



International Center for Policy and Conflict

## PRESS STATEMENT

### BIG FOUR SENIOR CABINET MINISTERS, BIGGEST CLOG TO TRIBUNAL

**August 10, 2009, Nairobi, Kenya.** The International Center for Policy and Conflict strongly condemns four cabinet ministers who have been engaging in a frantic and desperate campaign to have the Truth Justice and Reconciliation Commission mandate expanded to give it prosecutorial powers. This is regardless of the internationally accepted standards and practices that truth commission lack prosecutorial jurisdiction.

Vice President Kalonzo Musyoka, deputy prime minister Uhuru Kenyatta, Energy minister Kiraitu Murungi, Agriculture minister William Ruto have been criss-crossing the country saying that it is only Truth Justice and Reconciliation Commission that can hold this county together. We strongly condemn the four ministers and urge them to stop misleading the country for individual, selfish political objectives, and desist from holding Kenya and Kenyans at ransom by threatening outbreak of civil strife in case of subjecting the perpetrators of the post election violence to justice.

The four and their surrogates in parliament, not forgetting their blind sycophantic followers, form the biggest obstacles to prosecution of perpetrators of post election violence and by extension form the axis of impunity in the county. Indeed, they are also the biggest clog to agreed reforms agenda and we are calling upon Kenyans and the international community to isolate these individuals.

The four are conveniently alleging that criminal prosecutions would rekindle violence in the country. They are using this as well choreographed political blackmail to cause deliberate confusion and inculcating fear and terror among Kenyans purely aimed at self political preservation and survival.

It should be borne in the minds of Kenyans that the four harbour big political ambitions with their eyes cast on the 2012 presidential elections. They are busy working out a geopolitical realignment ahead of the polls and any talk of post election violence prosecution which is likely to play against the said realignment is an anathema to them.

It is still fresh in Kenyans' minds that the Vice-President Kalonzo Mosyoka, one time most trusted Moi's lieutenant, is on record has stated that implementing the recommendation of the Waki report, particularly trying the perpetrators of violence, amounts to terminating the political careers of some politicians.

The four top government ministers should be told in no uncertain words and language they understand that justice belongs to the victims and not politicians. They must understand that they cannot declare a general amnesty on anyone on behalf of anybody. Members of Parliament have to exercise their legislative duties diligently and put on notice the Two Principals and these four cabinet ministers that Kenya's future will be based not on atrocity and oppression, but on justice, humanity and respect for the rule of law.

They have been campaigning against bringing those behind innocent killings, rape, maiming and wanton destruction of property in pursuance of the parochial political ends. We urge Members of Parliament opposed to the cabinet decision and siding with Kenyans to render unwavering support for the Special Tribunal for Kenya to investigate, prosecute and indict perpetrators of post election violence.

It is imperative that Kenyans are freed from the cancer of impunity and corruption eating away at the moral fabric and structure of Kenya. It is time to take a stand; it is time to advocate for truth, accountability and justice.

**Signed by,**

**Ndung'u Wainaina  
Executive Director  
ICPC**