

# THE PEOPLE

Fair, Frank and Fearless

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## Narc rows: Traders' ideas 'bearing fruit'

### MARKETING OUR CULTURE



Kenya's Cultural ambassador George ole Ntinayio (second left) poses for a picture with models (from left) Sarah Silindol, Lucy Naahipai and Sharon Mitey after an interview at our newsroom where he appealed to the government to set up a showroom to market the country's culture locally and at the international level - JOHN MUCHENE

By MICHAEL KAMAU

A PRIVATE sector-driven initiative to reconcile wrangling ruling coalition partners is headed for a possible breakthrough with both sides agreeing to re-open talks on the contentious pre-election deals, we have established.

Leaders from the two factions of the ruling National Rainbow Coalition (Narc) are scheduled to open negotiations on the now controversial Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) during a three-day retreat in Naivasha.

Top-notch business executives brokering a ceasefire expect the two sides to agree on either implementing the power sharing MoU as agreed



Mwiraria: Very worried

before the 2002 general election or negotiate a middle ground

An impeccable source told *The People Daily* the eight-member committee of the influential Kenya Private Sector Alliance (KPSA) will convene the retreat from May 20 to iron out the issues that have threatened to bring down the coalition.

We were informed that the

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## Biwott companies owe govt Shs 27b

By JOSHUA SHITIKHO

COMPANIES associated with former powerful cabinet minister Nicholas Biwott owe the government a whopping Shs 27 billion and the money is recoverable, it was revealed yesterday.

The companies took money from the Deposit Protection

Fund (DPF) and Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) as loans which can be recovered, a Nairobi lawyer told the Goldenberg commission yesterday.

DPF lawyer Cecil Miller told the commission of inquiry probing the Goldenberg scandal that L Z and H Z construction companies - both associated with Biwott - have not repaid the loans they took from the two institutions through the defunct Trade Bank Limited.

Biwott is supposed to pay Shs 7.8 billion in interests accrued from a Shs 523 million Trade Bank loan at CBK, Shs 9 billion including interest accruing from a Shs 500 million HZ's non-performing loan and Shs 600 million taken

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## New team of anti-graft czars on the way

By PETER LEFTIE

THE government yesterday opened a new phase in its war on grand corruption by announcing that a new team of anti-graft czars is on the way.

Justice and constitutional affairs minister Kiraitu

Murungi disclosed that the members of the anti-corruption steering committee would be formally appointed through a gazette notice in a matter of days.

In a statement late yesterday, Murungi warned that the new

team would tailor its campaign against grand corruption along the approach employed in the fight against the killer HIV/Aids. The intent in this new phase of the anti-graft war by the National Rainbow Coalition government is to

stigmatise corruption, Murungi revealed.

The move is in tandem with the five-year National Campaign Against Corruption, launched by President Kibaki last July. "The structure of the campaign will

be similar to the one against HIV/Aids.

The object is to stigmatise corruption in Kenya," said Murungi in the statement. "The members of the