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### A. KAGAME MEETS SARKOZY IN FRANCE

*Rwanda News Agency (RNA)*—08 September: *Deepening relations between Paris and Kigali cause concern\** (author n/a) **(privately-owned source)**

According to the *Survie Association*\*\*, not all who look upon the increasingly warm relations between France and Rwanda are encouraged by the development. In light of this week's meeting between the two Heads of State in Paris, the organization—which monitors the flow of development aid between France and her former African colonies—has stressed that it is important not to forget France's alleged role in the perpetration of the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi. *Survie* asks French authorities to set up a Parliamentary Inquiry into the country's role in the Genocide.

Relations between the two countries have been tense since the RPF's coming to power following the 1994 Genocide. *Survie* maintains the Genocide was committed with the complicity of French political and military figures that supported the Habyarimana regime. Despite a major economic overhaul, the association says the current Rwandan administration is far from being an example of a functioning democracy that ensures civil rights.

*\*Original article in French, entitled, "Le rapprochement entre Paris et Kigali suscite des appréhensions"*

*\*\* For more information on l'Association Survie, visit <http://survie.org>*

*ORINFOR*—09 September: *Rwanda-France relations building for the future-President Kagame* (author N/A) **(state-owned source)**

President Kagame is in Paris on the second day of an official state visit to France. President Kagame met with French President Nicolas Sarkozy to discuss regional and international issues, as well as ways to deepen bilateral relations between the two nations. In a media conference following the discussions, Kagame stressed that Rwanda and France are looking forward to the future rather than the past. For his part, Sarkozy encouraged the French business community to invest in Rwanda; he also announced a €42 million commitment to the country, to be administered through the French Development Agency (AFD) for projects in electricity, support for small and medium enterprises (SMEs), and the construction of a Franco-Rwandan cultural centre.

### B. TRIAL OF OPPOSITION LEADER PROGRESSES

*ORINFOR*—09 September: *Prosecution reveals minutes of Ingabire's meetings* by Mutesi Theopiste **(state-owned source)**

The trial against opposition leader Victoire Ingabire Umuhiza continues at the High Court this week, with the prosecution revealing “substantial” evidence against the head of the unrecognized FDU-Inkingi party. On Monday, prosecutors presented evidence of numerous emails, phone calls, and documents between Ingabire and her co-conspirator Major Vital Uwumuremyi, in which she requested him to recruit over 200 people to join the military wing of her party. Also presented was a statement filed by Uwumuremyi in which he admitted to having met with Ingabire on numerous occasions regarding the formation of a militia—including specifics regarding funding and weapons. The money for the operation was allegedly sent through Western Union by Uwumuremyi under a pseudonym.

*The New Times website—07 September: Evidence links Ingabire, Rusesabagina, with terrorist groups* (author n/a) **(privately-owned, pro-government source)**

In the trial against Victoire Ingabire Umuhiza, new evidence presented by the prosecution alleges links between the opposition leader and Paul Rusesabagina, a Rwandan living in the US. According to prosecutors, the duo were in constant contact with senior FDLR leaders, attempting to gain their support for the creation of a military wing of Ingabire’s FDU-Inkingi party. Four of Ingabire’s co-conspirators—Lt Colonel Tharcisse Ndituronde, Lt. Colonel Noel Hitiyaremye, Capt. Jean Marie Karuta, and Maj. Vital Uwumuremyi—have already plead guilty and have testified against Ingabire; evidence gleaned from their statements implicate both Ingabire and Rusesabagina in dealings with the FDLR militia. “We have statements from the accused...attesting to the working relationship between the officers and the two politicians aimed at terrorizing the country,” according to prosecutor Bonaventure Ruberwa. Ruberwa explained that Ingabire met Lt. Ndituronde in Congo Brazzaville where the pair discussed the execution of subversive activities on Rwanda. The prosecution places Rusesabagina’s role as that of financier of the military wing—called the Coalition des Forces Democratique (CDF), sending money through Western Union. Ingabire and her co-accused are charged with fueling insecurity and ethnic divisions, charges to which Ingabire has pleaded not guilty.

*The New Times website—08 September: Prosecution presents more damning evidence against Ingabire* (author n/a) **(privately-owned, pro-government source)**

On day four of the trial against Victoire Ingabire Umuhiza, prosecution presented evidence alleging she—along with four of her associates, also standing trial—had successfully formed an armed group operating in the jungles of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) by the time of her arrest. Ingabire’s co-conspirators are charged with forming a terrorist group, conspiracy to wage war and conduct terror activities as well as forming an armed group with the aim of destabilizing the country—to which they have plead guilty. According to statements given by the four accused, Ingabire asked them to recruit young FDLR rebels, who were more than willing to volunteer for active combat against Rwanda. The prosecution has accused Ingabire of attempting not to overthrow the government, but to cause insecurity enough to force the government to opt for negotiation.

*The New Times website—09 September: Court hears details of Ingabire’s charges* (author n/a) **(privately-owned, pro-government source)**

Prosecution today formally announced the charges to the High Court against Victoire Ingabire, a week into the trial against her and four of her co-conspirators. Specifically, Ingabire is being charged with: forming an armed group with the aim of destabilizing the country, complicity to acts of terrorism, conspiracy against the government by use of war and terrorism, inciting the masses to revolt against the government, genocide ideology and provoking divisionism.

According to statements acquired from her co-conspirators, Ingabire has allegedly, on several occasions, denied the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi, and that there is currently one being committed against the Hutu; she has also alleged that the Tutsi are ethnically supreme to the Hutu. The case continues next

Monday when more evidence will be tabled before the court.

*\*Please note that there was little coverage of this issue by independent news sources, compared to the almost daily updates published by state-owned and pro-government sources.*

## C. MISCELLANEOUS

*Reuters Africa—12 September: Rwanda says open to Congo warlord Nkunda extradition* by John Irish **(privately-owned source)**

The Rwandan Foreign Ministry has announced that it is willing to extradite Congolese warlord Laurent Nkunda on the condition that he not face the death penalty. Nkunda, the former leader of the national Congress for the Defence of the People (CNDP), has been held under house arrest in Rwanda since 2009. According to Foreign Minister Louise Mushikiwabo, “it’s difficult for us to extradite a person to a country that has not abolished the death penalty even with certain guarantees.” According to findings from a UN panel in 2008, Nkunda’s extradition could also hurt political relations between the two countries, given the Rwandan army’s support of Nkunda’s rebel war in eastern DRC. Currently, Nkunda is *not* being charged by the International Criminal Court (ICC), although the Hague-based institution has opened investigations into his record of human rights abuses and potential war crimes in DRC.

*The New Times website—06 September: Tripartite to meet over local refugees* by Eric Kabeera **(privately-owned, pro-government source)**

Rwanda has announced that it will host a meeting with Uganda and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees this month to discuss the issue of Rwandan refugees residing in Uganda. Statistics reports compiled at Rwanda’s Ministry of Disaster Management place the number of Rwandan refugees residing in Uganda at 16,000, most of who are housed at Nakivale camp in southwestern Uganda. The meeting will focus on the implementation of the cessation clause—which would nullify any claims for refugee status for Rwandans as a whole living in Uganda—, which is set to be invoked on 31 December. The clause does, however, allow for individuals to apply for refugee status, with each case being reviewed independently by the recipient country.

Meanwhile, refugees from other African nations are returning to Rwanda in increasing numbers; indeed, last week alone, the Ministry counted 183 nationals who were repatriated from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Malawi alone.

*Photo credit: irinnews.org*

