

Kigali [The January 9 accord detailed the sharing of the 22 cabinet portfolios]

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The January 9 accord detailed the sharing of the 22 cabinet portfolios between the MRND, four other parties in the current coalition and the rebel RPF, as well as the sharing out of 70 seats in the legislature during transition to democratic rule.

The protocol was signed after two months of tough negotiations in Arusha on the sensitive power-sharing issue that aimed to establish a broad-based government to bring peace in the tiny central African country.

The peace talks were then adjourned for two weeks after which the negotiators will reconvene in Arusha to try to tackle other sensitive issues such as integrating RPF rebel forces

into the Rwandan national army and the repatriation of Rwandan refugees.

The predominantly Tutsi RPF rebels, who have lived in Uganda as refugees for more than three decades, invaded their country on October 2, 1990 in an attempt to overthrow Habyarimana's 19-year-old Hutu-dominated regime.

The Tutsi were traditional rulers over the Hutu majority in Rwanda before they were driven out in an uprising in the early 1960s, forcing thousands of them into exile in Uganda and neighbouring countries of the region.

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