

UNAMIR

CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

16 FEB 1995 - 29 FEB 1996

(RWANDA OPERATIONAL SUPPORT GROUP)

[1 CONFIDENTIAL]

EL/WG JUNE 2009

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ACC. 1998/0283

## RECOMMANDATIONS

2/11

Deuxième Réunion pour la Mise en oeuvre du Plan d'Action  
de Bujumbura, tenue à Addis-Abeba, Ethiopie,  
le 29 février 1996

Le Comité,

Rappelant les principes du Plan d'Action de Bujumbura, plus particulièrement ceux reflétés dans les Sections C, D, et E relatifs aux mesures qui doivent être prises par les pays d'origine, les pays d'asile et la communauté internationale respectivement,

Rappelant les préoccupations exprimées dans le Communiqué de la première réunion du Comité de Suivi de la Conférence Régionale sur l'Assistance aux réfugiés, Rapatriés et Personnes déplacées dans la Région des Grands Lacs tenue le 26 mai 1995 à Addis-Abeba,

Ayant examiné le rapport d'évaluation élaboré par le Secrétariat OUA/HCR sur la mise en oeuvre du Plan d'Action de la Conférence Régionale de Bujumbura sur l'Assistance aux Réfugiés, Rapatriés et Personnes déplacées dans la région des Grands Lacs,

Prenant acte des déclarations des pays les plus touchés dans la Région des Grands Lacs à savoir le Burundi, le Rwanda, la Tanzanie et le Zaïre sur les progrès réalisés dans la mise en oeuvre du Plan d'Action de Bujumbura,

Profondément préoccupé par la détérioration de la situation sécuritaire au Burundi et de ses conséquences sur les populations déplacées,

Conscient de la lourde charge que supportent les pays d'asile et des conséquences résultant de la présence des réfugiés sur l'environnement, l'infrastructure et la sécurité des communautés locales,

Notant avec appréciation les efforts déployés par les membres du Comité de Suivi et du Secrétariat conjoint OUA/HCR dans la mise en oeuvre du Plan d'Action de la conférence de Bujumbura, en particulier dans la recherche de solutions durables aux problèmes humanitaires dans la Région des Grands Lacs,

Prenant note des efforts déployés par le gouvernement rwandais dans le traitement du problème des personnes déplacées ainsi que du succès réalisé dans la mise en oeuvre du rapatriement volontaire à partir du Burundi,

Considérant le consensus évident selon lequel le rapatriement librement consenti dans des conditions de sécurité et de dignité demeure la solution la plus viable,

Prenant note du rôle positif joué par le contingent zaïrois pour la sécurité dans les camps et par la police tanzanienne en coopération avec le HCR dans l'amélioration des conditions de sécurité dans les camps de réfugiés,

Réaffirmant le caractère civil et humanitaire des camps de réfugiés,

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Demande au Gouvernement Rwandais de renforcer les mesures de restauration de confiance en vue d'encourager et d'accélérer le processus de rapatriement en adoptant les mesures ci-après:

1. Dans le cadre de la Campagne d'Information de Masse, intensifier la campagne de sensibilisation de masse à travers des contacts plus actifs et réguliers entre les autorités rwandaises à tous les niveaux et les réfugiés d'une part et les autorités rwandaises, à tous les niveaux et la population locale d'autre part. Une attention urgente doit être accordée aux visites entre le Rwanda et le Zaïre,
2. Diffuser l'information sur la réhabilitation du système judiciaire, la catégorisation des crimes liés au génocide, la procédure d'arrestation et le fonctionnement de la Commission de Triage,
3. Traiter rapidement et globalement la question des droits de propriété par:
  - a) l'accélération de la mobilisation et du décaissement des ressources et de l'attribution des terres pour l'installation et la réintégration des anciens réfugiés au Rwanda,
  - b) la fourniture d'information et de directives détaillées sur la restitution des biens aux nouveaux réfugiés,
4. Continuer à collaborer avec le HCR et les autres organisations internationales concernées dans les communes de retour pour s'assurer que les activités de suivi des rapatriés, sont l'objet d'une coopération et d'un appui entiers des autorités locales,
5. Continuer à contrôler les incidents de sécurité et assurer la transparence des mesures prises afin de corriger l'image que se font les réfugiés de la situation sécuritaire au Rwanda,
6. Louer les efforts déployés par toutes les parties aux différents accords tripartites dans la mise en oeuvre de ce mécanisme et les encourage à poursuivre ce processus,

#### Burundi

Vu le danger potentiel de la détérioration de la situation politique et sécuritaire au Burundi,

7. Encourage le gouvernement burundais dans ses efforts visant à créer la confiance et les conditions de sécurité nécessaires pour le retour des réfugiés et des personnes déplacées.
8. Lance un appel à la communauté internationale pour qu'elle poursuive son assistance aux personnes déplacées, aux réfugiés et aux demandeurs d'asile burundais et loue les efforts des pays de la région qui continuent de donner asile aux nationaux burundais en besoin de protection et de sécurité,
9. Lance un appel au gouvernement du Burundi de poursuivre ses efforts pour le rapatriement volontaire et accéléré des réfugiés rwandais,
10. Lance en outre un appel au gouvernement du Burundi pour continuer, en collaboration avec le HCR, sa campagne de sensibilisation sur le rapatriement des réfugiés et le traitement du problème des intimidateurs,
11. Demande aux autorités burundaises de garantir la sécurité des réfugiés en attendant leur rapatriement et de mettre en oeuvre, le moment venu, la décision relative au transfert des cas résiduels,
12. Exhorte le gouvernement du Burundi à assurer la sécurité du personnel et des opérations humanitaires,

#### B. PAYS D'ASILE

Lance un appel aux pays d'asile pour poursuivre leurs efforts dans la promotion du rapatriement volontaire par:

13. Une accélération du processus d'isolement des intimidateurs et activistes politiques qui entravent le rapatriement volontaire des réfugiés,
14. Un renforcement des mesures visant à réduire les activités commerciales dans les camps et à limiter les autres activités économiques des réfugiés qui les encouragent à rester en exil,
15. Une pleine coopération avec le Tribunal International pour le Rwanda et l'adoption, conformément à la résolution pertinente du Conseil de Sécurité, d'une législation nationale leur permettant de poursuivre les auteurs présumés du génocide sur leurs territoires respectifs,
16. Un examen périodique, en collaboration avec le HCR, du besoin de protection et d'assistance des réfugiés sur leurs territoires,
17. Un soutien entier au HCR dans sa campagne d'information de masse visant à promouvoir le rapatriement par la sensibilisation et la correction de l'image que les réfugiés se font de la situation de sécurité dans le pays d'origine.



## C. COMMUNAUTÉ INTERNATIONALE

18. Exprime son appréciation pour le rôle de la mission de l'OUA au Burundi (MIOB) et lance un appel à la communauté internationale pour le renforcement de la présence de la MIOB par la fourniture de ressources supplémentaires.
19. Exhorte la communauté internationale à continuer d'assister les pays d'asile et à faire face aux besoins essentiels des réfugiés en assurant notamment la continuité en matière d'approvisionnement en vivres,
20. Exhorte en outre la communauté internationale à fournir l'assistance aux agences et organisations participant au rapatriement des réfugiés au Rwanda et à aider le Rwanda dans ses efforts de réhabilitation et d'intégration des rapatriés,
21. Lance un appel à la communauté internationale pour fournir les ressources nécessaires au fonctionnement du Tribunal International pour le Rwanda et coopérer avec lui dans la poursuite des auteurs présumés du génocide,
22. Exhorte la communauté internationale à localiser rapidement les stations de radio de la "Haine" et à prendre les mesures nécessaires afin de les rendre inopérantes,
23. Exhorte la communauté internationale à participer activement et à soutenir les pays concernés dans leurs efforts pour neutraliser les intimidateurs et mettre fin aux structures politiques dans les camps dont le but est de décourager le rapatriement,
24. Soutient la coordination des différentes initiatives politiques visant à trouver une solution à la situation prévalant au Burundi,
25. Prend note des initiatives en cours visant à trouver une solution globale à la crise dans la région et donne son appui à la convocation, le plus tôt possible, d'une conférence internationale sur la paix, la sécurité et le développement sous les auspices des Nations Unies et de l'OUA. I/
26. Soutient toute initiative visant le retour à la confiance au Burundi notamment par la réhabilitation du système judiciaire, l'éducation et le retour des personnes déplacées et exhorte la communauté internationale à approuver le plan global d'insertion adopté par le gouvernement du Burundi,

I/ NB: La délégation du Rwanda a émis des réserves quant à la tenue d'une conférence internationale à laquelle elle ne voudrait pas être associée.

27. Apporte son soutien aux initiatives des pays donateurs visant à assister les pays d'asile, sur une base bilatérale, à faire face aux incidences négatives de la présence des réfugiés sur l'environnement, l'infrastructure et les communautés locales et les exhorte à poursuivre le financement de telles activités.
28. Ayant examiné le rapport d'évaluation sur l'initiative du PNUD/HCR dans la région des Grands Lacs, approuve la stratégie à court terme sur l'assistance aux pays d'asile et exhorte la communauté internationale à honorer le plus tôt possible ses engagements; il appuie, par ailleurs, la mise en place, par le PNUD, en liaison étroite avec les pays hôtes, d'un mécanisme de coordination et d'information pour sa mise en oeuvre, et réitère le besoin de convoquer une Table Ronde sur l'assistance aux pays d'asile,
29. Demande que l'assistance bilatérale et multilatérale aux zones d'accueil des réfugiés fasse l'objet d'une ample publicité afin d'informer et de sensibiliser l'opinion publique sur la solidarité internationale, le partage du fardeau avec le pays hôte et le mécanisme de coordination.

#### D. MECANISME DE SUIVI

30. Ayant examiné le présent Mécanisme de Suivi du Plan d'Action de la Conférence de Bujumbura, recommande:
  1. La mise en place d'un comité permanent, composé de dix membres du Comité de Suivi (avec parité entre les pays affectés et les pays donateurs, nomément le Burundi, le Rwanda, la Tanzanie et le Zaïre, le Représentant de l'Union Européenne, le Représentant du Secrétaire général des Nations Unies au Rwanda, le Représentant du Secrétaire général des Nations Unies au Burundi, l'OUA et le HCR. La compétence de ce Comité permanent sera de suivre et d'évaluer régulièrement la mise en oeuvre du Plan d'Action de Bujumbura et de faire rapport au Comité de Suivi,
  2. Ce Comité sera présidé alternativement par le Secrétaire Général de l'OUA et le Haut Commissaire des Nations Unies pour les Réfugiés et se réunira tous les trois mois,
  3. La constitution de sous comités du Comité Permanent au niveau de chaque pays de la région pour faciliter le suivi de la mise en oeuvre du Plan d'Action.
  4. Le renforcement du Secrétariat OUA/HCR en désignant des points focaux à Addis-Abeba et à Genève afin d'assurer une étroite interaction et une meilleure communication entre les deux institutions.

RECOMMENDATIONS

7/11

The Second Meeting of the Implementation of the Plan  
of Action of Bujumbura, held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia  
on February 29<sup>th</sup>, 1996

ALL STAFF

The Committee,

Recalling the principles of the Bujumbura Plan of Action, most particularly those outlined under Section C, D and E, concerning the measures to be taken by respectively, the countries of origin, the countries of asylum and the international community,

Recalling the concerns reflected in the Communique of the First Meeting of the Follow-up Committee of the Regional Conference on Assistance to Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in the Great Lakes Region held on May 26, 1995 in Addis Ababa,

Having considered the progress report prepared by the OAU/UNHCR Secretariat on the Implementation of the Plan of Action of the Regional Conference of Bujumbura on Assistance to Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in the Great Lakes Region,

Taking note of the statements made by the most affected countries in the Great Lakes Region, namely Burundi, Rwanda, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zaire on the progress achieved in the implementation of the Bujumbura Plan of Action,

Deeply concerned about the deterioration of the security situation in Burundi and its consequences on displacement of populations,

Conscious of the burden on asylum countries and the adverse effects of the presence of refugees on their environment, infrastructure and security of the local communities,

Noting with appreciation the efforts of the Members of the Follow-up Committee and the Joint OAU/UNHCR Secretariat in the implementation of the Bujumbura Conference Plan of Action, especially in the search for durable solutions to the humanitarian problems in the Great Lakes Region,

Taking note of the efforts undertaken by the Rwandese Government in addressing the issue of internally displaced persons as well as the success in implementing voluntary repatriation from Burundi,

Considering the obvious consensus that voluntary repatriation in conditions of safety and dignity remains the most viable solution,

Taking note of the positive role played by the Zairian camp security contingent and the Tanzanian police in cooperation with UNHCR in the improvement of the security condition in refugee camps.

Reaffirming the civilian and humanitarian character of refugee camps.

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**A. COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN****Rwanda**

Calls on Rwanda to reinforce the confidence building measures to encourage and accelerate repatriation by adopting the following measures,

1. Intensify the mass information campaign through active and more regular contacts between Rwandese authorities at all levels and the refugees on one hand and the local population on the other. Urgent attention should be given to visits between Rwanda and Zaire,
2. Disseminate information on the rehabilitation of the judicial system, the categorization of culpability in crime of genocide, the arrest procedure and the functioning of the Commission de Triage (Screening Committee),
3. Address expeditiously and comprehensively the issue of property rights by :-
  - a) expediting the mobilization, disbursement of resources and allocation of land for the resettlement and reintegration of the old caseload returnees in Rwanda,
  - b) providing clear information and guidelines on the restitution of property to the new caseload of refugees,
4. Continue to collaborate with UNHCR and other concerned international organizations in the communes of return to ensure that monitoring activities receive the full cooperation and support of the local authorities,
5. Continue to contain security incidents and take appropriate measures in a transparent manner in order to correct the perception of refugees about the prevailing security situation in Rwanda,
6. Commends all parties to the various Tripartite Agreements with Rwanda for their efforts in making full use of this mechanism and encourages them to pursue this process,

**Burundi**

In view of the potential danger of the deteriorating political and security situation in Burundi,

7. Encourages the Government of Burundi in its effort to create confidence and the necessary security conditions for the return of refugees and internally displaced persons.

9/11

8. Calls upon the International Community to continue providing assistance to the internally displaced persons and refugees from Burundi and commends countries from the region which continue to grant asylum to Burundi nationals in need of protection and security,
9. Calls upon the Government of Burundi to continue in its efforts to ensure the voluntary and accelerated repatriation of Rwandese refugees,
10. Further calls upon the Government of Burundi to continue its sensitization campaign in collaboration with UNHCR on repatriation and to address the problem of intimidators,
11. Requests the Burundi authorities to ensure the security of the refugees pending their repatriation and to implement at the appropriate time its decision on the relocation of the residual caseload,
12. Urges the Government of Burundi to ensure the safety of humanitarian personnel and operations.

#### B. COUNTRIES OF ASYLUM

Appeals to countries of asylum to continue their efforts in the promotion of voluntary repatriation by:-

13. Expediting the process of separation from the refugee camps of the intimidators and political activists who are obstructing the voluntary repatriation of refugees,
14. Strengthening the measures aimed at curbing commercial activities in the camps and reducing other economic activities of refugees which motivate them to remain in exile,
15. Cooperating fully with the International Tribunal for Rwanda and initiating steps in accordance with the Resolution of the Security Council to enact national laws to enable them to prosecute suspected perpetrators of genocide in their respective territories,
16. Reviewing periodically, together with UNHCR, the need for protection and assistance of refugees on their territories,
17. Providing full support to UNHCR in its mass information campaign to promote repatriation by informing and correcting prevailing perceptions of the refugees on the security situation in the country of origin.



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C. INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

18. Expresses its appreciation for the role of the OAU Mission in Burundi (OMIB) and calls upon the international community to strengthen the OMIB's presence by providing additional resources,
19. Urges the international community to continue to assist the countries of asylum and meet the basic needs of refugees, especially by ensuring continuity in food supply,
20. Urges the international community to provide needed assistance to various agencies and organizations involved in the repatriation of refugees to Rwanda and to help Rwanda in its rehabilitation efforts and the reintegration of returnees,
21. Calls upon the international community to provide the needed resources for the functioning of the International Tribunal for Rwanda and to cooperate with it in tracking suspected perpetrators of genocide,
22. Requests the international community to expeditiously locate hate-radios and to take appropriate measures to neutralize them,
23. Urges the international community to participate actively in and to support the work of concerned countries in their efforts to separate intimidators and dismantle political structures in the camps which discourage repatriation,
24. Supports the coordination of the various political initiatives aimed at finding a comprehensive solution to the prevailing situation in Burundi,
25. Takes note of the on-going initiatives aimed at finding a comprehensive solution to the crisis in the region and supports the convening, as soon as possible, of an international conference on peace, security and development under the auspices of the United Nations and the OAU,<sup>1</sup>
26. Supports any initiatives aimed at restoring confidence in Burundi notably through the rehabilitation of the judicial system, education and the return of the internally displaced persons and calls upon the international community to approve the comprehensive plan adopted by the Government of Burundi,

1 NB:

The Rwandan delegation expressed its reservation regarding the convening of the international Conference on Peace, Stability and Development under the auspices of United Nations and OAU to which it does not wish to be associated with.

27. Supports the initiatives of donor countries to assist countries of asylum on bilateral basis to cope with the adverse impact of large numbers of refugees on the environment, infrastructure and local communities and urges them to continue funding such activities.
28. Having considered the progress report on the UNDP/UNHCR initiative in the Great Lakes Region, approves the short term strategy for assistance to countries of asylum and calls upon the donor community to honour its financial commitments as soon as possible; furthermore, it endorses the establishment by UNDP, in close liaison with the host countries, of a coordination and information mechanism for its implementation and reiterates the importance of convening a Round Table at some stage.
29. Requests that the bilateral and multilateral assistance to the refugee affected areas should be given wide publicity to inform and educate the general public on international solidarity, the burden sharing with the host countries and the coordination mechanism.

#### D. FOLLOW-UP MECHANISM

30. Having reviewed the present Follow-up Mechanism of the Bujumbura Conference Plan of Action recommends :-
  1. The setting up of a Steering Committee composed of ten Members with equal distribution between affected and donor countries, namely Burundi, Rwanda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zaïre, the United States of America, the Representative of the European Union, the Representative of the Secretary-General in Burundi, the Representative of the Secretary-General in Rwanda, the OAU and UNHCR. The competence of this Steering Committee, will be to monitor and evaluate on a regular basis the implementation of the Bujumbura Plan of Action and report to the Follow-up Committee,
  2. The Steering Committee will be alternatively chaired by the Secretary-General of the OAU and the High Commissioner for Refugees and will meet every three months,
  3. The setting up of sub-committees of the Steering Committee at national levels in the countries of the region to facilitate follow-up action in the implementation of the Plan of Action,
  4. The strengthening of the OAU/UNHCR Secretariat by designating focal points in both Addis Ababa and Geneva to ensure closer interaction and better communication between the two institutions.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

The Second Meeting of the Implementation of the Plan  
of Action of Bujumbura, held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia  
on February 29<sup>th</sup>, 1996

*Final Draft*  
*M. get final clean report from UNHCR. Am. T. on the steering committee?*

### The Committee,

Recalling the principles of the Bujumbura Plan of Action, most particularly those outlined under Section C, D and E, concerning the measures to be taken by respectively, the Countries of Origin, the Countries of Asylum and the International Community,

Recalling the concerns reflected in the Communique of the First Meeting of the Follow-up Committee of the Regional Conference on Assistance to Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in the Great Lakes Region held on May 26, 1995 in Addis Ababa.

Having considered the progress report prepared by the OAU/UNHCR Secretariat on the Implementation of the Plan of Action of the Regional Conference of Bujumbura on Assistance to Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in the Great Lakes Region,

Taking note of the statements made by the most affected countries in the Great Lakes Region, namely Burundi, Rwanda, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zaire on the progress achieved in the implementation of the Bujumbura Plan of Action,

Deeply concerned about the deterioration of the security situation in Burundi<sup>di</sup> and its consequences  
consequences on displacement of populations,  
Conscious of the burden on asylum countries and the adverse effect of the presence of refugees on their environment, infrastructure and security of the local communities,

Noting with appreciation the efforts of the Members of the Follow-up Committee and the Joint OAU/UNHCR Secretariat in the implementation of the Bujumbura Conference Plan of Action, especially in the search for durable solution to the humanitarian problems in the Great Lakes Region.

Taking note of the efforts undertaken by the Rwandese Government in addressing the issue of internally displaced persons as well as the success in implementing voluntary repatriation from Burundi.

Considering the obvious consensus that voluntary repatriation in condition in safety and dignity remains the most viable solution.

Taking note of the positive role played by the Zairian camp security contingent and the Tanzanian police in cooperation with UNHCR in the improvement of the security condition in refugee camps,





Embassy of the United States of America

FOR AMBASSADOR KHAN:

ROSG Agenda

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06 JAN 1996

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- deteriorating political and security situation in Burundi
- planning for an international presence in Rwanda post-UNAMIR
- Rwandan refugees -- repatriation and reintegration
- UN/OAU sponsored international conference on the Great Lakes

Regards, Peter Whaley

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meetings

(UNSCOM  
Group for  
Rwanda)

*Addis*  
BUREAU DU PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES POUR LE DEVELOPPEMENT

Nom du Représentant: M. ALIEU SALLAH

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Ishami ry'Umuryango w'Abibumbye riharanira Amajyambere

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27 FEB 1996

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**URGENT**

Kigali, 27 February 1996

*UNDP  
contribution  
from Geneva to  
SRSG - 27/2/96  
Keep File*

TO : Ambassador S. Khan  
SRSG

*S. Hasegawa*  
From : Sukehiro Hasegawa  
Resident Representative

Further to the fax of 23 February 1996 by Mr Isel Rivero, please find attached briefing documents (status report, brief, press release on Geneva meeting) on the UNDP/UNHCR Great Lakes Initiative.

