



50/50 POLICY BRIEF MOZAMBIQUE

MARCH 2020



Women constitute 53,5% of the electorate but are largely absent in party manifestos and in the media. Photo: GL Mozambique

Key facts

This policy brief sets out key issues and options for the increased representation of women in politics in Mozambique following the October 2019 national and provincial elections. In the 2014 national election women constituted 39,6% of the national assembly. The proportion of women in the national assembly in 2019 is 42.4%.

This represents a 2.8 percentage point increase from the 2014 election. Mozambique moves from 29 to 16 on the Inter-Parliamentary Union's ranking of the percentage of women in parliament. The

increase in women's representation in parliament comes at a time when all countries should be making substantial headway towards the 50/50 representation of women and men at all levels of decision-making. Against this background, to ensure that Mozambique achieves the 50/50, the following actions are needed:

- A gender audit of the 2019 elections will help to make the case for measures needed to ensure that Mozambique achieves gender parity in political decision-making by 2030, the deadline for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- The Proportional Representation (PR) system that prevails both at national and local level is conducive to women's political representation, but only when combined with legislated gender quotas.
- Presently the ruling Frente de Libertação de Moçambique (FRELIMO) has a voluntary 40% quota and the two main opposition parties have 30% quotas for women in political decision-making. There is need to ensure that all political parties have a 50% quota.

	Last election/ announcement	Next elections	Electoral system	No of seats/ candidates/ appointments	No of women elected	% of women elected
Local government	2018	2023	PR	1350	454	33.6%
Parliament	2019	2024	PR	250	106	42.4%
Provincial governors	2019	2024	FPTP	10	3	30%
Cabinet	2019	2024		22	10	45.5%
Presidential elections	2019	2024	FPTP	4	0	0%

Constitutional provisions

At the level of **principle**, the Mozambique Constitution contains strong gender provisions. The principle of the equality of all citizens is included in Article 11, the Fundamental Objectives, that states that the Republic of Mozambique shall be the: e) the defence and promotion of human rights and of the equality of citizens before the law.



Women queuing up to exercise their right to vote. Photo: Thekla Madalena Boca

Article 35 of the Mozambique Constitution states that men and women shall be equal, and also in the article 36 of the same Constitution¹, pronounces the "Principle of Gender Equality: Men and women shall be equal before the law in all spheres of political, economic, social and cultural life." The Constitution's Articles 66 and 67 recognise formal equality between men and women before the law "in respect of rights and duties and in all spheres of life".

The Constitution includes a specific section on women's advancement. Article 122 entitled, Women states:

1. The State shall promote, support and value the development of women, and shall encourage their growing role in society, in all spheres of political, economic, social and cultural life of the country.
2. The State shall recognise and hold in high esteem the participation of women in the national liberation struggle and in the defence of sovereignty and democracy.

Article 53 states that participation of women in politics shall be guaranteed. Article 57 tasks the state with ensuring the substantive equality of women: "The State shall promote and support the emancipation of women, and shall provide incentives to increase the role of women in society.

The State recognises the value of, and shall encourage, the participation of women in the defence of the country and in all spheres of the country's political, economic, social and cultural activity." Article 69 outlaws and makes punishable "actions that generate privilege or discrimination on the basis of sex."

Article 251, Access and Statute of Officers states that *Access to public office shall not be obstructed on grounds of colour, race, sex, religion, ethnic or social origin, or party-political preference, and shall adhere strictly to the criteria of the merit and ability of applicants.*

The Constitution provides an important foundation to root the call for legislated quotas. In addition to general provisions promoting equality at all levels several clauses make reference to ensuring that women are fully represented in the political sphere.

Electoral system and quotas in Mozambique

Article 135 of the Constitution (covering General Principles of the Electoral System) states that: "results of elections shall be calculated according to the system of Proportional Representation (PR)." The following laws spell out how elections are to be conducted.

