Letter dated 14 March 2008 from the Permanent Representative of Rwanda to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council


The Government of the Republic of Rwanda welcomes the fact that at last, 14 years after the 1994 genocide, the Security Council has unanimously adopted resolution 1804 (2008), targeting the authors of that genocide, namely, the ex-FAR/Interahamwe, currently known as the Forces démocratiques de liberation du Rwanda (FDLR), and the Rally for Unity and Democracy (RUD-Urunana), among others.

The Government welcomes the expressed determination of the Security Council to end the threat posed by the above-named groups to the security and sovereignty of the Republic of Rwanda, of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and of the entire Great Lakes region by, inter alia, demanding their unconditional disarmament and repatriation, imposing targeted measures under resolutions 1596 (2005), 1649 (2005) and 1698 (2006), including the imposition of travel bans and an assets freeze against, in particular, the leaders of the group and their supporters, as well as reinforcing the arms embargo on them under resolutions 1493 (2003) and 1596 (2005).

The Government recognizes the important role played by the international community in the search for peace, security and stability in the Great Lakes region, in particular through support to the Tripartite Plus process, the implementation of the Nairobi communiqué between the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Republic of Rwanda and the international conference on peace, security, stability and development in the Great Lakes region.

The Government expresses its determination to continue cooperation with the Democratic Republic of the Congo and other partners in ending the threat posed in particular by the ex-FAR/Interahamwe (FDLR, RUD-Urunana), as well as other armed groups, to the region.

Finally, the Government of the Republic of Rwanda reiterates its welcome and encouragement to all members of the Rwandan armed groups who wish to repatriate and calls on the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo to help them do so safely and expeditiously. Rwanda assures that it will continue to
receive and reinsert them into society with the dignity all Rwandans deserve. Returnees will continue to be guaranteed safety, security and the enjoyment of all the rights to which Rwandans are constitutionally entitled.

We request that the present letter be circulated to all members of the Security Council and be issued as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Joseph Nsengimana
Ambassador
Permanent Representative