

Number 333 – 6 November 2024

Published by Centro de Integridade Pública, Maputo, Mozambique

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Police massacre continues: More than 20 demonstrators shot dead in the last five days

Yesterday (5 November) alone, nine citizens were shot dead: three in Mocuba, five in Maputo and Matola cities, and one in Tete. But the numbers may be much greater because there are deaths by shooting which are not declared by the Health Services and others who are in a serious condition, and may lose (or already have lost) their lives days after they were shot.

The figures show that in the last five days, the police murdered more than 20 citizens. The following data are of the murders confirmed by our correspondents in all the districts.

In the first of the eight days of demonstrations, four demonstrators were killed, two in Maputo and two in Pebane, in Zambézia. Those murdered in Pebane were two adolescents aged 14 and 17.

On the second and third day, police bullets killed six demonstrators: two in Nampula city, two in Namialo, in Meconta district, one in the town of Mecuburi and one in Nametil, the capital of Mogovolas district.

On the fourth and fifth days, ten citizens were murdered by the police: three in Mocuba, in Zambézia, three in Maputo city, three in Matola and one in Tete city. And other people are missing.

One of the murders in Matola occurred on 5 October in the neighbourhood of Matola-Gare, when the police killed a young man in his home. The youth was taken to hospital by his brother-in-law, because his wife had fainted when she learned that he had been shot. His death was confirmed at the Matola Gare health centre.

Another victim was killed by customs and immigration agents at the Ressano Garcia frontier. This unleashed a wave of destruction of state premises, attendance posts and several vehicles at the Ressano border post.

In addition to the killings confirmed by the police, there are also rumours that five other citizens were murdered. These are rumours that we have not confirmed. The rumours are that three people were shot dead in Nampula, one in Patrice Lumumba neighbourhood in Matola, and another in Mocuba.

More than 50 people have been shot in recent days, and dozens have been detained.

Traces of destruction evident and frontier closed at Ressano Garcia

Some immigration officials say “there is no longer a border at Ressano Garcia”. Senior figures from immigration and customs went on Wednesday morning to the border to survey the damage caused and draw up a list of items needed to restore and re-open the frontier services. But some days will be need to restore all the equipment.

The destruction of the Ressano Garcia frontier building occurred after one of the demonstrators was shot by customs agents and members of the Frontier Guard. The demonstrators then burnt all the vehicles of customs and immigration staff at their homes.

They then went to the building where the immigration services and the attendance posts function. They broke all the windows and destroyed and looted equipment such as computers and other goods used to issue visas and operate other frontier services. This made it impossible for the services to function.

The immigration and customs agents fled to the South African side of the border in search of protection.

The South African authorities’ issued warnings that their citizens should not attempt to cross the Ressano Garcia border.

The companies that transport minerals from South Africa to the port of Maputo, are warning truck drivers to seek secure places to park their trucks because “cars and trucks are being set on fire”.

“Keep your trucks far from Ressano Garcia”, they warned, “because the situation is not good”.

Constitutional Council notifies the CNE to explain the discrepancy between the numbers of voters in the results sheets

Through a dispatch dated 5 November, the Chairperson of the Constitutional Council gave 72 hours to the chairperson of the National Elections Commission, Bishop Carlos Matsinhe, to explain “the reasons for the discrepancies in the number of voters between the presidential, parliamentary and provincial assembly elections in the polling station minutes and results sheets submitted to the Constitutional Council.

Thus Carlos Matsinhe has until Friday to explain these discrepancies.

The representatives of the opposition on the CNE had already noted the discrepancies between the number of voters in the three elections, stating that in some provinces there were significant differences (see [Bulletin 322](#)).

The opposition representatives also denounced that in some places more people voted than had registered as voters. The most flagrant case came from the diaspora. In one polling station in Harare, Zimbabwe, 750 people voted, but the voter roll in that station contained the names of only 595 registered voters.

Five embassies make joint declaration calling for respect for human rights

The embassies of Norway, the United States and Switzerland and the High Commissions of Canada and the United Kingdom on Tuesday issued a joint statement calling on “all those involved to contain their emotions” and to respect human life and the rule of law.


The embassies of the five countries declared their “support for the Mozambican people in the exercise of their rights, namely the right to peaceful assembly, to freedom of opinion and of expression, and the right to information.

They also urged the Constitutional Council to assess the validation of the election results “in a transparent manner and in accordance with its mandate”.

Demonstrators destroy statue of Nyusi

Demonstrators have destroyed a statue of Filipe Nyusi, that was erected in a school in Campoane, in Boane district, Maputo province.

The head of the statue was separated from its body. The body was then dragged through the streets, beaten with clubs and stoned, in a sign of people’s anger.

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