National: In October 2019, Mozambicans went to the polls to elect the president, provincial assemblies, national assembly and, for the first time, provincial governors. Mozambique has a unicameral parliament known as the *Assembly of the Republic*. The 250 members of the Assembly are elected by Proportional Representation (PR) in eleven multi-member constituencies based on the country's provinces and on a first-past-the-post basis from two single-member constituencies representing Mozambican citizens in Africa and Europe. Under a modified version of the d'Hondt system of PR, parties or coalitions must secure 5% or more of votes on a national basis in order to qualify for a seat.² The President and provincial governors are elected on a first-past-the-post basis.

Local government is enshrined in the Constitution Article 27.2, as amended by Law No. 9/96: "Their purpose shall be to pursue the interests of the local population, without prejudice to national interests and to the role of the State." The Consti-

¹ https://www.constituteproject.org/constitution/Mozambique_2007.pdf?lang=en
² http://archive.ipu.org/parline-e/reports/2223_B.htm

tution defines two types of local authority: municipalities in the cities and towns, and village councils in rural areas.

RENAMO did not participate in the 2013 local government elections. This led to a resurgence of conflict in Mozambique. After several more rounds of talks a ceasefire was signed in December 2016. An agreement was reached on new election regulations. These were adopted by Parliament in July 2018 and implemented during the October 2018 municipal elections. The regulations changed the way mayors were elected - as head of the list of the winning party and not a 50%+1 victory for an individual. This is aimed at ensuring greater decentralisation and party representation at the local level.

Political parties

The Constitution Article 122(1) provides all women and men equal rights to hold public and political office. Mozambique is officially a multi-party system, which presently has three main parties, though dominated by the ruling FRELIMO since independence. There is no requirement in either the Constitution or the electoral laws that political parties should have quotas for women. This is left as a voluntary decision for the parties. This means that the constitution's provisions made through article 122 are not fully implemented by political parties.

Gender audit of political party manifestos in Mozambique³

GENDER QUOTA	GENDER SPECIFIC REFERENCES	GENDER MAINSTREAMED IN MANIFESTOS
FRELIMO		
Frelimo has a voluntary 40% quota for women.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fights against all forms of GBV, forced marriages, sexual violence and domestic violence. • Ensure freedom of expression for women. • Ensure implementation of public policies and laws which promotes gender inclusion. • Value the active role of women in the family and community. • More integration of women political leadership. • Strengthen the role of Mozambican women in public, social, economic life at all levels. • Implement actions that stimulate women to find alternative solutions for income generation. • Develop initiatives to support inclusion in economic life and increasing opportunities including for women. • Increase in credit for women. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access of education and job creation. • Strengthen family stability in the creation of a new generation in the country. • Job creation for youth, women and people living with disability. • Consolidate and harmonise structures and systems that provides inclusion and eliminates discrimination in the workplace.
RENAMO		
RENAMO has a 30% quota for women.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce barriers to women in politics. • Strengthen the parliamentary system to ensure independence, transparency and gender inclusion. • Give women senior leadership positions within the party. • Severe punishment for perpetrators of gender violence. • Create centers for women victims of violence. • Introduce an incentive for female nurses operating in rural areas. • Recognise and value the social function of women by increasing literacy, including women and encouraging their participation in political and business life. • Award scholarships to young women; provide bursaries and scholarships to girls. • Prioritise maternal protection through establishment of services for vulnerable women and children. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure quality education that is inclusive from grade zero to pre-school. • Family, women and children will be given a special attention.
MDM		
The MDM has a 30% quota for women.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historically women have been neglected therefore the party will ensure inclusion of women as key to fight inequality and promote economy. • Ensure gender equity is observed in decision making positions. • Elevate the status of women through inclusion of women in leadership positions and eliminate injustice. • Ensure women's empowerment through support and reform policies in particular gender policies contributing for development of the country. • Fight GBV, VAW and disseminate policies that fight violence. • Create a specific bank credit for women to develop the economic activities. • Ensure women's empowerment by supporting gender specific policy reforms such as combating GBV. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Men and women must be alert to fight violation of human rights • Promoting equality in areas such as access to justice, health, nationality, land rights, social security and inheritance • The party will create health systems which are inclusive and gender sensitive. • Parental leave segmentation. • Reproductive rights issues.

