

RUD-URUNANA

Urunana rw'Abaharanira Ubumwe na Demokarasi
Ralliement pour l'Unité et la Démocratie
Rally for Unity and Democracy

Tel: 001-201-794-6542 /
001-506-461-3919

Email: urunana@optonline.net
url: www.rud-urunana.org

RPR

Rassemblement du Peuple Rwandais

Tel : 250-086 289 06

Email : rprcoordination@yahoo.co.uk

PRESS RELEASE PRES/RUD-RPR/No. 01/MAR/07**PROTEST AND CONDEMNATION OF OUR MEMBERS HANDOVER TO RWANDA BY UGANDA**

The Rally for Unity and Democracy (RUD-URUNANA) and the Rassemblement du Peuple Rwandais (RPR) regret and condemn in the strongest terms the forceful removal and the transfer by the Ugandan Government towards Rwanda of ten of our members this Monday on March 12, 2007.

Indeed ten people waiting for the regularization of their applications of asylum seeker were detained and sent to Rwanda against their will. Among them are Francois Rukeba and Jackson Safari. After several unfruitful attempts of the government of Kigali to bribe and corrupt our companions, the Ugandan authorities proceeded to their arrest while reassuring them that the negotiations were underway for their resettlement in other countries.

Since all these individuals who were forcefully repatriated had fled Rwanda to avoid persecution, torture and/or imminent death, the RUD-URUNANA and RPR consider them as political prisoners and/or of conscience. Thus, our organizations take the international community for witness and request that human rights organizations operating in Rwanda, in Uganda and in the world to assist them as well as their families, as they do for any other person in distress.

In the name of our respective political movements, we ask the members of our respective organizations and our combatants, namely Imboneza and Inkeragutabara, to remain serene.

As ever, we would like to point out that the Rwandan problem is a political problem that requires political solutions. In order to banish once for all the causes leading rwandans to seek asylum and protection in other countries, we ask urgently to hold under the auspices of the International Community of a Inter-Rwandan Dialogue. We remain convinced that only this Dialogue would lead to lasting peace and the establishment of new political and security institutions which would be the reflection of the legitimate aspirations of all the components of the Rwandan society.

On March 12, 2007

Dr. Jean Marie Vianney Higiho
President of RUD-URUNANA

John Mihigo
President of RPR