I hope you will find these documents useful for your participation at the Addis Ababa Meeting on 29 February 1996.

Regards.

CC : Mr URASA, UNHCR Representative





## The UNDP/UNHCR Initiative in the Great Lakes Region

### BRIEF

The Conference on Assistance to Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in the Great Lakes Region held in Bujumbura from 12 to 17 February 1995 requested UNDP to prepare and organise, in collaboration with UNHCR, a donor meeting to address the situation prevailing in the areas most affected by refugee movements.

Following a joint UNDP/UNHCR programming exercise that took place from 5 to 24 October 1995 (a fact finding exercise had already been undertaken by UNDP in April-May 1995) the donor meeting was held on 24 January 1996 in Geneva, with the participation of DHA. The donors endorsed the joint UNDP/UNHCR initiative and the proposed Action Plan for the sub-region. They especially commended the cooperation between the agencies for this initiative.

The Action Plan comprises a short-term, rapid implementation, rehabilitation and prevention programme, especially targeting host communities in the refugee impacted areas of Tanzania, Zaire and Burundi. It contains a portfolio of projects that are complementary to projects already being implemented. The objective was to fill the gaps and cover additional needs as identified in the field.

Furthermore, the Action Plan proposes mechanisms for coordination, information, rapid implementation, monitoring and evaluation of identified programmes and projects. Special attention was given to capacity building measures for local institutions and communities.

The UNDP/UNHCR short-term rehabilitation programme was formulated in relation with a possible UN conference (or any other forum) which would examine longer-term issues. It is part of the continuum between relief and reconstruction. While addressing the most urgent needs of the local communities in the host areas (e.g. basic social infrastructure and environmental degradation), it complements the humanitarian effort under DHA and UNHCR. In terms of coordination, linkages will be established with DHA at two levels: with the Humanitarian Coordinators at the local level and with the Information Unit at the sub-regional level.

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5.2.1995

various actors in the field. The Action Plan proposes mechanisms for coordination, information, rapid implementation, monitoring and evaluation of identified programmes and projects. Special attention is given to sustainability aspects and to capacity building measures for local institutions and communities. This Action Plan is part of the continuum between relief and reconstruction. While addressing the most urgent needs of the local communities in the host areas, it complements the ongoing humanitarian effort.

6. Following the endorsement of the proposed Action Plan in Geneva, UNDP proceeded with the formulation of a coordination and information management support project for the Great Lakes region. Initial funding for this project, which is in the process of approval, has been secured from UNDP's Special Programme Reserve that provides resources for countries facing special development situations. A Task Manager has also been assigned at UNDP Headquarters to support the Resident Coordinators' actions in the countries. Implementation of the coordination and information activities is scheduled for March 1996.

7. Although the Geneva meeting was not a pledging conference as such, the short-term programme of rehabilitation activities (as contained in the Action Plan) estimated at some US\$70.5 million was distributed to the donors for urgent consideration. Several donors already expressed their willingness to fund urgent programme activities. We now need to receive confirmation of the detailed commitments. There is still the possibility to organise a formal donor consultation for the Great lakes region, with a pledging session. UNDP is ready to organise such a conference at any suitable time. Immediate funding and implementation of the Action Plan on basis of the agreement reached in Geneva may, however, be better suited to quick action to arrest the degradations and start rehabilitation in Kivu and Kagera. Immediate action on the short-term programme does not preempt the need for more formal and wider-ranging consultations in the near future.

8. In any case, the UNDP/UNHCR short-term rehabilitation programme was conceived in relation with a possible UN conference (or any other forum) which would examine longer-term issues.

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22.2.1996

\*\*\*END\*\*\*



## The UNDP/UNHCR Initiative in the Great Lakes Region

### STATUS REPORT

The Conference on Assistance to Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in the Great Lakes Region held in Bujumbura from 12 to 17 February 1995 requested UNDP to prepare and organise, in collaboration with UNHCR, a donor meeting to address the situation prevailing in the areas most affected by refugee movements.

Following are the actions taken to implement the recommendations of the Bujumbura Conference:

1. An extensive fact finding and pre-programming exercise was undertaken by UNDP in April-May 1995.

2. By the end of September 1995, a cooperation arrangement had been worked out between UNDP and UNHCR and a joint field mission and programme formulation exercise was carried out during October/November 1995.

3. The draft Action Plan was distributed to all donors and agencies early December 1995 and an agreement in principle was obtained for a donor consultation in the course of January 1996.

4. The donor meeting was held on 24 January 1996 in Geneva, with the participation of Government representatives from Tanzania, Zaïre and Burundi. UN agencies and NGO's were also represented. The purpose of the meeting was to review the proposed short-term strategy (including coordination and information arrangements) for rapid implementation activities to arrest the degradation of the environment and restore basic social and economic infrastructure and services in the refugee affected areas.

5. The donors endorsed the joint UNDP/UNHCR Initiative in the Great Lakes region and the proposed Action Plan. They especially commended the cooperation between the agencies for this initiative and the participatory approach reflected in the Action Plan that especially targets host communities in the refugee impacted areas of Tanzania, Zaïre and Burundi. The Plan contains a portfolio of projects that are complementary to projects already being implemented. The objective was to fill the gaps and cover additional needs as identified by the



United Nations Development Programme

**DONORS ENDORSE SHORT-TERM ACTION PLAN FOR GREAT LAKES REGION**

Geneva, January 26, 1996: Donors meeting in Geneva January 24, 1995 for an informal consultation on the Joint Great Lakes Initiative by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) have backed a \$10 million rehabilitation plan proposed for the countries hosting Rwandan refugees.

At the conference, UNDP and UNHCR representatives detailed their plan of action aimed at repairing damage to the environment and infrastructure in the region, especially in Zaire and Tanzania, which witnessed an influx of 2 million Rwandan refugees. Donors expressed their support for the package of projects that includes community-based interventions to arrest environmental damage brought about by unregulated wood-cutting by refugees; rehabilitate roads, ports, water supply and communication facilities; restore health and education services; alleviate poverty and promote income generating activities. In addition, the plan includes the establishment of coordination and information management mechanisms for the sub-region and strengthening technical units at the field level.

"This rehabilitation programme, which encourages dialogue among the countries involved, is part of the wider UN effort to find a long-term solution to the instability and reverse the cycle of devastation which have plagued the Great Lakes region," said Alan Doss, Director of UNDP's European Office.

At the start of the meeting, the Director of UNHCR's Regional Bureau for Africa, Kamel Morjane, said that he hoped the international community would acknowledge the generosity and show appreciation for the hospitality extended to the refugees by the populations of the countries of asylum for the third consecutive year by supporting the projects.

Participants at the meeting agreed on the need to proceed immediately with the proposed Action Plan. UNDP informed the meeting that it will provide funding to immediately establish the necessary coordination structures at the sub-regional and country levels.

The informal consultation followed-up on the Conference on Assistance to Refugees, returnees and Displaced Persons in the Great Lakes region convened by the Organization of African Unity in Bujumbura in February 1995. The Bujumbura Conference called on UNDP to organize a Round Table conference to mobilize funding for programmes that address environmental damage in the areas affected by the flood of Rwandan refugees. Participants at the Geneva meeting decided to submit a progress report on the implementation of the programme to the follow-up meeting to the Bujumbura conference to be held at the Ministerial level at the end of February in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. There further requirements for convening a formal Round Table will be determined.

Contacts: UNDP: Cassandra Waldon tel: (41-22) 979 9543 fax: (41-22) 979 9005  
UNHCR: Fernando del Mundo tel: (41-22) 739 8486 fax: (41-22) 739 7316

**UNITED NATIONS  
HIGH COMMISSIONER  
FOR REFUGEES**

*Branch office in Rwanda*

Tel.: (250) 85093

Fax: (250) 85104

1 407 726 5018 (vsat)



**NATIONS UNIES  
HAUT COMMISSARIAT  
POUR LES RÉFUGIÉS**

*Délégation pour le Rwanda*

Boîte postale 867  
KIGALI

**MEMORANDUM**

To: UNAMIR Kigali  
Isel Rivero, Special Assistant to the SRSG

Fm: UNHCR Kigali *Kassin Diagne*  
K. Diagne, Executive Assistant to the Representative

Da: February 26, 1996

Su: Attached

- 
1. As requested, please find attached UNHCR's briefing note for the SRSG on the programme activities carried out in 1995.
  2. Regards.

*COPY*



**Progress report of UNHCR activities in 1995 related to the implementation of the Bujumbura Plan of Action**

1. The Regional Conference on Assistance to Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in the Great Lakes Region jointly organised by the Organisation of African Unity and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on 15-17 February 1996 recommended a number of measures which UNHCR, assisted by the international community, was supposed to implement in order to facilitate the voluntary return in safety and dignity of some 1,800,000 Rwandese refugees in camps in Zaire, Tanzania and Burundi. While much remains to be done to trigger the massive return of the refugees, since Bujumbura, significant progress has been achieved by UNHCR in various areas falling under its mandate. This briefing note will review those achievements.
2. With a determination to create an enabling environment conducive for the return of Rwandese refugees from neighbouring countries, UNHCR efforts in Rwanda have been directed in the following areas:

AT THE POLITICAL LEVEL, all Tripartite Commission Agreements have been signed between the respective countries of asylum (Zaire, Burundi, Tanzania), the country of origin (Rwanda) and UNHCR. UNHCR is an active member and assures the secretarial role. UNHCR provides also the funds associated to the costs of organising the meeting of the Tripartite Commissions. Rwanda, Zaire and UNHCR have met twice in Geneva and a meeting of the sub-committee on repatriation took place in Gisenyi in October 1995. The other two Commissions Rwanda, Burundi/Rwanda, Tanzania and UNHCR have 3 and 4 times respectively.

Along with the Organisation of the African Unity (O.A.U.), UNHCR is an active member of the Joint Commission for Repatriation and Reintegration of Rwandese refugees set up by the Government of Rwanda on 22 May 1995. The Joint Commission has held over 10 meetings since its creation and UNHCR has been represented in all of them. The Commission is responsible for overall policy on repatriation of refugees and their reintegration/resettlement. It is called upon to intervene in streamlining border entry and transit procedures, in ensuring smooth and rapid transfer of returnees to their communes of origin and in resolving operational differences when they arise. At the beginning of the year, UNHCR has provided to the Gendarmerie Nationale through the Joint Commission 10 escort vehicles for the repatriation convoys and 40 metal detectors to speed up the screening procedures of the returnees. 15 other vehicles are en route.

In 1995, the UNHCR Representative in Rwanda has held numerous consultations with senior Rwandese Government officials, including the President, the Vice President and the Prime Minister on repatriation and reintegration activities.

## PROTECTION ACTIVITIES

Monitoring of returnees which is an important feature of UNHCR's protection activities is being conducted, in close cooperation with the U.N. Human Rights Field Operations<sup>1</sup>, in all communes of Rwanda. UNHCR Protection Officers have had some difficulties getting access in two communes in Rwanda but since then the issue has been discussed and solved with the officials of the Ministry of Interior and Communal Development. Monitoring work includes interceding to the authorities in favor of the returnees, assisting the authorities to solve problems faced by the returnees, helping authorities to overcome difficulties encountered by returnees etc.

With regards to the Judicial System, UNHCR with the cooperation of HRFOR and the Ministry of Justice has conducted and funded in 1995 workshops in all 11 Prefectures of Rwanda on the "Procedures for Arrest and Detention". The workshops were attended by Parquets officials, IPJs/OPJs, Army officials including the Gendarmerie and UNHCR Protection Officers. UNHCR has also donated vehicles (4 4WD and 1 saloon car) and motorcycles (?) to the Ministry of Justice. It has also rehabilitated court buildings in many Prefectures and delivered law manuals and equipment to the Parquet.

UNHCR has facilitated the visits of refugees to Rwanda and of returnees and Rwandese authorities to refugee camps in countries of asylum. Over 30 visits have been organized since mid-1995 and 474 refugees from refugee camps in Zaire (10), Burundi (342) and Tanzania (122) have participated. A group of 5 returnees visited their former refugee camp in Tanzania. A total of 9 visits of Rwandese authorities have taken place in 1995 early 1996: 6 to Burundi and 3 to Tanzania. In two of the visits the head of delegation was the Prime Minister.

## MASS INFORMATION

The Mass Information campaign continues to play a significant role in informing and educating refugees about the political, economic and social situation in Rwanda through the use of leaflets, radio, videos, public address systems etc. The Mass Information Unit at Branch Office Kigali has produced a number of audio tapes consisting of interviews conducted with returnees, local officials and UNHCR staff which have been sent to the camps and broadcasted via Radio Rwanda, Radio UNAMIR, Radio Kwizera in Ngara and Radio Agatasha in South Kivu in Zaire. Plans are underway to intensify the information campaign in the countries of asylum in 1996 and among other things information will be provided on repatriation procedures,

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<sup>1</sup> A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between both agencies on 29 September 1995

unaccompanied minors and vulnerable groups, food, water and sanitation, health, transportation, agricultural inputs and monitoring activities.

#### DIRECT ASSISTANCE TO RETURNEES

Direct assistance is provided by UNHCR in the form of transport for returnees and their belongings passing through officially known entry points. In 1995, transportation has been provided, with the cooperation of the International Organisation for Migration, to some 220,000 returnees - both "old" and "new" caseload. Every returnee is provided with a two-month food ration supplied by the U.N World Food Programme (WFP), seeds and hoes provided by the European Union and the U.N Food and Agriculture Organisation, plastic sheeting, blankets, plastic mats, kitchen set, jerry cans, soap by UNHCR. All the distribution is done by UNHCR through its operational partners NGOs'.

UNHCR has assisted the Government of Rwanda in expanding the transit facilities in the country to receive to a capacity of some 43,000 returnees per day.

#### COMMUNITY BASED PROJECTS IN THE PREFECTURES

With the view to strengthen the receiving capacity of the communes of origin of the vast majority of Rwandese refugees, UNHCR has engaged non-governmental organisations on a contractual basis to provide a variety of services of immediate relevance to the lives of returnees. By sector, the following realisations have been made:

UNHCR has provided funding to health agencies rehabilitating health structures and improving health services in areas where returnees are expected to settle in significant numbers. All such services are supervised by the Ministry of Health's regional medical officers. A total of 50 communal health centres and 10 hospitals have been rehabilitated with UNHCR funds between August 1994 and December 1995.

Shelter: In 1995, UNHCR provided funds to the German Development Agency, GTZ, to purchase roofing materials for 28,500 returnee families (between 170,000 and 200,000 people). Implementation of the shelter programme has been slow in so far as the the Government did not allocate land to the returnees on a timely basis. Part of the shelter materials will be also used to rehabilitate public buildings such as schools, courts, parquets, town halls etc.

The programme for water and sanitation in 1995 had two facets: facilities were constructed as an integral part of the network of transit centers which cover the perimeter of Rwanda as initial points of contact with (organised) returnees, and limited interventions were made in communes where significant numbers of returnees settled.

Community service: Consistent with its protection mandate, UNHCR and its implementing partners, in close cooperation with the Rwandese Government, established in 1995 programmes for identifying and assisting different groups of vulnerable persons. Specifically, it has helped unaccompanied children, young girls, widows and single women heads of households, many of whom are victims of the Genocide.

Education: UNHCR's education programme has rehabilitated and provided pedagogical equipment to 71 primary and secondary schools in the five prefectures of Cyangugu (25), Gisenyi (25), Kigali Rural (6), Kibungo (9), Byumba (3) and the Burundi refugee camp in Gikongoro Prefecture. Rehabilitation involved making basic physical repairs to school buildings in areas of concentrated return; all schools thus assisted were also provided with basic teaching materials (including UNICEF/UNESCO TEPs) and school furniture. In parallel with the provision of teaching materials, essential teacher training was offered at the rehabilitated schools.

Agriculture: During the two planting seasons (January-March and August-October 1995) UNHCR was a major distributor of seeds and hoes for returnees and vulnerable groups. In transit centers in the latter season, UNHCR distributed over 21,558 hoes and 154 tons of bean seeds, 15 tons of peas seeds, and 150 kgs of vegetable seeds through transit centers. UNHCR transport was provided to the Ministry of Agriculture to send its own agricultural materials throughout Rwanda.

Livestock: UNHCR has also taken into account the needs of cattle herders in Rwanda, which group forms a large part of the "old caseload" returnee population. Specifically, a small sensitisation campaign was underwritten, implemented by a local NGO, which encouraged herders to sell a limited number of cattle, and thereby reduce the pressure on land in the northeastern parts of the country.

#### INSTITUTIONAL ASSISTANCE AND CAPACITY BUILDING

As part of its overall goal to strengthen the capacities of the Government of Rwanda to meet the exigencies of the repatriation, UNHCR has provided considerable operational support to relevant ministries. Financial agreements have been concluded with the Ministry of Rehabilitation and Social Integration (MINIREISO), the Ministry of Family and Women (MIFAPROFE), and the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MINITRASO); all of these agreements have provided office equipment, technical equipment, selected staff salaries, vehicles and vehicle repair/maintenance to contribute to the repatriation-related tasks with which they are charged. In addition UNHCR provided some 50 vehicles to the Government in late 1994 and early 1995.

UNHCR BO Kigali  
24 February 1996

UNITED NATIONS

COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS  
OPERATION IN RWANDA



HRFOR

NATIONS UNIES

HAUT COMMISSAIRE AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME  
OPERATION SUR LE TERRAIN AU RWANDA

MEMORANDUM

To: Isel Rivero  
Special Assistant to the SRSG  
UNAMIR, Kigali

From: Ian Martin *IM*  
Chief, HRFOR

Date: 26 February 1996

Re: Bujumbura Conference Follow-up.

As per your request, attached is a brief on our activities in relation to the implementation of the Bujumbura Plan of Action. This brief will update the SRSG on the activities of HRFOR in the area concerning refugee repatriation.

UN Human Rights Field Operation in Rwanda

Tel. [1-212] 963 9906/9907; [250] 73720, 73722, 73035; Fax (1-212) 963 9908; [250] 73719

B. P. 445 Kigali, Rwanda





HRFOR

HRFOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BUJUMBURA PLAN OF ACTION

The activities of HRFOR in the area of refugee repatriation can be categorized into two types of activities. The first, are HRFOR's emergency oriented activities to respond to a refugee influx. The second, are the longer term initiatives which can be broadly termed as confidence building activities to build an environment conducive for the return of refugees.

The first category is comprised of the emergency preparedness of HRFOR to respond to a mass repatriation of refugees into Rwanda. In this regard HRFOR is working very closely with the Government of Rwanda, UN Agencies and implementing partners.

Through the coordination efforts undertaken by the Office the Resident Coordinator, HRFOR has already contributed to the development of the "UN Rwanda Refugee Repatriation Contingency Plan," in which all partners have outlined their coordinated and complementary roles in a mass refugee repatriation effort to ensure maximum utilization both human and material resources.

In the event of a mass repatriation of refugees into Rwanda, HRFOR for its part will:

1. concentrate its efforts at the commune level and keep its presence at the border at a minimum. HRFOR will principally rely on UNHCR to provide statistics and other relevant information on returnees and their communes of origins to enable HRFOR to adequately respond at the communes.
2. be present at the border or transit centers only if there is a security screening at these locations. In such event, HRFOR will work closely with the authorities to ensure that any security screening of refugees is in accordance with due process of the law and subsequently ensure that the rights of any detained persons are respected.
3. monitor the well being of returnees including through establishing regular contact with local authorities to determine the progress and reintegration of returnees in terms of security and needs.
4. facilitate the flow of information to the relevant organizations competent to address the material or institutional needs at the commune level.
5. provide a regular presence at the communes to foster confidence amongst the population and between the returnee population and the local authorities.

UN Human Rights Field Operation in Rwanda

Tel. (1-212) 963 9906/9907; (250) 73720, 73722, 73035; Fax (1-212) 963 9908; (250) 73719

B. P. 445 Kigali, Rwanda

The second category can be divided into assistance to the judiciary and human rights education.

1. HRFOR assistance to the Rwandan Judiciary aims at enabling the Rwandan Judiciary to respond to the genocide as well as to promote a culture of respect for the rule of law and judicial guaranties. In this regard, HRFOR's main strength is that it is the only UN Agency working at both the local and national levels to build the capacity of the judiciary in addressing the enormous needs of a post-genocide society which is trying to end the culture of impunity.

HRFOR's efforts in this area primarily consist of:

- a) assistance provided by human rights officers, specialized in the judicial area, at the communal and prefectural levels to ensure adherence to judicial procedures and guarantees;
  - b) working with judicial authorities at a national level to build a sustainable government policy to address the genocide;
  - c) working under the coordination of the Ministry of Rehabilitation in the Human Rights Justice Cell of the Humanitarian Assistance Coordination Unit to ensure adequate preparedness at the national and local level to address human rights issues faced by returnees.
2. Through its human rights education and promotion programs, HRFOR aims to promote a culture of respect for human rights in Rwanda. This is especially important in the context of a post-genocide society hoping for national reconciliation.

In this area, HRFOR continues to undertake initiatives such as:

- a) human rights education programs such as the presently ongoing seminar to Rwandan journalists,
- b) human rights training at the Gendarmerie school in Ruhengeri,
- c) multi-media human rights awareness promotion campaigns through the production of videos, posters, radio plays, posters, etc,
- d) support to local human rights associations and institutions at national and prefectural levels.