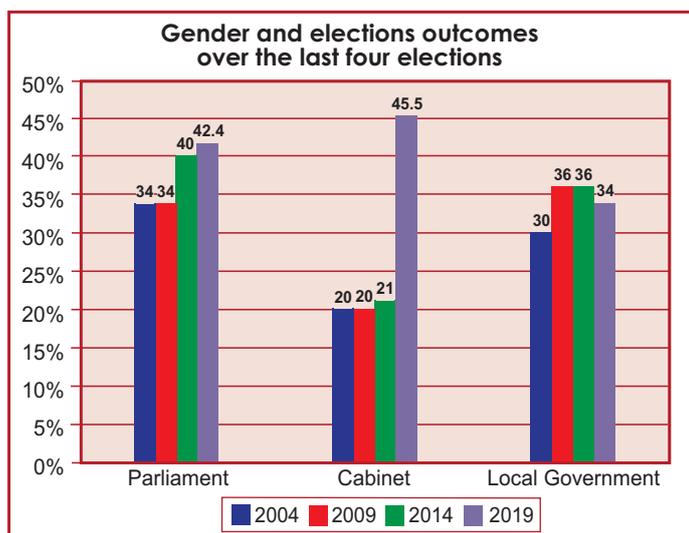
³ From political party manifestos for the 2019 elections accessed from their websites

The analysis, based on party manifestos for the 2019 elections, shows a high level of gender awareness among political parties, both in their specific references to women's empowerment, and mainstreaming of gender in their various pledges. Areas covered include political

participation; GBV; employment and health. A commendable feature is that all the parties have a voluntary quota for women: 30% in the case of RENAMO and MDM, and 40% in the case of FRELIMO.

FRELIMO held its 11th Party Congress in September 2018 where the Party President was elected. The Congress also re-elected the political commission, central committee and its central committee secretariat. At the Congress, President Filipe Nyusi committed his Government to strategies and priorities towards efforts for gender parity including:

- Ensuring that political female knowledge and skills are cascaded down to rural and communities to enable female representation at grassroots level which are the pillars of a great and successful nation.
- Increasing women leadership in local government (presently only six out of 53 councils are led by women). The Ministry of Local Government was tasked with investing in capacity building and searching for potential female candidates for the 2018 Local Government elections.
- Working with other political parties to ensure women representation in political decision making increased.



The graph tracks women's participation in politics in Mozambique over the last four elections. Women's representation in parliament increased from 34% to 40% in 2014 and rose to 42.4% in 2019. Women's representation in local government rose from 30% in 2003 to 36% in 2008 and 2013 but dropped to 34% in 2018.

Following the 2014 elections, parliament elected the first women to chair the Assembly of the Republic. RENAMO and FRELIMO appointed women party whips. Three of the nine specialised parliamentary committees are chaired by women.

In cabinet, an important indicator of political will, women's representation increased from 20% in 2009 to 21% in 2014 to 41% in 2019. This is a substantial increase compared to the previous three elections. However, all four presidential candidates were men and only three of the ten provincial governors are women.

Options for increasing women's representation in Mozambique

To safeguard and increase women's participation in politics, Mozambique could consider revising articles of the electoral law that govern the organisation of the candidate lists in the closed-list system.

Representation of women in parliament by party			
Party	Total seats	Total women	% women
FRELIMO Bench	184	90	48.9%
RENAMO Bench	60	16	27%
MDM Bench	6	0	0%
Total	250	106	42.4%

The table disaggregates women's current representation in the assembly by political party. This shows that with 48.8% women in the national assembly FRELIMO has exceeded its 40% target. At 27% and 0% respectively, RENAMO and the MDM lag behind. The result was not surprising. In the party lists for the 2019 elections, FRELIMO honoured its 40% quota for women on its lists. Across all parties, women candidates make up 30% of the lists in the national elections. The results support the need for a legislated quota for all parties.

