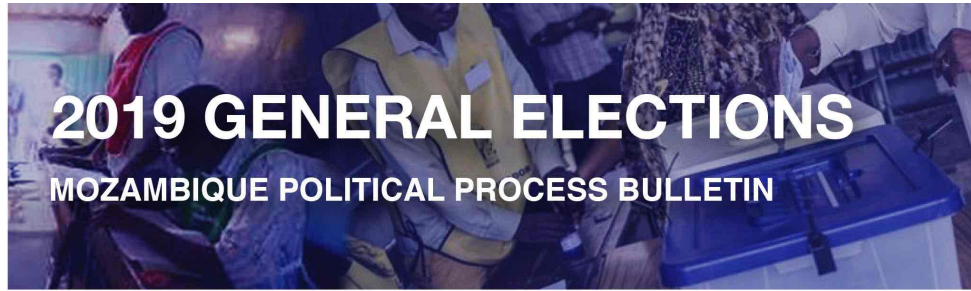




CENTRO DE INTEGRIDADE PÚBLICA
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2019 GENERAL ELECTIONS

MOZAMBIQUE POLITICAL PROCESS BULLETIN

Editor: Joseph Hanlon | **Publisher:** Edson Cortez | **News Editor:** Borges Nhamire
Reporters: Aldemiro Bande, Magda Mendonça, Sheila Nhancale

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Presidential candidates given 30 days extra to submit signatures

After the Constitutional Council (CC) noticed a change in the just published electoral law, on Friday the CC ruled that registration of presidential candidates will not end today, but on 16 July.

To stand for president, a candidate must submit to the Constitutional Council (and not to electoral authorities) a set of documents and 10,000 notarised signatures of voters. The electoral law says this must occur 120 days before the election, which for the 15 October election is today, 16 June. The deadline was 15.30 this afternoon. Because today is Sunday it had been expected that this would be extended to Monday.

But on Friday the Constitutional Council issued a ruling point out that the just-published new electoral law (2/2019 de 31 de Maio) has a clause tucked in at the very end (numbered article 276-A) changing three deadlines for this year. As well as the presidential submission, they are:

- The National Elections Commission (CNE) now has 105 days before the election to announce the number of parliament (Assembleia de República, AR) seats for each province, which is 1

July. This is important because party lists must contain as many candidates as there are seats for the province, plus at least 3 supplementary candidates.

- Parties must submit their candidates for the AR to the CNE 75 days before the election, which is 31 July.

So far, documents and signatures have been submitted for only two presidential candidates, Filipe Nyusi of Frelimo and Daviz Simango of MDM. The delay will help Renamo, which seems in some internal turmoil, as well as two new small parties which are making a serious attempt to present parliamentary and presidential candidates and gain the youth vote.

The CC does check at least a sample of the signatures has rejected candidates that only reached 10,000 by including fake signatures, often just copied from the electoral role, and duplicates.

How will CNE sort out provincial mess left by AR?

Parliament could not decide about provincial assemblies, so it left an impossible mess and told the National Elections Commission to resolve it. This is clear in the provincial assemblies law (3/2019 de 31 de Maio) recently published in *Boletim da República*.

The problem is caused by the head of list system, under which the provincial governor is the head of the party list that receives the most votes in the province. Under the old law, provincial assemblies (APs) were highly decentralised - the constituency (círculo eleitoral) was the district.

Each district had its own party lists in the elections, and AP members had to be registered to vote in the district they represented. But that also meant there was no provincial list with a head of list to be governor.

Parliament (AR) decided that as part of the decentralisation package, they had to reduce decentralisation and make the province rather than the district the only constituency for the AP. Thus there will simply be a single provincial list, and the head of the winning list becomes governor. But the AR still wanted district representation, and left the CNE with an impossible problem.

Article 6 of the AP law says:

1. The constituency is the province.
2. "For the purpose of democratic representation, 85% of the seats are distributed proportionally by districts, according to the number of registered voters; 15% of the seats are reserved for the provincial level which includes the head-of-the-list."

3. The governor is the head of the list with the most votes.

4. "It is the responsibility of the National Elections Commission to materialize the provisions of this article, respecting the rules of the proportional representation method, according to the highest Hondt average."

