post in the Namacurra-Sede Basic School, since he was not meeting the established targets because of his slowness. With the replacement of the slow typist, voter registration has become quicker than before, according to the voters interviewed.

Our correspondents report that, at the same registration post, staff of the public administration are being prioritised. They do not join the queue. Furthermore, at this post Saturdays and Sundays are reserved for registering public employees and pupils.

### **Machine repaired, but brigade members absent in Mueda**

In Mithale village, in Mueda district, Cabo Delgado province, the registration has been stopped since Thursday (28 March) because the printer had broken down. The problem was solved yesterday (1 April), but the brigade did not work because the typist went to a funeral and the supervisor went to harvest crops on her farm, as we learnt from police sources.

Also in Cabo Delgado, the car which should have taken brigade members to various villages, including Negomano, is still out of order at the STAE-Mueda offices. In Mocímboa da Praia no brigade has yet been installed in the Pandique EP1, in line with the map. There is still no training of brigade members in Quissanga district, and no sign that there will be any voter registration there. The STAE district staff still have no information about the registration, and are waiting for new orders from the provincial STAE.

### Printer out of order for five days in Zumbo

At the registration post in the Nseca EP1, in the Muze administrative post, in Zumbo district, Tete province, there are a large number of voters in the queue. The voters have registered, but they have not picked up their voter cards, because the printer has been out of order for five days. A team from the district STAE arrived today (3 April) to repair the machine, but was unsuccessful. It returned to the district capital, with the promise to bring a replacement printer.


### In short

The mobile at the Sanguzi Muanza EPC, in **Muanza district**, Sofala, began working again on 4 April after seven days when it was out of order.

The registration brigade at the Chitunda Secondary School, in **Manica district**, is opening late, supposedly for lack of voters.

The registration post at Múnhua EPC, in **Macate district**, Manica province, has registered 1,155 voters, 565 of them men and 590 women.

At the Emopesca EPC, in **Angoche municipality**, the brigade only worked for three days, and then the machine broke down. Only today (4 April) was the machine replaced.

|   | FICHA TÉCNICA:  | ENDEREÇOS:  |
|---|---|---|
|  | <p><b>Editor:</b> Lázaro Mabunda</p> <p><b>Advisor:</b> Joseph Hanlon</p> <p><b>Director:</b> Edson Cortez</p> <p><b>Translator:</b> Paul Fauvet</p> <p><b>Sub-editor:</b> Samuel Monjane</p> <p><b>Layout:</b> Liliana Mangove</p> | <p><b>Centro de Integridade Pública</b><br/>Bairro da Sommerschield,<br/>Rua Fernão Melo e Castro 124, Maputo</p> <p><b>English: To subscribe:</b><br/><a href="https://cipleicoes.org/eng/">https://cipleicoes.org/eng/</a></p> <p><b>Web:</b> <a href="https://cipleicoes.org/eng/">https://cipleicoes.org/eng/</a><br/><b>Portuguese</b><br/><b>Web:</b> <a href="https://www.cipeleicoes.org/">https://www.cipeleicoes.org/</a><br/><b>Facebook:</b> @cipeleicoes <b>Instagram:</b><br/><b>@cip_eleicoes</b> <b>Tiktok:</b> @cipmoz<br/><b>Telegram:</b> +258 843890584</p> |

Bulletin funded by:



CIP partners