Consideration should be given to a one woman, one man "zebra" list. Although it is important to mention that the process must be accompanied by women's increased access to education and training and leadership skills to be provided not only by government but also by different stakeholders working towards promoting gender equity. Need to strengthen existing civil society mechanisms to influence adoption of a gender parity legal instrument in favour of women. All parties must guarantee that will adopt the ZEBRA system in order to help them organise their lists towards gender equity.

There is a precedent for the latter in local government in Namibia where the law requires that one in every three candidates on PR lists be a woman. The ruling South West African Peoples Organisation (SWAPO) introduced a motion in parliament in June 2019 to introduce a 50% legislated quota in the national assembly. This will not become effective until after Namibia's elections later this year. However, this is a crucial move for the 2024 elections that Mozambique could benefit from studying, given the similarities in systems.

- **Article 38.1:** No limitation on the free expression of political, economic, social and cultural principles may be imposed during the electoral campaign. **2:** During the period of the electoral campaign, no penalties for acts that do not offend the Constitution of the Republic and other laws may be applied to companies that exploit the media.
- **Article 75.1:** The act of voting is a right of every citizen. **2:** Public and private entities, enterprises and other employers shall grant their officials, state agents and workers, if necessary, time off in order to be able to vote.

Violence Against Women in Elections

Article 39 of the Electoral Act has the following generic provisions:

- No one may be coerced into taking or not taking part in any meeting or demonstration.
- The administrative authorities or the Police of the Republic of Mozambique may only interrupt the holding of a meeting or demonstration, held in public places or open to the public, when it is disregarded of its purpose or objectives, and when disturbing public order and tranquility.
- The processions and parades can be carried out respecting the limits imposed by the maintenance of the public order, the order of the transit and the period of rest of the citizens.
- The presence of agents of the police authority in meetings or demonstrations organized by any candidature can only be requested by its competent organs, being the organizing entity responsible for the maintenance of the order when it does not make such request.

There are no specific provisions with regard to Violence Against women in Elections (VAWIE). In Mozambique, women citizens are able to express political opinions without any legal interference or limitations. All citizens, women and men have the right to receive and impart information and to make an informed electoral choice. Since the ending of the civil war in 1992 elections in Mozambique have generally been peaceful. The PR system also provides some safeguards against the personalised attacks in the FPTP system as voters vote for a party rather than an individual. However, gender violence takes many forms, including verbal abuse, which is often a deterrent to women in politics.

Other factors

Electoral laws

The Electoral law makes the following key provisions:

- **Article 37:** Political parties, coalitions of political parties or groups of proponent citizen voters are entitled to equal treatment by the electoral administration bodies of public and private entities, in order, freely and in the best conditions, to carry out their electoral campaign.

Elections Management Body

The Mozambique Electoral Commission (CNE) is established under the Constitution. The Commissioners are elected by Parliament in terms of political party representation. Presently the Commission consists of 17 members, including a Chairperson and two Deputy Chairpersons as follows:

- Five representatives of FRELIMO (Frente de Libertação de Moçambique);
- Four representatives of RENAMO (Resistência Nacional de Moçambique);
- One representative of the MDM (Movimento Democrático de Moçambique);
- Seven members from civil society organisations.⁴

The Commissioners are appointed for a five-year term.⁵ Members must be citizens of Mozambique, over 25 years old, of recognised moral and professional merit and "are fit to exercise their duties with trustworthiness, independence, impartiality, neutrality, objectivity, competence and zeal."⁶

Equal representation of women in the CNE is not a legal requirement. Of the 17 members, 2 are women (12%). None of the ten representatives put forward by political parties are women. The chair and the two deputies are all men.

