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SECRETARY-GENERAL TO SEND RECONNAISSANCE MISSION TO RWANDA TO ASSIST HIM

IN MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS ON IMPLEMENTING COUNCIL RESOLUTION 846

Following the signing in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, on 4 August, of the peace agreement between the Government of Rwanda and the Rwandese Patriotic Front (RPF), Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has decided to send a reconnaissance mission to Rwanda to make an assessment of the situation on the ground, in order to assist him in making recommendations to the Security Council on the implementation of resolution 846 (1993).

By that resolution, the Council urged the Government of Rwanda and the RPF to conclude quickly a comprehensive peace agreement, and requested the Secretary-General to report on the contribution the United Nations could make to assist the Organization of African Unity (OAU) in the implementation of the peace agreement and to begin contingency planning in the event that the Council decided such a contribution was needed.

The Government of Rwanda and the RPF have called for the establishment of a neutral international force, to facilitate the implementation of the provisions of the peace agreement. The reconnaissance mission will examine the possible functions of such a force and evaluate the human and financial resources that would be needed to carry them out.

The reconnaissance mission, which will be composed of officials from concerned departments, will be led by Macaire Pédanou, who represented the Secretary-General at the Arusha peace talks. The mission is expected to arrive in Kigali on 16 August for approximately two weeks of consultations with senior officials of the Government, as well as with representatives of the RPF, on the implementation of the agreement within the framework of Council resolution 846. It will also meet with OAU representatives in Rwanda and with the members of its Neutral Military Observer Group.

In addition to Rwanda, the senior officials of the mission will visit Dar-es-Salaam and Addis Ababa for consultations with the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania and with the OAU, who acted as facilitator and coordinator, respectively, at the Arusha peace talks.

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