

REPUBLIC OF RWANDA
Permanent Mission to the United Nations
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No. MP/ 48/16.06/E/03

CASE No: 19R-98-44-T
EXHIBIT No: DK 98 (B)
DATE ADMITTED: 13/08/2008
TENDERED BY: DEFENCE
NAME OF WITNESS: DECISION OF 13/08/2008

The Chairman of the
Security Council

Dear Mr. Chairman,

On instructions from the Rwandan Government, I wish to draw the attention of the Security Council to the need for immediate measures to curb the hostilities which have led to loss of many human lives as well as material and other damage which are completely out of proportion.

The Rwandan Patriotic Front's persistent refusal to agree to a ceasefire shows its determination to give preference to the logic of war which is being fought through its war machine. This war machine is fuelled by massively sustained military aid, geared towards providing the RPF with military support in the form of personnel and material, thus posing a challenge for the United Nations Observer Mission Uganda-Rwanda (UNOMUR).

This obstruction amounts to an attempt on the part of the Rwandan Patriotic Front to undermine the peace process. It also perpetuates the situation of violence which it exacerbates by carrying out large-scale massacres, particularly in the northern part of the country, in Kigali as well as in other regions of the country where it operates, sometimes using the Rwandan army uniforms of which it has been in possession since the beginning of the war in October 1990.

In this regard, the Government requests the Council to denounce and condemn all these hideous acts which have, over the past two days, triggered the exodus of hundreds of people fleeing the massacres committed by the RPF, particularly in Kibungo *prefecture*, especially given that the Rwandan Patriotic Front is doing all it can to prevent the people from crossing the border towards Tanzania. The professed and supreme aim is to eliminate them all, simply because they belong to the Hutu ethnic group.

It will also be recalled that in 1991, the Rwandan Patriotic Front systematically killed more than 100,000 people and forced about 300,000 others to become internally displaced.

Moreover, it will be noted that in February-March 1993, the Rwandan Patriotic Front massacred nearly 150,000 people in cold blood and forced a million others to abandon their property.

Furthermore, since the assassination of the Rwandan Head of State on 6 April 1994, tens of thousands of people were killed by the Rwandan Patriotic Front and soon, three million people will have been displaced from their property.

This situation, which is accompanied by atrocious violence in Rwanda must come to an end.

In the circumstances and in order to bring an end to this tragedy, the Rwandan Government believes that the Security Council must:

1. Demand an immediate and unconditional ceasefire as the Rwandan Government has always requested;
2. Put an end to the aggression against Rwanda. To this end and with a view to taking urgent measures, request the report of the Observer Mission on the Uganda-Rwanda border, relating to the military assistance given to the RPF and without which the RPF would have accepted dialogue and negotiations;
3. Consider taking measures against the RPF to persuade it to aspire for peace and compel it to accept a ceasefire;
4. Invite the international community to assist the Rwandan Government to pursue the peace process and to provide assistance to the refugees, those displaced by the war and the violence, and the populations affected by the famine.

The Rwandan Government believes that, in order for the situation to stabilize, it is absolutely necessary to reinforce the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR), whose staff strength has been reduced whereas the situation created by the hostilities and violence instead calls for a considerable increase in the human, material and logistical resources available to this operation.

It is within this context that Rwanda places the initiative taken by the Secretary-General, Dr Boutros-Boutros Gali, in his letter of 29 March 1994 (S/1994/518), which it commends. The Rwandan Government believes that the Council must respond by taking urgent measures to authorize an increase in UNAMIR's resources, particularly by mandating UNAMIR to:

- Enforce the ceasefire using an intervention force;
- Contribute to the protection of civilian populations;
- Assist the law enforcement agencies to restore security within the country, through UNAMIR's increased presence;
- Provide security for the delivery of humanitarian aid.

Once reinforced, UNAMIR must of course play a crucial role in the resumption and successful completion of the peace process. In this connection, the Rwandan Government reiterates its commitment to peace, dialogue and respect for the Arusha Peace Accord signed on 4 August 1993.

Moreover, the strengthening of UNAMIR must also entail an increase in the staff strength and in UNOMUR's capacity, to enable it to make a meaningful contribution to the stability of the region.

Lastly, the Government of Rwanda is ready to fully cooperate for the success of the operation, which should be envisaged without delay, in keeping with the principle of sovereignty and with respect for the institutions of the Rwandan State.

I would be grateful if you could distribute this letter as an official document of the Security Council.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

[Signed]

Jean-Damascène Bizimana
Ambassador
Rwanda's Permanent Representative to the United Nations

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