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International Centre for Policy and Conflict

March 17, 2010

To

President Mwai Kibaki

Prime Minister Raila Odinga

The Speaker of the National Assembly of Kenya

The Attorney General

To the Commissioner of Police

Nairobi Kenya

Dear honorable servants of the people,

RE: SECURING THE ROAD TO REFORMS, RECONSTRUCTION, TRUTH, JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION: THE CIVIL SOCIETY HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS' STATEMENT AFTER THE ATTACK ON THE INTERNATIONAL CENTRE ON POLICY AND CONFLICT (ICPC)

Your Excellencies and Honorable Officer of the People,

We condemn in the strongest terms possible the criminal attack on the ICPC office through an act of vandalism of the Centre's computers and property on the night of Monday March 15, 2010. This attack is not isolated or innocent given the fact that frontline Human rights organizations and leaders have always been attacked by agents of the Kenyan government with the aim of silencing them. Any organization which has information and that keeps the candle burning in the demand for accountability has always been attacked or its leaders targeted for assassination.

We hereby call upon you leaders to take action to halt this trend that threatens to undermine the nation's steps towards reforms, reconstruction, truth seeking, justice and reconciliation in Kenya. The four of you hold the keys to the security of the people of Kenya and their property and to facilitating reforms and reconciliation.

Sirs, it is now an open secret that witnesses who are crucial to the success of the TJRC, ICC and The Special tribunal for Kenya are threatened. Already hundreds of witnesses have fled Kenya to escape cold blood murder. On March last year Oscar King'ara and GPO Oulu were gunned down in cold blood and no inquiry into their assassination has been instituted. The recommendation of the Prof. Philip Alston report on Extra Judicial Killings and enforced disappearances has not been acted upon. Security sector reforms outlined in the Waki report have not progressed whatsoever except for the laughable act of appointing the Task force reforms headed by Titus Naikuni.

We applaud Hon. Imanyara's request for a ministerial statement on the attack of the ICPC offices and further call upon the you Mr. President and Mr. Prime Minister to lead in ensuring the following;

1. We call upon the government to guarantee the security of the ICPC Director Ndung'u Wainaina and all Human Rights defenders and potential witnesses of the TJRC, The Special Tribunal and the ICC prosecutions. We call for the establishment of an elaborate and competent witness protection mechanism that enjoys the confidence of witnesses and human rights defenders.
2. We want an independent inquiry into the murder of Oscar King'ara and GPO Oulu and Ogato Gisairo.
3. We want the immediate implementation of the Prof. Philip Alston report recommendations
4. We want the full implementation of the Waki report recommendation on judicial and the security sector reforms. This should be read together with the Ransley Task force report.
5. We particular call upon the government to introduce the Imanyara Bill as a government Bill in the house to facilitate the establishment of a Special Tribunal for Kenya.
6. We call upon the speedy prosecution of the AP officers who murdered seven Taxi men at Kawangware
7. We demand the immediate action to rid the TJRC of the discredited Chairman Ambd. Bethuel as a beginning point to salvaging the TJRC and to cure the fundamental flaws it suffers.

Signed in Nairobi on March 17, 2010