NY.26/02/96



Date: 27 February 1996

TO: Ms. Isel Rivero, Special Assistant to the SRSG

FROM: A. B. Sidique Dao, Humanitarian/Rehab. Officer

SUBJECT: Bujumbura Plan of Action

I submit the attached NOTE in response to your memo of 23 February 1996 requesting a brief on my activities related to the implementation of the Bujumbura Plan of Action.

As you may be aware, the said Plan of Action delineates specific measures to be adopted by the key players (i.e. countries of origin, assylum and the international community), in the repatriation, rehabilitation and reintegration of refugees.

My schedule of duties and activities as Humanitarian & Rehabilitation Officer have been of a monitoring and coordinating nature. This also enables me to liaise with various Agencies and NGOs; hopefully, to catalyse the facilitative role which UNAMIR is expected to perform; both in terms of its mandate and within the context of the Bujumbura Plan of Action. This, of course, is in addition to my membership of UHAAG.

Please accept my regards.

cc. ED

Copy





**FAX TRANSMISSION**

TO : MR. S. HASEGAWA, RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE  
UNDP 76263 - *JK*

: MR. W.R. URASA, UNHCR REPRESENTATIVE  
UNHCR 85104 *SL*

: MR. IAN MARTIN, DIRECTOR  
UNHRFOR 73719 *OK*

FROM : ISEL RIVERO, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO SRSG  
UNAMIR, KIGALI *W.R.*

DATE : 23 FEBRUARY 1996

SRSG HAS BEEN REQUESTED TO ATTEND THE MEETING OF THE FOLLOW-UP COMMITTEE OF THE BUJUMBURA CONFERENCE ON ASSISTANCE TO REFUGEES, RETURNEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS IN THE GREAT LAKES REGION TO BE HELD IN ADDIS ABABA ON 29 FEBRUARY 1996.

IT WOULD BE APPRECIATED IF YOU WOULD PROVIDE THE SRSG BY <sup>*Monday*</sup> ~~THURSDAY~~, 26 FEBRUARY LATEST, WITH A BRIEF ON YOUR ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BUJUMBURA PLAN OF ACTION. THE BRIEF DOES NOT HAVE TO BE MORE THAN ONE OR TWO PAGES SINGLE SPACE TO ENABLE THE SRSG TO ACCESS THE MOST UPDATED INFORMATION ON THIS TOPIC.

YOUR URGENT COOPERATION WILL BE APPRECIATED.

cc: ED

UNAMIR  
1996 FEB 23 P 3:02



UNAMIR - MINUAR

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO : BRIG. S. KUMAR, ACTING FORCE COMMANDER, UNAMIR**  
**: MR. A.S. DAO, HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS OFFICER, UNAMIR**

**FROM : ISEL RIVERO, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO SRSG**  
**UNAMIR** *[Signature]*

**DATE : 23 FEBRUARY 1996**

SRSG HAS BEEN REQUESTED TO ATTEND THE MEETING OF THE FOLLOW-UP COMMITTEE OF THE BUJUMBURA CONFERENCE ON ASSISTANCE TO REFUGEES, RETURNEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS IN THE GREAT LAKES REGION TO BE HELD IN ADDIS ABABA ON 29 FEBRUARY 1996.

IT WOULD BE APPRECIATED IF YOU WOULD PROVIDE THE SRSG BY TUESDAY, 26 FEBRUARY LATEST, WITH A BRIEF ON YOUR ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BUJUMBURA PLAN OF ACTION. THE BRIEF DOES NOT HAVE TO BE MORE THAN ONE OR TWO PAGES SINGLE SPACE TO ENABLE THE SRSG TO ACCESS THE MOST UPDATED INFORMATION ON THIS TOPIC.

YOUR URGENT COOPERATION WILL BE APPRECIATED.

cc: ED



NATIONS UNIES  
HAUT COMMISSARIAT  
POUR LES RÉFUGIÉS



UNITED NATIONS  
HIGH COMMISSIONER  
FOR REFUGEES

*Avec les compliments  
du  
Haut Commissariat des Nations Unies  
pour les réfugiés*

*With the compliments  
of the  
United Nations High Commissioner  
for Refugees*

NATIONS UNIES  
HAUT COMMISSARIAT  
POUR LES REFUGIES



UNITED NATIONS  
HIGH COMMISSIONER  
FOR REFUGEES

RECEIVED

23 FEB 1996

Case Postale 2500  
CH-1211 GENEVE 23  
OFFICE OF THE SRSG  
UNAMIR

Télégrammes : HICOMREF  
Télex : 416740 UNHCR CH  
Téléphone : 739 91 11  
Téléfax : 731 95 48

MSC/0437

FAX TRANSMISSION

FAX: (41.22) 739 7342  
TEL: (41.22) 739 8487

TO: Mr. Shaharyar Khan  
Special Representative  
of the Secretary General  
c/o UNHCR Kigali  
Fax No.

FROM: Jiddo Van Drunen  
Head Operations  
Special Unit for Rwanda/Burundi  
UNHCR Geneva  
Fax No. 739.73.42

FAX Reference:

FILE Reference:

Number of pages including cover page: 03

DATE: 22.02.1996

MESSAGE

PLEASE DELIVER THIS MESSAGE TO MR. SHAHARYAR KHAN,  
SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

Subject: Follow-up Committee of the Bujumbura Conference on Assistance to  
Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in the Great Lakes Region.  
Addis Ababa - 29 February 1996.

Please find attached copy of the invitation regarding the above mentioned  
Conference.

Best regards.

Drafted by: R. Y. Sehouane  
Cleared with:  
Authorized by: J. Van Drunen, Head Ops. Special Unit for Rwanda/Burundi

ACTION STAMP		
DATE	DOSSIER(S)	
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SECTION	ACTION	INFO
REPRESENTATIVE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
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ADMINISTRATION		
LOGISTICS		
TELECOMS		
SPECIAL ENVOY		
RSU		
PUBLIC INFO		
MASS INFO		





Télégrammes : HICOMREF  
Télex : 416740 UNHCR CH  
Téléphone : 738 81 11  
Téléfax : 731 86 48

Case Postale 2500  
CH-1211 Genève 2 Dépôt

The OAU-UNHCR Joint Secretariat for the Follow-up Committee of the Bujumbura Conference on Assistance to Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in the Great Lakes region presents its compliments to the Special Representative of the Secretary General and has the honour to recall that the Regional Conference on Assistance to Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in the Great Lakes region, held in Bujumbura from 12 to 17 February 1995 under the auspices of the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, adopted a Plan of Action which sets out measures to be taken, respectively, by the countries of origin, the countries of asylum and the international community in order to bring about durable solutions for the problems of displacement in the Great Lakes region. The Conference also established a Follow-up Committee, under the joint Chairmanship of the OAU and UNHCR, to periodically review progress in the implementation of this Plan of Action, the first meeting of which was held on 26 May 1995.

The Joint OAU-UNHCR Secretariat has the honour to inform all members of the follow-up Committee that the second meeting of the Committee will take place on 29 February 1996 at 9 30 a.m. in Africa Hall, ECA Building, Addis Ababa and further has the honour to invite the attendance of the Members at this meeting.

Members of the Follow-up Committee are expected to present a brief report on the action they have taken towards the implementation of the Plan of Action.

... / ...

## NATIONS UNIES

DEPARTEMENT  
DES AFFAIRES HUMANITAIRES

DHA Geneva

## UNITED NATIONS

DEPARTMENT  
OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS

## FACSIMILE

Palais des Nations  
CH-1211 Geneva 10  
Switzerland  
Tel: 788 7020  
Fax: 788 76 15/17

TO:

Mr. Ian Martin  
Chief  
UN Human Rights Field Office for Rwanda  
Kigali, Rwanda

Fax: 001 - 212 - 963 9908

FROM:

Deborah Saidy *Deborah*  
Senior Humanitarian Affairs Officer  
Complex Emergency Support Unit  
DHA, Geneva

DATE:

5 January 1996

OBJET-SUBJECT:

Rwanda Operational Support Group Meeting

No. Pages:

Two

File: IM0501A.jv  
Reg: 9610013  
Ref: RWANDAIMMEDIATE ATTENTION

Pursuant to our discussion earlier this week on the ROSG scheduled for 12 January in Washington, I am forwarding a summary provided by the U.S. Mission here today on areas which they expect to be covered. While still not a formal agenda, it does provide a bit more detail on the major issues to be reviewed. I will share any further information we receive in Geneva.

Best regards.

Chapter VII  
or OP Tuguo  
type intervention  
No self-measures  
(like UN AMIR)

- THE ROSG AGENDA WILL FOCUS ON FOUR AREAS OF CONCERN BEGINNING WITH THE DETERIORATING POLITICAL AND SECURITY SITUATION IN BURUNDI.

THERE IS GROWING CONCERN THAT A HUMANITARIAN TRAGEDY, PERHAPS EVEN A FULL FLEDGED GENOCIDE, IS UPON US AND THAT WE AND OUR PARTNERS MUST BEGIN PLANNING APPROPRIATE RESPONSES.

IN A SIMILAR VEIN, THE UN SECRETARY GENERAL WROTE THE SECURITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT EARLIER THIS WEEK PROPOSING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MILITARY INTERVENTION FORCE TO BE PRE-POSITIONED IN ZAIRE TO BE USED IN BURUNDI SHOULD THE SITUATION THERE WARRANT. THIS AND OTHER IDEAS NEED VETTING.

- OTHER AGENDA TOPICS WILL BE PLANNING FOR AN INTERNATIONAL PRESENCE IN A POST-UNAMIR RWANDA. THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY SHOULD AVOID THE TYPE OF LAST-MINUTE DIPLOMACY PRIOR TO THE DECEMBER 8, 1995 EXPIRATION OF THE UNAMIR MANDATE. WE SOLICIT THE THINKING OF OUR FRIENDS WHO ARE EQUALLY CONCERNED ABOUT RWANDA AND THE REGION.

- A RELATED TOPIC IS THE PLIGHT OF RWANDAN REFUGEES AND PLANS TO REPATRIATE AND REINTEGRATE THEM INTO RWANDAN SOCIETY. WE WILL WANT TO DISCUSS THE RESULTS OF THE RECENT TRIPARTITE GENEVA MEETING ON RWANDAN REFUGEES AND HOW THE UNHCR AND OTHERS PLAN ON PROCEEDING WITH REPATRIATION. WE ALSO NEED TO DEVOTE SERIOUS ATTENTION TO RELOCATION OF THOSE REFUGEES WHO WILL NOT RETURN TO RWANDA.

- THERE IS A NEED TO EXPLORE FURTHER AN INTERNATIONAL UN/OAU-SPONSORED CONFERENCE TO ADDRESS THE POLITICAL, SECURITY AND OTHER PROBLEMS OF THE GREAT LAKES REGION. THIS IS NOT INTENDED TO THWART THE EFFORTS BEGUN BY PRESIDENT CARTER AND OTHERS IN CAIRO LAST MONTH. RATHER, IT IS A RECOGNITION THAT CONCERNED REGIONAL COUNTRIES AND DONORS MUST LAUNCH A PROCESS THAT WILL HELP BUILD PEACE AND SECURITY IN THE REGION AND WILL HAVE THE LEGAL AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH THE FOLLOW-ON MECHANISMS THAT WILL SECURE THE PEACE.



## OUTGOING FACSIMILE

*Rwanda  
Support Group**Geneva 1 Sept 95*

DATE: 17 October 1995

TO: Ms. Isel Rivero UNAMIR, Kigali, Rwanda	FROM: F. Barrillon-Pomés United Nations New York <i>FBP</i>
FAX NO: 3-3090	FAX NO: (212) 963-4037
ATTN:	REF: <i>195-10-7341</i>
TOTAL NUMBER OF TRANSMITTED PAGES INCLUDING THIS PAGE: 12	

As promised.

Un abrazo

*Florence*



NATIONS UNIES  
DEPARTEMENT  
DES AFFAIRES HUMANITAIRES



DHA Geneva

UNITED NATIONS  
DEPARTMENT  
OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS

95/19213

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KMK  
CP  
AH  
ccNB

## FACSIMILE

Palais des Nations  
CH-1211 Geneva 10  
Switzerland  
Tel: 788 7020  
Fax: 788 76 1617

TO: Mr. Qazi Shaukat Fareed  
Director  
DHA, New York

Fax No. 001 212 963 1312

CC: Mr. Manuel Aranda da Silva  
Director  
Complex Emergency Division  
DHA, New York

Fax No. 001 212 963 3630

Mr. Randolph Kerr  
Humanitarian Coordinator  
UNREO, Kigali

Fax No. 873 175 4623

FROM: Martin Griffiths  
Director  
DHA, Geneva

DATE: 13 October 1995

OBJET-SUBJECT Rwanda Operational Support Group - October 12 1995

No. Pages: twelve

File Rwanda  
Reg  
Ref qst1310.gst

95/4578

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The Rwanda Operational Support Group meeting was held at the U.S. Mission yesterday with two sessions running from 10:00 to 13:00 and 15:00 to 17:00 hours. The morning session was spent principally on the first agenda item, Rwanda Refugee Repatriation although the points relating to the Administration of Justice item were largely raised during this discussion. The afternoon was devoted to an exchange of views on the Great Lakes Conference, UNAMIR and Burundi.

OCT 13 1995

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In the DHA presentation, I stressed the importance of an integrated, inter-agency support for the repatriation process. While noting that UNREO would be phasing out, I spoke of continued DHA support to the Office of the Resident Coordinator at this critical time. I spoke on the work in process for the 1996 Consolidated Appeal and the Regional Review and called attention to the importance of ensuring that common planning assumptions are used by the humanitarian partners in elaborating plans of action. I also mentioned the establishment of the Regional Information Network and underscored the fact that its success will be contingent on having strong Resident Coordinator structures in Rwanda and Burundi.

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Providing an update on the Rwanda Round Table, Mr. Hasegawa advised that pledges by donors are now estimated at more than US\$ one billion and disbursements have reached US\$ 252 million, a figure equivalent to 43% of the pledges recorded in January 1995.

**B. POINTS/ISSUES RAISED BY INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS/DONORS RELEVANT TO REPATRIATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE MATTERS**

- \* While the target figure of 6,000 returnees a day is a goal toward which we should strive, we need to be realistic about what is achievable by the 31 December deadline set by the Government of Zaire.
- \* Both the Government of Rwanda and the Governments of the countries of asylum must take responsibility for their actions in creating conditions conducive to successful repatriation and reintegration.
- \* Problems of absorptive capacity may arise and we should be aware that the resource bases of the communes vary widely.
- \* NGOs will have an important role to play as implementing partners in repatriation and resettlement and their presence will be important in confidence building.
- \* There is an urgent need to strengthen the Government of Rwanda's administrative capacity at both commune and prefecture levels.
- \* Increasing the capacity of the detention centres is not a solution; the machinery of justice must be set in motion.
- \* Resources should not be spent in support of the construction of permanent prisons (the Netherlands expressed disappointment at the actions of UNDP and DHA on this issue)

- \* A separate initiative considered and endorsed at the OAU Summit in June to hold a Conference on the subject of refugees in Africa (not specifically focussed on the Great Lakes, noting the Bujumbura conference had already reviewed this issue) was raised (by OAU).

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The discussion opened with the observation from Mrs. Ogata's report to the Secretary General following her mission in September that she attached great importance to a continued and strengthened UN presence through military observers and human rights monitors. UNHCR also commented on the valuable logistics support UNAMIR has provided over the past year but noted they are now taking preparatory steps to fill the void that will be created upon the latter's departure. Other points include:

- \* UNAMIR is seen by many within the ROSG as a part of the broader international presence which is helpful in establishing a secure environment.
- \* UNAMIR's role in post-conflict, confidence-building measures was cited.
- \* Continuation of UNAMIR's expertise in training the communal police and gendarmerie was seen as important.
- \* In calculating the cost savings associated with UNAMIR's drawdown, the UN and the donor community should consider some of the additional costs which will be incurred in areas such as logistics, telecommunications and administrative support by some agencies/organizations (ex. the human rights presence has been heavily dependent on support from UNAMIR and will now have to secure additional funds for operational support).
- \* As creating a supportive environment for repatriation is now the primary focus of the international community, the key issue which should be addressed in considering this possible extension of UNAMIR's mandate is whether its continued presence is essential to ensuring a framework of security for the refugees' return.
- \* Alternative mechanisms to provide security for the International Tribunal will have to be put in place (and the necessary funding secured).

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The U.S. Special Coordinator for Rwanda and Burundi, Ambassador Richard Bogosian, introduced this topic and highlighted the continuing instability and insecurity in the country. He described the situation as a type of slow-motion genocide, with an estimated 300 people a week being killed.

Underscoring the fragility of the political situation in Burundi, Mr. Mahiga of UNHCR advised that he had just been informed by their office in Bujumbura that four Ministers had been removed from the Government (including Internal Affairs and Foreign Affairs). UNHCR reported that they have been receiving an average of 600 new Burundi refugees per week in Uvira. Burundi



authorities have now effectively closed the bridge between Bujumbura and Uvira, thereby creating serious logistical problems for relief delivery. Mr. Mahiga recalled that in Mrs. Ogata's report on her mission, she stressed the particular difficulties of promoting repatriation to Burundi at this time.

**ISSUES raised by the ROSG:**

- \* The level of violence and instability in the country could have very serious repercussions for the region.
- \* There seems to be an unraveling of any political consensus in the country, with the extremists on both ends of the spectrum gaining support.
- \* A priority need is for reform of the army and police.
- \* Uneven distribution of and access to resources among different segments of the population is a major problem for humanitarian agencies (health sector given as an example).
- \* Constant population movements and insecurity mean that delivering humanitarian assistance is enormously difficult.
- \* There is much less donor coordination on Burundi and this is itself a problem.
- \* Recognizing the differences between Rwanda and Burundi is essential to understanding the region as a whole

**6. CONCLUDING REMARKS**

It was clear that the members of the ROSG are attempting to identify concrete actions and support they can provide in order to enhance the prospects for stability, successful repatriation and ultimately national reconciliation in the Great Lakes region. In undertaking the Regional Review and preparing the Special Appeal, we must make every effort to identify, together with agency colleagues (both on the ground and at headquarters) priority areas where such donor assistance is needed. We will need to be very clear on how activities and resource requirements identified in the appeal relate to initiatives already underway and funds sought through other mechanisms. If we succeed in this, DHA could indeed assist the Governments of the region by providing donors with the type of guidance on collectively-identified priorities they are seeking.

In closing, let me express our appreciation here for the provision of inputs from both Kigali and New York to help make the DHA interventions well-informed.

Best regards.

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## UNHCR

Center for Human Rights

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Mr. Peter Rosenbloom



Rwanda Operational Support Group

Thursday, October 12, 1995

U.S. Mission

Room 135

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Political Director General  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

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DEPARTEMENT  
DES AFFAIRES HUMANITAIRES



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DEPARTMENT  
OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS

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Tel: 738 7020  
Fax: 738 78 1517

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DHA, New York

Fax No. 001 212 963 1312

CC: Mr. Manuel Aranda da Silva  
Director  
Complex Emergency Division  
DHA, New York

Fax No. 001 212 963 3630

Mr. Randolph Kera  
Humanitarian Coordinator  
UNREO, Kigali

Fax No. 873 175 4623

FROM: Martin Griffiths  
Director  
DHA, Geneva

DATE: 13 October 1995

OBJET-SUBJECT [Rwanda Operational Support Group] - October 12 1995

No. Pages: twelve

File Rwanda  
Reg  
Ref 950510.gf

95/4578

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17-11-1994

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# Rwanda Operational Support Group

Thursday, October 12, 1995  
U.S. Mission  
Room 135

## Provisional List of Participants

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### Ethiopia

Dr. Peter Gabriel  
OAU Ambassador to the Benelux Countries

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UNITED NATIONS HQS NEW YORK

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FROM

P.2

CNR 289 P 2/3

RWANDA OPERATIONAL SUPPORT GROUP MEETING

Thursday, October 12, 1995

10 a.m.

U.S. Mission - Geneva  
Route de Pregny 11  
tel. (41) (22) 749-4111  
fax. (41) (22) 749-4880

**Chairman:** George E. Moose, Assistant Secretary of State  
for African Affairs

**Assisted by:** Amb. Richard Bogosian, U.S. Special Coordinator  
for Rwanda/Burundi

SUGGESTED AGENDA

- a. Rwandan refugee repatriation, to include, inter alia:
  - Diplomatic efforts to help ensure security
  - Timing and flow of proposed repatriation
  - UNHCR needs
  - Donor assistance
  - NGO role
- b. UNAMIR
  - Extension or new mandate
  - Funding problem
  - Security to refugee repatriation/tribunal
  - Alternative mechanism
- c. Administration of justice
  - War Crimes Tribunal (including funding)
  - Security (link to UNAMIR)
  - Prison problem
  - Amnesty
- d. Burundi
  - Commission of Inquiry
  - Preventive diplomacy
  - Assets freeze
  - Publicly identify "outlaws"
  - Refugees
  - Role of Burundi army



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UNITED NATIONS HQS NEW YORK

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-01-1995 7:10AM FROM

P.3

CNR 289 P 3/3

- 2 -

a. Great Lakes Conference  
--Briefing by Amb. Jesus  
--Next steps

1995-10-07 00:29

PAGE = 03



TO: H. E. AMBASSADOR RAWSON, KIGALI

FROM: SHAHARYAR KHAN, SRSG, UNAMIR, KIGALI

DATE: 23 FEBRUARY 1995

NO.:

SUBJECT: MESSAGE FOR AMBASSADOR FRIEDMAN

*Shaharyar Khan*

Ambassador Rawson, I would be grateful if you would convey the following message to Ambassador Friedman, Chairman of the Rwanda Operational Support Group:

Thank you for faxing the agenda for the next meeting of ROSG.

