

Cape Town, South Africa, February 15 (Infosplusgabon) - ¶ The South African Parliament on Thursday elected Cyril Ramaphosa as the country's new president.

He succeeds Jacob Zuma who resigned on Wednesday night after huge pressure from the ruling African National Congress (ANC).

Ramaphosa, who was Deputy President, was elected unopposed as there was no other candidate after he was nominated by Dr Patrick Maesela.

The Chief Justice Moogoeng Thomas Reetsang Moogoeng on several occasions asked the House whether there was another nomination but there was none.

He then said the nomination was in order. "Accordingly, I declare the Honourable Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa as the President of the Republic of South Africa."

The ANC MPs burst out into a song to celebrate the new president.

Earlier, the Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) of Julius Malema walked out of Parliament when the Speaker, Baleka Mbete, rejected their calls for the dissolution of Parliament and fresh general elections.

Zuma resigned as President of South Africa following a lengthy campaign to remove him from office.

"I have come to the decision to resign as the President of the republic with immediate effect," Zuma said in a televised address on Wednesday night.

He was speaking hours before the governing African National Congress (ANC) and all opposition parties had agreed to support a Motion of No Confidence in him.

Just hours earlier, Zuma indicated that he was not prepared to resign despite being recalled by

his own party.

“What is it that I've done wrong?” he asked in a televised interview at his Pretoria home.

South Africa's mainstream media houses, numerous organisations and political parties on Thursday hailed Zuma's resignation.

The official opposition Democratic Alliance (DA) saluted Zuma's “overdue resignation” and called for him to face the 783 criminal counts still awaiting him before the courts.

“Even in his resignation speech, he refused to take any responsibility for his actions, and for the harm he caused the country. Such shameless disdain requires a level of pathology that reveals Jacob Zuma's true nature,” said DA leader Mmusi Maimane. He said Zuma built a deep system of corruption that has penetrated every part of the government and the criminal prosecution system.

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