

PRESS STATEMENT

Panel of Eminent African Personalities

A useful and constructive session of the Kenya National Dialogue and Reconciliation took place today. It was chaired by Hon. Deputy Prime Minister Musalia Mudavadi in the absence of Ambassador Oluyemi Adeniji, who is in Addis Ababa on an African Union related mission.

The session dealt with Agenda Item Four on long-term issues and solutions; the Commission of Inquiry on Post-Election Violence; the Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission; the National Ethnic and Race Relations Commission; the draft Coalition Agreement; and the Constitutional Review Bill.

A draft statement of principles on long-term issues and solutions was reviewed by the negotiating team. Agenda Item Four on long-term issues covers legal and institutional reform; poverty, inequity and regional imbalances; unemployment, particularly among the youth; national cohesion and unity; land reform; and transparency, accountability and impunity. The statement of principles will be finalized and an implementation framework will then be formulated to address these issues.

The composition of the Commission of Inquiry on Post-Election Violence was agreed. The Commission will be chaired by Kenyan Court of Appeal judge Philip Waki. The two international members will be Mr. Pascal K. Kambale from the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Mr. Gavin Alistair McFadyen from New Zealand. The Commission will be officially

established through a notice in the Kenya Gazette this Friday, and its Secretariat will be located at the Kenyatta International Conference Centre (KICC) in Nairobi.

The negotiating team informed the Panel that, after consultations with civil society organisations including the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights, the International Commission of Jurists, the Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA) and the Law Society of Kenya, a third draft of the Bill on the Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission has been prepared and is being finalized for publication in the Kenya Gazette.

Hon. Minister Mutula Kilonzo informed the meeting of progress on the preparation of a Coalition Agreement which is intended to facilitate the smooth functioning of the coalition Government. A draft of the Agreement will be submitted to the negotiation team members next week, for their review.

In addition, the negotiators agreed that a draft Constitutional Review Bill will be presented for discussion among the team members within two weeks.

[END OF STATEMENT]

Nairobi, 29 April 2008