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DRAFTED BY: L/UNA:ETBLOOM
APPROVED BY: EUR/WE:MAPETERS

L:MMATHESON EUR/WE:SMCGINNISS
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TO AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE USMISSION GENEVA

UN SECURITY COUNCIL COLLECTIVE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS AMEMBASSY KAMPALA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

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AMEMBASSY DAKAR AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

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E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR TAGS: PREL, UNSC, SP

SUBJECT: NEXT STEPS IN ADDRESSING WAR CRIMES IN RWANDA

REF: 94 STATE 184612

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE REVIEW AUTHORITY: JOHN L MILLS DATE/CASE ID: 15 SEP 2008 200103014

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- 1. THIS IS AN ACTION MESSAGE.
- 2. IN REFTEL, DEPARTMENT PROPOSED CONSULTATIONS WITH THE FRENCH AND SUGGESTED POSSIBLE FURTHER CONSULTATIONS WITH OTHER STATES ON ASSISTANCE TO THE UN'S COMMISSION OF EXPERTS EXAMINING VIOLATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW IN RWANDA, AND POSSIBLE NEXT STEPS SUCH AS ESTABLISHMENT OF A TRIBUNAL. WE RECOGNIZE THAT SPAIN MAY HAVE STRONG IDEAS ABOUT THESE ISSUES, GIVEN THAT THE GOS PROPOSED UNSC RESOLUTION 935 WHICH ESTABLISHED THE COMMISSION. LONDON WILL ALSO HAVE A MAJOR INTEREST.
- 3. ACTION ADDRESSEES ARE REQUESTED TO CONTACT GOS AND HMG TO SAY THAT USG IS NOW ACTIVELY CONSIDERING WHAT STEPS WE WILL TAKE TO ASSIST THE NEW COMMISSION. IN ADDITION, WE HAVE CONCLUDED THAT WE WILL SUPPORT CREATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR VIOLATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW IN RWANDA IF THE COMMISSION OF EXPERTS

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CONFIRMS THAT SUCH VIOLATIONS HAVE OCCURRED. (SUCH A
TRIBUNAL MIGHT BE STRUCTURED ALONG THE LINES OF THE
TRIBUNAL SET UP FOR YUGOSLAVIA, AND THE TWO TRIBUNALS
MIGHT BE COMBINED IN SOME RESPECTS.) WE WOULD APPRECIATE
RECEIVING SPAIN'S AND THE UK'S VIEWS ON THE TRIBUNAL
ISSUE, AND HOW THEY VIEW SUPPORT FOR SUCH AN INITIATIVE
AMONG OTHER EUROPEAN STATES (ESPECIALLY FRANCE) AND KEY
STATES IN AFRICA.

- 4. FOR MADRID: PLEASE REITERATE THAT WE STRONGLY SUPPORTED THE SPANISH PROPOSAL IN NEW YORK, AND WE WILL WORK CLOSELY WITH THE GOS IN ADVOCATING FULL SUPPORT BY ALL MEMBER STATES FOR THE COMMISSION, INCLUDING NATIONAL EFFORTS TO PROVIDE INFORMATION TO THAT COMMISSION.
- 5. AT THIS POINT POSTS SHOULD NOT MENTION THE PARIS DEMARCHE. POSTS MAY SAY THAT WE WILL CONSULT CLOSELY WITH MADRID AND HMG ON FURTHER STEPS.
- 6. PLEASE SLUG REPLIES FOR L C. NIX AND L/UNA E. BLOOM. CHRISTOPHER

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