

Four politicians killed along with president: Burundi diplomat

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GENEVA, Oct 22 (AFP) - Burundi's military coup leaders have "most definitely" killed President Melchior Ndadaye as well as two government ministers, the national security chief and the parliamentary speaker, Burundi's U.N. envoy said Friday.

Perpetue Shimiramana identified the dead men as Leonard Nyanzoga, the minister of the civil service and labour, Juvenal Ndayikeza, the interior minister, Pontien Karibwami, the parliamentary speaker and Richard Ndikumwami, the head of national security.

Shimiramana announced to journalists the setting up of a "State Committee for the Restoration of Democratic Order," comprising 12 Burundi diplomats based throughout the world and headed by Burundi's Health Minister Jean Minani who is now in Rwanda.

The minister expressed concern for the safety of Foreign Minister Sylvestre Ntivantungya.

Shimiramana called on the international community not to recognize the new government.

Foreign nations "must take all steps to allow the return to democracy" and possibly impose an economic blockade and resort to military intervention.

"What happened Wednesday is almost the same as what happened in Haiti," the envoy said, adding that if the international community moved in Haiti it must do the same for Burundi."

She said there was a massacre in the streets of the Burundi capital the day after the coup and another one in the north of the country.

Shimiramana was unable to give a toll for the two massacres.

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