

Union Affairs: citizens' views on recent developments in Zanzibar

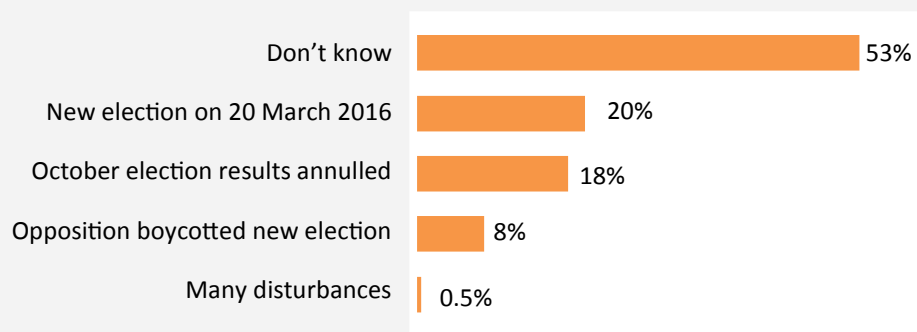
Zanzibar was a hotbed of activity during the October 2015 general election. Election results were annulled, with the Zanzibar Electoral Commission citing “violations of electoral law,” and a new election was set for March 2016. These decisions caused outrage among opposition leaders and supporters, who boycotted the new election in protest. As a result, the Chama Cha Mapinduzi incumbent, President Ali Mohamed Shein, won the March 2016 election .

So, what do citizens on the Mainland think about these developments? How much do they know about events in Zanzibar? And what is their opinion on the actions of the Government and the Zanzibari opposition?

Data for this brief come from Twaweza’s flagship *Sauti za Wananchi* survey. *Sauti za Wananchi* is a nationally-representative, high-frequency mobile phone panel survey. It is representative for Mainland Tanzania. Information on the overall methodology is available at www.twaweza.org/sauti. For this brief data were collected from 1,815 respondents from the second *Sauti za Wananchi* panel. This was the ninth round of calls to the new panel, conducted between 29 March and 12 April 2016.

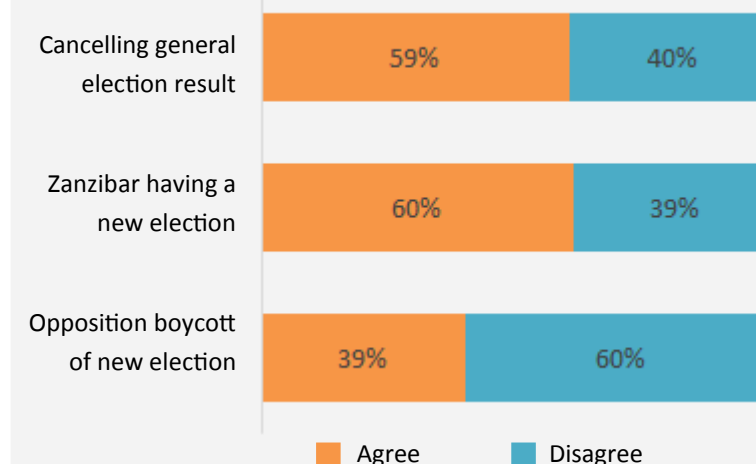
Half of all citizens (53%) don’t know about events in Zanzibar

Figure 1: Can you tell me what has happened in Zanzibar since the last general election?



6 out of 10 citizens agree with the canceling of the general election result (59%) and the decision to have a re-election (60%)

Figure 2: Overall what is your opinion on:



Source of data: *Sauti za Wananchi* Mobile Phone Survey – Round 9 (May 2016)

4 out of 10 citizens think that the winner of the re-election should be recognized as legitimate

Figure 3: In your opinion which is the best way to handle the Zanzibar political crisis?