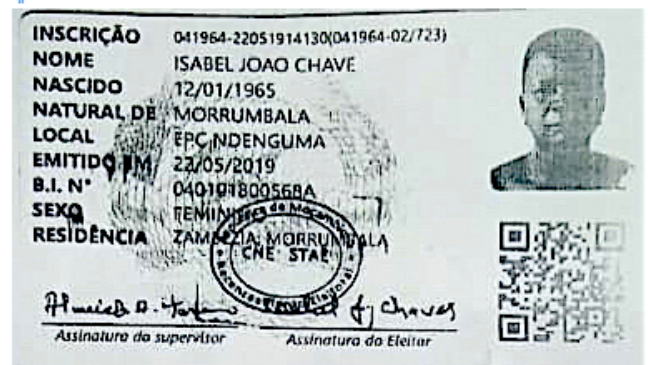
Paragraph 2 sets a problem for the CNE which is not resolved by paragraph 4. There is no problem in assigning seats to districts - the de Hondt method does that. But how are elected members of the AP assigned to those seats? There are no requirements that party lists include candidates from all districts, and there are no district lists. If the CNE assigns AP members randomly to districts, it can hardly be seen as "democratic representation". The AR could not solve this conundrum so it is left to the CNE.

The editing of the law has clearly been done in some haste. In article 131 it confuses district and provincial elections commissions. In article 150 it talks of district assemblies, which the AR removed from the law. And article 6 refers to the "highest Hondt average" which is wrong. De Hondt is not a system based on averages, and is correctly designated in article 160 as a "proportional representation system" for distributing seats.

Morrumbala election commission members register twice

Four members or senior staff of the Morrumbala District Elections Commission (Comissão Distrital de Eleições, CDE) have registered twice and pictures of their two cards are being circulated. They are Isabel Chaves, CDE 1st vice-president; CDE member João de Aguiar; Ana Maria Chilomo, district director of the technical election secretariat STAE; and João Cassamo, CDE chief of operations. The four were nominated by Frelimo or by Frelimo aligned civil society.

Renamo has submitted a formal complaint to the Morrumbala district court. Double registration is illegal, but the penalty is small - two or three times the monthly minimum wage.



CDE Vice president Isabel Chaves registered with only a slight change in her name and the same identity card number.



Anamaria Chilomo made more changes to her name, but also used the same ID card both times.

Did STAE use INE error to manipulate Gaza?

An obscure statistical error may have been used to inflate the number of potential voters in Gaza, according to Prof António Francisco of IESE (Instituto de Estudos Sociais e Económicos). He was the first to publicly point out that elections officials disagree with the 2017 population census about the adult population of Gaza. What he calls "statistical juggling" appears to have been used to inflate the voters role to allow even more ballot box stuffing in Gaza.

The 2017 census says that Gaza will have a population of in 2019 of 1,503,233 of whom 737,278 are of voting age. STAE estimates that there are 1,144,337 voting age adults in Gaza, and that in 2018 and 2019 there were registered 1,162,883 voters - 165% of the voting age adults

estimated by the 2017 census and 102% of adults estimated by STAE.

Francisco notes that the 2007 census gave a national population of 21,618,631 and Gaza population of 1,236,284. These numbers have been used everywhere, including in population projections posted on the web.

But Francisco discovered that in a single publication by the Instituto Nacional de Estatística (INE) in 2011 the 2007 population of Gaza was increased to 2,236,481 - an increase of 1 million. Probably just a typing error in setting out the table which no one noticed. But Francisco asks if this totally incorrect number was used to predict the number of voting age adults in 2019.

Prof Francisco's article is on <http://www.iese.ac.mz/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/ideias113p-AF.pdf>



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Detailed coverage 2019 national elections is again being provided by the *Mozambique Political Process Bulletin*, which has covered all of Mozambique's multi-party elections. We will have a large team of local journalists throughout the country, ensuring that our reports are accurate and verified.

The elections newsletter is also in Portuguese; para subscrever <http://eepurl.com/gnZXPz>

The newsletters covering the 2018 local elections are on <http://bit.ly/LocEI2018>


Newsletters from 2013 local elections and 2014 national elections are on <http://bit.ly/2H066Kg>

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>

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