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WORLD NEWS



Fundação Cuidar o Futuro

AAP-AP satellite picture

Dr Pintassilgo is congratulated by President Eanes after she was sworn in as Prime Minister on Wednesday.

Portugal's new PM is sworn in

LISBON, Thursday. — Dr Maria Pintassilgo became Portugal's first woman Prime Minister today.

She was sworn in with her all male 16-member Cabinet as head of Portugal's 11th Government since the 1974 revolution at the Ajuda Palace in the presence of President Eanes.

In a poetic acceptance speech, she

warned of hard times during the "100-day march" of her Administration until the general elections to be held this autumn.

President Eanes said the political parties had forced him to call interim general elections because they had failed to reach an inter-party agreement to provide a stable majority government.

Expressing confidence in the ability and political impartiality of

Dr Pintassilgo, the President said he had decided a new Government should be formed before elections to preserve the prestige of Parliament.

The Conservative Centre Democrats and the Centre-Right Social Democrats who have refused invitations to talk with Dr Pintassilgo and stayed away from yesterday's ceremony, wanted President Eanes to dissolve Parliament immediately.

(AAP-Reuter)