I would like to reiterate that I found the meeting of the ROSG in Bujumbura very positive and productive and I am looking forward to our next session.

However, while checking my schedule for the next month, I realized that the 7th of April is the beginning of the Easter Holiday which also coincides with schools and universities spring breaks. Exactly during that period, my daughter will be visiting from overseas and I imagine other members of the ROSG will find themselves in a similar situation. Could I suggest that the next meeting of the Group takes place during the second half of April, let's say on Friday the 21st.

My very best regards.



REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON ASSISTANCE TO  
REFUGEES, RETURNEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS  
IN THE GREAT LAKES REGION  
BUJUMBURA, 12 - 17 FEBRUARY 1995



**DRAFT**  
**PLAN OF ACTION**

(Revision 1.)

Roman Orasa  
is going to send us  
the revised text. We  
should await.  
ISL  
Spokesman  
Secretary 2  
21/12

A. **PREAMBLE**

1. Following the succession of tragic events which have been hitting both Burundi and Rwanda for a number of years, Central and Eastern African countries are now facing the worst refugee problem in the whole continent. It was against this background that the 60th Ordinary Session of the OAU Council of Ministers meeting in Tunis, Tunisia, in June 1994, adopted Resolution CM/Res.1527 (LX) which was further endorsed by the 49th Ordinary Session of the United Nations General Assembly through its Resolution A/Res.49/7. The resolutions called for the holding of a Regional Conference on Assistance to Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in the Great Lakes Region.

2. The objective of the Conference was to reach firm commitments on immediate, practical measures necessary to address the serious security and humanitarian concerns in the region.

3. The Regional Conference was accordingly held at Ministerial level in Bujumbura, Burundi, from 15 - 17 February 1995 and addressed the problem of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in the Great Lakes region on a humanitarian and non-political basis. The Conference, which was held under the auspices of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), was attended inter alia by the countries of the region, Tunisia, Egypt and Ethiopia, in their respective capacities as current, past and future Chairmen of the OAU, the OAU Commission of Twenty on Refugees, Members of UNHCR's Executive Committee, other countries, the Economic Community of the Countries of the Great Lakes (CEPGL), United Nations Agencies and other international organizations, as well as by representatives of Non-governmental Organizations (NGO).

4. The Conference was apprised of the social, economic and political manifestations of the problem of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in the Great Lakes Region. It noted the high number of refugees, returnees and displaced persons involved, for targeted action and response, and that these refugees are mainly found in camps in Zaire, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi and Uganda. The Conference reaffirmed that the right of return applies to all refugees.

5. The Conference underscored the fact that the problem of refugees and displaced persons in the region had become alarming as the very survival of hundreds of thousands of the affected persons was increasingly being threatened, in addition to the threat to the general stability of countries in the region. The above adverse effects arising from the continued presence of refugees and persistent movements of displaced persons on the development process in the affected countries were equally alarming and a source of grave

Rw  
✓

ZK  
✓

concern. The Conference expressed particular concern about the situation of many refugee and displaced women and about the tragedy of large numbers of unaccompanied children.

Impunity  
Raw ✓  
6. The Conference reaffirmed that the impunity of those who have instigated, prepared or committed acts of genocide and other serious violations of international humanitarian and human rights law, as well as assassinations of democratically-elected leaders cannot be accepted. Impunity for such crimes would constitute inter alia a major impediment towards national reconciliation, solutions to the problems of displacement and the prevention of new displacements.

New  
7. The Regional Conference expressed the hope that a broader United Nations Conference on peace, security and stability in the region, called for by the UN Security Council, would soon be held to examine the root causes of the problems in the region, in order to promote peace, security and sustainable development in the region.

8. Accordingly, the Conference, having deliberated on all major aspects and causes of the problem, demonstrated concerted and practical action by adopting the present PLAN OF ACTION, which focuses on voluntary repatriation as the most preferred durable solution to the refugee problem in the Great Lakes Region. The PLAN OF ACTION underscores the important roles to be played by the countries of origin, the countries of asylum, the donor community, the United Nations System, the OAU, CEPGL, ICRC and the Non-governmental Organizations.

#### B. PRINCIPLES, POLICIES AND GUIDELINES

Raw ✓  
9. The problem of refugees, returnees and internally displaced persons should be addressed on a strictly humanitarian and non-political basis. In this context, all directly affected States should be guided by the principle of solidarity with the individuals in the search for human solutions to their problems.

UN ✓  
10. The institution of asylum for refugees, as enshrined in the relevant international and regional refugee instruments must be upheld. Pending their voluntary repatriation, or pending the identification of other appropriate solutions, refugees should continue to benefit from international protection and basic humanitarian assistance.

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11. However, individuals against whom there are serious reasons for considering that they have committed crimes against peace, war crimes, crimes against humanity, serious non-political crimes prior to fleeing into the country of refuge, or acts contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations or of the OAU, should be excluded from international refugee protection and assistance, in accordance with the 1951 UN Refugee Convention and the 1969 OAU Refugee Convention. The implementation of any such exclusion in the individual case should not, however, directly or indirectly, endanger the safety or well being of bona fide refugees, of humanitarian personnel or of local communities. If it is determined that certain individuals do not deserve international refugee protection, in which case the principle of non-refoulement does not apply, such persons may be subjected to extradition procedures, under conditions of due process of law. It is recalled in this context that, in accordance with the 1948 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, persons guilty of instigating, preparing



or committing acts of genocide must be punished, either in the country where such acts were committed, or by an International Tribunal.

12. The countries of asylum and of origin, and the international community should mobilize all possible efforts to assist, wherever possible, with the repatriation and reintegration of Burundese and Rwandese refugees wishing to return at the present stage. In addition to voluntary repatriation, other durable solutions may be considered including naturalization and settlement in countries of asylum. Efforts to facilitate the voluntary return home of internally displaced persons in Burundi and Rwanda should continue and, if possible, be intensified.

13. In order to avoid instability and so as not to endanger the process of national reconciliation and confidence building, repatriation movements to the extent possible, should take place in an organized manner, and should avoid areas which are not yet stable. The future pace and timing of return movements should reflect the experiences gained in the first phases of repatriation, and should take into account further developments in refugee camps as well as in Burundi and Rwanda, or parts thereof.

14. In accordance with international law and practice, all stages of repatriation should be governed by the following principles which may have corresponding relevance with respect to the return of internally displaced persons to their home areas:

- (a) the right to depart safely from the country of asylum and to return to the country of origin;
- (b) non-discrimination, implying equal treatment and a balanced approach with regard to all individuals and groups wishing to return;
- (c) voluntariness based on informed consent, through the strict observance of the principle of non-refoulement, and access to objective information on conditions in the country of origin;
- (d) return in conditions of safety and dignity, implying physical safety, during and upon return to home areas and treatment in accordance with basic humanitarian and human rights standards; with full access to and by UNHCR and other relevant bodies for the purpose of monitoring the well-being of the returnees; while not implying immunity from prosecution for crimes falling within the purview of the International Tribunal for Rwanda or of corresponding national legislation;
- (e) respect for private property, implying that the governments concerned must ensure the reinstallation of returning refugees and internally displaced persons in their homes and land, while finding alternative solutions when this is legally or otherwise impossible; in all cases, voluntary repatriation shall involve persons, their 'livestock' and household properties.

15. A peaceful resolution of the problem of displacement in the Great Lakes Region, and in particular any strategy aimed at ensuring the voluntary return and reintegration of refugees and internally displaced persons, requires the commitment of the respective countries of origin and of asylum, and of the international community, to take a number of concrete measures. These measures follow hereafter.

C. MEASURES TO BE TAKEN IN AND/OR BY THE COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN

16. Countries of origin have a fundamental role to play. In particular, they should create conditions conducive to the voluntary repatriation of refugees and the return of displaced persons to their places of habitual residence in conditions of safety and dignity.

**BURUNDI**

17. In view of the recurrent political tension, the Government of Burundi should pursue its initiatives aimed at promoting and strengthening national reconciliation, reconstruction and democracy, including the organization of a national debate as stipulated in the Convention of Government signed on 10 September 1994, and in which all the strata of the population should be invited to participate.

18. In order to promote full respect for human rights and an environment that would eliminate causes for future coerced displacement, the following action is recommended:

- (a) strengthening of the judicial system, with the assistance of the international community, to enhance its quality and to ensure the independence and objectivity of the judiciary;
- (b) provision by the Government of Burundi of adequate and appropriate means to enable the Armed Forces to counter effectively the proliferation of arms and activities of armed groups and militia within the countryside and in Bujumbura, in order to create the necessary conditions for the rapid restoration of law and order, as well as security;
- (c) putting an end to acts committed with impunity which remain a fundamental and persistent threat to the restoration of law and order and security, and for that purpose, with the help of the international community, taking concrete measures to speed up an international judicial enquiry as a prelude to the trial of those responsible for the 21 October 1993 attempted coup d'etat and for the resultant massacres;
- (d) taking punitive measures against members of the armed forces found guilty of acts of reprisal and other violations of human rights;
- (e) disseminating, as widely as possible, the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and their Additional Protocols of 1977, as well as the minimum humanitarian behavioral norms prepared in Burundi with

the assistance of the ICRC; continuing to acknowledge the specific role of the ICRC as a neutral and independent intermediary and to facilitate its activities.

- (f) collaborating closely with the various bodies of the United Nations, as well as the OAU military and civilian observers whose role should be reinforced;
- (g) enhancing the role of the OAU in Burundi;
- (h) requesting a sizeable expansion of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in Burundi to ensure a visible and effective presence of neutral and competent observers to help restore confidence and to intensify its advisory services in the field of human rights.

19. The Conference called on all citizens, the media and the political leaders in Burundi to show moderation in order to avoid a new outbreak of violence.

20. In addition, to reassure refugees and internally displaced persons, the Government should:

- (a) conclude and implement Tripartite Voluntary Repatriation Agreements with the UNHCR and the asylum countries, such as the Agreement signed with Tanzania in 1991;
- (b) implement urgently the provisions of the Convention of Government of 1994 concerning returnees and internally displaced persons;
- (c) adopt concrete measures to ensure security in the home areas of internally displaced persons and returnees, including the establishment of Open Relief Centres or other mechanisms of assistance and protection;
- (d) grant full access to UNHCR and OAU and any other relevant international observers for the purpose of returnee monitoring;
- (e) publicly reassure refugees and internally displaced persons regarding the right to restoration of their private property, while adopting concrete measures to clarify the legal status of property left behind by refugees, including those who fled prior to October 1993, notably in 1972;
- (f) show respect for the private property of returnees and displaced persons;
- (g) organize confidence building visits to refugee camps and facilitate similar visits by potential returnees to their home areas.



21. In the strict and urgent implementation by all the parties concerned, of the provisions of the Convention of Government signed in September 1994, the Government of Burundi should pursue the initiatives aimed at strengthening national reconciliation and security.

#### RWANDA

22. The Conference noted with satisfaction the Rwanda Government's efforts at establishing a broad-based Government of National Unity, a broad-based National Assembly, a National Army and the re-establishment of the civil administration in Rwanda in the spirit of the Arusha Accord. The Conference is convinced that these measures will encourage the voluntary return of refugees and the reintegration of returnees and internally displaced persons\*. It also called for the further strengthening of the civil administration. The Conference therefore urged and encouraged the Government of Rwanda to continue with its programmes in the following areas:

✓ (a) the further strengthening of the civil administration, as well as the deployment of Human Rights Monitors, UN, including UNAMIR and UNHCR, other organizations and NGOs in areas of return and the continuation of the acknowledgment of the specific role of the ICRC as a neutral and independent intermediary and support to its activities;

✓ (b) terminating the impunity of persons guilty of acts of genocide and of other serious violations of humanitarian and human rights law by cooperating closely with the International Tribunal for Rwanda or through national prosecution in accordance with due process of law. The Government of Rwanda is urged to reinforce public order and to pursue its efforts to establish an independent and effective judicial system as well as legal institutions, particularly the Supreme Council of Magistrates for the restoration of justice;

2/11 ✓ (c) the pursuance of appropriate measures against soldiers and civilians who take the law into their own hands and the fostering of confidence among all segments of the population, be they civilians or military. Emphasis should also be placed on the need to widely disseminate the Rules and Principles of the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the Additional Protocols of 1977 which duly contribute to a culture of peace and tolerance;

2/11 ✓ (d) ensuring respect for the property rights of refugees and internally displaced persons by:

i) continuing to apply concrete measures to adjudicate property disputes in a fair and expeditious manner;

✓ \* The Delegation of Rwanda declared that the use of the expression "internally displaced persons" was not appropriate under the prevailing situation in their country.



- ✓ ii) enacting legislation to regulate the strictly temporary and provisional nature of any house occupation on an emergency basis, to be authorized and recorded by designated officials;
- (e) ✓ rapid and massive rehabilitation, reconstruction and development assistance to enable the country to return to normalcy and to absorb the returnees;
- ✓ (f) disseminating factual information through the mass media to counter propaganda in the camps so that the refugees are given accurate information to make informed choices on repatriation;
- (g) ✓ strengthening of transit points to facilitate orderly repatriation and the reintegration of returnees;
- (h) ✓ implementing repatriation arrangements in accordance with the Tripartite Agreements between the countries of origin, the countries of asylum and UNHCR.

✓ 23. More specifically, to reassure refugees and internally displaced persons, the Rwandese authorities are advised to:

- (a) conclude and implement Tripartite Voluntary Repatriation Agreements with other asylum countries and UNHCR, similar to those already signed with Burundi and ~~Tanzania~~ <sup>Zaire</sup>;
- (b) continue to disseminate solemn declarations, by all relevant and competent authorities welcoming back the refugees and internally displaced persons in safety and dignity, and (re)emphasizing that any occupation of their land or homes will be terminated after their return;
- (c) continue taking concrete steps to delineate and develop, as soon as possible, areas identified for the settlement of refugees who left more than ten years ago, in conformity with the principles of the Arusha Protocol of 1993, and for the settlement of other refugees who cannot be reinstated in their properties;
- (d) continue to cooperate fully with UNHCR, UNAMIR and others to facilitate the return home of internally displaced persons, which return should take place on a voluntary basis;
- (e) continue their visits to refugee camps in the countries of asylum and to make statements on national reconciliation likely to restore confidence in the refugee camps and facilitate similar visits by potential returnees to their home areas.

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operations camp

24. The Conference noted that there were unregistered Rwandese refugees especially in Kenya and Uganda who may need assistance to repatriate.

D. MEASURES TO BE TAKEN IN AND/OR BY THE COUNTRIES OF ASYLUM

25. The Conference reaffirmed the humanitarian character of granting asylum to refugees. In this regard, the countries hosting refugees from the Great Lakes Region were encouraged to continue granting asylum and to assist refugees in line with the 1951 United Nations Convention and its 1967 Protocol, both relating to the status of refugees, as well as the 1969 OAU Convention relating to the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa and the 1981 OAU Charter on Human and People's Rights. Attention was also drawn to the fact that the granting of asylum should not be seen as an unfriendly or hostile act, but rather should be seen as a responsibility and an obligation under international law. The Conference commended all the countries of the Sub-Region which, for many years, have continued to grant asylum to successive groups of refugees, in spite of the severe strains this has imposed on their national resources and on their natural environment. It also commended all relevant international organizations and NGOs, for their meritorious work in providing humanitarian assistance to refugees and internally displaced persons.

26. The Conference, however, requested the countries of asylum in the Great Lakes Region, in close collaboration with UNHCR and with the help of the international community, to ensure that the following measures are taken:

- ✓ (a) restoring public order in the refugee camps and full respect for individual freedoms, in order to ensure the following:
  - Rw i) the unimpeded and fair distribution of humanitarian assistance, especially to vulnerable refugees, including women, children and the elderly;
  - ii) the safety of humanitarian personnel and the protection of storage points and facilities;
  - iii) the security of all refugees including those wishing to be repatriated through the establishment of security staging areas and corridors to the border in accordance with the decisions of the Nairobi Summit of 7 January 1995;
  - iv) in the case of Zaire, the earliest possible implementation of arrangements agreed upon with UNHCR on 27 January 1995, and full cooperation with the planned international technical and monitoring support;
- ✓ (b) restructuring, where necessary, refugee committees and ensuring the designation of new representatives including a fair number of women;
- ✓ (c) ensuring respect of the civilian, humanitarian and non-political character of asylum in general and of refugee camps and settlements in particular; to this end, taking measures to prevent refugees or other persons living in or outside refugee camps from engaging in any subversive activities against any Member State of the OAU, in particular by use of arms, through the press, or by radio; prohibiting radio stations or other forms of media inciting ethnic hatred;

- ✓(d) ensuring the safety of refugees in camps and settlements against armed attacks;
- (e) whenever possible, relocating refugee camps away from the border, in conformity with the 1969 OAU Convention, taking also into consideration environmental hazardous areas; ✓
- (f) concluding Tripartite Voluntary Repatriation Agreements with Burundi and Rwanda, where this has not yet been done;
- (g) intensifying efforts to address the issue of reunification of unaccompanied minors in conformity with the relevant international instruments.

E. MEASURES TO BE TAKEN BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

✓ 27. The Conference appreciated that there were humanitarian programmes financed and undertaken by various donor countries, United Nations Agencies, in particular UNHCR, Inter-governmental Organizations, the International Movement of the Red Cross and Red Crescent and Non-governmental Organizations for the benefit of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in the Great Lakes Region. However, because of the magnitude of the problem, the demands were continuous and more needs were bound to arise as the situation continued to persist and deteriorate. Additional material resources are therefore required to provide urgent relief assistance to the refugees and displaced persons whose very survival remains a major concern. This assistance is considered to be temporary in nature, in anticipation of the early repatriation of refugees.

✓ 28. In addition to food aid, donors should redouble their response to other basic needs such as in the fields of health, education, water, sanitation and logistical support, as well as in the wider areas of rehabilitation, reconstruction and reforestation which merit adequate attention and support by the donor community. In this respect, donors should ensure proper coordination with the national authorities concerned, taking into account national procedures and regulations. *taking into account national procedures*

✓ 29. The Conference also called on the international community to establish appropriate links and complementarity among the various responses adopted to solve the plight of refugees, and to enhance the pursuit of economic rehabilitation and reconstruction in the countries affected.

30. The international community is expected to:

- ✓(a) provide support to and encourage initiatives in Burundi and Rwanda aimed at national reconciliation, and at promoting conditions conducive to the voluntary return of refugees and displaced persons;



- ✓ (b) provide adequate support to Tanzania to enhance security measures already taken in the refugee camps, and regarding Zaire, to the early implementation of the arrangements agreed upon between Zaire and UNHCR, as contained in the agreement of 7 January 1995, by responding positively to the request as recently formulated by UNHCR for such support;
- ✓ (c) cooperate with and support the International Tribunal for Rwanda, thus enabling it to function effectively and to start prosecuting at the earliest possible date; support the efforts of the Government of Rwanda to establish an independent and effective judicial system;
- ✓ (d) continue to support human rights monitoring operations in Rwanda as part of the action undertaken by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and support the establishment of a similar operation in Burundi;
- (e) support initiatives for an expanded role of the OAU civil and military observers in Burundi;
- ✓ (f) assist the governments of the countries of origin to organize confidence building visits to refugee camps with the cooperation of the asylum countries and facilitate similar visits by potential returnees to their home areas;
- ✓ (g) support and encourage initiatives taken by the Economic Community of the Great Lakes States (Burundi, Rwanda and Zaire) aimed at strengthening the climate of peace at the common borders and in the refugee camps, by controlling the movement of instruments of war and by preventing subversion as well as incursions by uncontrolled elements on either side of the common borders.

31. The Conference recognized that the problem of refugees, returnees and displaced persons was a global responsibility and emphasized the need for equitable burden-sharing taking into consideration that the asylum countries were among the least developed countries. The international community was therefore urged to assist asylum countries through the adoption of the following concrete measures aimed at alleviating and redressing the negative impact on the local communities directly caused by the presence of refugees and displaced persons:

- (a) arresting and reversing environmental degradation;
- (b) rehabilitation of damaged infrastructure including schools, roads, water sources, health facilities etc.;
- (c) encouraging the restoration of normalcy through provision of assistance to disoriented local communities;
- (d) assistance to host countries in the maintenance of law and order in and around refugee camps;



- (e) assistance to host countries in refugee identification exercise, where this will be necessary.

32. The Conference acknowledged the importance of the OAU Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution in addressing crises in the Continent. Therefore, it requested the OAU to enhance its presence in the region and to continue to play an active role in fostering the reconciliation process in Burundi and Rwanda in tandem with the international community.

33. The Conference appealed to the donor community to effectively assist countries in the Great Lakes Region within the framework of the PLAN OF ACTION and its implementation.

#### F. CONCLUSION AND FOLLOW UP ACTION

34. The situation of refugees, returnees and internally displaced persons continues to pose unprecedented challenges to the countries of asylum, to Burundi and Rwanda, and to the international community at large. The Conference recognized fully the major difficulties involved in addressing the situation, and in resolving the problem of massive displacement. All concerned must therefore give proof of their determination to implement the various components of this PLAN OF ACTION.

35. As a framework for reviewing progress in the implementation of the present PLAN OF ACTION, a Follow-up Committee is hereby established. It will meet at regular intervals and not later than June 1995 for its first meeting. The Preparatory Committee shall be transformed into the Follow-up Committee. Its membership shall also include a representative(s) of the OAU Commission of Twenty on Refugees.

36. Stressing the urgency of the security and humanitarian situations in the Great Lakes region, the Conference strongly urged that its decisions be implemented without delay. The Conference requested the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to submit reports to the next sessions of the OAU Council of Ministers and the United Nations General Assembly respectively, citing progress towards accomplishing the benchmarks established by the Conference as well as for the purpose of soliciting funding for the effective implementation of the PLAN OF ACTION.

