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 Maria de Lourdes Pintassilgo outlines Cabinet.

Portuguese Premier pledges impartiality

LISBON (Reuter) — Maria de Lourdes Pintassilgo promised Portugal three months of impartial government yesterday as she prepared to take office as caretaker Premier and organize an autumn general election.

"I will give all the parties the benefit of the doubt and treat them all the same," the 49-year-old diplomat and chemical engineer told her first news conference.

Miss Pintassilgo was chosen Premier by President Antonio Ramalho Eanes after a prolonged stalemate among Portugal's political parties. Conservatives have denounced the choice, accusing her of left-wing bias.

She confirmed yesterday that she and her 16-man Cabinet will be sworn in today, but disclosed nothing of her policy plans.

"I have a very difficult time ahead of me and some difficult decisions will have

to be made," she said.

After seeing the Premier-designate Monday night, a spokesman of the extreme left-wing Popular Democratic Union said she had warned of increased living costs as the elections approached.

Miss Pintassilgo disclosed that she had offered Cabinet jobs to three women, but all had declined for one reason or another. However, she has chosen a close associate, Maria Teresa Santa Clara Gomes, 42, as her secretary of state.

The Premier-designate said her only criteria in building her Cabinet were competence, impartiality, "but not insipidity."

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