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## Closing Remarks by His Excellency the Prime Minister

US Embassy Kigali

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His Excellency the Prime Minister

Mrs President, UNDP Assistant Administrator;  
Your Excellency the UNSGSR;  
Your Excellencies the Ambassadors;  
Mrs., Miss, Mr. Minister;  
Distinguished Guests;  
Ladies and Gentlemen;

We are coming to the end of our 2-day mid-term review Round Table.

Let me extend to you all our gratitude on behalf of the Rwandan Government and people for having accepted to come to the heart of Africa, in a small country like Rwanda, to lend help and assistance, in the wake of last year's indescribable tragic events. Our thanks go to the NGOs which have helped us in the difficult moments.

This demonstrates the strong determination of the international community to consolidate the solidarity links between peoples and nations.

I would like to extend particular thanks to Mrs Johnson Sirleaf, UNDP Assistant Administrator and Director of Africa Regional Bureau as well as all those who prepared and brought this mid-term Round Table to a successful conclusion. I thank in particular the UNDP and our Ministry of Planning.

The objective of this meeting was to evaluate the follow-up of the program we set up in Geneva last January.

For the Government, that program consisted in implementing the political, social and economic program presented in Geneva on the one hand, for the bailleurs de fonds it consisted in honoring the financial commitments and other humanitarian assistance contributions on the other hand.

We were given an assessment of our program after thorough analysis by the Government and the bailleurs de fonds, in different workshops arranged by theme.

On the Government side, the accomplishments were carried out with poor means. On the Bailleurs de Fonds side, the contributions announced were not followed by relevant disbursements.

With regard to humanitarian assistance and contributions channelled through UN Agencies and NGOs, the Government requested for transparency in management with a priori and a posteriori follow-up, by the Government on one hand and the Bailleurs de Fonds on the other hand.

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The interrogations weighing on all sides were explained.

Thanks to the mid-term review of this Round Table, we have just got our aim right, for a better follow-up, therefore, better results over the following six months.

The funds at the disposal of our Government would be useless in the absence of the will to carry out concrete actions likely to guarantee the dignity of all the Rwandan people.

They would be useless if our commitments to our partners were not respected. This is why the Government reassures once again the international community of the following:

1. The return of Rwandan refugees remains No.1 priority as it will allow in the long run socio-political and economic development of this country. What should be our plan of action in this regard:
  - a) To implement the Nairobi repatriation plan and speed up the work of the commission set up by the Rwandan Government and including OAU, UNHCR, etc.
  - b) To respect the tripartite accords with refugee hosting countries;
  - c) To establish an acceptable judiciary and begin as rapidly as possible the process of judgement of 45,000 prisoners, and to emphasize the work of the "commissions de triage";
  - d) To provide security by establishing commune level administration and police;
  - e) To review the law on private property in Rwanda;
  - f) To respect the recommendations of the international enquiry commission on Kibeho incidents in particular by taking required measures against those guilty people involved in that affair;
  - g) The Government pledges to seek ways and means possible to create an atmosphere of dialogue with the refugees and in particular to organize their visit within the country while having the right to return to the camps, to persuade or even dissuade their fellow citizens from returning;
  - h) To establish the list of criminals living in the refugee camps or anywhere else and transmit it to the hosting countries and the International Tribunal;

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- i) To pursue the reintegration of officers and soldiers of the defeated army.

## 2. National reconciliation

National reconciliation is only the corollary of the foregoing because there will be no genuine reconciliation without the participation of all the Rwandans to the reconstruction of the country and to its management.

The Government further pledges to reinforce the mechanisms of the institutional framework for program coordination and follow-up suggested and established at three levels:

- a) The Follow-up Committee including Representatives of the Rwandan Government and the Bailleurs de Fonds;
- b) The Intersectoral Technical Committee;
- c) The Permanent Secretary.

The Rwandan Government while reiterating the sincere expression of its gratitude, would like to request the Bailleurs de Fonds to lay emphasis on social oriented programs, including training of human resources on the welfare of vulnerable persons, reinstallation of refugees, etc...

In addition, the Bailleurs de Fonds should maintain contact with our Government and commit themselves to make available required funds for the implementation of priority programs.

The Rwandan Government will make every effort to carry out the adjusted new program and maintain that mark of our cooperation.

Long live Solidarity and International Cooperation.

I declare closed the works of the mid-term Round Table Conference.

Thank you.

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