

RUD-URUNANA

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STRONG DENUNCIATION OF THE LIST PUBLISHED BY THE RWANDAN GOVERNMENT

The Rally for Unity and Democracy (RUD-Urunana) protests vigorously against the list of individuals blacklisted by the government of Kigali accusing them of being responsible of the instability prevailing in the African great lakes region. This list was made public during the recent meeting in Kigali of the Tripartite Plus Joint Commission between Rwanda, Burundi, DRC, and Uganda.

Attentive observers are all of the opinion that the tragedy in the region started with the invasion of Rwanda by RPF-Inkotanyi helped by Ugandan army (NRA) units on October 1, 1990. This culminated with the assassination of Presidents Juvénal Habyarimana of Rwanda, Cyprien Ntaryamira of Burundi, their aides and the jet crew on April 6, 1994. The plane that brought them back from a regional Peace conference held in Dar Es-salaam was shot down right before landing by two ground-to-air missiles fired by the Rwandan Patriotic Army (RPA) elements. This terrorist act triggered the beginning of the mayhem that engulfed our country, thus plunging the entire region in this on-going instability.

Neither can we forget hundreds of thousands of Rwandan refugees who were hunted down in the Congolese jungle and/or were brutally assassinated by the RPA nor several millions of innocent Congolese citizens who died. We cannot ignore the assassination of foreigners including Spanish volunteers, Canadian Fathers, and others who paid the price of their lives for the Truth and Justice. All the main perpetrators of these crimes are indeed well known and live comfortably in Kigali but no one was so far brought to justice.

We seize this opportunity to ask the Kigali regime to stop making this kind of amalgam of enlisting innocent people but rather handing without delay to the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) the people on whom rests the great responsibility for the April 6, 1994 terrorist act. This list should include Paul Kagame and his close collaborators as stated in the recent international arrest warrants issued by Judge Jean-Louis Bruguière. We ask with insistence the International Community to do everything to bring these RPF criminals to justice.

The RUD-Urunana leadership is not guilty of anything, has nothing to hide, and would be ready to appear before any independent legal jurisdiction. It is for this reason our organization challenges the Kigali regime to do the same for the people of the indicted RPF members including Paul Kagame. In the contrary, the list published by the government of Kigali should be considered by all as null and irrelevant.

We do categorically denounce the assertion according to which RUD-Urunana would be an emanation of the FDLR. We recall to the International Community that, due to profound divergences, certain members departed officially and publicly with the FDLR in September 2004. It is worth recalling that these individuals were subsequently expelled of the aforementioned Organization. One cannot thus be expelled from an organization and remain its member at the

same time. RUD-Urunana is indeed an independent organization and the Armée Nationale-Imboneza whose mission is to protect all rwandans and rwandan refugees in distress does not have any ties whatsoever to the FOCA of the FDLR.

The current instability epicenter in the Great Lakes region is in Rwanda. As long as the Rwandan problem will not be resolved, this current state of instability will remain. As we always point out, the Rwandan problem is political and requires political solutions. In order to foster a reconciliatory Justice system, the only foundation of genuine Reconciliation, we ask urgently to hold under the auspices of the International Community an Inter-Rwandan Dialogue. We remain convinced that only this Dialogue would lead to lasting peace, stability and the establishment of new political and security institutions that would be the reflection of the legitimate aspirations of all the constitutive groups of the Rwandan society.

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Information Commissioner, Spokesperson