37. The Conference expresses its gratitude to the Government of Burundi for the hospitality offered to all delegations, and to the Secretary-General of the OAU and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for their prime role in organizing this Conference.



REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON ASSISTANCE TO  
REFUGEES, RETURNEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS  
IN THE GREAT LAKES REGION

BUJUMBURA, 12 - 17 FEBRUARY 1995



This is the  
Draft which was  
initially revised. A-84.  
the final copy. See.  
19.12

DRAFT

PLAN OF ACTION

(Revision 1.)

Ixe1

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UNHCR



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voluntary  
repatriation

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Persons  
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private  
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15. A peaceful resolution of the problem of displacement in the Great Lakes Region, and in particular any strategy aimed at ensuring the voluntary return and reintegration of refugees and internally displaced persons, requires the commitment of the respective countries of origin and of asylum, and of the international community, to take a number of concrete measures. These measures follow hereafter.

C. MEASURES TO BE TAKEN IN AND/OR BY THE COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN

16. Countries of origin have a fundamental role to play. In particular, they should create conditions conducive to the voluntary repatriation of refugees and the return of displaced persons to their places of habitual residence in conditions of safety and dignity.

**BURUNDI**

17. In view of the recurrent political tension, the Government of Burundi should pursue its initiatives aimed at promoting and strengthening national reconciliation, reconstruction and democracy, including the organization of a national debate as stipulated in the Convention of Government signed on 10 September 1994, and in which all the strata of the population should be invited to participate.

18. In order to promote full respect for human rights and an environment that would eliminate causes for future coerced displacement, the following action is recommended:

- (a) strengthening of the judicial system, with the assistance of the international community, to enhance its quality and to ensure the independence and objectivity of the judiciary;
- (b) provision by the Government of Burundi of adequate and appropriate means to enable the Armed Forces to counter effectively the proliferation of arms and activities of armed groups and militia within the countryside and in Bujumbura, in order to create the necessary conditions for the rapid restoration of law and order, as well as security;
- (c) putting an end to acts committed with impunity which remain a fundamental and persistent threat to the restoration of law and order and security, and for that purpose, with the help of the international community, taking concrete measures to speed up an international judicial enquiry as a prelude to the trial of those responsible for the 21 October 1993 attempted coup d'etat and for the resultant massacres;
- (d) taking punitive measures against members of the armed forces found guilty of acts of reprisal and other violations of human rights;
- (e) disseminating, as widely as possible, the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and their Additional Protocols of 1977, as well as the minimum humanitarian behavioral norms prepared in Burundi with

the assistance of the ICRC; continuing to acknowledge the specific role of the ICRC as a neutral and independent intermediary and to facilitate its activities.

- (f) collaborating closely with the various bodies of the United Nations, as well as the OAU military and civilian observers whose role should be reinforced;
- (g) enhancing the role of the OAU in Burundi;
- (h) requesting a sizeable expansion of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in Burundi to ensure a visible and effective presence of neutral and competent observers to help restore confidence and to intensify its advisory services in the field of human rights.

19. The Conference called on all citizens, the media and the political leaders in Burundi to show moderation in order to avoid a new outbreak of violence.

20. In addition, to reassure refugees and internally displaced persons, the Government should:

- (a) conclude and implement Tripartite Voluntary Repatriation Agreements with the UNHCR and the asylum countries, such as the Agreement signed with Tanzania in 1991;
- (b) implement urgently the provisions of the Convention of Government of 1994 concerning returnees and internally displaced persons;
- (c) adopt concrete measures to ensure security in the home areas of internally displaced persons and returnees, including the establishment of Open Relief Centres or other mechanisms of assistance and protection;
- (d) grant full access to UNHCR and OAU and any other relevant international observers for the purpose of returnee monitoring;
- (e) publicly reassure refugees and internally displaced persons regarding the right to restoration of their private property, while adopting concrete measures to clarify the legal status of property left behind by refugees, including those who fled prior to October 1993, notably in 1972;
- (f) show respect for the private property of returnees and displaced persons;
- (g) organize confidence building visits to refugee camps and facilitate similar visits by potential returnees to their home areas.

Measures  
to be taken  
by countries  
joining

21. In the strict and urgent implementation by all the parties concerned, of the provisions of the Convention of Government signed in September 1994, the Government of Burundi should pursue the initiatives aimed at strengthening national reconciliation and security.

#### RWANDA

22. The Conference noted with satisfaction the Rwanda Government's efforts at establishing a broad-based Government of National Unity, a broad-based National Assembly, a National Army and the re-establishment of the civil administration in Rwanda in the spirit of the Arusha Accord. The Conference is convinced that these measures will encourage the voluntary return of refugees and the reintegration of returnees and internally displaced persons\*. It also called for the further strengthening of the civil administration. The Conference therefore urged and encouraged the Government of Rwanda to continue with its programmes in the following areas:

- (a) the further strengthening of the civil administration, as well as the deployment of Human Rights Monitors, UN, including UNAMIR and UNHCR, other organizations and NGOs in areas of return and the continuation of the acknowledgment of the specific role of the ICRC as a neutral and independent intermediary and support to its activities;
- (b) terminating the impunity of persons guilty of acts of genocide and of other serious violations of humanitarian and human rights law by cooperating closely with the International Tribunal for Rwanda or through national prosecution in accordance with due process of law. The Government of Rwanda is urged to reinforce public order and to pursue its efforts to establish an independent and effective judicial system as well as legal institutions, particularly the Supreme Council of Magistrates for the restoration of justice;
- (c) the pursuance of appropriate measures against soldiers and civilians who take the law into their own hands and the fostering of confidence among all segments of the population, be they civilians or military. Emphasis should also be placed on the need to widely disseminate the Rules and Principles of the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the Additional Protocols of 1977 which duly contribute to a culture of peace and tolerance;
- (d) ensuring respect for the property rights of refugees and internally displaced persons by:
  - i) continuing to apply concrete measures to adjudicate property disputes in a fair and expeditious manner;

\* The Delegation of Rwanda declared that the use of the expression "internally displaced persons" was not appropriate under the prevailing situation in their country.

ii) enacting legislation to regulate the strictly temporary and provisional nature of any house occupation on an emergency basis, to be authorized and recorded by designated officials;

- (e) rapid and massive rehabilitation, reconstruction and development assistance to enable the country to return to normalcy and to absorb the returnees;
- (f) disseminating factual information through the mass media to counter propaganda in the camps so that the refugees are given accurate information to make informed choices on repatriation;
- (g) strengthening of transit points to facilitate orderly repatriation and the reintegration of returnees;
- (h) implementing repatriation arrangements in accordance with the Tripartite Agreements between the countries of origin, the countries of asylum and UNHCR.

23. More specifically, to reassure refugees and internally displaced persons, the Rwandese authorities are advised to:

- (a) conclude and implement Tripartite Voluntary Repatriation Agreements with other asylum countries and UNHCR, similar to those already signed with Burundi and Tanzania;
- (b) continue to disseminate solemn declarations, by all relevant and competent authorities welcoming back the refugees and internally displaced persons in safety and dignity, and (re)emphasizing that any occupation of their land or homes will be terminated after their return;
- (c) continue taking concrete steps to delineate and develop, as soon as possible, areas identified for the settlement of refugees who left more than ten years ago, in conformity with the principles of the Arusha Protocol of 1993, and for the settlement of other refugees who cannot be reinstated in their properties;
- (d) continue to cooperate fully with UNHCR, UNAMIR and others to facilitate the return home of internally displaced persons, which return should take place on a voluntary basis;
- (e) continue their visits to refugee camps in the countries of asylum and to make statements on national reconciliation likely to restore confidence in the refugee camps and facilitate similar visits by potential returnees to their home areas.

24. The Conference noted that there were unregistered Rwandese refugees especially in Kenya and Uganda who may need assistance to repatriate.



D. MEASURES TO BE TAKEN IN AND/OR BY THE COUNTRIES OF ASYLUM

25. The Conference reaffirmed the humanitarian character of granting asylum to refugees. In this regard, the countries hosting refugees from the Great Lakes Region were encouraged to continue granting asylum and to assist refugees in line with the 1951 United Nations Convention and its 1967 Protocol, both relating to the status of refugees, as well as the 1969 OAU Convention relating to the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa and the 1981 OAU Charter on Human and People's Rights. Attention was also drawn to the fact that the granting of asylum should not be seen as an unfriendly or hostile act, but rather should be seen as a responsibility and an obligation under international law. The Conference commended all the countries of the Sub-Region which, for many years, have continued to grant asylum to successive groups of refugees, in spite of the severe strains this has imposed on their national resources and on their natural environment. It also commended all relevant international organizations and NGOs, for their meritorious work in providing humanitarian assistance to refugees and internally displaced persons.

26. The Conference, however, requested the countries of asylum in the Great Lakes Region, in close collaboration with UNHCR and with the help of the international community, to ensure that the following measures are taken:

- (a) restoring public order in the refugee camps and full respect for individual freedoms, in order to ensure the following:
- i) the unimpeded and fair distribution of humanitarian assistance, especially to vulnerable refugees, including women, children and the elderly;
  - ii) the safety of humanitarian personnel and the protection of storage points and facilities;
  - iii) the security of all refugees including those wishing to be repatriated through the establishment of security staging areas and corridors to the border in accordance with the decisions of the Nairobi Summit of 7 January 1995;
  - iv) in the case of Zaire, the earliest possible implementation of arrangements agreed upon with UNHCR on 27 January 1995, and full cooperation with the planned international technical and monitoring support;
- (b) restructuring, where necessary, refugee committees and ensuring the designation of new representatives including a fair number of women;
- (c) ensuring respect of the civilian, humanitarian and non-political character of asylum in general and of refugee camps and settlements in particular; to this end, taking measures to prevent refugees or other persons living in or outside refugee camps from engaging in any subversive activities against any Member State of the OAU, in particular by use of arms, through the press, or by radio; prohibiting radio stations or other forms of media inciting ethnic hatred;

*no submission*

- (d) ensuring the safety of refugees in camps and settlements against armed attacks;
- (e) whenever possible, relocating refugee camps away from the border, in conformity with the 1969 OAU Convention, taking also into consideration environmental hazardous areas; disarming armed individuals, and separating as agreed at the Nairobi Regional Summit of 7 January 1995, the intimidators in refugee camps as well as those individuals against whom there are serious reasons for considering that they have committed crimes against peace, war crimes, crimes against humanity and serious non-political crimes or acts contrary to the purposes and principles of the UN and OAU;
- (f) concluding Tripartite Voluntary Repatriation Agreements with Burundi and Rwanda, where this has not yet been done;
- (g) intensifying efforts to address the issue of reunification of unaccompanied minors in conformity with the relevant international instruments.

E. MEASURES TO BE TAKEN BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

27. The Conference appreciated that there were humanitarian programmes financed and undertaken by various donor countries, United Nations Agencies, in particular UNHCR, Inter-governmental Organizations, the International Movement of the Red Cross and Red Crescent and Non-governmental Organizations for the benefit of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in the Great Lakes Region. However, because of the magnitude of the problem, the demands were continuous and more needs were bound to arise as the situation continued to persist and deteriorate. Additional material resources are therefore required to provide urgent relief assistance to the refugees and displaced persons whose very survival remains a major concern. This assistance is considered to be temporary in nature, in anticipation of the early repatriation of refugees.

28. In addition to food aid, donors should redouble their response to other basic needs such as in the fields of health, education, water, sanitation and logistical support, as well as in the wider areas of rehabilitation, reconstruction and reforestation which merit adequate attention and support by the donor community. In this respect, donors should ensure proper coordination with the national authorities concerned, taking into account national procedures and regulations.

29. The Conference also called on the international community to establish appropriate links and complementarity among the various responses adopted to solve the plight of refugees, and to enhance the pursuit of economic rehabilitation and reconstruction in the countries affected.

30. The international community is expected to:

- (a) provide support to and encourage initiatives in Burundi and Rwanda aimed at national reconciliation and at promoting conditions conducive to the voluntary return of refugees and displaced persons;

- Int  
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- (b) provide adequate support to Tanzania to enhance security measures already taken in the refugee camps, and regarding Zaire, to the early implementation of the arrangements agreed upon between Zaire and UNHCR, as contained in the agreement of 7 January 1995, by responding positively to the request as recently formulated by UNHCR for such support;
  - (c) cooperate with and support the International Tribunal for Rwanda, thus enabling it to function effectively and to start prosecuting at the earliest possible date; support the efforts of the Government of Rwanda to establish an independent and effective judicial system;
  - (d) continue to support human rights monitoring operations in Rwanda as part of the action undertaken by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and support the establishment of a similar operation in Burundi;
  - (e) support initiatives for an expanded role of the OAU civil and military observers in Burundi;
  - (f) assist the governments of the countries of origin to organize confidence building visits to refugee camps with the cooperation of the asylum countries and facilitate similar visits by potential returnees to their home areas;
  - (g) support and encourage initiatives taken by the Economic Community of the Great Lakes States (Burundi, Rwanda and Zaire) aimed at strengthening the climate of peace at the common borders and in the refugee camps, by controlling the movement of instruments of war and by preventing subversion as well as incursions by uncontrolled elements on either side of the common borders.

31. The Conference recognized that the problem of refugees, returnees and displaced persons was a global responsibility and emphasized the need for equitable burden-sharing taking into consideration that the asylum countries were among the least developed countries. The international community was therefore urged to assist asylum countries through the adoption of the following concrete measures aimed at alleviating and redressing the negative impact on the local communities directly caused by the presence of refugees and displaced persons:

- (a) arresting and reversing environmental degradation;
- (b) rehabilitation of damaged infrastructure including schools, roads, water sources, health facilities etc.;
- (c) encouraging the restoration of normalcy through provision of assistance to disoriented local communities;
- (d) assistance to host countries in the maintenance of law and order in and around refugee camps;

- (e) assistance to host countries in refugee identification exercise, where this will be necessary.

32. The Conference acknowledged the importance of the OAU Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution in addressing crises in the Continent. Therefore, it requested the OAU to enhance its presence in the region and to continue to play an active role in fostering the reconciliation process in Burundi and Rwanda in tandem with the international community.

33. The Conference appealed to the donor community to effectively assist countries in the Great Lakes Region within the framework of the PLAN OF ACTION and its implementation.

#### F. CONCLUSION AND FOLLOW UP ACTION

34. The situation of refugees, returnees and internally displaced persons continues to pose unprecedented challenges to the countries of asylum, to Burundi and Rwanda, and to the international community at large. The Conference recognized fully the major difficulties involved in addressing the situation, and in resolving the problem of massive displacement. All concerned must therefore give proof of their determination to implement the various components of this PLAN OF ACTION.

35. As a framework for reviewing progress in the implementation of the present PLAN OF ACTION, a Follow-up Committee is hereby established. It will meet at regular intervals and not later than June 1995 for its first meeting. The Preparatory Committee shall be transformed into the Follow-up Committee. Its membership shall also include a representative(s) of the OAU Commission of Twenty on Refugees.

36. Stressing the urgency of the security and humanitarian situations in the Great Lakes region, the Conference strongly urged that its decisions be implemented without delay. The Conference requested the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to submit reports to the next sessions of the OAU Council of Ministers and the United Nations General Assembly respectively, citing progress towards accomplishing the benchmarks established by the Conference as well as for the purpose of soliciting funding for the effective implementation of the PLAN OF ACTION.

37. The Conference expresses its gratitude to the Government of Burundi for the hospitality offered to all delegations, and to the Secretary-General of the OAU and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for their prime role in organizing this Conference.



NATIONS UNIES  
HAUT COMMISSARIAT  
POUR LES RÉFUGIÉS



UNITED NATIONS  
HIGH COMMISSIONER  
FOR REFUGEES

- *Shohman*  
- *DAD*  
- *Scoti*  
- *XTra* } *done*  
                  *24/12*

*Avec les compliments  
du  
Haut Commissariat des Nations Unies  
pour les réfugiés*

*With the compliments  
of the  
United Nations High Commissioner  
for Refugees*



*This is the  
final draft. Pl.  
make several  
copies & give  
one to me.*

*Bel. 24/12*



Regional conference on assistance to  
refugees, returnees and displaced persons  
in the Great Lakes Region.



BUJUMBURA 12-17 FEBRUARY 1995

PLAN OF ACTION

DRAFT

A. PREAMBLE

1. Following the succession of tragic events which have been hitting both Burundi and Rwanda for a number of years, Central and Eastern African countries are now facing the worst refugee problem in the whole continent. It was against this background that the 60th Ordinary Session of the OAU Council of Ministers meeting in Tunis, Tunisia, in June 1994, adopted Resolution CM/Res.1527 (LX) which was further endorsed by the 49th Ordinary Session of the United Nations General Assembly through its Resolution A/Res.49/7. The resolutions called for the holding of a Regional Conference on Assistance to Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in the Great Lakes Region.

2. The objective of the Conference was to reach firm commitments on immediate, practical measures necessary to address the serious security and humanitarian concerns in the region.

3. The Regional Conference was accordingly held at Ministerial level in Bujumbura, Burundi, from 15 - 17 February 1995 and addressed the problem of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in the Great Lakes region on a humanitarian and non-political basis. The Conference, which was held under the auspices of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), was attended *inter alia* by the countries of the region, Tunisia, Egypt and Ethiopia, in their respective capacities as current, past and future Chairmen of the OAU, the OAU Commission of Twenty on Refugees, Members of UNHCR's Executive Committee, other countries, the Economic Community of the Countries of the Great Lakes (CEPGL), United Nations Agencies and other international organizations, as well as by representatives of Non-governmental Organizations (NGO).

4. The Conference was apprised of the social, economic and political manifestations of the problem of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in the Great Lakes Region. It noted the high number of refugees, returnees and displaced persons involved, for targeted action and response, and that these refugees are mainly found in camps in Zaire, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi and Uganda. The Conference reaffirmed that the right of return applies to all refugees.

5. The Conference underscored the fact that the problem of refugees and displaced persons in the region had become alarming as the very survival of hundreds of thousands of the affected persons was increasingly being threatened, in addition to the threat to the general stability of countries in the region. The above adverse effects arising from the continued presence of refugees and persistent movements of displaced persons on the development process in the affected countries were equally alarming and a source of grave

concern. The Conference expressed particular concern about the situation of many refugee and displaced women and about the tragedy of large numbers of unaccompanied children.

6. The Conference reaffirmed that the impunity of those who have instigated, prepared or committed acts of genocide and other serious violations of international humanitarian and human rights law, as well as assassinations of democratically-elected leaders cannot be accepted. Impunity for such crimes would constitute inter alia a major impediment towards national reconciliation, solutions to the problems of displacement and the prevention of new displacements.

7. The Regional Conference expressed the hope that a broader United Nations Conference on peace, security and stability in the region, called for by the UN Security Council, would soon be held to examine the root causes of the problems in the region, in order to promote peace, security and sustainable development in the region.

8. Accordingly, the Conference, having deliberated on all major aspects and causes of the problem, demonstrated concerted and practical action by adopting the present PLAN OF ACTION, which focuses on voluntary repatriation as the most preferred durable solution to the refugee problem in the Great Lakes Region. The PLAN OF ACTION underscores the important roles to be played by the countries of origin, the countries of asylum, the donor community, the United Nations System, the OAU, CEPGL, ICRC and the Non-governmental Organizations.

#### B. PRINCIPLES, POLICIES AND GUIDELINES

9. The problem of refugees, returnees and internally displaced persons should be addressed on a strictly humanitarian and non-political basis. In this context, all directly affected States should be guided by the principle of solidarity with the individuals in the search for human solutions to their problems.

10. The institution of asylum for refugees, as enshrined in the relevant international and regional refugee instruments must be upheld. Pending their voluntary repatriation, or pending the identification of other appropriate solutions, refugees should continue to benefit from international protection and basic humanitarian assistance.

11. However, individuals against whom there are serious reasons for considering that they have committed crimes against peace, war crimes, crimes against humanity, serious non-political crimes prior to fleeing into the country of refuge, or acts contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations or of the OAU, should be excluded from international refugee protection and assistance, in accordance with the 1951 UN Refugee Convention and the 1969 OAU Refugee Convention. The implementation of any such exclusion in the individual case should not, however, directly or indirectly, endanger the safety or well being of bona fide refugees, of humanitarian personnel or of local communities. If it is determined that certain individuals do not deserve international refugee protection, in which case the principle of non-refoulement does not apply, such persons may be subjected to extradition procedures, under conditions of due process of law. It is recalled in this context that, in accordance with the 1948 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, persons guilty of instigating, preparing

or committing acts of genocide must be punished, either in the country where such acts were committed, or by an International Tribunal.

12. The countries of asylum and of origin, and the international community should mobilize all possible efforts to assist, wherever possible, with the repatriation and reintegration of Burundese and Rwandese refugees wishing to return at the present stage. In addition to voluntary repatriation, other durable solutions may be considered including naturalization and settlement in countries of asylum. Efforts to facilitate the voluntary return home of internally displaced persons in Burundi and Rwanda should continue and, if possible, be intensified.

13. In order to avoid instability and so as not to endanger the process of national reconciliation and confidence building, repatriation movements to the extent possible, should take place in an organized manner, and should avoid areas which are not yet stable. The future pace and timing of return movements should reflect the experiences gained in the first phases of repatriation, and should take into account further developments in refugee camps as well as in Burundi and Rwanda, or parts thereof.

