



**EUROPEAN UNION
ELECTORAL OBSERVATION MISSION
MOZAMBIQUE 2014**



European Union starts its observation activities

Maputo, 24 September 2014 – The European Union started its observation activities for the forthcoming general elections on 15 October 2014 with the deployment of 20 observers to the ten provinces of the country. The Mission is led by Judith Sargentini, a Dutch member of the European Parliament. During a press conference today in Maputo, Sargentini emphasized that one of the most relevant aims of this Mission is “to contribute to the transparency of the electoral process that occurs in a crucial moment for the strengthening of the political dialogue in the country”.

The European Union election Observation Mission (EU EOM) is comprised by a core team of six experts that evaluates the political, electoral, human rights and legal issues related to the electoral process. This team is supported by twenty Long-Term Observers (LTOs) deployed this week to all provinces of the country. Shortly before the elections, twenty Short-term Observers (STOs) and a group of local short-term observers, members of diplomatic missions, will also join the Mission.

The EU EOM is an independent body whose mandate is to conduct a comprehensive analysis of the electoral process, including the legal framework, the work of the election administration, the campaign activities of the candidates and political parties, the conduct of the media, the voting and the counting, the complaints and appeals process and the announcement of the results. To this end, the observers will be meeting government and electoral officials and representatives from political parties, judiciary, civil society organizations, the media and citizens in general.

The Mission will issue its findings in a preliminary statement that will be released in a press conference two days after the elections. A more comprehensive final report, including recommendations for possible improvements to future electoral processes, will be published at a later stage. The Mission is in Mozambique at the invitation of the National Election Commission (CNE).

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