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More registration equipment found in homes in Matola

The equipment in question is from the registration brigades of Campo de Ndlavela, in the T3 administrative post, and of Bunhiça, in Machava. They were being kept in private homes which it is supposed belong to block chiefs. It is not known whether or not they were used during the night to register voters from outside the municipal area.

The first registration equipment was found by opposition monitors in Ndlavela neighbourhood, in Matola. This is equipment from brigade 105, located in Campo de Ndlavela, block 25 ([Videos](#)).

The second batch of equipment was found in a house in Bunhiça neighbourhood, in the Machava administrative post. It is equipment used by the brigade located at block 64 ([Videos](#)). The supervisor said that she just received orders from the coordinator to take the equipment to be kept in that residence, and she was not responsible for moving the equipment to that house.

Under normal circumstances, as in the past, the equipment should be kept in the STAE warehouse, or in the registration posts under police protection, but in this registration many “Mobile IDs” (as the computers used for registration are known) have been found in private homes. Last week, the opposition monitors found a Mobile, with its respective printer, in the home of a brigade member.

In Chókwè city, some mobiles are kept overnight in the homes of locality heads, or in unknown homes. The case of Ribáuè in which the mobiles were transported at night to register voters from outside the municipal area and to print voter cards confirmed the suspicions that there has been clandestine registration in many parts of the country.

1/4 of registration posts have problems

A survey by our correspondents Thursday and Friday shows that 25% of registration posts have problems. The main problems are with printers, and lack of materials, notably registration forms (Boletins de inscrição). In more than 10% of posts, voters' cards were not being issued, and in some cases had not been issued for several days. Observers were barred from some posts in Beira. In a few places there were still special "priority" queues for teachers or other civil servants, even those these have been banned.

In comparison to earlier surveys, there were many more reports of smooth operation of registration posts. But the share of registration posts with problems remains very high.

Director of STAE says there is no evidence voters came from Moamba

The Maputo provincial director of the Electoral Administration Technical Secretariat (STAE), Paulo Chambale, said last Thursday (11 May) that he has not yet received any denunciation of the movement of about fifty people from Mahoche, in the Pessene administrative post, Moamba district, to register in Matola.

“As the STAE director in Maputo province, I have no knowledge of this. Nor does the Provincial Elections Commission know about it. A short while ago, we were at a meeting which discussed how the registration was going. This matter was not even mentioned. So right now, I would have great difficulties to talk about a matter which has not even reached my hands yet”, said Chambal.


The voters were transported in a bus of the Matola Municipal Transport Company. Some of the voters admitted that they had come from Tenga to register, but for the director of STAE, this does not constitute any evidence.

Background: History of fighting dirty in Gurué

Results have always been close in Gurué between MDM and Frelimo, and there is a history of misconduct. [In the 2018 municipal elections a CIP Election Bulletin Study](#) showed that 2/3 of polling stations suspicious, with serious misconduct on both sides. This included ballot box stuffing and spoiling ballot papers of the other side.

[In 2013 the Constitutional Council \(CC\) did its own investigation](#) and found "flagrant violations of the law by polling station staff as well as the Zambézia Provincial Elections Commission". Editais (official polling station results sheets) had been altered, some on instruction of the Zambézia Provincial Election Commission (CPE) and some were written by the CPE. In 2013 the National Election Commission gave the victory to Frelimo but the parallel count showed MDM had won. The CC also criticised excesses by the police, including the illegal detention of MDM party delegates. And it criticised the National Elections Commission (CNE) for serious breaches of security which allowed ballot papers to be found outside polling stations even before voting started.

The CNE declared Frelimo the winner but the parallel count showed MDM had won. The CC cancelled the 2013 election and MDM won the rerun.

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