14. In accordance with international law and practice, all stages of repatriation should be governed by the following principles which may have corresponding relevance with respect to the return of internally displaced persons to their home areas:

- (a) the right to depart safely from the country of asylum and to return to the country of origin;
- (b) non-discrimination, implying equal treatment and a balanced approach with regard to all individuals and groups wishing to return;
- (c) voluntariness based on informed consent, through the strict observance of the principle of non-refoulement, and access to objective information on conditions in the country of origin;
- (d) return in conditions of safety and dignity, implying physical safety, during and upon return to home areas and treatment in accordance with basic humanitarian and human rights standards; with full access to and by UNHCR and other relevant bodies for the purpose of monitoring the well-being of the returnees; while not implying immunity from prosecution for crimes falling within the purview of the International Tribunal for Rwanda or of corresponding national legislation;
- (e) respect for private property, implying that the governments concerned must ensure the reinstallation of returning refugees and internally displaced persons in their homes and land, while finding alternative solutions when this is legally or otherwise impossible; in all cases, voluntary repatriation shall involve persons, their livestock and household properties.



15. A peaceful resolution of the problem of displacement in the Great Lakes Region, and in particular any strategy aimed at ensuring the voluntary return and reintegration of refugees and internally displaced persons, requires the commitment of the respective countries of origin and of asylum, and of the international community, to take a number of concrete measures. These measures follow hereafter.

C. MEASURES TO BE TAKEN IN AND/OR BY THE COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN

16. Countries of origin have a fundamental role to play. In particular, they should create conditions conducive to the voluntary repatriation of refugees and the return of displaced persons to their places of habitual residence in conditions of safety and dignity.

**BURUNDI**

17. In view of the recurrent political tension, the Government of Burundi should pursue its initiatives aimed at promoting and strengthening national reconciliation, reconstruction and democracy, including the organization of a national debate as stipulated in the Convention of Government signed on 10 September 1994, and in which all the strata of the population should be invited to participate.

18. In order to promote full respect for human rights and an environment that would eliminate causes for future coerced displacement, the following action is recommended:

- (a) strengthening of the judicial system, with the assistance of the international community, to enhance its quality and effectiveness, especially in the first place in relation to sub-paragraphs (c), (d) and (f) of this paragraph;
- (b) provision by the Government of Burundi of adequate and appropriate means to set up a special disarmament unit, backed by the on-going political initiatives, to counter the proliferation of arms and disband the militia;
- (c) putting an end to acts committed with impunity which remain a fundamental and persistent threat to the restoration of law and order and security, and for that purpose, with the help of the international community, taking concrete measures to facilitate the speeding up of an international judicial enquiry as a prelude to the trial of those persons responsible for the assassination of the democratically elected President during the 21 October 1993 attempted coup d'etat and for the resultant massacres;
- (d) taking punitive measures against members of the Armed Forces found guilty of indiscriminate acts of reprisal or other violations of human rights, as well as measures to prevent the reoccurrence of any such acts in the future;
- (e) disseminating, as widely as possible, the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and their Additional Protocols of 1977, as well as the minimum humanitarian behavioral norms prepared in Burundi with

the assistance of the ICRC; continuing to acknowledge the specific role of the ICRC as a neutral and independent intermediary and to facilitate its activities.

- (f) collaborating closely with the various bodies of the United Nations, as well as the OAU military and civilian observers whose role should be reinforced;
- (g) enhancing the role of the OAU in Burundi;
- (h) strengthening the role of the United Nations in Burundi in conformity with the report\* to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and carrying out a sizeable expansion of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in Burundi in close consultation with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to ensure a visible and effective presence of neutral and competent observers to help restore confidence and to intensify its advisory services in the field of human rights.

19. The Conference called on all citizens, the media and the political leaders in Burundi to show moderation in order to avoid a new outbreak of violence.

20. In addition, to reassure refugees and internally displaced persons, the Government should:

- (a) conclude and implement Tripartite Voluntary Repatriation Agreements with the UNHCR and the asylum countries;
- (b) implement urgently the provisions of the Convention of Government of 1994 concerning returnees and internally displaced persons;
- (c) adopt concrete measures to ensure security for all displaced persons and returnees, as well as for the entire population living on the hills, including the establishment of Open Relief Centres or other mechanisms of assistance and protection;
- (d) grant full access to UNHCR and OAU and any other relevant international observers for the purpose of returnee monitoring;
- (e) publicly reassure refugees and internally displaced persons regarding the right to restoration of their private property, while adopting concrete measures to clarify the legal status of property left behind by refugees, including those who fled prior to October 1993, notably in 1972;
- (f) show respect for the private property of returnees and displaced persons;

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\* official reference number and title to be included in Geneva

- (g) organize confidence building visits to refugee camps and facilitate similar visits by potential returnees to their home areas.

21. In the strict and urgent implementation by all the parties concerned, of the provisions of the Convention of Government signed in September 1994, the Government of Burundi should pursue the initiatives aimed at strengthening national reconciliation and security.

#### RWANDA

22. The Conference noted with satisfaction the Rwanda Government's efforts at establishing a broad-based Government of National Unity, a broad-based National Assembly, a National Army and the re-establishment of the civil administration in Rwanda in the spirit of the Arusha Accord. The Conference is convinced that these measures and other initiatives aimed at strengthening national reconciliation and security will encourage the voluntary return of refugees and the reintegration of returnees and internally displaced persons\*. It also called for the further strengthening of the civil administration. The Conference therefore urged and encouraged the Government of Rwanda to continue with its programmes in the following areas:

- (a) pursuing full cooperation with the deployment of Human Rights Monitors, UNAMIR and UNHCR, other UN organizations and NGOs, in areas of return, and the continuation of the acknowledgment of the specific role of the ICRC as a neutral and independent intermediary and support to its activities;
- (b) terminating the impunity of persons guilty of acts of genocide and of other serious violations of humanitarian and human rights law by cooperating closely with the International Tribunal for Rwanda or through national prosecution in accordance with due process of law. The Government of Rwanda is encouraged to pursue its efforts to establish an independent and effective judicial system as well as legal institutions, particularly the Supreme Council of Magistrates for the restoration of justice, and to reinforce public order. In the meantime, the Government is encouraged to continue applying temporary measures to secure the transparency and fairness of arrest procedures;
- (c) the pursuance of appropriate measures against soldiers and civilians who take the law into their own hands and the fostering of confidence among all segments of the population, be they civilians or military. Emphasis should also be placed on the need to widely disseminate the Rules and Principles of the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the Additional Protocols of 1977 which duly contribute to a culture of peace and tolerance;

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\* The Delegation of Rwanda declared that the description "internally displaced persons" was no longer appropriate in relation to those living in camps in South-West Rwanda. The Delegation nevertheless accepts the principles and obligations in this PLAN OF ACTION with regard to these persons.

- (d) ensuring respect for the property rights of refugees and internally displaced persons by:
  - i) continuing to apply concrete measures to adjudicate property disputes in a fair and expeditious manner;
  - ii) enacting legislation to regulate the strictly temporary and provisional nature of any house occupation on an emergency basis, to be authorized and recorded by designated officials;
- (e) rapid and massive rehabilitation, reconstruction and development assistance to enable the country to return to normalcy and to absorb the returnees;
- (f) disseminating factual information through the mass media to counter propaganda in the camps so that the refugees are given accurate information to make informed choices on repatriation;
- (g) strengthening of transit points to facilitate orderly repatriation and the reintegration of returnees;
- (h) implementing repatriation arrangements in accordance with the Tripartite Agreements between the countries of origin, the countries of asylum and UNHCR.

23. More specifically, to reassure refugees and internally displaced persons, the Rwandese authorities are advised to:

- (a) conclude and implement Tripartite Voluntary Repatriation Agreements with other asylum countries and UNHCR, similar to those already signed with Burundi and Zaire;
- (b) continue to disseminate solemn declarations, by all relevant and competent authorities welcoming back the refugees and internally displaced persons in safety and dignity, and (re)emphasizing that any occupation of their land or homes will be terminated after their return;
- (c) continue taking concrete steps to delineate and develop, as soon as possible, areas identified for the settlement of refugees who left more than ten years ago, in conformity with the principles of the Arusha Protocol of 1993, and for the settlement of other refugees who cannot be reinstated in their properties;
- (d) continue its policy of cooperating fully within the framework of a coordinated humanitarian response and building upon the work of the "Integrated Operations Centre", with UN agencies and NGOs to facilitate the return home of internally displaced persons, which return should take place on a voluntary basis;
- (e) continue their visits to refugee camps in the countries of asylum and to make statements on national reconciliation likely to restore confidence in the refugee camps and facilitate similar visits by potential returnees to their home areas;



- (f) continue its policy of national reconciliation, thus contributing to the voluntary repatriation of refugees and to the reconstruction of the Rwandan Nation.

24. The Conference noted that there were unregistered Rwandese refugees especially in Kenya and Uganda who may need to be identified and assisted to repatriate.

D. MEASURES TO BE TAKEN IN AND/OR BY THE COUNTRIES OF ASYLUM

25. The Conference reaffirmed the humanitarian character of granting asylum to refugees. In this regard, the countries hosting refugees from the Great Lakes Region were encouraged to continue granting asylum and to assist refugees in line with the 1951 United Nations Convention and its 1967 Protocol, both relating to the status of refugees, as well as the 1969 OAU Convention relating to the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa and the 1981 OAU Charter on Human and People's Rights. Attention was also drawn to the fact that the granting of asylum should not be seen as an unfriendly or hostile act, but rather should be seen as a responsibility and an obligation under international law. The Conference commended all the countries of the Sub-Region which, for many years, have continued to grant asylum to successive groups of refugees, in spite of the severe strains this has imposed on their national resources and on their natural environment. It also commended all relevant international organizations and NGOs, for their meritorious work in providing humanitarian assistance to refugees and internally displaced persons.

26. The Conference, however, requested the countries of asylum in the Great Lakes Region, in close collaboration with UNHCR and with the help of the international community, to ensure that the following measures are taken:

- (a) restoring public order in the refugee camps and full respect for individual freedoms, in order to ensure the following:
  - i) the unimpeded and fair distribution of humanitarian assistance, especially to vulnerable refugees, including women, children and the elderly;
  - ii) the safety of humanitarian personnel and the protection of storage points and facilities;
  - iii) the security of all refugees including those wishing to be repatriated through the establishment of security staging areas and corridors to the border in accordance with the decisions of the Nairobi Summit of 7 January 1995;
  - iv) in the case of Zaire, the earliest possible implementation of arrangements agreed upon with UNHCR on 27 January 1995, and full cooperation with the planned international technical and monitoring support;
- (b) reconstituting the membership of refugee committees, where these have been an obstacle to the repatriation efforts, and ensuring the designation of new representatives including a reasonable number of women;

- (c) ensuring respect of the civilian, humanitarian and non-political character of asylum in general and of refugee camps and settlements in particular, and to this end:
  - i) take measures to prevent refugees or other persons living in or outside refugee camps from engaging in any subversive activities against any Member State of the OAU, in particular by use of arms, through the press, or by radio; and
  - ii) prohibit radio stations or other forms of media inciting ethnic hatred.
- (d) ensuring the safety of refugees in camps and settlements against armed attacks;
- (e) whenever possible, relocating refugee camps away from the border, in conformity with the 1969 OAU Convention, taking also into consideration environmental hazardous areas; disarming armed individuals, and separating as agreed at the Nairobi Regional Summit of 7 January 1995, the intimidators in refugee camps as well as those individuals against whom there are serious reasons for considering that they have committed crimes against peace, war crimes, crimes against humanity and serious non-political crimes or acts contrary to the purposes and principles of the UN and OAU;
- (f) concluding Tripartite Voluntary Repatriation Agreements with Burundi and Rwanda, where necessary;
- (g) intensifying efforts to address the issue of reunification of unaccompanied minors in conformity with the relevant international instruments.

E. MEASURES TO BE TAKEN BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

27. The Conference appreciated that there were humanitarian programmes financed and undertaken by various donor countries, United Nations Agencies, in particular UNHCR, Inter-governmental Organizations, the International Movement of the Red Cross and Red Crescent and Non-governmental Organizations for the benefit of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in the Great Lakes Region. However, because of the magnitude of the problem, the demands were continuous and more needs were bound to arise as the situation continued to persist and deteriorate. Additional material resources are therefore required to provide urgent relief assistance to the refugees and displaced persons whose very survival remains a major concern. This assistance is considered to be temporary in nature, in anticipation of the early repatriation of refugees.

28. In addition to food aid, donors should redouble their response to other basic needs such as in the fields of health, education, water, sanitation and logistical support, as well as in the wider areas of rehabilitation, reconstruction and reforestation which merit adequate attention and support by the donor community. In this respect, donors should ensure proper coordination with the national authorities concerned, taking into account national procedures and regulations.

29. The Conference also called on the international community to continue, and in particular the UN system, to reinforce coordinated and integrated responses to strengthen appropriate links and complementarity among the various programmes adopted to solve the plight of refugees, and to enhance the pursuit of economic rehabilitation and reconstruction in the countries affected.

30. The international community is expected to:

- (a) provide support to and encourage initiatives in Burundi and Rwanda aimed at national reconciliation and at promoting conditions conducive to the voluntary return of refugees and displaced persons;
- (b) provide adequate support to Tanzania to enhance security measures already taken in the refugee camps, and regarding Zaire, to the early implementation of the arrangements agreed upon between Zaire and UNHCR, as contained in the agreement of 7 January 1995, by responding positively to the request as recently formulated by UNHCR for such support;
- (c) cooperate with and support the International Tribunal for Rwanda, thus enabling it to function effectively and to start prosecuting at the earliest possible date; support the efforts of the Government of Rwanda to establish an independent and effective judicial system;
- (d) continue to support human rights monitoring operations in Rwanda as part of the action undertaken by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and support the establishment of a similar operation in Burundi;
- (e) support initiatives for an expanded role of the OAU civil and military observers in Burundi;
- (f) assist the governments of the countries of origin to organize confidence building visits to refugee camps with the cooperation of the asylum countries and facilitate similar visits by potential returnees to their home areas;
- (g) support and encourage initiatives taken by the Economic Community of the Great Lakes States (Burundi, Rwanda and Zaire) aimed at strengthening the climate of peace at the common borders and in the refugee camps, by controlling the movement of instruments of war and by preventing subversion as well as incursions by uncontrolled elements on either side of the common borders;
- (h) provide support for initiatives which will broaden the participation of civil society and local NGOs in the rehabilitation and reconciliation processes in the region.

31. The Conference recognized that the problem of refugees, returnees and displaced persons was a global responsibility and emphasized the need for equitable burden-sharing taking into consideration that the asylum countries and the countries of origin were among the least developed countries. The international community was therefore urged to assist asylum countries and

countries of origin through the adoption of the following concrete measures aimed at alleviating and redressing the negative impact on the local communities directly caused by the presence of refugees and displaced persons:

- (a) arresting and reversing environmental degradation;
- (b) rehabilitation of damaged infrastructure including schools, roads, water sources, health facilities etc.;
- (c) encouraging the restoration of normalcy through provision of assistance to destabilized local communities;
- (d) assistance to host countries in the maintenance of law and order in and around refugee camps;
- (e) assistance to host countries in refugee identification exercise, where this will be necessary.

32. The Conference acknowledged the importance of the OAU Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution in addressing crises in the Continent. Therefore, it requested the OAU to enhance its presence in the region and to continue to play an active role in fostering the reconciliation process in Burundi and Rwanda in tandem with the international community.

33. To this end, it has been decided to hold, under the auspices of UNDP, a Round Table of donors on the countries of the region, where there are zones which are seriously affected by damage resulting from the presence of refugees and displaced persons, in order to coordinate the actions to be undertaken in the framework of an integrated approach.

#### F. CONCLUSION AND FOLLOW UP ACTION

34. The situation of refugees, returnees and internally displaced persons continues to pose unprecedented challenges to the countries of asylum, to Burundi and Rwanda, and to the international community at large. The Conference recognized fully the major difficulties involved in addressing the situation, and in resolving the problem of massive displacement. All concerned must therefore give proof of their determination to implement the various components of this PLAN OF ACTION.

35. As a framework for reviewing progress in the implementation of the present PLAN OF ACTION, a Follow-up Committee is hereby established. It will meet at regular intervals and not later than June 1995 for its first meeting. The Preparatory Committee shall be transformed into the Follow-up Committee. Its membership shall also include a representative(s) of the OAU Commission of Twenty on Refugees.

36. Stressing the urgency of the security and humanitarian situations in the Great Lakes region, the Conference strongly urged that its decisions be implemented without delay. The Conference requested the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to submit reports to the next sessions of the OAU Council of Ministers and the United Nations General Assembly respectively, citing progress towards accomplishing the benchmarks established by the Conference as well as for the purpose of soliciting funding for the effective implementation of the PLAN OF ACTION.



37. The Conference expresses its gratitude to the Government of Burundi for the hospitality offered to all delegations, and to the Secretary-General of the OAU and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for their prime role in organizing this Conference.



Regional conference on assistance to  
refugees, returnees and displaced persons  
in the Great Lakes Region.



BUJUMBURA 12-17 FEBRUARY 1995

ROLE AND OBLIGATIONS OF RWANDA IN THE SOLUTION OF  
THE PROBLEM OF RWANDESE REFUGEES, RETURNEES  
AND DISPLACED PERSONS

(submitted by the Government of Rwanda - with contribution of  
UNREO on Part of Camp Populations - 'Displaced Persons')

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1995/BUJCONF.10

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I. BACKGROUND

1. For the last three and half decades, Rwanda has experienced intermittent civil conflicts that have resulted in large scale displacement and exile of its nationals. Prior to 1990 there were about one million persons that were in exile in countries neighbouring Rwanda, who had spent about 30 years in exile. Between the breakout of civil war in Rwanda in 1990 and the resumption of war in 1994, about one million persons had become internally displaced and were living in camps in Rwanda. The war and genocide in 1994 resulted in massive displacement of the national population to the extent that by the end of the war in July 1994, about two million people had gone to exile and almost everyone inside the country displaced. Since the government of national unity was established in July, the country has quickly returned to normalcy and people have resettled from both within and without the country. This paper sets to highlight the role of the Rwanda government as well as its obligations towards its nationals both inside and outside.

II. REFUGEES AND RETURNEES

2. The phenomenon of the Rwandese refugees has existed since 1959 when due to civil conflicts in 1959 and the subsequent years in the early 1960s about 300,000 persons went to exile mainly to Burundi, Tanzania, Uganda and Zaire. The leadership of the successive

regimes which ruled after independence from the year 1962, largely resisted the return of those in exile. These regimes favoured the line of persuading countries of asylum to naturalize the Rwandese or even seek resettlement in a third country. The problem however persisted up to 1990 when the population in exile had increased to about one million. During the period of April to July 1994, when there was genocide and renewed fighting in Rwanda, over one million Rwandese had gone to exile by the time the war ended.

3. The return of the refugees has been a main preoccupation of the government of national unity. Besides the efforts undertaken by the government with countries in the Region providing asylum to Rwandese, a lot has been done at home to ensure a safe return of those in exile and secure resettlement. Some of the measures are outlined below:

a) Security

By the end of the war, the entire Rwandese society had become traumatized. The survivors of genocide and massacres perpetrated by the former regime were in severe shock and anguish. The government faced the task of calming the situation. The government has since the end of August established security everywhere in the country. Rwandese nationals, visitors from abroad, international agencies and NGOs can travel to any part of the country without obstruction or even prior clearance. Every part of the national territory is accessible to anyone. The national gendarmes are now deployed everywhere. Kigali is calm since August and business is back to normal except for the severe damage to infrastructure. Night and day business go on in the capital with no obstruction.



b) Administration

When the war ended, all the civil administration had broken down, the majority of the administrators in the former regime having joined in executing genocide. The government had a severe task to restore territorial administration. All the eleven prefectures of the country now have 'prefets'. These were appointed by the leadership after extensive consultation with the five political parties that are in government. The burgomasters in-charge of communes and counsellors in-charge of sectors are also operational in every part of Rwanda.

c) Property Protection

When the war was raging in the country, almost all people fled from their properties. This especially was at the instigation of Interahamwe who ravaged the entire country destroying houses, rooting property and making spoil of whatever was valuable. By the end of the war almost all properties were abandoned. It therefore made these properties a target of occupation by people returning from hiding or exile, survivors of genocide and massacres and members of the international community especially NGO staff. The latter were able to do it under the connivance of local employees. Soon after the installation of the current government, a ministerial committee was set up under the Chairmanship of the Minister of

Interior and Commune Development to arbitrate in matters and ensure respect and protection of private and public properties. The Committee developed policies asserting private ownership of property and oversees its implementation. For rural areas the Committee executes its work through local administrators.

d) Reception of Returnees

Since July 1994, over one million Rwandese refugees have repatriated. About 700,000 of these are refugees that had been out of the country for about three decades. Since the return of most of the refugees has largely been spontaneous, most of those returning both in rural and urban areas during the early days of the government did locate themselves wherever they found empty spaces. The majority of those returning to the country however went into the government reserve areas as had been foreplanned during the Arusha peace negotiations. The areas are without physical or social infrastructure and it poses great challenge to the government which lacks resources. The refugees who have been returning for the last four months, are received at the borders and assisted by the UN agencies to return home for those who recently left the country or to reception (transit) centres for those with no homes. The government has established 'way-stations' where those in transit are received and are given relief and organized for return to their homes or potential settlement areas.

e) Settlement Areas

The government has identified several settlement areas in various parts of the country where returnees are being settled. The government is working closely with UNHCR in planning the settlement of these areas. The areas are mainly government reserves that lack basic infrastructural services, the most critical being water, energy, transport and health facilities.

f) Confidence-building Measures among Returnees

Given the nature of what has happened in Rwanda, both the government and the international community face an enormous task in restoring the confidence among all the Rwandese given that the entire society became traumatized. The society is constituted of people that watched neighbours kill neighbours, government leaders supervise extermination of their subjects and the security forces turning into killer squads. A number of measures have been taken by the government to give confidence to all the Rwandese and some specifically the returnees. A brief mention is made of some of these:

i) Visits by the Government Leaders

Since the formation of the government of national unity, the Rwanda Head of State and high-ranking government officials in company of members of the heads of concerned international organizations have visited various areas of Rwanda. During these visits nationals address themselves and their problems to the leadership. Problems normally addressed range from property disputes, to security

as well as government future policies. Besides visits inside the country, visits have also been made to outside countries including refugee camps where security permitted.

ii) Media Broadcasts

On daily basis, the national radio runs messages inviting refugees and any other persons still away from their homes to come home. The radio messages explain security situation country-wide including messages by those that have recently returned especially from Zaire

iii) Deployment of UN Troops

Rwanda government has allowed the expansion of the troops of the United Nations Mission in Rwanda (UNAMIR) up to 5,500. Currently UNAMIR has about 5,850 troops deployed all over the country. The troops fully cooperate with the government and have deployed all over the national territory. Any incidents affecting security are investigated and reported by UNAMIR to government and independently to concerned UN authorities.

iv) Deployment of Human Rights Monitors

Rwanda government has authorized deployment of Human Rights Monitors to a number of over 300 monitors. The monitors monitor Human Rights issues over the entire country and have a heavy presence in areas where people have recently returned.

v) Reception of Returnees



The government has put reception mechanisms to ensure that reception of returnees are received and escorted to their homes. 'Way-stations' staged by international community for transit purposes of returnees are given maximum security by the government.

vi) Cooperation with International Community

The government has continued to receive support from the international community to facilitate returnees. Many NGOs and various UN agencies and international organizations have developed joint programmes with government to attend to problems of returnees and effect fast reintegration.

