

From: [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: My Thoughts
Date: January 12, 2015 at 3:26 PM
To: [REDACTED]



Begin forwarded message:

From:
Date: January 12, 2015 at 12:27:42 PM [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: My Thoughts

FYI

Dear colleagues

We are all I know digesting the news on the cabinet.

You may be interested in my initial thoughts and the line I shall be taking at least privately (any public comment we shall reserve until parliament has voted):

- Welcome the fact that the President and PM are united and have reached agreement; important to sustain this unity
- Recognise that efforts have been made to ensure continuity, broad representation and to include competent/experienced individuals
- Clear that the president has placed his own people in most of the key portfolios for the Compact – finance, internal security, justice, federalism and elections.
- With power comes responsibility: these people will now be held accountable for delivery. So opportunity for playing the “blame game” or “buck passing” is reduced.
- Early tests will include making rapid progress on Central Regions; and establishing a credible NIEC.
- Time is of the essence and we cannot afford a protracted parliamentary process to approve the Ministers. Rejection by parliament would entail a further fatal delay.
- Need to see what changes there will be in non-ministerial appointments (eg in security roles) and in structures/machinery of government, e.g. ACU, new deal, national security architecture, PMO etc.

So all in all, it is what it is – some good, some less good. And we need to support them to make the best of it.

Happy as always to discuss and coordinate.

Nick

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