The CNE is responsible for supervising voter registration, conducting of elections and holding of referenda. The Technical Secretariat for the Administration of Elections (STAE) acts as the executive arm of the CNE. It is headed by a General Director, who is appointed by the President after a public nomination process. The General Director is assisted by two deputies during election period. The functions of the Commission and STAE are: registration of voters; supervision and conduct of all electoral processes.⁷

The Provincial and municipal or district electoral commissions are ad hoc structures created to execute electoral operations for the CNE. The Constitutional Council supervises electoral process, verifies presidential candidates, receives petition appeals, validates and declares final results of elections. The Constitutional Council appointed by the president and parliament with equal representation of political parties in the Assembly of the Republic.⁸

There is no written evidence that the EMB is committed to gender mainstreaming in its

structures and operations. Data collection is sex-disaggregated but not in all parts of the electoral process. Collaborative activities between CNE and civil society organisations such as EISA have included gender equality components especially voter education and stakeholder consultations, though there is scope to extend this.

Voter enrolment and education



Article 73 of the Constitution provides all women and men, over the age of 18, with equal voting rights and participation in the political election process at all levels of state and society.

On 15 April 2019 CNE Chair Abdul Carimo Sau announced the voter registration process including times and measures for special cases such as the areas hit by Cyclone Idai. The CNE keeps sex disaggregated data. In the 2019 elections women comprised 6,910,388 (53,5%) voters compared to 6,035,533 men (46,5%), a total of 12 945 921 registered voters.

⁴ <https://eisa.org.za/wep/moznec.htm>, EISA, 2019.
⁵ <https://www.ecfsadc.org/en/members/79-national-election-commission-cne-mozambique.html>
⁶ Law 6/2013, Article 5.
⁷ Ibid.
⁸ <https://www.ecfsadc.org/en/members/79-national-election-commission-cne-mozambique.html>

Three key programmes for voter education include:

- **Civic education:** The Electoral commission provides detailed explanation of the steps needed to vote on Election Day. In addition, in the two weeks prior to the election, CNE sends text messages per day focusing on the importance of voter participation.
- **Electoral hotline:** Citizens receive and send text messages reporting electoral problems or issues to an electoral hotline. Queries and concerns are often responded to before, during and post elections.
- **Civic education plus electoral hotline (Newspaper):** The newspaper program combines elements of other two interventions to strengthen civic education and share latest information on elections.

Low voter turn-out was in the 2019 elections is a serious concern. Of the total of 12 945 921 registered voters, only 6 121 339 voted, this represents 47% of the total registered voters. Low voter turn-out generally points to apathy amongst citizens. This requires attention in the lead up to the 2024 election. Political parties must start targeting women voters with their manifestos and ensure that women constitute at least half of those on their party lists.

The CNE works closely with media partners such as radio, television and print media to disseminate elections information at the different stages. There is no specific requirement for the CNE to promote gender equality in its voter education. However, as seen in the photograph the CNE has made



CNE makes great efforts to ensure its materials are gender aware.
Photo: Courtesy of apanews.net/

great efforts to ensure that its materials are gender aware through use of women (including young women) in the imagery and publicising the fact that women comprise the majority of voters. EMB have specific modules targeted at women. That includes audio and TV spots.

Civil society

Women's rights organisations are among the civil society stakeholders consulted in the elections by the CNE including as part of stakeholder consultations and as election observers. CSOs use the voter education to remind commitments made by member states to advance gender equality. The Institute for Multiparty Democracy has supported and held training sessions with gender CSO, Parliamentarians and Government Officials.