III. CAMP POPULATIONS IN FORMER 'FRENCH PROTECTION ZONE'

4. The combination of genocide and war in 1994 resulted in the temporary displacement of several millions of Rwandese people. By mid-June 1994, as the RPF secured the whole of eastern Rwanda and consolidated its gains in other areas: most displaced persons, including those who had been displaced in previous years, began to return to their home areas. As the RPF advanced, the former regime's military forces and officials fled, taking with them many thousands of civilians by force. At the same time, France announced its intention to launch 'Operation Turquoise' and sent 2,500 troops to Rwanda to create a 'safe zone' in southwest Rwanda. Many of the people fleeing from war established squatter camps in the zone under French Forces.

5. By late August 1994, as the French Forces had totally withdrawn it was estimated that 750,000 people still remained in the camps, many others having returned to their home communes. Fears on the part of the international community that the

withdrawal of the French Forces would lead to a new mass exodus from the southwest didn't materialize.

6. Since its formation in July 1994, the Government has repeatedly called upon the persons living in camps in former French protection zone to return to their home areas. Although initially, relief agencies focused on providing assistance in the camps, the emphasis has more recently switched from camps to home communes to encourage persons in camps to go home in an organized manner, and to create conditions which enable them to resume productivity. The government has been able to harness the support of the humanitarian community in Rwanda, for this effort, code-named 'Operation Retour'.

7. By the middle of February 1995, it is estimated that the camp populations have been reduced to two hundred thousand people. Many thousands of these people have been assisted with transport home. Others, living only a few kilometers from their homes, have chosen to walk back, some escorted by Government and UNAMIR forces.

8. Mention should be made of the camps themselves and the reasons why people are urged to leave camps and remain in camps, the longer they will have to depend on support for their survival. With regard to the camps themselves, there are large numbers of disruptive and criminal elements in the camps who continue to control camp populations through intimidation and misinformation about conditions in home communes. Many people who want to go home have been forced to leave the camps at night for fear of reprisals. Many others have been erroneously convinced that their lives would be in jeopardy if they return to home communes. In this respect, the Government has repeatedly stated that those who are innocent have nothing to fear and that those accused of crimes associated with genocide will get a fair trial.

9. Although earlier initiatives had been launched to assist

people to go back to home communes, the pace of return was slow. As a result, the Government determined that a new concerted effort was required on the part of its Ministries and the international community. The new government-led programme has a number of unique aspects. These have been based on lessons learned from earlier initiatives, as well as the need to ensure a fully collaborative effort in regard to the organized return and reintegration of the camp populations. The programme brings together Government ministries, UN Agencies, NGOs, UNAMIR and Human Rights monitors. Underpinning it are the following guiding principles:

- a) The creation of a safe environment and provision of essential social services in areas of origin is of a paramount importance;
- b) guarantees of safe return. At the same time, the Government's right to pursue with due process of law those persons who have been accused of promulgating genocide was acknowledged;
- c) the full cooperation of all contributing organizations within the scope of their mandates.

10. Based on a two-tier structure, the Integrated Humanitarian Response (IHR) was established to facilitate this collaborative effort. Firstly, a Task Force comprising senior members of Government, UN agencies, UNAMIR, other multi-lateral bodies and participating NGOs, was established to determine policy and planning for displaced persons issues. Under the Task Force is the Integrated Operations Centre (IOC), which coordinates and facilitates the agreed policy and plans.

11. The functions of the IOC are: to be a focal point for information concerning the movement of the persons in camps and the activities of participants involved in settlement; to facilitate

the combination or exchange of resources and to monitor the implementation of agreed operational plans, and in so doing to identify gaps.

12. Based on information from camp populations, twelve geographical areas of origin were identified as being priorities for the return of persons. To inspire confidence in populations reluctant to make the move home and to address the fundamental concerns of the recipient communities, support centres known as Open Relief Centres (ORCs), have been established in all twelve areas. As with the IOC, the concept behind the ORCs is that they are temporary government offices created for the specific purpose of facilitating the reintegration of displaced persons. The Bourgmestres manage the ORCs, assisted by UN Agencies and NGOs. In order to benefit both returning families and communities at large, efforts in home communes are focused on rebuilding or establishing health care, education, shelter, water and sanitation services. Seeds and tools, along with food, are also supplied at commune level.

13. It was recognized from past experiences that confidence-building amongst both the camp populations and host communities is crucial. As part of measures to instill confidence in camp populations and to prepare host communities for their return, a three pronged information campaign has been launched. Under this campaign, Government officials, including prefets and bourgmestres, visit camps and home communes to explain Government policies and the type and level of assistance which can be expected. Groups of camp populations are also transported to their home communes, prior to any moves, so that they can see for themselves conditions at home and arrangements which have been made for their return. As an additional step to counter the misinformation campaigns within camps, factual reports of security incidents, including action taken by the Government in response to them, are provided promptly to camp populations through a combination of leaflet drops and



radio broadcasts. At the rate of movement, it is estimated that the camps will be empty by the end of May.



Regional conference on assistance to  
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5. By late August 1994, as the French Forces had totally withdrawn it was estimated that 750,000 people still remained in the camps, many others having returned to their home communes. Fears on the part of the international community that the

withdrawal of the French Forces would lead to a new mass exodus from the southwest didn't materialize.

6. Since its formation in July 1994, the Government has repeatedly called upon the persons living in camps in former French protection zone to return to their home areas. Although initially, relief agencies focused on providing assistance in the camps, the emphasis has more recently switched from camps to home communes to encourage persons in camps to go home in an organized manner, and to create conditions which enable them to resume productivity. The government has been able to harness the support of the humanitarian community in Rwanda, for this effort, code-named 'Operation Retour'.

7. By the middle of February 1995, it is estimated that the camp populations have been reduced to two hundred thousand people. Many thousands of these people have been assisted with transport home. Others, living only a few kilometers from their homes, have chosen to walk back, some escorted by Government and UNAMIR forces.

8. Mention should be made of the camps themselves and the reasons why people are urged to have camps and remain in camps, the longer they will have to depend on support for their survival. With regard to the camps themselves, there are large numbers of disruptive and criminal elements in the camps who continue to control camp populations through intimidation and misinformation about conditions in home communes. Many people who want to go home have been forced to leave the camps at night for fear of reprisals. Many others have been erroneously convinced that their lives would be in jeopardy if they return to home communes. In this respect, the Government has repeatedly stated that those who are innocent have nothing to fear and that those accused of crimes associated with genocide will get a fair trial.

9. Although earlier initiatives had been launched to assist



people to go back to home communes, the pace of return was slow. As a result, the Government determined that a new concerted effort was required on the part of its Ministries and the international community. The new government-led programme has a number of unique aspects. These have been based on lessons learned from earlier initiatives, as well as the need to ensure a fully collaborative effort in regard to the organized return and reintegration of the camp populations. The programme brings together Government ministries, UN Agencies, NGOs, UNAMIR and Human Rights monitors. Underpinning it are the following guiding principles:

- a) The creation of a safe environment and provision of essential social services in areas of origin is of a paramount importance;
- b) guarantees of safe return. At the same time, the Government's right to pursue with due process of law those persons who have been accused of promulgating genocide was acknowledged;
- c) the full cooperation of all contributing organizations within the scope of their mandates.

10. Based on a two-tier structure, the Integrated Humanitarian Response (IHR) was established to facilitate this collaborative effort. Firstly, a Task Force comprising senior members of Government, UN agencies, UNAMIR, other multi-lateral bodies and participating NGOs, was established to determine policy and planning for displaced persons issues. Under the Task Force is the Integrated Operations Centre (IOC), which coordinates and facilitates the agreed policy and plans.

11. The functions of the IOC are to be a focal point for information concerning the movement of the persons in camps and the activities of participants involved in settlement; to facilitate

the combination or exchange of resources and to monitor the implementation of agreed operational plans, and in so doing to identify gaps.

12. Based on information from camp populations, twelve geographical areas of origin were identified as being priorities for the return of persons. To inspire confidence in populations reluctant to make the move home and to address the fundamental concerns of the recipient communities, support centres known as Open Relief Centres (ORCs), have been established in all twelve areas. As with the IOC, the concept behind the ORCs is that they are temporary government offices created for the specific purpose of facilitating the reintegration of displaced persons. The Bourgmestres manage the ORCs, assisted by UN Agencies and NGOs. In order to benefit both returning families and communities at large, efforts in home communes are focused on rebuilding or establishing health care, education, shelter, water and sanitation services. Seeds and tools, along with food, are also supplied at commune level.

13. It was recognized from past experiences that confidence-building amongst both the camp populations and host communities is crucial. As part of measures to instill confidence in camp populations and to prepare host communities for their return, a three pronged information campaign has been launched. Under this campaign, Government officials, including prefets and bourgmestres, visit camps and home communes to explain Government policies and the type and level of assistance which can be expected. Groups of camp populations are also transported to their home communes, prior to any moves, so that they can see for themselves conditions at home and arrangements which have been made for their return. As an additional step to counter the misinformation campaigns within camps, factual reports of security incidents, including action taken by the Government in response to them, are provided promptly to camp populations through a combination of leaflet drops and

radio broadcasts. At the rate of movement, it is estimated that the camps will be empty by the end of May.

DISCOURS DU VICE-PREMIER MINISTRE, MINISTRE DE LA  
DEFENSE NATIONALE, DE LA SECURITE DU TERRITOIRE  
ET DES ANCIENS COMBATTANTS A L'OCCASION DE L'INS-  
TALLATION DU CONTINGENT ZAIROIS DE SECURITE DANS  
LES CAMPS DES REFUGIES.-

( GOMA, LE 12 FEVRIER 1995 )



REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON ASSISTANCE TO  
REFUGEES, RETURNEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS  
IN THE GREAT LAKES REGION

BUJUMBURA, 12 - 17 FEBRUARY 1995



**DRAFT**  
**PLAN OF ACTION**

(Revision 1.)

A. **PREAMBLE**

1. Following the succession of tragic events which have been hitting both Burundi and Rwanda for a number of years, Central and Eastern African countries are now facing the worst refugee problem in the whole continent. It was against this background that the 60th Ordinary Session of the OAU Council of Ministers meeting in Tunis, Tunisia, in June 1994, adopted Resolution CM/Res.1527 (LX) which was further endorsed by the 49th Ordinary Session of the United Nations General Assembly through its Resolution A/Res.49/7. The resolutions called for the holding of a Regional Conference on Assistance to Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in the Great Lakes Region.

2. The objective of the Conference was to reach firm commitments on immediate, practical measures necessary to address the serious security and humanitarian concerns in the region.

3. The Regional Conference was accordingly held at Ministerial level in Bujumbura, Burundi, from 15 - 17 February 1995 and addressed the problem of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in the Great Lakes region on a humanitarian and non-political basis. The Conference, which was held under the auspices of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), was attended inter alia by the countries of the region, Tunisia, Egypt and Ethiopia, in their respective capacities as current, past and future Chairmen of the OAU, the OAU Commission of Twenty on Refugees, Members of UNHCR's Executive Committee, other countries, the Economic Community of the Countries of the Great Lakes (CEPGL), United Nations Agencies and other international organizations, as well as by representatives of Non-governmental Organizations (NGO).

4. The Conference was apprised of the social, economic and political manifestations of the problem of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in the Great Lakes Region. It noted the high number of refugees, returnees and displaced persons involved, for targeted action and response, and that these refugees are mainly found in camps in Zaire, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi and Uganda. The Conference reaffirmed that the right of return applies to all refugees.

5. The Conference underscored the fact that the problem of refugees and displaced persons in the region had become alarming as the very survival of hundreds of thousands of the affected persons was increasingly being threatened, in addition to the threat to the general stability of countries in the region. The above adverse effects arising from the continued presence of refugees and persistent movements of displaced persons on the development process in the affected countries were equally alarming and a source of grave



concern. The Conference expressed particular concern about the situation of many refugee and displaced women and about the tragedy of large numbers of unaccompanied children.

Impunity  
6. The Conference reaffirmed that the impunity of those who have instigated, prepared or committed acts of genocide and other serious violations of international humanitarian and human rights law, as well as assassinations of democratically-elected leaders cannot be accepted. Impunity for such crimes would constitute inter alia a major impediment towards national reconciliation, solutions to the problems of displacement and the prevention of new displacements.

New  
conf.  
7. The Regional Conference expressed the hope that a broader United Nations Conference on peace, security and stability in the region, called for by the UN Security Council, would soon be held to examine the root causes of the problems in the region, in order to promote peace, security and sustainable development in the region.

8. Accordingly, the Conference, having deliberated on all major aspects and causes of the problem, demonstrated concerted and practical action by adopting the present PLAN OF ACTION, which focuses on voluntary repatriation as the most preferred durable solution to the refugee problem in the Great Lakes Region. The PLAN OF ACTION underscores the important roles to be played by the countries of origin, the countries of asylum, the donor community, the United Nations System, the OAU, CEPGL, ICRC and the Non-governmental Organizations.

#### B. PRINCIPLES, POLICIES AND GUIDELINES

9. The problem of refugees, returnees and internally displaced persons should be addressed on a strictly humanitarian and non-political basis. In this context, all directly affected States should be guided by the principle of solidarity with the individuals in the search for human solutions to their problems.

10. The institution of asylum for refugees, as enshrined in the relevant international and regional refugee instruments must be upheld. Pending their voluntary repatriation, or pending the identification of other appropriate solutions, refugees should continue to benefit from international protection and basic humanitarian assistance.

11. However, individuals against whom there are serious reasons for considering that they have committed crimes against peace, war crimes, crimes against humanity, serious non-political crimes prior to fleeing into the country of refuge, or acts contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations or of the OAU, should be excluded from international refugee protection and assistance, in accordance with the 1951 UN Refugee Convention and the 1969 OAU Refugee Convention. The implementation of any such exclusion in the individual case should not, however, directly or indirectly, endanger the safety or well being of bona fide refugees, of humanitarian personnel or of local communities. If it is determined that certain individuals do not deserve international refugee protection, in which case the principle of non-refoulement does not apply, such persons may be subjected to extradition procedures, under conditions of due process of law. It is recalled in this context that, in accordance with the 1948 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, persons guilty of instigating, preparing

or committing acts of genocide must be punished, either in the country where such acts were committed, or by an International Tribunal.

12. The countries of asylum and of origin, and the international community should mobilize all possible efforts to assist, wherever possible, with the repatriation and reintegration of Burundese and Rwandese refugees wishing to return at the present stage. In addition to voluntary repatriation, other durable solutions may be considered including naturalization and settlement in countries of asylum. Efforts to facilitate the voluntary return home of internally displaced persons in Burundi and Rwanda should continue and, if possible, be intensified.

13. In order to avoid instability and so as not to endanger the process of national reconciliation and confidence building, repatriation movements to the extent possible, should take place in an organized manner, and should avoid areas which are not yet stable. The future pace and timing of return movements should reflect the experiences gained in the first phases of repatriation, and should take into account further developments in refugee camps as well as in Burundi and Rwanda, or parts thereof.

14. In accordance with international law and practice, all stages of repatriation should be governed by the following principles which may have corresponding relevance with respect to the return of internally displaced persons to their home areas:

- (a) the right to depart safely from the country of asylum and to return to the country of origin;
- (b) non-discrimination, implying equal treatment and a balanced approach with regard to all individuals and groups wishing to return;
- (c) voluntariness based on informed consent, through the strict observance of the principle of non-refoulement, and access to objective information on conditions in the country of origin;
- (d) return in conditions of safety and dignity, implying physical safety, during and upon return to home areas and treatment in accordance with basic humanitarian and human rights standards; with full access to and by UNHCR and other relevant bodies for the purpose of monitoring the well-being of the returnees; while not implying immunity from prosecution for crimes falling within the purview of the International Tribunal for Rwanda or of corresponding national legislation;
- (e) respect for private property, implying that the governments concerned must ensure the reinstallation of returning refugees and internally displaced persons in their homes and land, while finding alternative solutions when this is legally or otherwise impossible; in all cases, voluntary repatriation shall involve persons, their livestock and household properties.

15. A peaceful resolution of the problem of displacement in the Great Lakes Region, and in particular any strategy aimed at ensuring the voluntary return and reintegration of refugees and internally displaced persons, requires the commitment of the respective countries of origin and of asylum, and of the international community, to take a number of concrete measures. These measures follow hereafter.

C. MEASURES TO BE TAKEN IN AND/OR BY THE COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN

16. Countries of origin have a fundamental role to play. In particular, they should create conditions conducive to the voluntary repatriation of refugees and the return of displaced persons to their places of habitual residence in conditions of safety and dignity.

**BURUNDI**

17. In view of the recurrent political tension, the Government of Burundi should pursue its initiatives aimed at promoting and strengthening national reconciliation, reconstruction and democracy, including the organization of a national debate as stipulated in the Convention of Government signed on 10 September 1994, and in which all the strata of the population should be invited to participate.

18. In order to promote full respect for human rights and an environment that would eliminate causes for future coerced displacement, the following action is recommended:

- (a) strengthening of the judicial system, with the assistance of the international community, to enhance its quality and to ensure the independence and objectivity of the judiciary;
- (b) provision by the Government of Burundi of adequate and appropriate means to enable the Armed Forces to counter effectively the proliferation of arms and activities of armed groups and militia within the countryside and in Bujumbura, in order to create the necessary conditions for the rapid restoration of law and order, as well as security;
- (c) putting an end to acts committed with impunity which remain a fundamental and persistent threat to the restoration of law and order and security, and for that purpose, with the help of the international community, taking concrete measures to speed up an international judicial enquiry as a prelude to the trial of those responsible for the 21 October 1993 attempted coup d'etat and for the resultant massacres;
- (d) taking punitive measures against members of the armed forces found guilty of acts of reprisal and other violations of human rights;
- (e) disseminating, as widely as possible, the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and their Additional Protocols of 1977, as well as the minimum humanitarian behavioral norms prepared in Burundi with

the assistance of the ICRC; continuing to acknowledge the specific role of the ICRC as a neutral and independent intermediary and to facilitate its activities.

- (f) collaborating closely with the various bodies of the United Nations, as well as the OAU military and civilian observers whose role should be reinforced;
- (g) enhancing the role of the OAU in Burundi;
- (h) requesting a sizeable expansion of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in Burundi to ensure a visible and effective presence of neutral and competent observers to help restore confidence and to intensify its advisory services in the field of human rights.

19. The Conference called on all citizens, the media and the political leaders in Burundi to show moderation in order to avoid a new outbreak of violence.

20. In addition, to reassure refugees and internally displaced persons, the Government should:

- (a) conclude and implement Tripartite Voluntary Repatriation Agreements with the UNHCR and the asylum countries, such as the Agreement signed with Tanzania in 1991;
- (b) implement urgently the provisions of the Convention of Government of 1994 concerning returnees and internally displaced persons;
- (c) adopt concrete measures to ensure security in the home areas of internally displaced persons and returnees, including the establishment of Open Relief Centres or other mechanisms of assistance and protection;
- (d) grant full access to UNHCR and OAU and any other relevant international observers for the purpose of returnee monitoring;
- (e) publicly reassure refugees and internally displaced persons regarding the right to restoration of their private property, while adopting concrete measures to clarify the legal status of property left behind by refugees, including those who fled prior to October 1993, notably in 1972;
- (f) show respect for the private property of returnees and displaced persons;
- (g) organize confidence building visits to refugee camps and facilitate similar visits by potential returnees to their home areas.

21. In the strict and urgent implementation by all the parties concerned, of the provisions of the Convention of Government signed in September 1994, the Government of Burundi should pursue the initiatives aimed at strengthening national reconciliation and security.

