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HEADER:

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RR RUEHC RUEHDS RUEHBS RUEHJB RUFHDR RUEHGV RUTAKM

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 6538

RUEHLGB/AMEMBASSY KIGALI 9572

INFO RUEHDS/AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 6413

RUEHBS/AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS 0673

RUEHJB/AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA 7600

RUFHDR/AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM 3556

RUTAKM/AMEMBASSY KAMPALA 6424

RUFHLD/AMEMBASSY LONDON 5589

RUFHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 5356

BT

CONTROLS:

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 400107

GENEVA-RMA PARIS-PERLOW LONDON-MCKIN

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

BODY:

TAGS: PREF PREL RW

SUBJECT: ARUSHA V: REFUGEE DISCUSSIONS

REF: (A) 92 KIGALI 4871

1. (C) THE EVOLVING FLEXIBILITY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF RWANDA ON REFUGEE MATTERS AS EXPRESSED BY THE MULTI-PARTY COUNCIL OF MINISTERS (REFTEL) IS MOST ENCOURAGING AND SHOULD MAKE IT FAR EASIER FOR THE OTHER COUNTRIES IN THE REGION TO ACCEPT THEIR COMPLEMENTARY ROLES OUTLINED IN THE COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM OF SOLUTIONS FOR RWANDAN REFUGEES.

(COMMENT. WE DO NOT DISAGREE THAT PROCEEDING ON A BILATERAL - RWANDA WITH EACH OF ITS NEIGHBORS - RATHER THAN A REGION-WIDE CONSENSUS BASIS MAY SPEED THE PROCESS OF SOLVING THE REFUGEE PROBLEM SINCE COLLECTIVE SECURITY APPROACHES ARE STILL NOT WELL DEVELOPED. HOWEVER, WE REMAIN CONCERNED THAT BILATERAL ARRANGEMENTS NOT BECOME TOO ASYMMETRICAL IN FORM OR TIME, FOR EXAMPLE WITH RWANDA AND UGANDA REACHING AN ACCOMMODATION BUT WITH RWANDA AND BURUNDI NOT SOLVING THEIR RESPECTIVE REFUGEE MOVEMENTS AND THUS LEAVING THE GROUND FERTILE FOR REFUGEE DISCONTENT. END COMMENT.)

2. (C) DEPARTMENT ENDORSES KIGALI'S SUGGESTIONS (PARA 18 REFTTEL) FOR POINTS TO BE MADE BY USG OBSERVERS AT THE UPCOMING ARUSHA ROUND ON REFUGEES; VIZ., REAFFIRMATION OF THE DAR DECLARATION, PROMOTION OF TRI- AND QUADRI-PARTITE REFUGEE AGREEMENTS RATHER THAN SIMPLE BILATERAL ONES BETWEEN RWANDA AND ITS NEIGHBORS, AND A COMMITMENT IN PRINCIPLE OF USG FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR A UNHCR APPEAL ON RETURNEES. RP/AFR BRIEFED AMBASSADOR BRYNN ON THE REFUGEE ISSUE IN PREPARATION FOR HIS PARTICIPATION IN THE NEXT ROUND OF ARUSHA TALKS. AS WE GET CLOSER TO THE ACTUAL SESSION ON REFUGEES, DEPARTMENT WILL BE HAPPY TO PROVIDE MORE DETAILED POINTS SHOULD THEY BE NEEDED.

Dept. of State, RPS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.
(X) Release () Excise () Deny (X) Declassify
Date 5-15-01 Exemption _____

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3. (LOU) FOR KIGALI: WE BELIEVE THAT IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO UNHCR'S PLANNING FOR ITS PARTICIPATION IN THE UPCOMING ARUSHA SESSION IF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS' THINKING COULD BE SHARED WITH UNHCR/GENEVA STAFF. UNHCR COULD USE THE INFORMATION, FOR EXAMPLE, TO SOLICIT SUPPORT FROM OTHER DONORS LIKELY TO BE PRESENT AS OBSERVERS AT ARUSHA FOR ITS ASSOCIATION WITH BILATERAL AGREEMENTS. PLEASE ADVISE.

4. (U) FOR GENEVA: SUBJECT TO POSITIVE RESPONSE FROM KIGALI ON SHARING CONTENTS OF REFTTEL, PLEASE MEET WITH UNHCR STAFF CHARGED WITH IMPLEMENTING THE COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM OF SOLUTIONS AS OUTLINED IN THE DAR DECLARATION TO INQUIRE HOW UNHCR SEES THE ARUSHA SESSION PROCEEDING, WHO FROM UNHCR IS TO ATTEND, AND HOW THE USG MIGHT BE HELPFUL.

EAGLEBURGER

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