Civil society organisations (CSOs) in Mozambique promote the 50/50 campaign as part of voter education and capacity building of women candidates and women politicians. In this work, CSO's collaborate with women Members of Parliament (MPs) through the Mozambique Women's Parliamentary Caucus, as well as through local authorities. These include:

- *Forum Mulher* is an umbrella organisation based in Maputo which functions as a resource and communication network to improve the efficiency of WRO already involved in gender advocacy and gender mainstreaming. Forum Mulher plays a very active and decisive role in the development of a more gender-sensitive Family Law.
- *The Association of Mozambican Professional and Business Women (ACTIVA)* is a national association established in 1990 to support women's role in the country's economic development. With a large membership, ACTIVA has a number of working groups involved in promoting gender-sensitive legislation regarding female entrepreneurs.
- *Gender Links Mozambique (GLM)* plays an instrumental role in promoting gender equality and justice especially at the local level through its Centres of Excellence for Gender in Local Government.

GLM conducted gender audit of the 2013 and 2018 local and 2014 and 2019 national 2019 elections. The results are used as advocacy tools before, during and after all electoral systems.

Gender analysis of the election

It is important to mention that the 2019 elections had 42000 national observers and 520 international observers. Previous elections in Mozambique have led to scenes of violence and voter intimidation, which were widely denounced by the public and civil society. Through the collaborative efforts of various civil society groups - including religious and community leaders, local media, and political organizations - a platform was set up to mediate any disputes during electoral cycles. The platform sought to contribute to peaceful elections through the speedy and orderly management of any disputes.



Gender Links Mozambique monitoring gender in the elections.
Photo: Thekla Madalena Boca

In the municipal elections of 2018, Sala da Paz (Peace Room) was operating through live observers across the country, who could send information to delegates in real time. The inclusive approach it took helped quell tensions and give local and national leaders a bird's eye view of how the election was unfolding.⁹

Sala da Paz included civil society organisations such as Gender Links, Muleide, Forum Mulher and Mozambique Democracy Institute as Secretariat. A key development in this election was the creation of a gender corner that monitored gender specific issues during elections.

A WhatsApp group was created for observers situated in the polling stations and those in the Sala de Paz. Observers provided reports on the voting process and any incidents that occurred. The reports were used to create gender alerts that were shared with the media. There were no incidents to report relating to gender bias or insensitivity in any of the polling stations. The polling stations gave pregnant women, disabled people and adults over age 60 years priority in the voting stations.

The role of the media in 2019 elections

GL Mozambique (GLM) monitored eight media including two daily newspapers, four weekly print media, two television stations and one radio station.

Media	Frequency	Type of media	No. of items	Female sources	Male sources
Jornal Notícias	Daily	Print	136	16	45
Diário de Moçambique	Daily	Print	84	5	41
Jornal Moçambique	Weekly	Print	23	8	17
Canal de Moçambique	Weekly	Print	7	3	24
Zambeze	Weekly	Print	16	0	7
Magazine Independente	Weekly	Print	15	3	28
STV	Daily	Television	6	2	4
TVM	Daily	Television	4	1	3
RM	Daily	Radio	4	2	2
Total			295	40 (14%)	169 (86%)

Of the 295 items monitored, 86% of the sources were male, 14% were women. The proportion of women sources is very disappointing. Women constitute 53,5% of voters in Mozambique, the media did not reflect women's views or voices. A related concern was the number of stories that

did not have any direct sources but quoted press releases or official statements from political, the election management board or political parties.

⁹ <https://nimd.org/mozambiques-peace-room-gears-up-for-2020-election/>

This points to a lack of critical engagement from the media on key issues that affect citizens. Citizens views and voices is critical particularly during the elections.

PARTICIPAÇÃO DA MULHER NOS MANIFESTOS É INDISPENSÁVEL

O Instituto para a Democracia Multi-Partidária (IMD), em coordenação com a Associação Mulher, Lei e Desenvolvimento, organizou há a Feira dos Manifestos Eleitorais, com vista a partilhar o papel das mulheres das ligas femininas dos partidos políticos para inclusão de questões de género nos programas de governação para o quinquénio 2019-2024. O IMD entende que a mulher enfrenta vários desafios para inserção na política que, nalguns casos, têm a ver com questões culturais, educação e ou pobreza, em que se defende que a liderança é só para homens, e falta de recursos e incentivos. Considera-se, ainda, que o nível de disciplina partidária e a sensibilidade das lideranças contribuem para a inclusão da mulher nos processos eleitorais, sem deixar de fora o facto de muitas vezes aliar-se a ascensão aos cargos de liderança à corrupção. Os partidos Frelimo, Renamo, MDM e Nova Democracia, representados no evento, exclusivamente por mulheres, apresenta-



