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OUTGOING CODED CABLE

28 January 1994

TO: Mr. JACQUES-ROGER BOOH-BOOH  
SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL  
UNAMIR, KIGALI

FROM: JAN ELIASSON  
UNDER-SECRETARY-GENERAL  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS

NUMBER: 306

SUBJECT: ROUND TABLE MEETING - DEMOBILIZED SOLDIERS

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1. Reference your cables of 9 and 28 January on the above subject and on your visit to the displaced persons camp in Nyacyonga.
  2. An informal donors meeting was convened by UNDP on 24 January to discuss the proposed Round Table on humanitarian assistance and reconstruction for Rwanda. Resident Coordinator Ahmadou Ly briefed the participants on the general situation and on the preparations for the Round Table scheduled for 24-25 February in Geneva. Attached is a summary account of discussions at the informal meeting as well as at a meeting with agency representatives. The summary also reflects discussions Mr. Ly had with DPKO and DHA on the timetable related to the release of demobilized soldiers from Assembly Points.
  3. With regard to the situation of the displaced persons at Nyacyonga, I appreciate very much your visit and the detailed information in your cable MIR-211. We will be consulting with agencies next week and will inform you of views as they evolve here. I appreciate what you are doing with the help of other colleagues in Rwanda in the area of humanitarian assistance. Bearing in mind the pressure of work I have requested the Personnel to expedite the completion of the recruitment process for the Humanitarian Liaison officer who will help you and the Humanitarian Coordinator with these matters.
- Regards.

20 KABIA

CNR 019 P2/3

**NOTE FOR THE FILE**

**RWANDA: Resume of the informal donor meeting on the Round Table on humanitarian assistance and reconstruction and the interagency meeting**

**Informal donor meeting on the Round Table on humanitarian assistance and reconstruction, Monday 24 January, 10:30-13:00, at UNDP headquarters**

Ms. Johnson-Sirlief, Assistant Administrator and Director of the Regional Bureau of Africa, chaired the meeting which was attended by representatives from 11 donor countries (all from the Missions except the US which sent an officer from USAID), DHA, UNICEF, WFP, UNHCR, UNFPA, the African Development Bank and the World Bank, and by the Permanent Representative of the Mission of Rwanda, Ambassador Bizimana. She indicated that a comprehensive set of documents covering the four subjects to be addressed at the Round Table meeting was being finalized and would be made available to the donor countries prior to the Round Table meeting scheduled for tentative dates of 24-25 February in Geneva.

Mr. Ahmadou Ly, UNDP Resident Representative/Resident Coordinator, summarized the overview document which was distributed to the participants prior to this meeting emphasizing that the local representatives of donors and UN agencies contributed throughout the preparatory phase and that the Government of Rwanda and the Rwandese Patriotic Front (RPF) had authorized UNDP to continue with the preparation.

From the donors, interventions were made by the representatives of Belgium, Canada, the Netherlands, Switzerland and the USA. Apart from specific questions, they all expressed concern over the delay in the establishment of the BBTG. The World Bank representative outlined the economic remedial measures (eg currency devaluation, expenditure containment) that the BBTG must take before the Bank could consider further its assistance for Rwanda.

Ms. Johnson-Sirlief requested Ambassador Bizimana to communicate to his authorities in Kigali the view of the donor community as was expressed at this meeting.

**Interagency meeting, Tuesday 25 January 11:00-12:00, at the DHA conference room**

Taking advantage of Mr. Ly's presence in New York who is also Resident Coordinator of the UN system in Rwanda, DHA convened an interagency meeting to brief those concerned on the latest situation in the country and on the Round Table.

CNR 019 P3/3

Representatives from UNDP, UNICEF, FAO, WHO, ICRC, DPA and DPKO were present.

Mr. Ly gave a briefing similar to the one of yesterday. Mr. Baker of DHA called on the agency representatives to ensure that the agency headquarters are following their field representative's activities related to the Round Table preparation and that the Resident Coordinator receives full cooperation from the field representatives.

Regarding the drought, it was debated whether emergency needs of the drought victims should be included in the Round Table discussion. Mr. Ly indicated that the agenda of the Round Table was agreed with the Government at the early stage of the preparation and that it would be difficult to add the drought to the agenda. He believed, however, that this issue might be addressed at the Round Table meeting. Information on the gravity of the drought would be sought from FAO/WFP.

#### Meeting with Mr. Ly, DPKO and DHA

After the interagency meeting, Mr. Ly discussed with representatives of DPKO and DHA the issue raised by General Dallaire on demobilization, in particular, the gap between the time at which demobilized soldiers are released from Assembly Points (i.e. starting April 94) and the time their reintegration programmes begin (i.e. September 94).

Ms. Rivero of DPKO referred to the budget figure of \$5,990,000, as the amount requested for assistance for disarmament and demobilization for the period 5 April 1994 to 4 April 1995 (GA report entitled "Financing of the United Nations Assistance Mission For Rwanda", A/48/837 of 3 January 1994). As a result, it was understood that, with the approval of ACABQ, there would be sufficient funds to cover the basic needs of the demobilized soldiers until the start of the reintegration programmes. However, the question of how to keep them occupied was not resolved.

Regarding the departure of the demobilized soldiers from the Assembly Points, it was suggested that they be released in small numbers over time to facilitate their starting the reintegration programmes.