

Electoral Violence intensified in Gaza

With only 15 days left for the October 15 election, electoral violence in Gaza Province has been escalating.

On September 29, in Xai-xai City, Gaza Province, a group of Frelimo members and supporters blocked access of MDM party and its candidate to the general election at the Mercado Municipal da Cidade de Xai-Xai (The Municipal Market of Xai-Xai City). The violence against the MDM Party supporters began when they reached the Market, where Frelimo members were ready to attack them and inhibit access to the market.

The police had to intervene, but without actions against the violation of the electoral law. This is an evidence of the connection between the police and Frelimo, the ruling party. The police have frequently been acting in favor of the ruling party. In fact, though it is a violation of the electoral law, in this case, for instance, no violator was arrested.

Still on September 29, an MDM supporters' caravan was attacked on the way to the district of Mandlakazi, Gaza Province. Once Frelimo supporters got the information about the MDM convoy, they instated violence against MDM and Daviz Simango sympathizers and impeded them to run the campaign in Mandlakazi. Due to this obstruction, MDM supporters had to alternatively run their campaign in the district of Chibuto, where they were able to peacefully run the campaign.

Yesterday, September 30, about 1:00 PM, Frelimo sympathizers blocked the MDM and Mr. Daviz Simango's convoy in the district of Chókwè. The incident took place at the Senta Baixo Market where the police had to intervene with air shots and disperse the people involved in the incident. Once again, no violator of the electoral law got arrested.

Gaza Province is the bastion of electoral



Frelimo electoral violence evidence against the MDM in Chókwè

violence perpetrated by Frelimo supporters against the opposition. It should be noted that On September 11, still in Chókwè, a group of the OJM – the youth branch of Frelimo – holding Frelimo flags impeded the New Democracy (ND, Nova Democracia) party and their candidate to the Governor of Gaza Province, Mr. Félix Silva (Refila Boy) were attacked during their electoral campaign. In this incident, the population destroyed two cars of the ND and spanked the supporters.

Remind that during the 2018 local election, a group of allegedly Frelimo members in Bilene Beach invaded the Renamo party building, early in the morning of October

1. Afterwards, the group posted Frelimo pamphlets on the building. In the following day, another group of people burned the MDM campaign material in the party building.

Frelimo members claim the province of Gaza to be bastion of their party due to the provenience of its leaders. Still as a liberation movement, Eduardo Mondlane was from Gaza and later, President Samora Machel and President Joaquim Chissano. Excepting the election of one Democratic Union (União Democrática) member to a sit in the Republic Assembly in the 1994 general election, no opposition parties have won a sit to the Parliament.

Insurgents attack Macomia again

The group of insurgents in Northern Mozambique attacked the population once again in Macomia, the province of Cabo Delgado. The attack took place yesterday morning, September 30, in Mbau, specifically

in the Antadora neighborhood. There is still an uncertainty about the voting process in a number of districts of Cabo Delgado, specifically in Mocímboa da Praia, Macomia, Chiure, Mueda, Palma, and

Ibo. The electoral bodies (CNE and STAE) have not stated any decision yet about the attacked areas, it has not been decided if polling stations will be open in the areas that have been attacked by the insurgent group.

People still in unsafe transportation

Electoral campaigners are still being transported in unsafe conditions. However, either public authorities or political parties have been apathic to the situation. More than safe activities, political parties have been only focusing their political goals. The impact of unsafe transportation was observed respectively on September 22, in the district of Chitima in Tete and the district of Balama, Cabo Delgado on September 26. Unsafe transportation of electoral campaigners has caused more than (fifteen) 15 deceases and hundreds of injured people as it has been already reported in the CDD-E bulletin.



How electoral campaigners have been transported

Frelimo uses public Monuments for campaigns

Frelimo has been using Public Monuments for electoral campaign. For instance, this political party used the Praças dos Heróis on September 25, the Armed Forces Day against the colonial Portuguese regime in Mozambique.

On September 25, Frelimo took advantage of the public holiday event as an occasion for electoral campaign in public monuments either in person or through electoral pamphlets or flags.



Electoral propaganda of Frelimo in public monuments, district of Muidumbe

Property: CDD – Centro para a Democracia e Desenvolvimento
Director: Prof. Adriano Nuvunga
Editor: Ilídio Nhantumbo
Team: Prof. Adriano Nuvunga, Selma Inocência, Ilídio Nhantumbo, Narciso Cossa, Deborah Capela; Denise Cruz; Agostinho Machava
Layout: CDD

Address: Rua Eça de Queiroz, nº 45, Bairro da Coop, Cidade de Maputo - Moçambique
 Telefone: 21 41 83 36

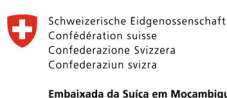
CDD Centro para Democracia e Desenvolvimento

Twitter: CDD_eleicoes | E-mail: info@cddmoz.org | Website: www.cddmoz.org/eleicoes

PROGRAMMATIC PARTNER



Comissão Episcopal de Justiça e Paz, Igreja Católica



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