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Pilot voter registration without serious problems

There were no serious problems reported on the first day of the pilot voter registration, at least in the six Nampula and Maputo districts, except for Moamba where the machine was unable to take photographs of just two voters.

Our correspondents report that the registration began on time at 08.00 in all the brigades, and that there was a considerable turnout. The operators showed mastery in using the T-mobile computers, and took between three and five minutes to conclude the registration of each voter.

In Moamba district, the registration took place in the headquarters of the Sábiè and Pessene administrative posts. In Sábiè no problem was reported, but in the Tenga EPC, in Pessene Sede, the machine was unable to take photographs of just two voters. They were asked to come back today, Thursday. But the other voters were successfully registered. In this brigade, 79 voters were registered, while in Sábiè the figure was 70 voters.

In Magude district, the registration is taking place in Inhongane locality, Magude-sede and the Motaze administrative post. In Inhongane 55 voters were registered, 20 of them men and 35 women. The machines were operating well. The brigade members are experienced, and show mastery of the machines.

In Murrupula district, by the early hours of the registration there was a considerable turnout of voters, at least in the post set up in the Murrupula-Sede EPC. By around 12.00, about 50 potential voters had already been registered.

In Meconta the picture was the same. There were no problems with the machines, and the operators showed that they are competent to handle the T mobiles.

On average, 70 voters were registered per brigade. Each brigade had one machine, which means two machines per district.

Pilot registration voter's card is disposable

The Pilot Registration voter's card will be of no use, the General Director of the Electoral Administration Technical Secretariat (STAE), Loló Correia, said on Tuesday during a meeting with the political parties to share information about this year's municipal elections.


According to Loló Correia, voters will not use this card to vote. The pilot registration card will have characteristics completely different from the card that will be used in voting during the 6th municipal elections of 11 October this year, and the 7th general elections of 2024.

What we intend is merely to "test the equipment, in terms of how it is working. The Pilot Registration voter's card will be a normal card that will not be used for voting", said Correia, in a note sent to our Bulletin by STAE.

The general director of STAE guaranteed that as soon as the Pilot Registration is finished, all the information that had been introduced into the machines will be eliminated to make way for the use of these machines during the phase of the voter registration proper.

One innovative aspect announced by the electoral management bodies is that the voter's card (made of PVC) to be introduced this year, will be used in future elections. That is, it will no longer be a simple paper card, and will be a plastic document (like an identity card or a bank card). This, the electoral bodies guarantee, will make it more resistant and prevent its destruction in the event that it becomes wet, or suffers other incidents.

The civic education activities to urge potential voters to go to the registration posts began on 27 January and will last for 25 days.

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