

Number 74 – 12 May 2023

Published by Centro de Integridade Pública, Maputo, Mozambique

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PRM release AMUSI monitor detained illegally in Guruè

The Mozambican police (PRM) in Guruè on Thursday released a monitor from the party AMUSI (Action of the United Movement for Salvation), Guedes Rui Suandique Portugal, who had been detained last Friday (5 May) for allegedly disturbing the voter registration. Guedes Portugal spent six days in the prison cells without his detention being legalised, and without any criminal case against him being opened.

The victim, now at liberty, said he was taken to the cells because he had denounced the abandonment of his post by a data input operator at the voter registration post in the Nacuacue EPC, where Guedes Portugal had been placed by his party. According to Portugal, the Gurue STAE director and the chairperson of the District Elections Commission (CDE) obliged him to rewrite the report previously submitted by the team of MDM and AMUSI monitors, to deny that the data input operator had been absent from the post ([Vídeos](#)).

According to Portugal, the data input operator told him that the people to whom Portugal would submit the complaint are the same as those who sent him to the post to do what he was doing.

Portugal says he lived through dark days in the PRM cells in Gurué, and witnessed repeated violations of human rights in that place which was his bitter home for five days.

Our Bulletin tried several times to hear the version of the Guruè electoral management and administration bodies, but without success. They always promised to react, but never did so.

Brigade members accused of illicit charges and of prioritising their acquaintances

Voters at the Chipangara EPC, in Beira city, in Sofala, accuse brigade members of constantly favouring people in their confidence or taking payment of 50 or 100 meticaís for people to register.

Some of the voters we spoke to arrived at the post at about 05.00 in the morning to register, but their turn never came, because people known to the brigade members appeared and took over the post, which created a noisy environment there.

The brigade members denied all the accusations, but recognise that they have given priority to people “classed as priorities, such as the disabled, and people whose professional duties mean they cannot stay in the queues, such as duly identified nurses”.

In Alto Molócuè, in Zambézia, voters at the Pista Velha registration post say they pay 50 meticaís just to acquire a voter card. They add that so far they have not discovered who is responsible for charging the 50 meticaís. They also accuse the brigade members of continuing to attend to their acquaintances and to public employees. Many potential voters stay in the queues all day until the post closes, but are still unable to register. That is why, they add, that they end up paying to obtain a voter card.

Cholera outbreak halts registration in Nacala

An increase in the number of cholera cases, and a wave of disinformation about the spread of the disease, has led members of the public, mostly youths and adolescents, to destroy and burn public infrastructures, and the homes and property of community leaders. This forced STAE to remove the equipment from the Quissimajulo neighbourhood in Nacala.

The Nacala district police commander, Sansão Sigauque, confirmed that STAE found itself obliged to remove its equipment. The equipment will only return to Quissimajulo, when appropriate conditions are created.

Another case aborted?

Citizens supposedly from Nicoadala have tried to register in Quelimane

Monitors from Renamo and from the MDM tried to abort an attempt to register six citizens, supposedly from Nicoadala district, 30 km from the city of Quelimane, the Zambézia provincial capital. But the STAE district director in Quelimane says that they are all now living in Quelimane, transferred from Nicoadala.


The six citizens, supposedly members of Frelimo, wanted to register at the voter registration post in the Sinacura EPC, in the centre of Quelimane. All had scarves covering their heads.

The denunciation by the Renamo and MDM monitors aroused the attention of a group of journalists and civil society election observers, which forced the presence of the STAE Quelimane district director, Hassan Hussen.

Hassan Hussene confirmed the case, but said these are citizens who used to live and work in Nicoadala, but who have been transferred to the Quelimane municipality.

These are people who live in the municipality, adds Hassan Hussene: “we think they have the right to register and to exercise their civic duty in October. So we cannot stop them.”

The Renamo and MDM monitors stationed at the Sinacura EPC voter registration post, in Quelimane, accuse the supervisor of threatening to transfer them from the place or expel them.

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