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Mocimboa da Praia still has no registration plan and CNE shifts the problem to the Government

There is still no plan on how to hold voter registration in Mocimboa da Praia, partly because the CNE itself is divided. The chairperson of the National Elections Commission, at a meeting in Maputo with civil society organisations on Tuesday said the matter is in the government's hands. That is, it is a political matter where the decision is not up to the body that he chairs.

Within the CNE there is no consensus about holding elections in Mocímboa da Praia. Renamo argues that the municipality of Moçimboa da Praia should be excluded from these municipal elections because it has been depopulated and lacks the necessary security and infrastructure conditions, but one wing of the CNE argues the opposite: the conditions exist, but it is up to the Government to decide.


The municipality of Mocímboa da Praia was profoundly damaged by the terrorists who set up their base there for rather more than a year. The buildings which used to house the headquarters of the District Elections Commission, and the schools where the brigades used to operate were transformed into ruins. Much of the population has been displaced to Mueda, Pemba and other districts.

The CNE is proposing that the voter registration be held in the municipal area, and not in the entire district. This suggestion is due to the lack of security and the depopulation of several villages in Mocímboa da Praia district.

New municipalities do not yet have projections of potential voters

The 12 new municipalities still do not know the number of potential voters whom they will register. According to the General Director of STAE, Loló Correia, the projections depend on the territorial demarcation that is under way.

According to Correia, the other municipalities already have projections. He explained that the electoral administration and management bodies only have information that the demarcation of the territories of the new municipalities is in the hands of provincial assemblies for their opinion, before being forwarded to the Council of Ministers.

	FICHA TÉCNICA:	ENDEREÇOS:
	<p>Editor: Lázaro Mabunda</p> <p>Advisor: Joseph Hanlon</p> <p>Director: Edson Cortez</p> <p>Translate: Paul Fauvet</p> <p>Sub-editor: Samuel Monjane</p> <p>Layout: Liliana Mangove</p>	<p>Web: https://cipeleicoes.org/eng/</p> <p>Facebook: @cipeleicoes</p> <p>Instagram: @cip_eleicoes</p> <p>Tiktok: @cipmoz</p> <p>Telegram: +258 843890584</p>

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