Partidos políticos discutem inclusão da mulher nos seus projectos

The accompanying article in the *Jornal Mocambique* was one of the few articles that focused on the importance of including women in developing party manifestos. The Mozambique Institute for Multi-party Democracy invited experts

from different civil society organisations to participate.

GLM conducted qualitative monitoring in conjunction with quantitative monitoring. On the 8th of October 2019, all parties held their final rallies prior to the election on the 15 October 2019. During the FRELIMO rally President Nyusi highlighted the contribution of women to the Mozambican economy and stated that next administration would prioritise women. He committed to increasing the number of women in government structures. Of the seven newspapers that covered the rally, only one, the *Independent Diary* covered the important the gender angles of the President Nyusi's speech.

The media is an accountability mechanism in every country. The election reportage was unbalanced and, in many instances relied on secondary source such as press releases and statements. The media did not play its role as a critical force that holds parties and candidates accountable. There is need for the media to introspect, to be trained on gender sensitive and critical reporting and to ensure that the voices of citizens are prioritised.

Conclusions and recommendations

Mozambique has made commendable strides in establishing a robust legal and policy framework for governance and democratic processes. It is important to safeguard this enabling legal and policy environment while addressing the longer term root causes of gender inequalities.¹⁰ Key recommendations include:

Electoral systems and quotas: Mozambique should consider legislating a 50% quota for all political parties and require that women be evenly distributed in PR lists at national and local level. Such a bold move would guarantee gender parity in the next elections; and ensure that a matter of such import is not left to the whims of political parties.

Electoral Laws: The several reviews of electoral laws were an important step for the Government of Mozambique to ensure smooth facilitation of elections. However, these reviews missed the opportunity to go from gender neutral to gender aware provisions. Bold and systematic integration of gender into electoral laws is crucial for the achievement of gender parity. Specific areas for review include:

- Financing of campaigns.
- Bribery by candidates.
- Academic qualifications.
- Method of voting.
- Response to political violence, including GBV.

Political parties: The revised electoral law should require that all political parties adopt 50% quotas in all internal party procedures as well as election lists. Parties should also:

- Amend their constitutions and manifestos to ensure consistency and compliance with agreed quotas, including in their own structures.
- Develop and adopt system-wide gender policies, and not isolate gender issues to women's wings.
- Offer equal support and additional encouragement to women candidates.

Electoral Management Body: The CNE should:

- Develop and adopt a gender policy to ensure women's equal and effective representation in the commission, its staff, electoral operations and practices.

¹⁰ Sindy Karber, Female political participation and their influence towards greater empowerment of women in Mozambique, 2015.

- Integrate the gender and elections checklist into preparations for; analysis and recommendations for improving the gender responsiveness of elections.
- Work with law reform bodies in lobbying for changes to electoral systems and laws to make these more gender responsive.
- Work with WRO to mainstream gender in voter education.
- Expand voter education to include gender and leadership in order to change societal attitudes towards female candidates.
- Provide security and safety for all candidates and voters during elections especially women.

Civil society organisations: WRO in Mozambique must continue to lead the watchdog, capacity building and advocacy roles including:

- Monitoring electoral processes from a gender perspective;
- Conducting gender audits of elections and widely publicising the findings.
- Lobbying for electoral reform.
- Building the capacity of women candidates to campaign as well as be effective leaders in office.
- Facilitating 50/50 campaigns at national and local levels.



Women proudly display their mark after voting in Mozambique.

Photo: Gender Links Mozambique

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