#### **RWANDA**

22. The Conference noted with satisfaction the Rwanda Government's efforts at establishing a broad-based Government of National Unity, a broad-based National Assembly, a National Army and the re-establishment of the civil administration in Rwanda in the spirit of the Arusha Accord. The Conference is convinced that these measures will encourage the voluntary return of refugees and the reintegration of returnees and internally displaced persons\*. It also called for the further strengthening of the civil administration. The Conference therefore urged and encouraged the Government of Rwanda to continue with its programmes in the following areas:

- (a) the further strengthening of the civil administration, as well as the deployment of Human Rights Monitors, UN, including UNAMIR and UNHCR, other organizations and NGOs in areas of return and the continuation of the acknowledgment of the specific role of the ICRC as a neutral and independent intermediary and support to its activities;
- (b) terminating the impunity of persons guilty of acts of genocide and of other serious violations of humanitarian and human rights law by cooperating closely with the International Tribunal for Rwanda or through national prosecution in accordance with due process of law. The Government of Rwanda is urged to reinforce public order and to pursue its efforts to establish an independent and effective judicial system as well as legal institutions, particularly the Supreme Council of Magistrates for the restoration of justice;
- (c) the pursuance of appropriate measures against soldiers and civilians who take the law into their own hands and the fostering of confidence among all segments of the population, be they civilians or military. Emphasis should also be placed on the need to widely disseminate the Rules and Principles of the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the Additional Protocols of 1977 which duly contribute to a culture of peace and tolerance;
- (d) ensuring respect for the property rights of refugees and internally displaced persons by:
  - i) continuing to apply concrete measures to adjudicate property disputes in a fair and expeditious manner;

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\* The Delegation of Rwanda declared that the use of the expression "internally displaced persons" was not appropriate under the prevailing situation in their country.



ii) enacting legislation to regulate the strictly temporary and provisional nature of any house occupation on an emergency basis, to be authorized and recorded by designated officials;

- (e) rapid and massive rehabilitation, reconstruction and development assistance to enable the country to return to normalcy and to absorb the returnees;
- (f) disseminating factual information through the mass media to counter propaganda in the camps so that the refugees are given accurate information to make informed choices on repatriation;
- (g) strengthening of transit points to facilitate orderly repatriation and the reintegration of returnees;
- (h) implementing repatriation arrangements in accordance with the Tripartite Agreements between the countries of origin, the countries of asylum and UNHCR.

23. More specifically, to reassure refugees and internally displaced persons, the Rwandese authorities are advised to:

- (a) conclude and implement Tripartite Voluntary Repatriation Agreements with other asylum countries and UNHCR, similar to those already signed with Burundi and ~~Tanzania~~ <sup>Zaire</sup>;
- (b) continue to disseminate solemn declarations, by all relevant and competent authorities welcoming back the refugees and internally displaced persons in safety and dignity, and (re)emphasizing that any occupation of their land or homes will be terminated after their return;
- (c) continue taking concrete steps to delineate and develop, as soon as possible, areas identified for the settlement of refugees who left more than ten years ago, in conformity with the principles of the Arusha Protocol of 1993, and for the settlement of other refugees who cannot be reinstated in their properties;
- (d) continue to cooperate fully with UNHCR, UNAMIR and others to facilitate the return home of internally displaced persons, which return should take place on a voluntary basis;
- (e) continue their visits to refugee camps in the countries of asylum and to make statements on national reconciliation likely to restore confidence in the refugee camps and facilitate similar visits by potential returnees to their home areas.

confirm  
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through the  
operations (amir)

24. The Conference noted that there were unregistered Rwandese refugees especially in Kenya and Uganda who may need assistance to repatriate.

D. MEASURES TO BE TAKEN IN AND/OR BY THE COUNTRIES OF ASYLUM

25. The Conference reaffirmed the humanitarian character of granting asylum to refugees. In this regard, the countries hosting refugees from the Great Lakes Region were encouraged to continue granting asylum and to assist refugees in line with the 1951 United Nations Convention and its 1967 Protocol, both relating to the status of refugees, as well as the 1969 OAU Convention relating to the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa and the 1981 OAU Charter on Human and People's Rights. Attention was also drawn to the fact that the granting of asylum should not be seen as an unfriendly or hostile act, but rather should be seen as a responsibility and an obligation under international law. The Conference commended all the countries of the Sub-Region which, for many years, have continued to grant asylum to successive groups of refugees, in spite of the severe strains this has imposed on their national resources and on their natural environment. It also commended all relevant international organizations and NGOs, for their meritorious work in providing humanitarian assistance to refugees and internally displaced persons.

26. The Conference, however, requested the countries of asylum in the Great Lakes Region, in close collaboration with UNHCR and with the help of the international community, to ensure that the following measures are taken:

- (a) restoring public order in the refugee camps and full respect for individual freedoms, in order to ensure the following:
  - i) the unimpeded and fair distribution of humanitarian assistance, especially to vulnerable refugees, including women, children and the elderly;
  - ii) the safety of humanitarian personnel and the protection of storage points and facilities;
  - iii) the security of all refugees including those wishing to be repatriated through the establishment of security staging areas and corridors to the border in accordance with the decisions of the Nairobi Summit of 7 January 1995;
  - iv) in the case of Zaire, the earliest possible implementation of arrangements agreed upon with UNHCR on 27 January 1995, and full cooperation with the planned international technical and monitoring support;
- (b) restructuring, where necessary, refugee committees and ensuring the designation of new representatives including a fair number of women;
- (c) ensuring respect of the civilian, humanitarian and non-political character of asylum in general and of refugee camps and settlements in particular; to this end, taking measures to prevent refugees or other persons living in or outside refugee camps from engaging in any subversive activities against any Member State of the OAU, in particular by use of arms, through the press, or by radio; prohibiting radio stations or other forms of media inciting ethnic hatred;

- (d) ensuring the safety of refugees in camps and settlements against armed attacks;
- (e) whenever possible, relocating refugee camps away from the border, in conformity with the 1969 OAU Convention, taking also into consideration environmental hazardous areas; disarming armed individuals, and separating as agreed at the Nairobi Regional Summit of 7 January 1995, the intimidators in refugee camps as well as those individuals against whom there are serious reasons for considering that they have committed crimes against peace, war crimes, crimes against humanity and serious non-political crimes or acts contrary to the purposes and principles of the UN and OAU;
- (f) concluding Tripartite Voluntary Repatriation Agreements with Burundi and Rwanda, where this has not yet been done;
- (g) intensifying efforts to address the issue of reunification of unaccompanied minors in conformity with the relevant international instruments.

E. MEASURES TO BE TAKEN BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

27. The Conference appreciated that there were humanitarian programmes financed and undertaken by various donor countries, United Nations Agencies, in particular UNHCR, Inter-governmental Organizations, the International Movement of the Red Cross and Red Crescent and Non-governmental Organizations for the benefit of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in the Great Lakes Region. However, because of the magnitude of the problem, the demands were continuous and more needs were bound to arise as the situation continued to persist and deteriorate. Additional material resources are therefore required to provide urgent relief assistance to the refugees and displaced persons whose very survival remains a major concern. This assistance is considered to be temporary in nature, in anticipation of the early repatriation of refugees.

28. In addition to food aid, donors should redouble their response to other basic needs such as in the fields of health, education, water, sanitation and logistical support, as well as in the wider areas of rehabilitation, reconstruction and reforestation which merit adequate attention and support by the donor community. In this respect, donors should ensure proper coordination with the national authorities concerned, taking into account national procedures and regulations. *X taking into account national procedures*

29. The Conference also called on the international community to establish appropriate links and complementarity among the various responses adopted to solve the plight of refugees, and to enhance the pursuit of economic rehabilitation and reconstruction in the countries affected.

30. The international community is expected to:

- (a) provide support to and encourage initiatives in Burundi and Rwanda aimed at national reconciliation and at promoting conditions conducive to the voluntary return of refugees and displaced persons;

- (b) provide adequate support to Tanzania to enhance security measures already taken in the refugee camps, and regarding Zaire, to the early implementation of the arrangements agreed upon between Zaire and UNHCR, as contained in the agreement of 7 January 1995, by responding positively to the request as recently formulated by UNHCR for such support;
- (c) cooperate with and support the International Tribunal for Rwanda, thus enabling it to function effectively and to start prosecuting at the earliest possible date; support the efforts of the Government of Rwanda to establish an independent and effective judicial system;
- (d) continue to support human rights monitoring operations in Rwanda as part of the action undertaken by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and support the establishment of a similar operation in Burundi;
- (e) support initiatives for an expanded role of the OAU civil and military observers in Burundi;
- (f) assist the governments of the countries of origin to organize confidence building visits to refugee camps with the cooperation of the asylum countries and facilitate similar visits by potential returnees to their home areas;
- (g) support and encourage initiatives taken by the Economic Community of the Great Lakes States (Burundi, Rwanda and Zaire) aimed at strengthening the climate of peace at the common borders and in the refugee camps, by controlling the movement of instruments of war and by preventing subversion as well as incursions by uncontrolled elements on either side of the common borders.

31. The Conference recognized that the problem of refugees, returnees and displaced persons was a global responsibility and emphasized the need for equitable burden-sharing taking into consideration that the asylum countries were among the least developed countries. The international community was therefore urged to assist asylum countries through the adoption of the following concrete measures aimed at alleviating and redressing the negative impact on the local communities directly caused by the presence of refugees and displaced persons:

- (a) arresting and reversing environmental degradation;
- (b) rehabilitation of damaged infrastructure including schools, roads, water sources, health facilities etc.;
- (c) encouraging the restoration of normalcy through provision of assistance to disoriented local communities;
- (d) assistance to host countries in the maintenance of law and order in and around refugee camps;

US Amt - No of people killed -  
Inf. on facts

# RWANDA OPERATIONAL SUPPORT GROUP

18 February 1995, 0800-1000  
American Cultural Center, Bujumbura

Radio

## Revised Agenda

1. Opening Remarks
2. Review of Bujumbura Regional Refugee Conference
3. Refugee Camp Security and Repatriation

- Security in the camps: Zaire, Tanzania, Burundi
- Volcano contingency planning
- Encouraging voluntary repatriation
- Food pipeline to the camps
- Long term future of the camps

Refour  
1, Facts 350 / 150  
35 in our trucks  
2 major camps  
elated  
2, Attitudes  
- of walking  
- of work-core

4. The Political Reconciliation Process

- Finding a mediator - Go. between / victim / vanquished
- Structuring a dialogue

5. Assistance to Rwanda

- Coordination of assistance
- Assistance to the administration of justice

Reconciliation  
3, Security group UNHCR  
Steps taken : gross costs  
military  
civilian - Gov  
N A  
cabinet

Top of Pyramid  
a) Much to be done  
b) Justice

6. The International Tribunal and human rights

2 levels

7. Burundi

- Internal situation
- Role of the international community
- Evaluation of recent UN Security Council and European Union missions

8. Actions to be Taken by the ROSG

9. Operation of the ROSG

10. Closing Remarks/Next Meeting





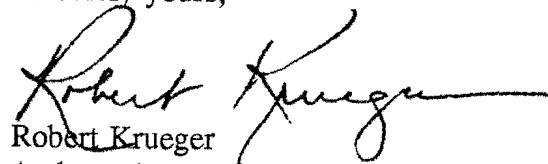
*Embassy of the United States of America*

February 16, 1995

Excellencies and Heads of Delegation of Rwanda Operational Support Group:

On behalf of the U.S. Government, in its capacity as coordinator of the Rwanda Operational Support Group (ROSG), I invite your delegation to a meeting of the ROSG to be held at the American Cultural Center, Chaussée P.L. Rwagasore, from 0800-1000 Saturday, 18 February 1995. A revised provisional agenda for the meeting is attached.

Sincerely yours,

  
Robert Krueger  
Ambassador

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PROPOSED AGENDA FOR THE RWANDA OPERATIONAL SUPPORT GROUP

OPENING REMARKS

FOLLOW-UP TO BUJUMBURA CONFERENCE

-- ACTION TO BE TAKEN BY THE RWANDA OPERATIONAL SUPPORT GROUP

REFUGEE CAMP SECURITY AND REPATRIATION

- THE UNHCR-ZAIRE AGREEMENT
- SECURITY IN TANZANIAN CAMPS
- VOLCANO CONTINGENCY PLANNING
- ENCOURAGING REFUGEE RETURN

POLITICAL RECONCILIATION PROCESS

- FINDING A MEDIATOR
- STRUCTURING A DIALOGUE

ASSISTANCE TO RWANDA

- COORDINATION OF ASSISTANCE
- AID TO ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL AND HUMAN RIGHTS

OPERATION OF RWANDA OPERATIONAL SUPPORT GROUP

CLOSING REMARKS/NEXT MEETING

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PROPOSED AGENDA FOR THE RWANDA OPERATIONAL SUPPORT GROUP

OPENING REMARKS

FOLLOW-UP TO BUJUMBURA CONFERENCE

-- ACTION TO BE TAKEN BY THE RWANDA OPERATIONAL SUPPORT GROUP

REFUGEE CAMP SECURITY AND REPATRIATION

- THE UNHCR-ZAIRE AGREEMENT
- SECURITY IN TANZANIAN CAMPS
- VOLCANO CONTINGENCY PLANNING
- ENCOURAGING REFUGEE RETURN

POLITICAL RECONCILIATION PROCESS

- FINDING A MEDIATOR
- STRUCTURING A DIALOGUE

ASSISTANCE TO RWANDA

- COORDINATION OF ASSISTANCE
- AID TO ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL AND HUMAN RIGHTS

OPERATION OR RWANDA OPERATIONAL SUPPORT GROUP

CLOSING REMARKS/NEXT MEETING

AIDE MEMOIRE

COOPERATION ENTRE LE GOUVERNEMENT DU ZAIRE  
ET LE HAUT COMMISSARIAT DES NATIONS UNIES POUR  
LES REFUGIES DANS LA RECHERCHE DE SOLUTIONS AUX  
PROBLEMES DE SECURITE DANS LES CAMPS DES REFUGIES  
RWANDAIS DES REGIONS DU NORD ET DU SUD KIVU.

1. A la demande du Secrétaire Général des Nations Unies et faisant suite aux discussions antérieures entre le Gouvernement du Zaïre et le Haut Commissariat des Nations Unies pour les Réfugiés (HCR), les autorités zairoises et une délégation du HCR, ont examiné du 24 au 26 janvier 1995 les mesures de coopération visant à apporter un appui concret et immédiat aux efforts du gouvernement du Zaïre pour :

- i) améliorer l'ordre public dans les camps de réfugiés rwandais; *imprary  
discipline a ordy*
- ii) éviter les intimidations et violences à l'encontre des candidats au rapatriement librement consenti; *eliminate  
rubbish*
- iii) protéger les installations et le personnel humanitaires; *protect human/one  
personnel*
- iv) fournir des escortes aux convois de rapatriement librement consenti depuis les camps de réfugiés jusqu'à la frontière rwandaise. *front escort*

2. Cet appui sera dispensé dans le contexte des instruments internationaux relatifs aux réfugiés, du statut du Haut Commissariat des Nations Unies pour les réfugiés et des procédures du HCR relatives à ses programmes d'assistance et de protection. Ces instruments, statuts et procédures mettent, entre autres, l'accent sur la responsabilité première des Etats pour le maintien de l'ordre et l'application des lois nationales aux réfugiés ayant reçu asile sur leurs territoires respectifs.

3. A cette fin, le gouvernement zairois déploiera 1500 agents de sécurité (militaires ou policiers) qui pourraient être répartis comme suit :

- a) Région du Nord Kivu: Goma: total 1000 agents de sécurité *N = 1000*
  - centre de commandement à Goma comprenant le personnel de commandement et d'appui ainsi qu'un groupe d'intervention rapide, soit 100 agents au total; *[plus]*
  - trois postes de sécurité de 200 agents chacun couvrant les camps de Kayindo, Kibumba et Katale;

.../...

3. 4. 4

- un poste de sécurité de 300 agents couvrant le camp de Mugunga ainsi que les petits camps avoisinants.

b) Région du Sud Kivu : Bukavu : total 500 agents de sécurité

- centre de commandement : 50 agents
- sur l'axe Bukavu - Kabira : un poste de sécurité de 200 agents couvrant les grands camps de Inera et Kashusha ainsi qu'un poste de sécurité de 50 agents pour les autres camps.
- sur l'axe Bukavu-Cinianga : deux postes de sécurité de 50 agents chacun.
- sur l'axe Bukavu-Uvira : deux postes de sécurité de 50 agents chacun.

4. Le HCR s'engage à apporter aux autorités zairoises un appui constitué d'éléments suivants :

- i) un complément de salaire pour chacun des 1500 agents effectivement déployés pour des fonctions relatives aux objectifs du programme :  
équivalent de US\$3 par personne/jour de travail US \$ 3 p.p. f.f.
  - ii) une assistance pour l'achat d'uniformes simples ainsi que pour l'établissement des postes de sécurité prévus dans le programme, soit deux centres de commandement et dix campements pour les effectifs décrits ci-dessus. Les composantes de cette assistance feront l'objet de discussions ultérieures entre le gouvernement et le HCR. Purchase of Uniform
  - iii) L'acquisition, l'entretien et la réparation des véhicules lourds et légers totalisant un maximum de 60 unités. 60 heavy vehicles
  - iv) les équipements radio HF et VHF permettant les communications entre les centres de commandement, le groupe de liaison du HCR, les postes de sécurité, les patrouilles et la cellule de crise à Kinshasa. telecom
  - v) le matériel de base et les fournitures nécessaires de bureau. office furniture
  - vi) un appui sous forme d'équipement de base, de frais de fonctionnement et de déplacement à la Cellule de crise mise en place à Kinshasa. basic expenses  
for crisis cell
- ... /...

3 4 8



5. En outre le HCR mettra en place un groupe de liaison composé de conseillers de sécurité. Ce groupe sera intégré aux sous-délégations du HCR à Goma et à Bukavu. Il assurera la liaison entre le HCR et le commandement militaire zairois, agira comme conseillers et apportera un appui dans les domaines de la formation, de la logistique, des télécommunications, des achats et de l'administration. Sous l'autorité des chefs de sous-délégations respectifs du HCR, ce groupe sera responsable de la gestion des équipements et des fonds fournis par le HCR.

Group 1  
Security  
Agents

6. Pour assurer la réalisation des objectifs décrits ci-dessus, le gouvernement zairois s'engage à :

- i) mettre à la disposition du HCR des agents de sécurité possédant l'expérience, les plus hautes qualités de travail, de compétence et d'intégrité.
- ii) définir les modalités d'intervention des agents de sécurité en étroite coopération avec le HCR.
- iii) mettre en place un mécanisme de consultations rapides pour résoudre toute question de discipline.
- iv) apporter toute coopération au HCR et plus particulièrement aux groupes de liaison.
- v) donner les instructions appropriées aux autorités régionales et locales afin qu'elles prennent toutes les mesures administratives ou autres qui s'imposent.

selected  
agents

7. Une première phase du projet couvrant une période de cinq mois (de février à juin 95) est évaluée à environ US\$13 millions en espèce et/ou en nature. Cette estimation budgétaire est indicative et sera revue par le Siège du HCR.

5 months  
US\$13 m

8. Le programme pourrait être reconduit par périodes successives de trois mois mais ne devrait pas aller au-delà de décembre 95.

3 m extensions

9. Le financement de ce programme dans le cadre des opérations du HCR devra recourir à des contributions volontaires des Etats et à d'autres sources de financement habituelles des programmes. Le HCR dispose cependant de ressources suffisantes pour entamer la mise en oeuvre du programme dès la signature de cet aide mémoire entre le gouvernement du Zaïre et le HCR. Le HCR mettra tout en oeuvre par ailleurs pour assurer le financement complet du programme.

HCR  
Finances

.../...

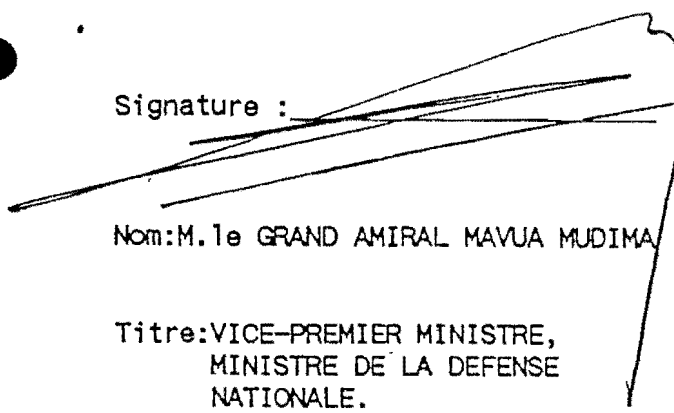
3 HCR

page 4

10. En conclusion, le gouvernement du Zaïre et le Haut Commissariat des Nations Unies pour les Réfugiés ont réaffirmé le caractère humanitaire de la mission des forces de sécurité zairoises et de l'appui que le HCR apporte à celles-ci.


Fait à Kinshasa, le 27 janvier 1995

POUR LE GOUVERNEMENT DU ZAIRE

Signature : 

Nom: M. le GRAND AMIRAL MAVUA MUDIMA

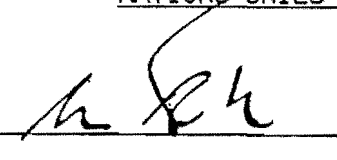
Titre: VICE-PREMIER MINISTRE,  
MINISTRE DE LA DEFENSE  
NATIONALE.

Signature : 

Nom : Me KAMANDA WA KAMANDA

Titre : VICE-PREMIER MINISTRE  
CHARGE DES REFORMES  
INSTITUTIONNELLES,  
MINISTRE DE LA JUSTICE,  
GARDE DES SCEAUX.

POUR LE HAUT COMMISSARIAT DES  
NATIONS UNIES POUR LES REFUGIES

Signature : 

Nom: M. CAROL FAUBERT

Titre: ENVOYE SPECIAL DU HAUT COMMISSAIRE  
DES NATIONS UNIES POUR LES REFUGIES.