

Panel of Eminent African Personalities

PRESS READOUT:

The Chair of the African Union Panel of Eminent African Personalities, Mr. Kofi Annan, is seriously concerned by the failure to compose and announce the coalition government.

Mr. Annan draws the attention of the two signatories, President Mwai Kibaki and Honourable Raila Odinga, to the spirit and letter of the National Accord and Reconciliation Agreement:

namely, that the situation of the country dictates a coalition government in which the two parties, i.e. Government/PNU and ODM, will be equal partners. The Cabinet will be shared equally with appropriate portfolio balance, thus enabling each party to see itself as playing an equal role with the other partner.

Mr. Annan calls on both leaders to implement both the spirit and the letter of the agreement signed and to resolve the issue of the number

and the composition of the government expeditiously, since the main elements for concrete decisions already feature in the agreement.

The two principals should assume fully their joint responsibility and come to definite decisions for the sake of the Kenyan nation. He hopes that the Kenyan people will not be kept in suspense for much longer.

2 April 2008