



Hazina Towers 9th Floor
Utalii Lane off University Way
P.O.Box 44564-00100
Nairobi, Kenya

Phone: +254(020)2219757
2473042
E-mail: icpc.afric@gmail.com
admin@icpcafrica.org

International Centre for Policy and Conflict

Thursday March 25, 2010

Justice Minister Causing Apathy on ICC

International Center for Policy and Conflict (ICPC) is worried that Justice and Constitutional Affairs Minister Mutula Kilonzo has consistently and deliberately been causing despondency and cynicism amongst Kenyans and more particularly the victims of post-election violence on the International Criminal Court (ICC).

We have been following very closely the various comments and utterances of the minister since the issue of the International Criminal Court came up and it is apparent that either the minister has been trying to cast doubt on the Court's competence or preparing Kenyans for something they do not know other than himself.

Every Kenyan can keenly observe that the minister has been obsessed with the ICC while the government he serves has been very busy either doing nothing to bring justice to the victims of post-election violence or blocking the road to the enactment of the Special

Tribunal. This is in addition to failure to take appropriate measures to protect the potential witnesses and the evidence.

As a lawyer and Minister for Justice, the minister ought to fully grasp and understand the procedures and processes of the ICC and aptly communicate the correct information to the victims and the general public. The utterances he made on Tuesday were unfortunate and made deliberately to bastard the Court. He compared the ICC with local courts.

Even if the International Criminal Court Chief Prosecutor is authorized to begin investigations into Kenya situation, Kenya will still need a Special Tribunal. At the moment the most important thing is to ensure potential witnesses and evidence are well protected. To act otherwise is to defeat course justice upfront.