

2018 Local Elections - 67

Mozambique Political Process Bulletin

14 October 2018 - 18.00

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Final election results on our website: <http://bit.ly/LocEI2018>. Currently missing only one small town, Malema. STAE has replaced its provisional counts with the final results, but our table has kept provisional and parallel counts for comparison.

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Frelimo wins Maputo, Tete; 4 paper-thin wins by Frelimo being contested

Frelimo won Maputo city:

Frelimo 214,103 - 56.95%

MDM 19,269 - 5.13%

Renamo 136,947 - 36.43%

Other parties and citizens lists together gained 1.49%.

Frelimo won Tete with 54% to 43% for Renamo and 2% for MDM.

But Frelimo won four cities by 1% or less, and in two of those, parallel counts gave victory to Renamo, which is challenging all four results.

In Monapo the STAE provisional count gave Renamo a 706 vote advantage but the district election commission (CDE) official result gave the win to Frelimo by 206 votes (1.08%). In Alto Molocue the EISA parallel count gave Renamo an advantage 1090 votes, yet the CDE gave victory to Frelimo by 113 votes (0.63%).

The two other municipalities with close and contested votes, but with no provisional or parallel count, are Moatize where the CDE has given Frelimo victory by 98 votes (0.49%) and Matola where the Frelimo win was by 2197 votes (0.77%).

Renamo has confirmed wins in 7 municipalities - Quelimane, Angoche, Ilha de Mocambique, Nacala and Chiure along the coast, plus Nacala and Cuamba inland. It is contesting the four municipalities noted above plus Marromeu, where ballot boxes were taken by police. And Renamo could win in Malema, the only municipality which has so far failed to report its results.

Renamo says Frelimo broke into Moatize warehouse to change results

Frelimo nominated members to STAE and the district elections commission (CDE) broke into the STAE warehouse in Moatize, opened sealed plastic bags of votes and documents, and changed the results to a Frelimo win, accused Renamo national party agent Andre Magibire.

According to Madjibire, on Thursday 11 October, the day after voting, STAE did the Moatize count, which gave the win to Renamo, with 11,169 votes compared to 9,856 for Frelimo. The formal report ("acta") was prepared to be signed the next day, but then on Friday Frelimo CDE members refused to sign it. Then late on Saturday night, Frelimo STAE and CDE members broke to the warehouse and wrote a new official report which gave Frelimo 9,839 votes and Renamo 9,742.

He says Renamo has its official copies of the results sheets of the 49 polling stations, and will challenge this result in the National Elections Commission and appeal to the Constitutional Council if necessary.

Beira CDE president rejects own results

Five of the 13 members of the Beira City Elections Commission (including the chair) signed the official report (acta) of the intermediate results but added the phrase "do not agree". One of those wrote "do not agree because there are errors in the data." So far there is no further explanation.

Renamo and MDM join to denounce Matola result

Renamo and MDM nominated members of the Matola City Elections Commission (CEC) gave a joint press conference to say the results had been fraudulently altered to give Frelimo a narrow victory. They also showed the press three different result sheets (editais) all signed and stamped by the CEC president Carlos Come, which they said was evidence that something wrong was happening.

The three editais give these results:

The first:

Frelimo - 48,15%;
Renamo - 47,46%
MDM - 4,13%

The second:

Frelimo - 46,85%
Renamo - 47,46%
MDM - 5,42%

The third:

Frelimo - 48,05
Renamo - 47,28
MDM - 4,11%

The third, signed by Frelimo-linked CEC members but not those linked to Renamo and MDM, was presented at the press conference yesterday as the official Matola results. (As well as members nominated by parties, elections commissions have civil society members, but they are usually also linked to parties.) The first results sheet circulated on social media and was reported here in Bulletin 65 Friday.

Torina Miquitae, CEC vice president named by Renamo, said the third results sheet was filled in unilaterally by Frelimo members of the CEC, including chair Come. The first results sheet had been presented by STAE to the CEC for approval but it was noted that the sum of the votes for parties was higher than the valid vote, so it was returned for correction. The session was suspended and resumed without Renamo and MDM members, Miquitae said.

Miquitae said that the correct result is Renamo 47.44% to Frelimo 46.85% and MDM 5.42% do MDM.

Romao Rego, an MDM nominated member of CEC and member to the CEC electoral operation committee, said that as a member of the committee responsible for the results, he had not seen the third document before it was published. And he confirmed that Renamo won and MDM received 5.42%

Renamo and MDM promise detailed written reports giving the evidence of fraud.

A polling station head was arrested for denouncing ballot box stuffing by Frelimo at his polling station, Romao Rego told the press conference. Mauricio Brito Vilanculos was head of polling station 100003-06 at Matola primary school.

Carlos Come is an unusual choice to be president of the Matola CEC. He was director general of the Criminal Investigation Police and director of counter-intelligence of the security service (Servico de Informacao e Seguranca do Estado, SISE).

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There are two archives of historic elections data, at IESE on <http://www.iese.ac.mz/eleicoes-resultados/> and at London School of Economics on <http://bit.ly/MozEIData> The LSE archive now has detailed 2013 and 2014 results, by polling station.

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