

**MINUTES OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE MEETING ON
H.E. PRESIDENT CLINTON'S VISIT TO RWANDA HELD AT
KANOMBE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ON 23rd MARCH, 1998**

1.0. Opening of the Meeting

- In the absence of the substantive Chairman, Hon. Minister P. Mazimhaka, the Deputy Chairman, Hon. Minister A. GASANA opened the meeting at 6:30pm.
- Requested members to read minutes of the previous meeting and identify matters arising.
- Called upon Amb. E. GASANA to update members on the status of the programme.

2.0. Briefing on the Programme

2.1 Programme

- Reported that in addition to the President, Vice President, Prime Minister and First Lady, Amb. Theogene RUDASINGWA and Mrs J. KAGAME will be present to receive President Clinton on arrival.
- Further reported that Mrs. C.M. RWAKA (S.G. MINAFFET) will escort flower-girls (Mbabazi Karegeya and Martha Murindangabo) to present flowers to President Clinton and First Lady Hillary Clinton.
- Informed that 70 flag-waving school Children will be on the tarmac to welcome President Clinton. There will be no soldiers for presentation of arms as earlier planned.
- Sitting arrangement of invitees remains the same
- Hon. Ministers P. Mazimhaka and Dr. A. GASANA will be the only ministers present in the VIP building; other Cabinet Ministers will be seated in the Departure Lounge of the main Airport building.
- Reported that also in attendance during presentation of testimonies by survivors of the genocide will be :
Prime Minister, Hon. Ministers P. Mazimhaka and Dr. A. Gasana, Major P. Karegeya, Amb. T. Rudasingwa, Mr. J. Bideri, First Lady and Mrs. J. Kagame on Rwandan side, plus a select team of President Clinton's entourage.
- Further reported that a motorcade of 10 vehicles will carry their Excellencies from the VIP building to the main Airport building where speeches will be delivered.

- Each speech is expected to last for 7minutes
- Decision on President Clinton laying the wreath at the Genocide Monument still hangs in the balance.
- Announced that H.E. President P. BIZIMUNGU will accompany President Clinton on his way back to Kampala.

2.2 Protocol

- Reported that there will be 289 invitees during the visit
- List of invitees to be approved jointly by Hon. Minister Dr. Gasana, Amb. T. Rudasingwa, Amb. E. Gasana and Major P. Karegeya
- (REQUEST CHIEF OF PROTOCOL TO GIVE SUMMARY)

2.3 Construction

- Reported that remaining construction work has been taken over by the Americans in the main Airport building.
- Reported further that Regie is repairing toilets in the same building.
- Informed that required chairs for invitees in the Departure Lounge have been obtained
- Further informed that VIP chairs will be brought and arranged by chief of Protocol.
- Construction of the Genocide Monument is complete. The casket at the monument will be covered with glass after placing in remains of the genocide victims.
- Reported that cultural troupes are continuing with rehearsals. Member of the Committee were invited to view rehearsals at Amahoro Stadium between 5.00 - 6.00 pm.
- Testing proved that a part of the VIP building is still leaking.
- MINITRAPE directed to find a solution as soon as possible.

2.4 Communication

- Reported that everything is in order. There are no constraints worth reporting.

2.5 Mobilization

- Announced that due to security concerns by the Americans it was decided to withdraw invitation to the public. MININTER was requested to prepare Radio announcement to that effect.

2.6 Media

- 21 local journalists will be accredited to cover events of the visit.
- Announced that funds have been allocated for ORINFOR to broadcast proceedings of the visit.
- Reported that all accredited journalists will have a few minutes to take photos in the restricted VIP building.

2.7 Programmes and Budget

- Announced that checks were ready for those Sub-Committees which submitted expense claims.

3.0 AOB

- Reported that distribution of T-shirts and flags remains as planned.
- Further reported that extra T-shirts will be allocated to cultural troupes.
- Informed that persons earmarked to testify on the genocide have been identified
- On his way out to the plane, President Clinton will shake hands with 15 orphans who will be prepared for the occasion.

4.0 Closing of the Meeting

- Chairman thanked members for their attendance and announced that the next meeting will be tomorrow at 3 p.m. He declared the meeting closed at 8.55 pm.

Approved 24th March, 1998

Chairman

Secretary