

the signing of the agreement presented this Tuesday at the National Palace.

One of the spokespersons of Fanmi Lavalas, Gilvert Angervil, confirmed Tuesday that Fanmi Lavalas was kept at a distance.

This is the case despite the fact that it had designated one of the three members of the "tripartite committee" that had initially appointed the representatives to sit on the "council of the wise".

Officially, it is the "council of the wise" that chose the interim prime minister, Gérard Latortue.

AHP April 6, 2004 1:10 PM

Gérard Latortue promises that his government will scrupulously respect the language of the agreement reached with certain political sectors

Port-au-Prince, April 6, 2004 -(AHP)- Interim Prime Minister Gérard Latortue declared Tuesday that the document relating to the transition process signed by his government and by various political sectors, traces the path to be followed to save the country.

Mr. Latortue guaranteed that his government will scrupulously respect all the clauses inserted into this document and called on the other parties to do the same.

"My government will always be based on competence and honesty and will combat corruption and violence with all its might", he said.

The head of the interim government also reminded the members of the current government and other senior officials of the State that they can not under any circumstances take part in the next elections scheduled for the year 2005, which, he said, will be free, honest and democratic.

The current government, he said, will be watching over only the technical quality of the next elections.

"The losers in these elections will have to accept their defeat", Gérard Latortue stressed.

The interim prime minister took this opportunity to praise the courage of the members of the "council of the wise" who, he said, sacrificed themselves to contribute important work, particularly the work toward the creation of this document.

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The Convergence and the Group of 184 express satisfaction at the signature of of the document on the "consensus for political transition": Fanmi Lavalas and some of the "non-aligned" parties are absent

Port-au-Prince, April 6, 2004 -(AHP)- The Democratic Convergence and the Group of 184 hailed the signing of the document called "consensus for political transition".

The leader of the KID party, Evans Paul, speaking on behalf of the Democratic Convergence, said that the

transition should succeed because it will be for the benefit on Haitian society in general.

Mr. Paul advocated for the establishment of new democratic structures with the participation of all these entities.

He said he regrets that the Fanmi Lavalas political organization was not represented in this large meeting in the context of the signing of this important document.

The KID leader said he is opposed to all types of divisions in the country and asked all sectors to work for an improvement in the living conditions for all Haitians.

For their part, the leaders of the Group of 184, including André Apaid and Anthony Barbier, welcomed the new attributions of the "council of the wise", which will serve, he said, as an authority to provide oversight.

Calling on the Senators who remain in office to hand in their resignations, André Apaid and Anthony Barbier asked the Alexandre administration to freeze the financial account of the Senate of the Republic.

A spokesperson for Fanmi Lavalas, Gilvert Agervil, said he is surprised to learn that an agreement has been reached between the Latortue government and the political parties.

Gilvert Angervil said that Fanmi Lavalas was not contacted with respect to the discussions that resulted in this document.

Mr. Angervil denounced the exclusionary nature of this agreement.

A fraction within the non-aligned parties denounced the agreement concluded between the Latortue government and the "Democratic Platform".

The coordinator of the coalition, Mr. Osner Févry, said that this political grouping was not invited to take part in the discussions that resulted in the April 4th document.

According to him, this is not a political agreement but rather a settlement between friends and members of a single family which does not, he said, commit the non-aligned parties.

Osner Févry considered that the April 4th agreement only applies to the current government, the Group of 184 and the Democratic Convergence.

He indicated that the coalition of the non-aligned parties is ready to become part of the opposition if the government team persists in its policy of exclusion.

For his part, PNDPH Secretary General Turneb Delpé said that he withdrew a long time ago from discussions that led to the April 6th agreement.

The tendency was to produce a document at any cost before the arrival of Secretary of State Colin Powell in Port-au-Prince on April 5th.

He emphasized however that he is not part of the opposition to the Alexandre/Latortue government.

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Arrest of the Interior Minister of the Aristide government
