

## MADAGASCAR

**Date of Elections:** June 30, 1977

### **Purpose of Elections**

Elections were held for all the members of Parliament in accordance with the Constitution of 1975 \*. Previous general elections had taken place in 1970.

### **Characteristics of Parliament**

Under the terms of the 1975 Constitution, the Parliament of Madagascar, the National People's Assembly, has 137 members elected for 5 years in 110 constituencies by all citizens at least 18 years of age.

### **General Political Considerations and Conduct of the Elections**

The June general elections were preceded by four other nationwide polls — ranging from village to provincial level — held between March 20 and May 29, 1977.

The campaign for the National Assembly elections opened on June 18. Lists of candidates were presented under the sponsorship of the *Front national -pour la difense de la revolution socialiste malgache* by four organizations — the *Avant-garde de la revolution malgache* (AREMA), the *Parti du congres de Vindipendance de Madagascar* (AKFM-KDRSM), the VONJY group (for socialist revolution in national unity), and the christian-democrat UDECMA-KMTP. The left-wing MONIMA party, a former partner in the *Front*, boycotted the elections.

Official results showed that approximately 90 % of the registered electorate cast votes and that the *Front national* list was approved by some 92 % of this electorate. It was reported that the average age of the new deputies was approximately 40 years, and that between 35 and 40 % had undergone higher education.

The Cabinet of the newly-designated Prime Minister, Lieutenant Colonel Desiré Rakotoarijaona, was announced on August 4, 1977.

\* See *Chronicle of Parliamentary Elections X* (1975-1976), p. 8.

Statistics

1. Results of the Elections and Distribution of Seats  
in the National People's Assembly

Number of registered voters 4,000,000 (approx.)

Political Group	Number of Candidates	Number of Seats
<i>Front national pour la defense de la revolution socialiste malgache</i>		
— <i>Avant-garde de la rivolution malgache (AREMA)</i>	112	112
— <i>Parti du congres de V independence de Madagascar (AKFM-KDRSM)</i> . . . . .	16	16
— VONJY . . . . .	7	7
— UDECMA-KMTP . . . . .	2	<u>2</u>
		137