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First acts of violence between Frelimo and Renamo registered

Our correspondents in Angoche and Chimoio, in Nampula and Manica provinces respectively, reported acts of violence last Sunday, involving monitors from Frelimo and Renamo.

In Angoche, the violence began when Frelimo accused Renamo of clandestinely bringing a car with its members resident outside the municipal boundary to register as voters. According to our correspondents in Angoche, Renamo tried to remove Frelimo members from the queues. This disorganised the queues, which generated misunderstandings and physical assaults.

Our correspondent managed to film the confusion, but the Renamo members surrounded him and, threatening to beat him up, they obliged him to delete the film. Intervention by a police officer prevented our correspondent from being assaulted, but the video was erased.

A message attributed to the supervisor of the Inguri EPC registration post, where the incident occurred, said that the Renamo members and sympathisers threatened that the Frelimo Party secretary would be affected by a stroke within a week. In the midst of the argument, there were physical assaults, which resulted in partial damage to the printer used for the registration. The printer still prints, but the voter cards come out of the printer with a black stain.

According to the same message, some of the Renamo sympathisers in that registration post come from other parts of Nampula province, such as Mozambique Island, the Coti Islands, Mogincual, Mogovolas and Moma.

After the incident, the chairperson of the Angoche District Elections Commission, Domingos Amisse, ordered that the registration be held behind closed doors. But this Monday, registration resumed, without problems. There were no injuries apart from torn clothes.

In Chimoio, a Renamo monitor, named Augusto Macorreia, was attacked by police officers when he tried to stop the registration of individuals who did not live in the 7 April neighbourhood, because they supposedly resided outside of the municipal area.

In Malema, in Nampula, a young man living outside the municipal area tried, unsuccessfully, to register.

In Dondo, in Sofala, there is poor attendance at the registration posts of voters from the Thundane neighbourhood, because the citizens prefer farming to registration.

In Alto Molócuè, in Zambézia, a Frelimo monitor, named Pereira Pilima, registered first in the Pista Velha registration post, and then at the Malua 2 EPC post, where he was discovered. The machine rejected him, since he was using the same name to register, but even so it managed to print.

The monitors from other parties took measures to check the truthfulness of the information, and concluded that the citizen registered twice. Currently, this citizen is continuing to perform his duties as a monitor. He said he has apologised to the other monitors for his dual registration. Now the monitor has two electoral registration cards and is asking for the registration to be scrapped. Nélia Augusto Passoa

Other news about the registration

Brigade members complain of lack of transport allowances and food

In the future municipality of Marracuene, in Maputo province, the brigade members are complaining that so far they have not been given any money for transport. The brigade members say that in Marracuene they do not have the food and cellphone airtime promised. The brigades installed in Sibacusse say that the lack of conditions means they are unable to meet certain needs because of the distance they have to travel to reach their posts.

Also in Marracuene, the brigade members complain that many citizens have no identification documents. In Massinga, in Inhambane, the brigade members complain they do not have time to take a snack.


There are areas where the registration has not yet begun

At the Chondilo EPC, in Rovene locality, in Massinga, Inhambane province, the registration could begin on Wednesday, according to the director of the school.

On Ibo island, in Cabo Delgado, registration at the Rituto neighbourhood registration post, in Ibo district, only began at 10.00 today (Monday, 24 April).

Brigade withdrawn and voters don't know where to register

In the Franciscan Secondary School, located in Marracuene Memo, the brigade was removed to a place unknown to the local population.

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