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INFO UN SECURITY COUNCIL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

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TAGS: PHUM, PREL, PREF, AORC, RW

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING WAR CRIMES TRIBUNAL FOR

RWANDA

- 1. CONFIDENTIAL ENTIRE TEXT.
- 2. IN LIGHT OF CONTINUING OPPOSITION FROM RUSSIA AND FRANCE TO THE EXPANSION OF THE JURISDICTION OF THE CURRENT TRIBUNAL FOR THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA, WE HAVE DECIDED TO PURSUE THE NEW ZEALAND APPROACH OF CREATING A SEPARATE TRIBUNAL FOR RWANDA, BUT PROVIDING THAT THE APPEALS JUDGES

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AND PROSECUTOR FOR THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA WOULD SERVE ALSO AS THE APPEALS JUDGES AND PROSECUTOR FOR RWANDA. PURSUANT TO A CONVERSATION ON SEPTEMBER 26 BETWEEN FRENCH LEGAL ADVISER PUISSOCHET AND US LEGAL ADVISER HARPER, WE UNDERSTAND THIS WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO FRANCE AS WELL.

3. FOR USUN: YOU SHOULD PURSUE THIS APPROACH IN YOUR DISCUSSIONS WITH THE OTHER SECURITY COUNCIL MEMBERS, WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF REACHING AGREEMENT THIS WEEK ON A TEXT TO BE ADOPTED AS SOON AS THE COMMISSION OF EXPERTS FILES ITS INTERIM REPORT (WHICH WE UNDERSTAND WILL BE SENT TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON SEPTEMBER 30). YOU SHOULD EMPHASIZE

THAT WE ARE MAKING THIS COMPROMISE IN THE INTEREST OF QUICK COUNCIL ACTION ON RWANDA PROSECUTIONS, WHICH IS ESSENTIAL IN LIGHT OF THE SITUATION IN RWANDA. YOU SHOULD ALSO STRESS THAT THE USE OF THE SAME APPEALS JUDGES AND PROSECUTOR FOR BOTH TRIBUNALS IS ESSENTIAL TO AVOID DISPARATE LEGAL RESULTS AND EXTENDED DELAY WHILE A NEW CHIEF PROSEC (TOR IS FOUND AND BROUGHT UP TO SPEED. CONFIDENTIAL

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- 4. WE ARE INCLINED TO KEEP THE OFFICIAL SEAT OF THE NEW RWANDA TRIBUNAL IN THE HAGUE, FOR REASONS OF ADMINISTRATIVE EFFICIENCY AND ECONOMY. HOWEVER, WE SUPPORT THE DESIRE TO HAVE A VISIBLE PRESENCE IN AFRICA AND WOULD THEREFORE AUTHORIZE THE TRIBUNAL TO CONDUCT PROCEEDINGS OUTSIDE THE HAGUE, WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT HEARINGS OR TRIALS WOULD LIKELY TAKE PLACE IN THE REGION.
- 5. FOR PARIS: PLEASE ADVISE FM LEGAL ADVISER PUISSOCHET OF THE ABOVE AND SEEK CONFIRMATION OF GOF CONCURRENCE IN THIS APPROACH.
- 6. FOR MOSCOW: PLEASE ADVISE APPROPRIATE RUSSIAN OFFICIALS OF THE ABOVE AND SEEK GOR CONCURRENCE IN THIS APPROACH. CHRISTOPHER

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