

Remarks by H.E. Kofi Annan

Elements of Kofi Annan's address at the swearing-in ceremony for the
Cabinet, State House, Nairobi, 17 April 2008

H.E. Kofi Annan: "We have an opportunity to put Kenya back on track and build a stronger Kenya. It is essential that you all support the leaders and the Government. In my discussions with President Kibaki and Prime Minister Raila Odinga, I think they are both determined to heal and reconcile this nation. But they can not do it alone (applause) they need your support. You are on an important journey – stay the course. Work with them. Support them. And don't believe that now that we have a Government, all is resolved and we can relax. There is lots of hard work ahead; the constitutional reform, land reform, a programme that will create employment for the youth and a whole series of reform agendas that the coalition Government has agreed on – and they will need your help. Let me conclude by saying that we tend to treat peace the way we treat good health. We take the value of it for granted; sometimes we don't even know the value of it until we lose it. Peace is precious. Let's not lose it once again. Thank you very much."
