

Opposition wins right to challenge poll result

Botswana's Court of Appeal last week ruled in favour of hearing an opposition bid to throw out general election results after a lower court rejected its petition due to a lack of evidence. The ruling Botswana Democratic Party won a sweeping majority in the October polls, securing 38 out of 57 seats in Parliament. The runner-up, the Umbrella for Democratic Change, filed the suit in November, citing 'irregularities in some of the constituencies'. A report on the [News24](#) site notes that Justice Singh Walia overturned the earlier High Court ruling. **'I am satisfied ... that the applicants have reasonable arguable cases on appeal,'** Walia said. The appeal is scheduled to be heard on 29 January.